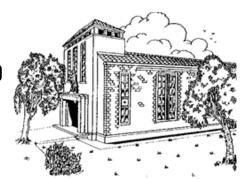
Immaculate Conception Catholic Church

346 Portswood Road, Southampton, SO17 3SB Telephone: 023 8055 5470

Email: portswood@portsmouthdiocese.org.uk Web site: www.immaculateconception.church



July 2nd 2020

Dear parishioners,

Since 19th June the Feast of Corpus Christi, our parish church, the Immaculate Conception, has been open for private prayer. We thank God for that! Now we have even better news! Public Masses are permitted, beginning on Saturday 4th July. We know that as many people as possible will want to participate in Holy Mass after 3 months of lockdown. I have been working with a team of parishioners to prepare things as best as we can. We have come up with a new Mass order that will only continue until we return to normality without any restrictions due to this terrible pandemic. So please note the following Mass times:

Mass times commencing Friday 10th July

Sunday morning: 1000

Sunday evening mass 5.30 P.M. 1730

Monday-no service Tuesday 10.00

Wednesday 7.30 p.m. (1930)

Thursday 12.00 noon Friday 7.30 p.m. (1930)

Saturday- 10.00 recorded mass for Sunday by invitation for those with special circumstances (less capacity due to cameras)

We purposely chose different times for Masses to accommodate the needs of different parishioners.

In order to attend Mass, each parishioner will need to 'book' a Mass. *Social Distance and Safety* requirements can only allow 40 persons or 14 households to attend each Mass. For these reasons, we require a sign-up system to accommodate capacity. We have tried to make this sign-up system as simple as possible. You can book a Mass in two ways:

- 1) Send an email request to this email address: icmassbookings@gmail.com and state
 - i) Your name and address.
 - ii) The total number in your household coming to Mass (let us know if there are under 10s).
 - iii) The preference for the day of the week and mass time you wish to attend. (If you can give a second choice that will help if there are too many requests for one Mass time).
 - iv) Whether there is a special circumstance (e.g. wheelchair access, working hours)

2) You can also call this number **0800 2461372** and leave a message. We provide this option for those who have no access to the internet. If you have internet access, please email us.

You must specify the day of week and time you would like to attend Mass.

This will be your Mass time each week. For the time being, you cannot book more than one Mass a week to allow as many people as possible to attend Mass. We are asking those who are retired, and those who can attend a Mass during the week, to sign up for a weekday Mass. Please do not 'swop' mass bookings, rather cancel them through the booking system, so we can release seats for those on shift work etc. Those who work unpredictable shifts should email us on a Wednesday for the following week.

There will be no toilet facilities available.

Please help us pass this message to other parishioners you know. If anyone has a special circumstance that we should be aware of, please let us know as soon as possible. Your privacy will be respected.

Yours sincerely Father Antony.

Fr Antony Gatt MA, MA, PhD
Parish Priest