Christmas 2020 will be a unique experience we have taken time to work out how we can respond to the many challenges that face us in these difficult circumstances. Clearly it will be impossible for our usual large congregations to assemble for Mass on Christmas Eve or Christmas Day. We remind you that the obligation to attend mass on Sundays and Holy Days remains suspended during the pandemic. Families are welcome to attend Mass at some point during the Christmas season. Masses will also be widely available over our webcam and we strongly encourage families to "tune in" from their living rooms and join with those who are gathering in their local churches in welcoming the birth of the Christ-child. Yes, Christmas will not be the same, we will be operating under Government restrictions. Our numbers will be drastically reduced due to social distancing This means our maximum number for the Cathedral is 150 people. We are asked to avoid gatherings of people in the church grounds, so to avoid this we will provide a ticket system to control our numbers and we ask that those who do not have a ticket to stay at home. We wish to provide as many opportunities as possible for our parishioners who feel safe, to participate in a Christmas Mass. To facilitate this, we are going to celebrate Christmas over a three-day period beginning with Wednesday 23rd, Thursday 24th and Friday 25th, each mass will be a Christmas mass. We ask that you consider booking for the earlier masses Wednesday and Thursday morning to free up space for those unable to attend until later Christmas Eve or on Christmas Day.

Arrangements for bookings:

- 1. Contact Cora, by phone by phone only, Monday to Friday, inclusive, between 10.00am and 2.30pm.
- 2. You may only request the number of tickets required by your household. You cannot request a ticket for someone else. Each person/household must phone in their own request.
- 3. Tickets will be numbered, colour coded, timed, and stamped.
- 4. Please arrive at least 15 minutes before Mass times. The door will be closed at the start of Mass.
- 5. Hands must be sanitised before entering the Cathedral, masks are mandatory and social distancing is essential.

Every social gathering at this time has its dangers we need to be conscious of this when we make or decision to come to church over Christmas. We remind you again that the obligation to attend mass on Sundays and Holy Days remains suspended during the pandemic. You might want to think about coming to mass on one of the twelve days of Christmas when numbers will be smaller. We pray that we can all come through this time in the spirit of the Christmas season with love joy and peace.

We continue to pray for all who have been affected by the Covid19 pandemic. We pray for those who have been sick and for our medical professionals we remember those who have died and their broken-hearted families.



Christmas Mass Times & Confessions

Monday 21st & Tuesday 22nd December

Mass times as Normal *Confessions* after all Masses

Wednesday 23rd December

Mass 8am, 10am, 12.30pm & 6pm

Thursday 24th December (Christmas Eve)

Mass 8am, 10am, 12.30pm, 6pm & 9pm

Friday 25th December (Christmas Day)

Mass 8am, 10.30am & 12noon No Evening Mass

Saturday 26th December

Mass 10am. Vigil Mass 6pm

Sunday 27th December

Mass 8am, 10.30am, 12 noon & 7pm

Monday 28th December - Friday 1st January

Mass 10am. No Evening Mass

Saturday 2nd January

Mass times resume as normal

Please phone parish office 061 414624 to book a place at any of the above Masses on 23rd, 24th & 25th December.