

Covid Protocol – Howth & Malahide Presbyterian Church

Before....

- If you are displaying any of the symptoms of COVID-19 or have been in close contact with anyone displaying such symptoms, do not attend church or any church activity.
- In the short term, because of the reduction in seating capacity in each church, members are asked only to attend their normal place of worship.

On arrival.....

- 2 metre markings will be provided on ground at entrance to each church and bins will be provided outside each church.
- 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.
- Attendees are requested to fill the churches from the front under the direction of the ushers.

During the Service....

- Detailed record of persons attending and their seat location will be recorded and retained to facilitate contact tracing.
- Because of reduced capacity in Malahide (only 50% of pews are available), limited overflow seating will be provided in the Glass Room off the church hall – accessed from the external door.
- Bibles, 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.
- Collection plate will be left in an agreed place in the church.
- Refreshments will only be served outdoors (when weather permits) after the church service. Only bottled water permitted in the church.
- Access to toilets to be restricted to the toilet in the church transept in Howth & disabled toilet in Malahide church hall only. Antibacterial 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.
- There is to be minimum movement of people within the church during the service - children are to sit with their parents and remain in the pew.
- We recommend only soft singing during the service.

After the service.....

- Attendees are requested to vacate churches from the rear under the direction of the ushers.
- Each church including the toilets, will be cleaned as is on a weekly basis between services. Where the church is to be used for additional purposes during the week and there is not 72 hours between use, then it will be necessary for the church to be cleaned and sanitised.