

**S. Agatha's Catholic Church – an additional COVID-19 Risk Assessment  
upon changes to legislation, from 15<sup>th</sup> September 2020, for the celebration of Mass**

What are the hazards?	What harm might be caused?	Who might be harmed?	What precautions or control measures are being put in place?	Any further measures needed?	Actioned? By whom and when?
A non-physically distanced group assembling at church door seeking entry.	Transmission of Covid19 resulting in potential serious injury or death.	Anyone gathering around door of church in breach of distancing.	Provision of a steward at the building's entrance to encourage/attempt to enforce distancing.	None apparent. We have co-designed an informal community behaviour agreement, in accordance with the <i>COVID-19: guidance for the safe use of places of worship during the pandemic</i> , section 3 (as updated on 17/09/2020 – hereafter provided as **).	Fr John Maunder 19/09/2020
People entering building with unwashed hands.	Transmission of Covid19 resulting in potential serious injury or death.	Anyone in the building who touches something that the “unwashed” has touched.	High-alcohol-level sanitiser pump on table at church entrance, with appropriate signage, and presence of a steward to encourage use.		“
Movement generally within the building.	Transmission of Covid19 resulting in potential serious injury or death.	Anyone in the building if others' movement breaches distancing requirements.	Steward directs people to 2m-distanced numbered pews (1 per individual, or 2 together if from same household or within “support bubble”. One-way system marked with arrows on floor, plus signage.		“
Touching of door handles & pews for support and when taking seat (church doors kept open).	Transmission of Covid19 resulting in potential serious injury or death.	Anyone in the building who touches the same items.	Pew not to be re-used when person has vacated (when church open for prayer). Anti-bacterial cleaning of all touched furniture etc. once building closed, and after Mass, all furniture anti-bacterially cleaned.		“
Lighting votive candles or using devotional materials	Transmission of Covid19 resulting in potential serious	Anyone else lighting candles, touching lights already handled by	All books, service sheets or other devotional material, and any matches or for the lighting of votive candles will be		

without compromising hygiene.	injury or death.	others or sharing the same lighting taper, or using devotional materials recently used by another.	provided and will have been quarantined for 48 hours before and after use. Items which cannot be easily cleaned should also be subject to the 48 hour quarantine after use. If visitors bring their own materials, they must take due care that these do not come into contact with individuals of another household or support bubble (see **, section 4).	“	“
Speaking loudly or singing at Mass, creating “aerosol droplets”.	Transmission of Covid19 resulting in potential serious injury or death.	Anyone in the building.	A group of 6 non-professional singers will sing either from the organ loft or in front of the congregation and singing will be limited to this group (see **, section 4).	”	“
Distribution of Holy Communion at Mass (one kind only).	Transmission of Covid19 resulting in potential serious injury or death.	Communicants receiving Host from celebrant, and celebrant if he inadvertently touches communicants’ hands or tongues.	Celebrant to release Host without contact with the communicants and sanitise hands immediately prior to, and after, distribution, and even at points during distribution if touched. Sanitised tongs available to perform the above, upon request.	“	“
Anti-bacterial cleaning of furniture etc after the closing of church when Mass or the period of private prayer is over.	Transmission of Covid19 resulting in potential serious injury or death.	Volunteer cleaners, and future attendees if cleaning done inadequately.	Those volunteering for post-opening cleaning provided with disposable gloves and cleaning materials, and invited, if they wish, to bring their own mask and apron.	“	“
Limitations to congregation numbers.	Transmission of Covid19 resulting in potential serious injury or death.	Anyone in the building.	Legislation provides the following: ‘During the emergency period...[persons] may participate in a gathering which consists of more than six people...if it	In the event that	“

<p>The wearing of face coverings.</p>	<p>Transmission of Covid19 resulting in potential serious injury or death.</p>	<p>Anyone in the building if others' movement breaches distancing requirements.</p>	<p>takes place on or at premises, other than a private dwelling, which are...operated by a business, a charitable, benevolent or philanthropic institution or a public body.'</p> <p>- The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Restrictions) (No. 2) (England) (Amendment) (No. 4) Regulations 2020, s.2(3)(a)</p> <p>Legislation provides the following: 'No person may, without reasonable excuse, enter or remain within a <u>relevant place</u> without wearing a face covering.'</p> <p>- The Health Protection (Coronavirus, Wearing of Face Coverings in a Relevant Place) (England) Regulations 2020, s.3(1)</p> <p>However, S. Agatha's Church does not correspond to any "relevant place" provided in the Schedule of the Regulations, being held in a private trust – i.e. not apparently qualifying as a "public hall".</p> <p>Therefore, the congregation shall be fully cautioned and their decision re the wearing of face coverings left to their own discretion, unless the trustees decide otherwise, in an official capacity.</p> <p>Those who are leading services or events in a place of worship, and those who assist them in the sanctuary are not required to wear face masks (see **, section 5).</p> <p>Cash is collected in a receptacle that is</p>	<p>attendance numbers grow, a reassessment of restrictions on capacity will be required, according to the total floorspace and likely pinch-points.</p>	<p>“</p>
<p>Cash donations.</p>	<p>Transmission of Covid19 resulting in potential serious injury or death.</p>	<p>Stewards.</p>	<p></p>	<p></p>	<p></p>

			<b>set in one place and handled by one individual. Regular cleaning and hygiene are maintained (see **, section 4).</b>		"
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