

# HOLY CROSS CATHOLIC CHURCH



The Presbytery  
Dousland Road  
Yelverton  
Devon  
PL20 6AZ

Tel: 01822 853171

## Guide for Parishioners during the COVID-19 pandemic

During this time, we are committed to preventing the spread of the Coronavirus and to protecting the health, safety and welfare of our parishioners, volunteers and staff.

As such **the church will be the only open for Mass at the published times. No other parts of the church buildings e.g. hall, toilets, upper room etc. will be open.**

While there will be no formal collection, baskets are available as you enter/leave church.  
Thank you for your support at this time.

### COVID-19 summary

Coronavirus disease (COVID-19) is an infectious disease. The coronavirus spreads primarily through droplets of saliva or discharge from the nose when an infected person coughs or sneezes.

### Symptoms and illness

Most people with coronavirus have at least one of these symptoms:

- **high temperature** – this means you feel hot to touch on your chest or back (you do not need to measure your temperature)
- **new, continuous cough** – this means coughing a lot for more than an hour, or 3 or more coughing episodes in 24 hours (if you usually have a cough, it may be worse than usual)
- **loss or change to your sense of smell or taste** – this means you've noticed you cannot smell or taste anything, or things smell or taste different to normal

### Duty of Care

We have considered appropriate controls to protect our parishioners, staff and volunteers from foreseeable hazards of Coronavirus. The following measures stipulate key controls present at church following a risk assessment. You must familiarise yourself with these controls, take any precautions outlined and follow the procedure as directed by our appointed stewards.

### COVID-19 Controls – Core Principles

At the heart of our control measures is the requirement to maintain social distancing (keeping a distance of 2m from all other parishioners and staff), and to ensure high standards of personal hygiene.

### COVID-19 Parishioner Safety Measures

For your safety, and to protect everyone, we have introduced new controls in church. These controls are outlined overleaf.

Full details of our risk assessment, is available on request. Please following the instructions below when you attend Mass at Holy Cross, Dousland Road, Yelverton.

<b>Parishioner health</b>	<p><b>You must not visit the church if you</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>have symptoms of coronavirus infection, however mild, or</b></li> <li>• <b>have been in contact with some with confirmed or suspected COVID-19 in the last 14 days or</b></li> <li>• <b>should be self-isolating</b></li> </ul>
<b>On arrival at church</b>	<p>The church will be open 15 minutes before Mass starts.  On arrival at church you may be asked to queue in the carpark so that we can stagger entry into church. Please keep 2m apart whilst queuing.  You will be guided by a steward to enter the church.  Only the front door of the church will be in use.  If there is no queue, you may enter the church and wait to be greeted by a steward.  Please take a newsletter from the table.</p>
<b>Hygiene</b>	<p>You <b>MUST</b> wear a mask at all times whilst in church. This is a mandatory requirement.  Sanitation gel has been provided at the entrance which will be administered by a steward.  You <b>MUST</b> sanitise your hands on entering and exiting the church.</p>
<b>Record of attendance</b>	<p>You must give your name and contact details to the steward on arrival.  Gathering information is mandatory for opening the church to comply with track and trace of Covid-19 guidelines.</p>
<b>Social Distancing</b>	<p>You must endeavour to <b>maintain a 2m distance</b> from other parishioners (who are outside your family unit/bubble), staff and volunteers at all times or a minimum of 1m plus where you are unable to adhere to the 2m distance ruling.</p>
<b>Movement in church</b>	<p>You will be directed to a pew by one of the stewards. You must remain in the same pew throughout Mass and not move around or chat with people from outside your bubble.  If you wish to light a candle please inform the steward on arrival and they will give you direction. You must not light candle without a steward's assistance.  Please do not use the kneelers at any time whilst in the church.  There will be no congregational singing during Mass.</p>
<b>Holy Communion</b>	<p>Holy Communion will be given out by Father at the end of Mass, in the hand only. Remain in your pew until prompted by a steward to approach the altar. On arrival at the altar, unloop your face mask, consume the Sacred Host and then replace your face mask.  After receiving Holy Communion please leave the church immediately.  If you are not receiving Holy Communion, please do come forward for a blessing and leave the church in the same way as everyone else, keeping to the one-way system.</p>
<b>Leaving the church</b>	<p>Please sanitise your hands before leaving the church, this will be administered by a steward.  Please adhere to the 2m distancing rule on exiting the church and in the carpark. Please take your newsletter and, if included, any inserts home with you. Do not leave anything in the church.</p>

## Emergency

In the event of an emergency (Fire/ explosion, Covid-19 related evacuation), as safely as possible please leave the church and return home.