

## **A Message from Fr. Mario**

On **Sunday 5 July at 11.00 a.m.** we will be able to celebrate public mass for the first time in a long while.

Please remember the Sunday obligation remains suspended. Though we really want to see you, attendance is at your discretion. There is no expectation that anyone should feel obliged to attend particularly if you are in a vulnerable group where you should limit social contact generally.

If you are in the extremely vulnerable category of shielding and have received specific personal instructions not to attend religious services then, obviously, you should not attend.

Please be prepared for a difference. Things will not be the same. The Holy Water stoups will remain dry. There will be no books, no singing, no offertory procession, no Sign of Peace, and it is unlikely that you will be able to sit in your normal place.

We need volunteers to steward at Mass and help clean the church afterwards. If we don't have enough we cannot have Mass. We are very grateful to those who have already volunteered and are helping plan our reopening. We need more. Please consider volunteering as a Steward/Cleaner to assist with welcoming people, guiding people to receive Holy Communion, helping them leave and cleaning the church after Mass. If you are interested please contact the Parish Office via email [stcathsiena@gmail.com](mailto:stcathsiena@gmail.com).

**A message for our Altar Servers, Readers and Eucharistic Ministers:** I greatly appreciate your help and support, but you will not be required until further notice due to social distancing and hygiene regulations.

### **On returning to celebrate Mass we ask that you please be careful and comply with the following rules:**

1. Our Archdiocese allows social distancing of "1 m +" in our churches - this is subject to compulsory wearing of a face covering in church. Social distancing of 1 metre must be observed both in the church grounds and in the church at all times. I am under instruction to stop mass if this obligation is ignored.
2. If you arrive for Mass and you do not have a face covering you will not be allowed entrance unless you have a respiratory illness. Children under 5

also do not need a face covering. You will need to bring your own face covering with you. These will not be provided for you.

- 3.** To meet the “1m+” rule our seating capacity is greatly reduced. The maximum number of people we can have at any one time is 80. When the church reaches capacity no further entry will be allowed. A one-way system will be in operation inside the church
- 4.** Entry will be by the doors of the main church. Doors will be clearly marked and stewards will be there to guide you. Please socially distance while waiting to enter the church. You will be guided to a seat by a steward. Please comply with their direction. They are there to help keep everyone safe.
- 5.** There is no fair and equitable way of allocating spaces for Mass therefore places will be allocated on a first-come first-served basis.
- 6.** You must sanitise your hands with the hand gel provided on arrival and exit.
- 7.** Children are welcome but only when accompanied by an appropriate adult. Parents must ensure that their children abide by the social distancing requirement. Please do not bring pushchairs or prams with you – there is no space to store them.
- 8.** We will provide offertory stations for you to put your offertory or even gift aide envelope. Make a donation on entering the church the stewards will guide you on how to do this.
- 9.** You must not touch any of the statues.
- 10.** Our toilet will not be available for use.
- 11.** If you leave anything behind it will be thrown away.
- 12.** If you wish to you can bring your own missal or prayer book. This must be for your own use only and cannot be shared. You can print your own bulletin from the website too.

- 13.** You must follow the direction of the Priest and Stewards during Holy Communion. Holy Communion will be distributed at the end of Mass as you leave the church. It will not be possible to return to your seat after you have received Holy Communion.
  
- 14.** Exit will be via the main entrance and Lady Chapel door as directed by the steward. Please do not congregate outside the church or on the grounds after Mass.