

Halston Street Parish Newsletter & COVID Update

08 / 09 August 2020

Deepest Sympathy...

We remember in prayer those who have recently died :

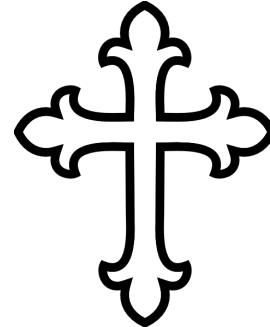
Sarah (Sadie) Hanbury - 12th of July 2020

Keith Rice - 22 July 2020

Ellen Byrne - 25 July 2020

Andrew Taaffe - 30 July 2020

Esther Lawlor - 04 August 2020



May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed,
through the Mercy of God, rest in Peace. Amen.



Face Masks / Coverings

We have placed new signage around the church and at the entrances to encourage all who attend the Church to wear face masks at all times while inside the Church building. Please ensure that your nose & mouth are covered when wearing a mask / covering.

Parish Office - The MACRO Building

The Parish Office will be closed from Monday 17th of August 2020 until Monday 31st of August. Urgent queries: phone the sacristy number 01 873 0675 or email halstonst@gmail.com and we will get back to you.

The Office is usually open Monday to Friday from 10:15am to 12:45am and is located next to the Senior Citizens Room, 1st Floor, MACRO Building. You're most welcome to drop in to book masses, baptisms or for any other parish related business. The Office may be closed if we have a funeral in the Church. You can also phone the office directly on 07 873 7004 during opening hours.

Volunteer Meeting

The COVID-19 Steering Group is holding a volunteer meeting on Monday 10th of August 2020 at 7pm in the Church to review how the first month has gone since we reopened. We are looking for more people to volunteer especially to assist as Stewards at mid-week funerals. Please let Fr Martin, Fr Patrick or Carmel Keogh know if you are interested in training as a volunteer.

Funerals in the Parish Church

Since reopening on the 4th of July we have had three funerals in the Church and thanks to the cooperation of the families and the hard work of our fantastic volunteers, they all went smoothly. We had large numbers for all three funerals and they each took us to our maximum capacity.

Since last weekend we now have the ability to use the upper gallery for additional seating, only if we can adhere to Government regulations and operate in line with Health & Safety best practice. The following guidance was issued by the Cabinet Committee on COVID-19 regarding places of worship:

The Cabinet Committee decided that where the size of the premises allows for a capacity of greater than 50 this may be permitted only where:

- 2 metre social distancing guidelines are adhered to
- The premises can be subdivided into distinct sections (cordoned or marked appropriately) of not more than 50 persons in each section
- There is a minimum of 4m between sections
- Each section having its own entrance/exit route
- There are separate arrangements for elements of the service involving close contact, e.g. the distribution of Holy Communion
- Strictly no movement of people between sections before, during or after the service
- The premises are well-ventilated.
- The use of face coverings are required for such indoor settings.

If we implement the above,, we can accommodate an additional 25 people in the upper gallery for funerals and larger Masses. This gives us an overall total capacity of 75 people made up of individuals, families and volunteers. We will continue to work closely with undertakers and families to ensure we can do our best to meet the needs of those wishing to attend a funeral while ensuring that we are providing a safe environment for all.

Once again we offer our deepest condolences to all who have lost a loved one during this time of COVID-19.

Holy Day - Saturday 15th of August (Feast of the Assumption)

Saturday 15th of August is a Holy Day and we will have public Mass at 10am in the Parish Church. There will be no vigil Mass on Friday for the feast.

Thank you as always for your continued generosity and support for our Parish. May the Lord bless you and keep you and your families in His care.