

ORTHODOX PARISH OF ST HELEN & ST MARTIN COVID 19 RISK ASSESSMENT\* (SEPTEMBER 2020) v.1

Activity	Hazards Identified	Risk	Initial Risk Rating	Controls	Residual Risk	Notes/Issues Log
<p>*This risk assessment is informed by COVID-19 guidance issued by <b>The Antiochian Orthodox Christian Archdiocese of the British Isles and Ireland</b>, relating to its own liturgical activity which in turn is based on advice from <b>HM Government</b> sources relating to COVID secure activity in places of public worship. Archdiocese guidance is updated frequently in line with government advice to reflect changes to requirements.</p>						
<b>Holding church services</b>	Risk of contracting COVID-19 from touching a contaminated surface and then transferring the virus by touching own mouth eyes or nose. Inhalation of viral particles into lungs through close contact with an infected person via respiratory droplets.	<b>HIGH:</b> UK Government has classed the risk to individuals of getting the virus as 'high'. Most people who contract COVID 19 will develop mild flu like symptoms but up to 2% of people, typically those with underlying health issues and/or over 70 years old, may experience more severe symptoms. The worst case foreseeable harm/injury is a fatality.	<b>HIGH</b>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Clergy and assistants to be mindful of their own vulnerability and arrange substitution if practical.</li> <li>All clergy and assistants to increase hand hygiene routines and refrain from touching face with unwashed/un-sanitised hands.</li> <li>Social distancing measures in place with 1+meter (mitigated by compulsory wearing of masks/face coverings unless exempt). Maximum number is slightly variable to allow family groups closer proximity. There is no set number of people allowed because of this variable and the situation monitored in real time throughout church services by church wardens to ensure social distancing is observed.</li> <li>People are turned away at the church door by church wardens if safe socially distanced number of attendees is at risk of being exceeded.</li> <li>Church wardens are tasked with monitoring social distancing and wearing of masks throughout services.</li> <li>Attendees are given verbal prompts at various times to remind them of the social distancing requirements and mask wearing.</li> <li>Plentiful hand sanitiser is available for attendees and clergy/assistants at key points throughout church.</li> </ul>	<b>MEDIUM</b>	None
<b>Holding church services (additional)</b>	as above	as above	as above	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>i. disposable hand towels, hand sanitiser and 'good hygiene' notices in toilet and kitchen area.</li> <li>ii. Collection of data for NHS 'Test and Trace' system at each service under current GDPR guidelines.</li> <li>iii. Strict observation of Archdiocese guidance around giving of Holy Communion. (see link below)</li> <li>iv. No refreshments to be served after services until further notice.</li> </ul>		None
<b>Definitions:</b>						
<b>Hazard</b>	Something with the potential to cause harm.					
<b>Likelihood</b>	Chance that harm will occur.					
<b>Risk</b>	Combination of likelihood of occurrence and severity of harm.					
<b>Severity of Harm</b>	Level of injury/illness as a result of exposure/occurrence of event.					
<b>Residual Risk Ratings</b>						
<b>HIGH</b>	Deaths, permanent disablement, life threatening or terminal illness disease. RIDDOR reportable.					
<b>MEDIUM</b>	Fractures, chronic illness, time of work, RIDDOR reportable.					
<b>LOW</b>	Minor injury/illness.					