



## **Our Plan for Re-opening our churches for public Mass and the Celebration of the Sacraments**

### **Main Points**

1. Observing a two metre social distance, Rathdowney Church can accommodate a maximum of 75-90 people depending on the make-up of the congregation ie. singles, couples household groupings. The capacity in Errill is 35-40 people.
2. The Parish Council has decided to open Rathdowney Church only until we are confident that our plans are working safely. Having both masses in Rathdowney also has the advantage of those who cannot attend being able to participate via the webcam.
3. At any weekend mass a certain number of places will be reserved for families who have booked an anniversary or months-mind mass. A maximum of **ten** places will be reserved for each of these families.
4. The remainder of the congregation will be decided on an alphabetical basis based on the first letter of a surname, On the first weekend of July 4<sup>th</sup>/5<sup>th</sup> the remainder of the congregation will have surnames beginning with A, B or C.
5. **It will be essential that those from a particular alphabetical grouping contact the reservation number in advance of the mass they wish to attend. The dedicated telephone number is 085 142 9343 and reservations can be made with Carol from Monday to Thursday from 10am to 12noon. Please do not come to the church for mass unless you have made contact to reserve a place.**

**IF YOU HAVE FEVER AND/OR COUGH OR HAVE BEEN IN CONTACT WITH ANYONE WHO HAS TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID-19 DURING THE LAST 14 DAYS, YOU SHOULD NOT ATTEND MASS.**

6. To assist with any possible contact tracing that may be necessary those wishing to attend mass will be asked to provide contact information when they are reserving a place in the
7. church.
8. An area of the church will be reserved for family groupings who live in the same household but we ask that they contact on the Monday before the mass they wish to attend.
9. We ask that people attending a particular mass arrive at the church at least fifteen minutes before Mass begins. Entrance to the church is through the main front door only. An usher will meet you at the door and they will escort you to a designated place within the church. Please observe the distance markings outside the church.
10. The use of facemasks is highly recommended for all those attending Mass in our churches. Please use the hand-sanitisers at the entrance to the church and also as you exit through the side doors.

**All further updates for information on booking, will be available on our website**

**[www.rathdowneyparish.ie](http://www.rathdowneyparish.ie)**

**Rathdowney Parish Covid-19 Response Co-ordinator – Antoinette Holohan**