

ST. FRANCIS CATHOLIC PARISH NEWSLETTER

15th August 2021 The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

126 Week Street, Maidstone, Kent, ME14 1RH Tel. 01622 756217

Email: maidstone@rcaos.org.uk Website: www.stfrancisparish.org.uk

Parish Priest: Fr. Liam Gallagher

Assistant Priests: Fr. Damian Esene, Fr Simon Peter Lubuulwa

Deacon: Rev. Ian Black

Parish Office hours: 10am – 12 noon Tuesday and Friday (email or telephone only)

Catholic Schools

St Francis Primary School: Queen's Road, Maidstone, ME16 0LB 01622 771540

St Simon Stock Secondary School: Oakwood Park, Maidstone, ME16 0JP 01622 754551

WHAT WE CAN DO NOW

SOCIAL DISTANCING: There is no social distancing in the church but we ask people to be considerate of other people's space. We have removed the red and white taping and moved the church furniture back to where it was originally, which may look a bit strange at first. For anybody who is still anxious about attending church, we encourage you to come either weekday or Saturday morning where there is a guaranteed amount of space.

FACE COVERINGS: These are not compulsory but are strongly suggested especially for larger crowds as they help reinforce people's ease in being with a crowd.

SANITISING: Hand sanitising will still be available as you arrive and leave. Seating and touchpoints will continue to be sanitised.

SING THE PRAISES OF THE LORD: Indoor Congregational singing is also permitted but it is recommended that we do so with a face covering on until a later date when we are advised otherwise.

We do not hand out the hymn books yet as these are considered to be touchpoints that many people share so would need constant sanitising. We promise that a lot of classics and favourites shall be chosen so you can join in.

CHURCH OPENING: The Church shall be open for individual prayer between Monday - Friday 10am - 2pm and Saturday 9.30am - 12pm.

We are also ending the one way system in the Church, so please enter and exit by the main church doors as we always used to before.

TRACK AND TRACE: The Bar Code will still be available which we ask people to use if they have the App. There shall be no stewards to remind people about the forms to fill in and we shall no longer be supplying them. Please can you either go to our website where you can find the forms or you can just use any slip of paper with your details on and do this at home.

CAR PARKING: As Car Parking is now very limited at the side of the church, the space reserved for the Parish Priest will now be available for anybody to use. Fr. Liam will use the space directly outside the presbytery on the yellow boxing.