

Covid Protocol – Howth & Malahide Presbyterian Church

The protocol is based on the latest advice received from Clerk of the General Assembly & General Secretary, Presbyterian Church in Ireland 29th October 2021.

Before....

- If you are displaying any of the symptoms of COVID-19 or have been in close contact with anyone displaying such symptom's, do not attend church or any church activity.
- Please ensure that 1 metre separation is maintained from others as you enter the building.

On arrival.....

- Entrance doors will be left open so as to minimise touch and for air circulation.
- All persons over 13 years of age attending church should wear a face mask (not a visor) whilst within the buildings. This is for the safety of others. It is recognised that some people with certain medical conditions will not be able to wear face coverings. Spare disposable masks will be available in each church to facilitate those who come without.
- Hand sanitising stations will be provided at each church.

During the Service....

- Detailed record of persons attending and their seat location will be recorded and retained to facilitate contact tracing.
- Pews will be set out at a minimum separation distance of 1 metre.
- There will be limited overflow seating provided in the Glass Room off the church hall in Malahide, accessed from the external door.
- Leaflets, and books have been removed from each church. Hymns will be displayed on PowerPoint and relayed to those streaming the service.

Order of Service leaflets (containing notices, words of hymns and bible readings) will be available on church website to print off.

- Bibles will be available in the pews
- Collection plate will be left in an agreed place in the church.
- There will be a minimum of 2 metres separation between singers and those leading the service from the front and the congregation.
- Access to toilets to be restricted to the toilet in the church transept in Howth & disabled toilet in Malahide church hall only.

Anti-bacterial wipes will be available in each of the toilets it would be appreciated if users could wipe surfaces after using the bathroom.

Disposable hand towels will be available.

After the service.....

- When leaving the church, please ensure that you maintain 1 metre separation from others.
- For as long as weather permits, light refreshments will continue to be served outdoors.
- When light refreshments are served indoors, it will be subject to:-
 - those serving refreshments wearing face coverings
 - face coverings being worn at all times, other than when eating or drinking
 - 1 metre social distancing being maintained while queuing and during interaction with each other
- Each church including the toilets, will be cleaned on a weekly basis between services. Where the church is used between services, surfaces should be wiped down and sanitised after use.