

## ***Reopening of Booterstown Parish Church Guidelines***

**Timetable of Masses:** Weekday Mass at 10 am is celebrated from Tuesday to Saturday inclusive. Sunday Mass times are Vigil, Saturday at 6 o'clock and Sunday at 9 am and 11 am.

### **Guidelines for those attending Sunday and Weekday Mass:**

- **Only the permitted number of persons, as authorised by Public Health Authorities,** are permitted inside the church. The pews have been marked out accordingly. Any overflow, within the approved number, will be seated in the Auditorium and the Gillmor room, subject to social distancing. There will be stewards to guide people to their seats, who will keep numbers and decide when maximums have been reached. Holy Communion will be brought to the Gillmor Room and the Auditorium.

- **Entrance:** There will be one entrance only, the main entrance, and people should go up by the middle aisle and down by the pillars to access the side aisle seats. **It is essential to arrive** early to Mass, 15 minutes beforehand, to ensure the adequate seating of all, either in the church or the Pastoral Centre. Sanitisers are available on entering the church.

- **Distribution of Holy Communion:** there are two Ministers of the Eucharist, in addition to Fr. Gerry, at each weekend Mass. One of these Ministers, accompanied by a steward, will bring Holy Communion to those in the Gillmor Room and the McAuley Suite.

- **Ministers of the Eucharist** have been supplied with their own personal visor to wear during the distribution of Holy Communion and will sanitise their hands thoroughly before and after the distribution of the Eucharist. Ministers, who have not yet collected their visor, should collect it from Adrienne in the Pastoral Centre.

- **Approaching for Holy Communion:** Communicants will come up the middle aisle only in single file and receive Holy Communion from the Minister closest to the aisle at which they were seated. There is a hand sanitiser for those who wish to re-sanitise their hands as they approach for Holy Communion. If a person has mobility problems, they should remain seated and the minister will bring Holy Communion to them after the general distribution.

**Church Collections:** In accordance with new regulations, there will not be basket collections. Collection buckets, clearly marked Common Fund (1<sup>st</sup> Collection) and Share (2<sup>nd</sup> Collection), will be available as you enter and exit the church. There are special envelopes available in the church porch and these can be used also and returned to the parish. Parishioners are welcome to use the Donate button on the parish website to contribute to the collections if they prefer not to handle cash.

• **Final Blessing:** After Mass, please leave by the **side door** at the back, exiting at the Celtic Cross or **through the connecting door** leading to the Pastoral Centre. You are respectfully requested not to congregate near the entrance and exit points. The toilets in the Centre **are not available** for public use.

• **Holy Communion to the Housebound** Please let Fr. Gerry or the Parish Secretary know if there is a parishioner who would like to receive Holy Communion at home. Holy Communion can be brought to a person who is housebound by a Minister of Holy Communion or preferably by a family member or relative of the person who is housebound.

• **Cleaning of the church:** the church is cleaned professionally twice per week. After the celebration of each Mass the seats will be wiped down by church volunteers and we are most grateful to them. They have been provided with masks and gloves for their protection.