Weekly Message from Fr William on Sunday 23th August 2020

Dear People of St Mary's and online visitors to our parish

This my 22nd weekly message to the parish, wanting to keep you up to date with the constantly changing ways we're adapting to the challenges of the current pandemic.

Having said that, we might be in a brief period of stability at this moment in time, at least as far as our Sunday celebration of Mass is concerned, celebrating twice by livestream and once by physical attendance. If it begins to appear that there is an increased take up for physical attendance there is the possibility of increasing this to two out of three, but this will need to be weighed against the prevalent take up of livestream. Attendance figures so far for physical attendance have been 31, 14, 18, and for Sat 6pm this Sunday 22.

I'm continuing to work closely with Vince in his capacity as Health and Safety Officer to ensure that everyone who comes for mass by physical attendance both is safe and also feels safe. The church is now set up with 33 x 2m socially spaced chairs and will be used for mass when the weather is unsuitable for outside, as it was last Sunday for the Sun 5pm.

If you want to physically attend Mass please check the bulletin to see which Sunday mass is with physical attendance. Then register online from the website homepage. Registration closes Friday 6pm. Before you come to mass please also click on the link 'celebrating mass by physical attendance August 2020' and have a read of this before you come. And remember to bring your face covering.

Anyone who does not yet have online access to the internet and would like to physically attend mass, please would you phone me for now, and I'll fill in the Online Reservation form for you over the phone for you. It's important that the Online Reservation system has your contact details for Contact-Track-Isolation.

The church will be open for individual visits on Saturday 22nd from 10am to 12noon and again 29th August from 10am to 12noon if we have steward volunteers. Keep an eye on the website for any updates. Please bring face covering.

If you know of any parishioner who may not be getting this weekly message, keeping the parish up to speed with what's happening, maybe because they don't yet have internet, please consider printing this off and getting it to them.

I'm leaving up on the website my message to the parish of last Sunday. Happy Sunday and God bless you all

William