

PROCEEDURES FOR PUBLIC MASS

As we have now opened our Church for public worship new procedures will ensure that the church building is sanitised and safe. People also have a responsibility to act safely (physical distancing, good hand hygiene, respiratory etiquette); those who are vulnerable or unwell, especially anyone with Covid-19 symptoms, should stay at home and participate via webcam.

There is no obligation to attend Sunday Mass at this time.

Procedures have been put in place with stewards, controlled seating, guided Holy Communion queues and controlled leaving the church. Your cooperation is appreciated. It would be helpful if people could come slightly earlier than usual. It is recommended that Holy Communion be received only on the hand. The Priest and Eucharistic Ministers will be wearing face coverings and will use hand sanitiser. After each Mass the church will be cleaned so everyone is asked to leave to enable this to be done before the next Mass. Thank you to our Parish Preparation Team and those who have volunteered.

STATEMENT ISSUED BY THE ROMAN CATHOLIC AND CHURCH OF IRELAND PRIMATES OF ALL IRELAND, THE MODERATOR OF THE GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH IN IRELAND, AND THE PRESIDENT OF THE METHODIST CHURCH IN IRELAND

At this time, both in Northern Ireland and in the Republic of Ireland, the governments have not formally made mandatory the wearing of face coverings at services of worship. This is, in part, due to the fact that as churches we are committed to maintaining 2 metre physical distancing between household groups and strict adherence to all government guidance on hand hygiene, cleaning, ventilation etc. It, however, remains our responsibility to ensure that our services of worship are safe places for all who join with us. It has become increasingly clear that the wearing of face coverings, in conjunction with hand washing etc., is likely to reduce the spread of coronavirus, thus helping to protect others. Their use is therefore one way in which we can evidence protection for the most vulnerable, support for our health workers, and practical love for our neighbours. Following further recent consultations with public health authorities, we join with Christian church leaders all over this island in formally recommending and encouraging the use of face coverings at all services of worship, along with the ongoing maintenance of 2 metre physical distancing, from Sunday 30 August 2020, and earlier if practicable. We understand that some people are exempted from the wearing of face coverings, as outlined in the two jurisdictions. We also recognise that whilst it may not be appropriate for those who are leading from the front during worship, including preaching, to wear face coverings, they should at all times continue to maintain at least 2 metre physical distancing from one another, and 4 metre physical distancing from the front row of the congregation.

The Most Revd Eamon Martin, Roman Catholic Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland

The Most Revd John McDowell, Church of Ireland Archbishop of Armagh and Primate of All Ireland

The Rt Revd Dr David Bruce, Moderator of the General Assembly of Presbyterian Church in Ireland

The Revd Dr Tom McKnight, President of the Methodist Church in Ireland

Our Lady of Lourdes Steelstown



PARISH INFORMATION

Priest of the Parish: Fr John McDevitt john.mcdevitt@derrydiocese.org

Postal Address: Our Lady of Lourdes Church,

11 Steelstown Road, Derry, BT48 8EU. Telephone: 02871 351718

Email: steelstownparish@aol.com **Website:** steelstownparish.com

Webcam: churchservices.tv/steelstown

Facebook: Our Lady of Lourdes **Instagram:** steelstownparish.

SYMPATHY

We offer our sympathy to the family and friends of: Sean Duffy, 41 Steelstown Village.

BAPTISMS

We welcome into the family of the Church: Minnie Mae, daughter of David and Aoife and .Keo, son of Feargal and Deborah

ANNIVERSARIES

Please pray for the repose of the souls of: Charlie Lynch, Jackie Barr, Rose McCourt and Pierce Deery.

BAPTISMS

Please contact the Parish office to book a date for baptism. The baptism will be celebrated following the requirements in relation to hygiene and social distancing. Ten people, including the child and priest, can attend the baptism ceremony at this time. Thank you for your cooperation with these requirements.

PARISH COLLECTION

If you have recently come to live in our parish or, if you live in a neighbouring parish but worship in Our Lady of Lourdes, and you would like to contribute to the upkeep of our church you can request a box of envelopes, a standing order form or a gift aid form from the Parish office. For those with online banking you should be able to set up a standing order without the need to send the form to your bank. **Please make cheques payable to 'Our Lady of Lourdes'.**

THE HELPING HAND PROGRAMME

Greater Shantallow Area Partnership are setting up a pilot Learning Hub for all primary school children in the Outer North area. We are setting up a pool of retired primary school teachers, who via ZOOM could give one hour per week to answer questions and concerns of pupils. Please contact Nicola Mullan 02871358787 for details.

PARISH SCHEDULE THIS WEEK

Sunday 23 August	9am, 11am and 12.15pm Mass
Monday 24 to Friday 28 August	10am Mass
Saturday 29 August	10am Mass. Confession 10.45 to 11.15am: 6.30pm Vigil Mass
Sunday 30 August	9am, 11am and 12.15pm Mass

The Church is open for all Masses and you do not need to book in advance.