

ST MARGARET MARY PARISH CHURCH

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In response to the Coronavirus pandemic, the following measures and plans are announced for our parish and community:

1. Public celebration of mass, weekday and weekends, will cease, until further notice.
2. The obligation to attend mass on Sunday and holy days of obligation is removed in these days of emergency.
3. People may follow the mass online, e.g.
<https://www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass/> which is live at 8.15am or catch-up. There is also mass and other prayers and teaching on:
<https://www.ewtn.com/catholicism/daily-readings> this daily mass is at 8am
There are further resources on: www.cbcew.org.uk
4. We want to care for all those who are vulnerable or isolated. Information cards will be available soon, which will include a dedicated local phone number which will be available to help link the needy with those who can provide help.
5. A mini-foodbank will be available through the parish church to help anyone who is experiencing difficulty. We are asking

that people also drop off essentials to church to help those in need over these few months of difficulty. We will also announce soon where a hot meal will be available for families on a daily basis.

6. To remain in touch with our weekly parish newsletter, please contact me on simonellis222@gmail.com if you would like to be included in the mailing.
7. Church will remain open for prayer between 9am and 4pm every day. Please observe strict hygiene when in Church.
8. In terms of the sacraments: Baptisms, First Holy Communion and Confirmations will be deferred until such time as normality is resumed. As we do not possibly know when that is, I would assume that those celebrations which we have in the diary are postponed at this stage, to avoid disappointment or, in the case of some families, wasted booked flights.
9. Marriages also should be rearranged: If this is not possible, then a marriage can take place with only the bride, groom and immediate family.
10. Funerals will take place at the grave side or crematorium. Where a mass would have been celebrated in church, this will be offered at a later date.
11. Holy Week and Easter: At this stage we cannot confirm arrangements for Holy Week and Easter.

These measures will be implemented from this Friday, 20th March.

Yours sincerely,

Fr Simon Ellis