

Lockdown easing Step Four: what's changed in church

On Monday 19th July a number of changes took place regarding Covid restrictions at Mass. These are based on measures agreed between the Bishops' Conference and the Department of Health.

- The congregation can now join in singing at Mass. Thank God!
- At Holy Communion, the priest says "The Body of Christ" and we answer "Amen". The one-way system remains in place for Holy Communion, and stewards will continue to guide you at this point.
- You are free to sit with family members or friends, without a limit on group size. Those who wish to sit apart from others are still be able to do so – just tell the stewards and they will find you an appropriate place to sit.
- Face coverings, whilst not a legal requirement, are still to be worn by those who do not have a medical or psychological reason for not wearing them. They should remain worn throughout Mass, including when singing. Face coverings need not be worn when you come into the church for private prayer if no Mass or other service is taking place.
- If stewards are not taking names, you are asked to record your own attendance at church, ideally by scanning the QR code with the NHS App, or – if that's not possible – by recording your name on the sheet provided.
- Over the coming weeks we will reintroduce Prayers of the Faithful and the offertory procession at Sunday Masses.
- Booking is no longer required for any services.

What's not changing:

We continue to operate an enhanced cleaning regime in the church, and the church is always well ventilated. Please continue to keep a respectful distance from others inside and outside the church, unless both parties choose to mix freely. Let's continue to do all we can to keep each other safe.

Parish Priest: Fr Andrew Allman **Deacon:** Rev. Fred Sanderson (retired)

Presbytery: Sharoe Green Lane, Fulwood, Preston, PR2 9HH

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MASSES THIS WEEK

Office: Psalter week 1; Sundays: year B; Weekdays: year 1, week 17

The first Mass is livestreamed each day and will be available for viewing later in the day on our YouTube channel: <https://www.youtube.com/user/StClaresChurch>

Date	Time	Occasion	Intention/Details
Saturday	6pm (vigil)	SEVENTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	Thanksgiving for 95 years
Sunday 25 th	9:30am		People of the Parish
	11:30am		For Mathew
	6pm		Freda Burgess RIP
Monday	9:15am	Sts Joachim and Anne	Intentions of Jean Hamson
Tuesday	7pm		Margaret Harrison RIP
Wednesday	9:15am		Charles McDonald RIP
Thursday	9:15am	St Martha	Andrew Stephen RIP
Friday	12noon		Patrick Hoyle RIP
Saturday	10am	St Ignatius of Loyola	Ints Marguerite Spencer
	6pm (vigil)	EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME	People of the Parish
Sunday 1 st	9:30am		Monica Torlo RIP
	11:30am		Mary Gallagher RIP
	6pm		George Oldcorn RIP

LATELY DEAD: Please pray for **Kathleen Earnshaw** and all who have died recently.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturday 11am-12noon and by appointment.

ADORATION OF THE BLESSED SACRAMENT: Monday-Friday 5pm-6pm, Saturday 11am-12noon. The church is also open Monday-Friday 10:30am-6pm; Saturday 11am-5pm and Sunday 1-5pm.

ANNIVERSARIES: Lilian Cherry, Kathleen Earley, Mary Richardson, Helena Davies, Margaret Harrison, Margaret Edith Fox, Andrew Bhatti, Doreen Dilworth, Cyril Hall.

POPE'S PRAYER INTENTIONS FOR JULY: We pray that in social, economic and political situations of conflict, we may be courageous and passionate architects of dialogue and friendship.

OPENING HOURS: The church is now open for private prayer Monday-Friday all day until 6pm (with Adoration 5-6pm); Saturday 11am-5pm (with Adoration and confessions 11am-12noon) and Sundays 1pm-5pm. There may be occasional closures due to funerals and baptisms, etc.

CTS BOOKLETS: These will be back on sale in the narthex from Monday. Please sanitise your hands before and after handling any booklets.

CORONAVIRUS RESTRICTIONS – CHANGES IN CHURCH: See front page for details.

