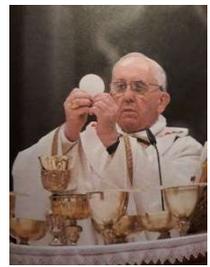


Coronavirus - Latest advice provided by Catholic Church



The safety and opening of churches

HM Government stressed that there would be no blanket closure of places of worship, but asked that we review the systems we have in place to ensure we are sticking to the good practices we adopted at the outset.. This is to include (but is not limited to):

- a. Sufficient stewarding and management of the church
- b. Sufficient cleaning after acts of communal worship
- c. Maintaining good social distancing in the space available along with good ventilation
- d. The length of exposure time for an act of worship is critical and should be minimised.

When attending Mass parishioners are asked to consider how they can help to minimise risks to themselves and others:

- a. **Masks** should be worn over mouth and nose at all times inside the church.
- b. **Sanitising** hands both on entry to and on exit from the church is essential.
- c. Those who have gathered for worship should **not mingle** before or after the service outside of the church. They should disperse immediately.
- d. Factors affecting **travel** to and from the place of worship, such as public transport.

Remember there is no obligation to attend Mass while this emergency situation continues.

Vaccines and their roll-out in the Community

1. All faith communities were asked to encourage and support the roll-out of the vaccines.
2. In our case, the fact that Pope Francis will be vaccinated next week should be an encouragement to all, along with his own personal endorsement for vaccination. See <https://www.rt.com/news/512030-pope-francis-covid-19-vaccine/>
3. The Government published the Vaccination roll-out plan today. It is found here: https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/951284/UK_COVID-19_vaccines_delivery_plan.pdf

Further information can be found on the St Francis website at stfrancisassissistratford.com

The Community would like to thank all our parishioners for their compliance with these instructions over recent months and to thank our Stewards and cleaners for their continued diligence in keeping us all safe. Our churches are amongst the safest of public spaces. Nevertheless it is essential that good Covid security is maintained.

With all good wishes and an assurance of continued prayers

The Friars