



THE DONEGAL GROUP OF PARISHES  
DONEGAL TOWN · KILLYMARD · LOUGH ESKE · LAGHEY



30th June 2020

# RETURN TO GATHERED WORSHIP SERVICES IN OUR CHURCH BUILDINGS

Dear Parishioners,

We are delighted to be able to hold services in our parish church buildings beginning on Sunday 5th July 2020. This is a great step forward and we thank the Lord for bringing us to this point.

The service pattern will be as follows:

- |                  |   |
|------------------|---|
| <b>9:30am</b>    | <b>Killymard</b> (1st, 3rd & 5th Sunday of the month);<br><b>Lough Eske</b> (2nd & 4th Sunday of the month) |
| <b>10:45am</b>   | <b>Laghey</b> (every Sunday)  |
| <b>12:00noon</b> | <b>Donegal</b> (every Sunday)   |

The services will be held in accordance with regulations and guidelines from the Government and from the Church of Ireland. The full COVID-19 policy adopted by the Select Vestry may be viewed on request.

## THE KEY RULES FOR KEEPING US ALL SAFE ARE:

- DO NOT** come to church if you have any COVID-19 symptoms including:
  - high temperature
  - cough
  - breathing difficulty
  - sudden loss of sense of smell or taste
  - flu-like symptoms.
- Maintain social distancing at all times**  
(stay at least 2m apart from other people).
- Maintain good hand hygiene.**

*Continued...*

## SPECIFIC FURTHER INSTRUCTIONS:

1. Please arrive at church in good time and use the hand sanitiser provided at the entrance.
2. Face coverings may be worn. Current government advice is that face coverings are recommended for adults in indoor places where it is difficult to maintain social distancing of 2m.
3. Please follow the directions of the churchwardens, filling up pews from the front of the building to avoid crossing and to help churchwardens see which seats are available.
4. Current regulations are that a maximum of 50 people may attend a service, rising to 100 in the next phase.
5. Members of the same household can share the same pew.
6. Some pews will be closed off to maintain 2m social distancing and these pews are not to be used.
7. Books, news sheets etc. will not be handed out in the porch. Words of the service will either be on books which will remain in the pews, or else will be projected onto a screen.
8. The collection plate will not be passed around but will be placed near the door for your offerings/envelopes.
9. For the time being there will be no congregational singing and no administration of Holy Communion. We will resume these when we are advised we can do so. Choir members should sit with their own households for now.
10. On leaving, please leave behind any books in the pew. Exit pew by pew from the back of church, maintaining social distancing. Sanitise your hands again at the exit. Tissues, disposable masks etc. can be disposed of in the bin provided.
11. Churchwardens will keep a list of those attending. This is solely for the purposes of contact tracing in the event of a case of COVID-19 and these records will be destroyed after 21 days.
12. Technology permitting, the 1200 service in Donegal Parish Church will be live-streamed on the Donegal Group of Parishes Facebook page for the benefit of those unable to attend.

Thank you for cooperating with all of these instructions! Despite the restrictions, it will be good to gather together again. At the same time we will be mindful of those who are not able to join us due to age, medical vulnerability or for other reasons. Let's keep constantly in prayer, remembering the principles from chapter 10 of the letter to the Hebrews:

- Let us draw near to God with a sincere heart and the full assurance of faith.
- Let us hold unswervingly to the hope we profess, for he who promised is faithful.
- Let us consider how we may spur one another on towards love and good deeds.

With every blessing,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "David Huss". The signature is written in a cursive, slightly slanted style.