

Ss. Mary and Modwen's Catholic Church & St. Christopher's Tutbury

COVID-19 GUIDANCE – Update (23.6.22)

Covid-19 legal restrictions have been largely removed by the Government and there is no longer a legal requirement to wear a face mask. However, Government and Diocesan guidance continues to advise that wearing a face mask reduces the risk of transmitting viruses, especially in enclosed spaces, [Living safely with respiratory infections, including COVID-19 - GOV.UK \(www.gov.uk\)](https://www.gov.uk/guidance/living-safely-with-respiratory-infections-including-covid-19). In practice, an increasing number of people no longer feel it is necessary to wear a mask. Ultimately it is for each individual to assess the risk and decide whether to wear a face mask or not. In accordance with our on-going duty of care for our parishioners, we have adopted the following practices to help minimise risk and provide confidence and comfort for our parishioners as we learn to live with the Covid-19 virus:

- **COVID-19 SYMPTOMS** – Whilst it may no longer be a legal requirement to isolate if you have covid-19 symptoms we ask that out of respect for your fellow parishioners you do not enter the Church.
- **FACE COVERING** – You decide whether to wear a face mask whilst in Church. Please bring your own mask as we will no longer be providing masks once we have used our current stock.
- **HAND SANITISER** - Please sanitise your hands on entering the church.
- **SOCIAL DISTANCING** – There are no restrictions on seating within Church and stewards do not seat parishioners as they enter the Church.
- **CONGREGATIONAL SINGING** - We have congregational singing during Mass. Hymn books are available at the back of Church for use at Sunday Masses. Please return the hymn book to the back of Church at the end of Mass.
- **MASS SHEETS AND PARISH NEWSLETTER** – Are available, if you pick up a Mass sheet and newsletter as you enter the Church please take the newsletter with you when you leave the Church. Mass sheets and newsletters left in Church will be reused at the next Mass.
- **ARRANGEMENTS FOR COMMUNION** – The distribution of Holy Communion takes place during the Mass. However, to enable the efficient movement of people around the church, the stewards will guide you to the altar **starting from the back of the church**. You will be directed up the side aisles and back down the centre aisle to your place. Please follow the guidance of the stewards and remain in your seats until indicated to move forward to the altar.
- **EXITING THE CHURCH:** Stewards do not guide the exit of people from Church at the end of Mass. We do, however, ask that you leave the Church in an orderly manner with respect for your fellow parishioners.
- **OFFERTORY & SECOND COLLECTIONS** – Are taken during and at the end of Mass respectively. The collection bags will be handled by the stewards only.
- **VOTIVE CANDLES** – Are available for private intentions. Please respect the privacy of fellow parishioners.
- **PARISH CENTRE TOILETS** – Are accessible from within Church.

Thank you for your ongoing co-operation and consideration of fellow parishioners at this time.