BOOKING FOR MASS: It is no longer necessary to book for the 9:30am Mass on Sundays. Regulars at this Mass therefore do not now need to let us know if they can't attend. All regular services may now be attended without advance booking.

WEEKDAY MASSES are now back to the pre-pandemic times – details opposite.

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION: We will shortly be contacting the families of the young people who were due to be confirmed in 2020, to make arrangements to complete their preparation and set a date for them to be confirmed. Also, any children currently in year 6 or above who have not been confirmed may register interest for this sacrament. Please contact the parish office or speak to Fr Andrew.

200 CLUB JULY WINNERS: £144 no. 2 Anthony Donlan; £87 no. 116 Charles Webb; £58 no. 42 Julie Noblett. If you'd like to join the club, please contact us.

FOOD BANK COLLECTIONS: From next weekend we return to the old system of specific collection times for the Food Bank (rather than the current 'as and when' system). There will be two collections each month, on the first and third Sundays.

DIVINE MERCY PRAYER GROUP: meeting in church this Friday (30th) at 3pm. All are welcome to come and take part in this time of devotion to the mercy of Jesus.

ORGAN RECITAL: Sean Maxwell plays works by Bach, Hadyn and other Baroque composers at St Walburge's, Saturday 21st August 6:30pm. For full details and to get tickets, visit: <http://www.goldengiving.com/e/sw-organ-recital-2021>

FAITH AND REASON: A CATHOLIC INTEGRATION is a four-day course (residential or non-residential) at Stoneyhurst Christian Heritage Centre, 5th-8th August. Open to all, especially catechists and teachers. See poster in narthex for more details.

LAUDATO SI' ZOOM RETREATS: 3rd-6th September or 15th-18th October, organised by Boarbank Hall. Speakers include our own Bishop Paul and Cardinal Vincent Nichols. For more details, see poster in the narthex.

CTFB JACOBS' JOIN: In place of the annual Churches Together pilgrimage there will be a Jacob's Join at Our Lady and St Edward's on Saturday 11th September, 1-4pm. To book, please send your name and phone number to Margaret Thompson at 302 Sharoe Green Lane by 21st August. Numbers are limited. See poster.

Sunday Mass – a statement from the Bishops of England and Wales

We are mindful of the certain fact that the Covid-19 virus is still circulating in society. Vaccines provide genuine protection against the worst effects of the virus, yet we recognise the legitimate fear on the part of some who otherwise desire to gather for Holy Mass. It is our continuing judgement, therefore, that it is not possible at the present time for all of the faithful to attend Mass on a Sunday thus fulfilling their duty to God.

It is hoped that it will be possible for all Catholics in England and Wales to fulfil this most important Church precept, that of the Sunday Obligation, by the First Sunday in Advent 2021.

In the meantime, all Catholics are asked to do their best to participate in the celebration of the weekly Sunday Mass and to reflect deeply on the centrality of Sunday worship in the life of the Church.

“Unlocking” the Parish: our plan

The plan below gives some sense of how the parish may move towards normality in the coming months. It is subject to change!

Before the autumn (most dates to be confirmed):

- We hope to have an outdoor parish social event.
- Some visits to housebound parishioners and care homes may will resume.
- The church will reopen all day for private prayer (from this Monday).
- CTS booklets/leaflets will be available again in the narthex (from Monday).

From September

- Children’s liturgy and all our youth groups should resume.
- A normal year of sacramental preparation is planned, including for children whose confessions, first Communion and Confirmation have been delayed.
- A full programme of parish social life will take place, if permitted.
- Other parish groups should be able to resume.
- We hope to be able to hold some events to mark the 50th anniversary of our parish and school, in November 2021.
- We hope that the parish pilgrimage to the Holy Land planned for late October may still be able to go ahead. More information soon.

We plan to continue to livestream Mass each day, for the benefit of those who are housebound; everyone who can is strongly encouraged to attend Mass and rebuild our community. We will also continue with some other online output to assist with catechesis, evangelisation and outreach work in the parish.