

# St. Vincent de Paul RC Church – Knutsford

## Re-opening for Private Prayer

### Church opening time

The church will be open for private prayer every Sunday from 10:00 to 11:30.

### Stewards

There are ten stewards available and three will be on-site for each private prayer session.

### PPE

We can confirm that all necessary PPE and hand sanitiser is available.

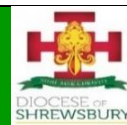
### Social distancing

We can confirm that all social distancing markings are in place throughout the church. We have separate doors for entrance and exit, supported by a one-way system.

### Risk Assessment (and control measures)

The risk assessment and associated control measures can be seen on the following two pages.

## Risk Assessment - Reopening of Churches for Private Prayer 'Covid -19 Secure'



<b>Location: St. Vincent de Paul RC Church, Tatton Street, Knutsford, WA16 6AF</b>
<b>Typical hazards associated with this activity and those who may be harmed</b>
<b>Hazard : Spread of Covid-19 Coronavirus</b>
Those who may be harmed : Staff & Volunteers; Visitors to the Premises; Cleaners; Vulnerable groups i.e. the elderly, pregnant persons, those with existing underlying health conditions; Contractors; anyone else who may come into contact you in relation to the activity.

### Good practice risk control measures to consider & implement

No	Item	Status
1	An individual or group is put in charge of planning the management of health & safety for enabling the church to open for short periods of private prayer.	✓
2	Agreed church opening times, for short private prayer (a maximum of 15 mins), have been established and notified to all Parishioners.	✓
3	A <b>suitable</b> (not from any 'at risk group' of the population) and sufficient number of informed and instructed Stewards are in place, to ensure that at least two is available throughout the agreed opening times of the church for private prayer. Any one Steward is on duty for 1 -1.5 hours only.	✓
4	All Stewards are be provided with suitable PPE (disposable masks and gloves) and hand sanitiser available during their time of duty within the church.	✓
5	No food or drink is allowed on site. (only none twist cap water bottles allowed, if necessary)	✓
6	In order to maintain 'Social Distancing' arrangements, where possible, there is one way into the church and a separate way to leave, with a clear one-way system in place to maintain a distance of 2 metres apart (6 feet between persons).	✓
7	Doors and (windows if possible) open to allow flow of fresh air through the church.	✓
8	The church floor is marked with (black/yellow) tape indicating 2 metre distances and one-way system.	✓
9	Stewards ensure strict social distancing is maintained by persons entering and leaving the church appropriately in line with the maximum capacity of the church and any one-way system in place.	✓
10	The Confessionals are not available for use as they do not provide adequate means of maintaining 2 metres social distancing.	✓
11	Suitable cleaning materials have been provided (household detergents and disinfectant are adequate for the purpose)	✓
12	The church is cleaned every day that it is used for private prayer.	✓
13	In addition all hand rails, ends of benches, door handles and any other surface that is likely to be touched frequently are cleaned regularly throughout the church opening times; at least at 1 or 2 hourly intervals.	✓
14	All cleaning undertaken is carried out with suitable PPE i.e. disposable gloves and aprons.	✓

No	Item	Status
15	Benches and chairs have been blocked off to maintain the 2 metres apart social distancing rule.	✓
16	Consideration has been given to identifying particular areas of the church seating to reduce the potential for contamination of furnishings throughout the church and there are none that need additional actions.	✓
17	There will be a <b>maximum of 10 visitors</b> at one time and an appropriate and clear sign has been provided at the entrance and exit of the church. We will apply the 2m rule to keep individuals/households socially distant.	✓
18	Hand sanitizer (65% alcohol) has been provided at the entrance to the church and clear signage in place requesting people to apply before they enter. Similarly, a request sign is in place, that visitors do not touch statues or sacred imagers during their visit.	✓
19	The church toilets have been closed to the public	✓
20	All none-single use printed materials i.e. Mass books or Hymn books, pamphlets, or leaflets, have been removed from the church. Visitors have been requested to take any single use material that they have gathered, away with them.	✓
21	Votive candles have been placed in holders in advance and Stewards to replace as necessary to prevent cross contamination of candle supplies.	✓
22	Stewards on duty ignite an initial candle, other candles are lit via that one. Stewards will extinguish all candles at the end of their time on duty or when the church closes for private prayer.	✓
23	All cleaning is undertaken using disposable cloths and paper towels etc. These are disposed of in a correct fashion.	✓
24	Suitable waste receptacles with lids are provided i.e. swing bin or foot peddle bin.	✓
25	Waste is double bagged and stored for 72 hours in a place safe from animal attraction i.e. inside the building and removed via routine waste collection.	✓
26	All Stewards are instructed to wash their hands at frequent intervals (for twenty seconds) with appropriate hand wash and apply hand cream afterwards.	✓
27	The Steward on duty is aware of the fire procedures, and in the event of an emergency be ready to ask everyone to leave in an orderly fashion following their directions.	✓
28	Stewards will not physically assist people on the premises unless absolutely necessary such as emergency first aid. They will keep their own safety paramount, ensuring they use hand sanitiser/hand wash before and after any personal encounter. A note of such aid will be recorded in the churches' accident book.	✓

All the above risk control measures have been completed and no further actions are required.		Responsibility & target date
Some additional signs need to be produced and put in the Church (e.g. all signs that go in the entrance lobby)		Stuart Jones 11 <sup>th</sup> July, 2020
Signature of person responsible for this activity confirming that this risk assessment has been carried out with the relevant people	Signed: <i>Stuart Jones</i>  Print: Stuart Jones	Date:  8 <sup>th</sup> July 2020
Approval by the Parish Priest	Signed: <i>Father John Joyce</i>  Print: Father John Joyce	Date:  8 <sup>th</sup> July 2020

