

## MINUTES OF MEETING

**Place:** St Bride's Church Hall

**Date:** 18 July 2021 at 12.30 pm

**Topic:** Change of COVID Regulations

**In Attendance:** Donal Toner (DT) (Chair); Deacon Michael Ross (MR); Kate Gingell (KG) (Minutes); Lucy Gingell; Margaret Carbry; Ian Kelly; Hazel Armstrong, Kathy Bryceland; Brian and Agnes Garvey; Betty Purdie; Marie and Frances Mclaughlin; Annemarie Macmillan; Anne Wright; Karen Fusi; John Maguire; Esther Hutcheson; and John Kirkwood.

The meeting was called to discuss changes in the COVID regulations, and the effect they will have on the Church. The following was discussed and agreed:

**Mass Booking and Track and Trace:** It was unanimously agreed that in accordance with the Government Guidelines, Masses would continue to be booked through KG and Eventbrite.

**Booking In:** After discussion, it was agreed that on entering the Church, parishioners would book in as normal, but would pass in front of the desk and stewards would show them to their seats using the stairs between the confessional boxes. Several stewards raised concerns over parishioners arriving all at once, with not long to spare before Mass begins. KG advised that an announcement requesting parishioners arrive at the Church 15 minutes before the start of Mass, will once again be put in the Bulletin.

**Amending Capacity:** Every second pew is to be left empty, and the pews to be used are to be measured and marked at a 1 metre distance. Marking device to be advised. This will allow the number of parishioners per pew to be calculated accurately. The attendee numbers have not yet been agreed, but should be available towards the end of the week.

The pews in the side Chapel to be rearranged.

**Face Masks and Sanitisation:** The wearing of face masks will continue, as will sanitisation.

**Singing in Church:** As singing in Church is now allowed, it was agreed that face masks must be worn unless medically exempt. There can be no singing if a face mask isn't being worn. It should also be noted that anyone wearing a face shield should also wear a face mask, unless medically exempt.

***Distribution of Holy Communion:*** As Holy Communion can now be distributed as it was before the COVID restrictions, it was agreed that stewards would usher the parishioners sitting in the pews in the Side Chapel first, and then commence to the right hand side of the Church facing the Altar, and then continue with the parishioners on the left hand side of the Altar. ***For the avoidance of doubt, parishioners will approach the Altar using the central aisle, and return to their seats by the side aisles.*** After receiving Holy Communion parishioners are to make their way back to their seats.

It was also agreed that in order to observe the social distancing rules, **all** parishioners would be ushered from their seats, whether receiving Holy Communion or not.

***Leaving the Church:*** It was agreed that stewards will continue to show parishioners out of their pews, starting with the pews on the right hand side facing the Altar, and then continuing to the pews on the left hand side of the Altar. Parishioners are to be asked not to congregate in front of Our Lady's Altar after Masses.

***ACTION:***

Deacon Michael/Fr Rafal to announce the changes to distribution and receiving of Holy Communion.

Deacon Michael/Fr Rafal to announce no congregating at Our Lady's Altar after each Mass.

KG to put a further notice in Bulletin requesting early arrival at Mass.

Donal Toner  
Covid Co-Ordinator  
for  
St Brides Church, East Kilbride

Date: 19 July 2021