

Revised Mass Schedule and Guidelines

Some members of our parish community are desperate to return to “life as normal”. Others are still very wary of stepping out of their front door. Many are now cautiously dipping their toes into the water, wanting to come to church but wanting reassurance that we are doing what we can to keep each other safe and well. It’s important that we are able to go at, and allow others to go at, the pace which is right for us and them. It’s important that as a parish community we do our best to create a space for everyone. Hopefully these plans for our “weekend worship” and other liturgies will reflect that desire...

From Sat 11th / Sunday 12th September

Livestream

We will continue to livestream every public mass and liturgy at St. Peter’s. You can participate live [here](#) and participate in previous liturgies [here](#).

We will no longer continue with our “livestream only mass” at 10am on Sundays. This mass has served us exceptionally well since the very beginning of lockdown but, as more and more continue to return to mass in person, the numbers have understandably gone down (from an average of over 200 “live views” to about 80).

However, we will ensure that our 10:30am Sunday mass retains many of the features that you’ve come to appreciate as we’ve grown in experience – change in camera angles zoom; a big welcome to all who are joining us online; and the chat function will be monitored so that we can give you a personal welcome before the mass and a personal thank you at the end.

SATURDAY VIGIL AND SUNDAY Schedule

We will be tweaking our mass schedule so that it’s more similar to the one we had pre-pandemic. There will be 2 Masses where greater precautions will remain in place - with reduced numbers of people, greater social distancing and no congregational singing; at other Masses, the maximum attendance will be higher, social distancing will be more optional (including the ability to place a

sign next to your seat to request more space), and congregational singing will be permitted.

- ✦ Sat 5:30pm (St. Peter's); preceded by confessions, 4:30-5pm (St. Peter's)
 - reduced capacity (80max); social distancing required (1m+)
- ✦ Sun 8am (St. Peter's)
 - reduced capacity (80max); social distancing required (1m+)
- ✦ Sun 9am (St. Thomas More, Stockbridge)
 - reduced capacity (40max); social distancing required (one seat gap)
- ✦ Sun 9:15am (St. Stephen's)
 - reduced capacity (100max); social distancing optional ("please leave this seat free" signs available for people to use); congregational singing permitted
- ✦ Sun 10:30am (St. Peter's)
 - reduced capacity (150max); social distancing optional ("please leave this seat free" signs available for people to use); congregational singing permitted
- ✦ Sun 11am (St. Gregory's, Alresford)
 - reduced capacity (55max); social distancing optional ("please leave this seat free" signs available for people to use); congregational singing permitted
- ✦ Sun 5:30pm (St. Peter's)
 - reduced capacity (150max); social distancing optional ("please leave this seat free" signs available for people to use); congregational singing permitted

Sun 9pm Night Prayer (St. Peter's, open to the public)

NB We will no longer continue to offer the Sat 3:30pm Family Mass or Sunday Midday Mass.

Children's Liturgy of the Word

We will hopefully be resuming our Liturgy of the Word with Children in all churches from, or soon after, 12th September.

WEEKDAY Mass Schedule and other liturgies

As the pace of parish life picks up again, we will no longer be able to sustain a daily evening mass as well as the daytime mass, except for special feast days. Otherwise, the daily schedule will look fairly familiar (all St. Peter's unless stated otherwise):

- ✦ Mon – 8-9am morning prayer, adoration and benediction; 11am-midday adoration, 12:15pm mass; 9pm Night Prayer
- ✦ Tues - 8-9am morning prayer, adoration and benediction; 10am mass; (followed immediately until midday by adoration); also 10am mass (St. Gregory's); 9pm Night Prayer
- ✦ Weds – 8-9am morning prayer, adoration and benediction; 10am mass; (followed immediately until midday by adoration); 9pm Night Prayer
- ✦ Thurs – 8-9am morning prayer, adoration and benediction; 10am mass; (followed immediately until midday by adoration); 9pm Night Prayer
- ✦ Fri - 8-9am morning prayer, adoration and benediction; 10am mass (St. Gregory's); 11am-midday adoration, 12:15pm mass
- ✦ Sat 9am (St. Peter's); followed by confessions, 11am-midday (St. Peter's)

Face coverings, bookings, etc.

- ✦ Face coverings/masks – we will continue to ask you to wear a face covering or mask for all our public masses.
- ✦ Bookings – we will continue to ask you to book for weekend masses. This will hopefully serve to reassure people who are feeling cautious, as well as being the most efficient way at busy times to manage the Track and Trace. If there's space, we'll happily let you in if you haven't booked, but we can't guarantee it, as we can if you've booked. No bookings required for weekday or Saturday morning masses.
- ✦ Hand sanitiser – we will continue to ask you to use hand sanitiser when you enter our church buildings.
- ✦ Holy Communion – we will continue to distribute Holy Communion under one kind only, and ask those receiving on the tongue to come at the end of the communion line.

- ✦ Holy Water – we will continue to refrain from filling holy water stoups and the font. However, you may bring your own bottles of water for the priests and deacons to bless.
- ✦ Offertory Collection – we will resume the practice of taking a collection during the Preparation of the Gifts (and at the end of Mass when we have a Second Collection).
- ✦ Various other steps – we will continue to refrain from offering a physical sign of peace during mass, to keep windows open where possible and to clean the church buildings regularly.

Parish Facilities

We are planning to re-open all our parish facilities from 11th September. This will include the Parish Pastoral Centre, St. Stephen's Community Room, St. Gregory's Hall and all our toilets.

This means, for example, that we will be able to re-commence teas and coffees, etc. after some of our masses (8am St. Peter's; 9am Stockbridge; 9:15am St. Stephen's; 10:30am St. Peter's and 11am St. Gregory's).

It also means that the Pastoral Centre will be open during the week from Mon 13th September and that the reception desk and repository (gift shop) will be fully open again.

We will, however, still need to carry out risk assessments for each of these buildings and activities and there may be some restrictions in place as we try to phase them back in gradually. The Pastoral Centre will be cleaned each day as in the past, with the introduction of daily fogging Sunday-Friday.

Thank you for all your patience and support during this time. Please pray that we will be able to continue with this phased re-opening of our buildings in a way that is safe and welcoming.

Next Review Date: 29th October