

Weekly Message from Fr William for Second Sunday of Advent 6<sup>th</sup> December 2020

Dear People of St Mary's

Following the government issue of the current covid regulations from 2<sup>nd</sup> December, and the publishing of the corresponding diocesan guidelines, here's confirming that I will be putting on one in-church celebration of mass for the Second Sunday of Advent (6<sup>th</sup> December) and it'll be the Saturday 6pm.

The in-church celebration of mass for the Saturday 6pm Mass will be livestreamed at the same time. However, as explained last Sunday the mass experience for those livestreaming will be different. With a congregation in church there will be no singing (prohibited by government because of increased aerosol). I won't be coming up close for the homily. And I will be adhering to the diocesan recommendation we have no bidding prayers, to minimise the time in-church participants are in church in a potential covid environment.

The other two masses (Sun 10am, Sun 5pm) will be livestreamed only, with singing, and with close up homily. Livestream continues to be the safest way of participating in the mass for self and for others, reducing the risk of viral transmission to zero.

In-church participation following the spring lockdown was rotated around the three Sunday masses. Following recent consultation with the PPC I've decided this time to keep it consistently on the same mass each Sunday, namely the Saturday 6pm Mass. I'll say a bit more about this at Mass.

In-church participants will need to register online from the parish website as before, by Friday 6pm latest. Please read the link on the website homepage '[celebration of mass by in-church participation](#)' before coming and follow the measures detailed. There is now on this link additional information for in-church participants about the mass being livestreamed, including information about the livestream field of vision.

I fully respect the choice to celebrate mass by in-church participation at this time. And I fully respect the choice to celebrate mass by livestream, whether for your own safety, or to minimise the risk of viral transmission to others and to the wider community. Both are valid ways of celebrating mass.

Keep well, keep safe, keep each other safe, and God bless you



Second Sunday of Advent – Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> December 2020