

## Some information about re-opening of churches.

No definite date has been given for re-opening but we are hopeful that a partial re-opening will be possible within a month. Not all churches will re-open.

Partial re-opening means that churches will be allowed to open for people to drop in and say a prayer but no services will be allowed.

The only services allowed at the moment are those held behind closed doors and these can be streamed live if the church has the necessary equipment which costs in the region of £5000.00.

Not all churches are able to afford this.

To watch a service from churches in the Birmingham Archdiocese, go to [archdioceseofbirmingham.com](http://archdioceseofbirmingham.com) which is the website for St. Chad's Cathedral and there you will find a list of churches that are streaming services daily, including the Cathedral itself.

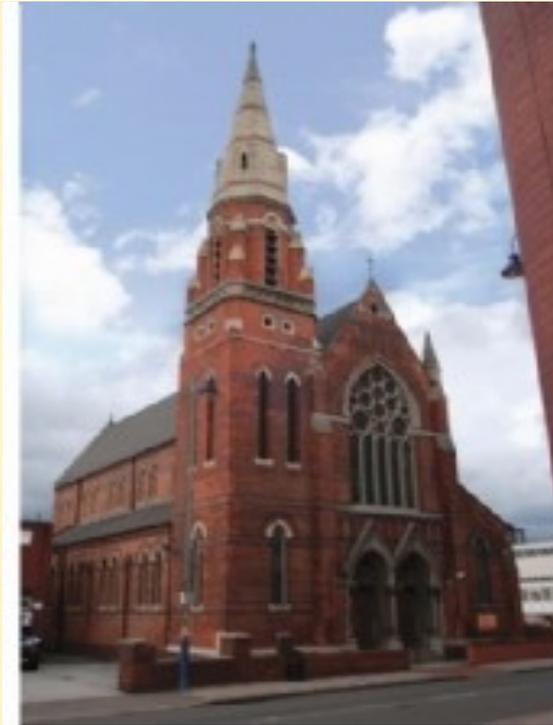
Some of these you have to tune in to at the time of the service but others will have the service recorded for you to look at anytime.

What we are doing now is looking at ways in which we can be ready for re-opening. That means we will have to provide sanitary gel to be used by all who enter the building and all hard surfaces will have to be disinfected between services. ( this is going to be challenging!)

Some pews will be available, others, not, to ensure safe social distancing. Face masks and gloves are not compulsory but people may decide to wear their own. Toilets will not be available.

Numbers attending services will be limited to whatever the safe number is going to be for that building.

We have not as yet looked at how Holy Communion is to be given though there have been some suggestions as to how it might be safely done. Communion in the form of wine will not be available.



**Newsletter for the week commencing 7th June, 2020**

**Parishes of English Martyrs, Sparkhill and St. Anne's, Digbeth.**

Common email= emsabirmingham@gmail.com

Phone contact– Fr. Robert Murphy, 2912163.

**Mass Intentions at St. Anne's**

Sunday 7th. Monica & John Green & Family.

Wednesday 10th. Eileen Finn & Family.

Saturday 13th. Mairead Teahan.

Sunday 14th. Frank ( Cara) Byran

**Mass Intentions at English Martyrs.**

Sunday 7th. Philomena Hunt.

Tuesday 9th. Vincent Mullooly, (anniv.)

Friday 12th. Hannah Welton.

Saturday 13th. Norah Noonan.

Sunday 14th. Brenda Evans.

**Francis Bissondial.**

Francis died suddenly on the evening of 25th May as he helped his niece, Marilyn in the garden of her home. He was active in the parish of St Anne's since the 1950s when he was received into the church there.

Over the years he has helped in various capacities– churchwarden, counting collections, tending the grounds and garden at church. He was also involved over the years with Birmingham Handicap Fellowship in providing holidays for young people.

Requiem Mass on 24th June followed by interment at Oscott Cemetery.

Sorry! No access to the church but the service and burial will be live streamed. Details on how to access this later.

No flowers. Donations instead to British Heart Foundation.

**Recent Deaths.**

**Frank (Cara) Byran**, of Rea St, Digbeth, died on 12th May and was buried at Kings Norton cemetery on Friday 5th June.

**Anne Mc Fetridge**, Hall Green, died on 4th May, burial to take place on Monday 8th June at Widney Manor cemetery.

**Thomas Patrick Partlin**, of Rea St, Digbeth. Funeral to take place at Witton Cemetery on Tuesday 16th June.

**Philomena Hunt**. Known as Phil Hunt, sadly passed away on Thursday morning, 21st May, at 12.10 at the grand old age of 99 years and 8 months. Phil had been a stalwart of English Martyr's parish for 60 years having been president of the UCM for many of those years and a founding governor of St. Bernard's Primary School under the chairmanship of Canon Bernard Hirrell. In her latter years Phil moved out of the parish to live with her son and daughter-in-law in Shirley but will be well remembered at English Martyr's. Phil will be buried with her husband, Syd, on 16th June at Branwood End Cemetery. A memorial Service will be held later in the year in her honour. Details to follow.

**Ann Burns**, of Priestly Rd, Sparkbrook, died 13th April and was buried at Oscott cemetery on Friday 1st May.

**Peter Mc Mahon**, buried at Kings Norton cemetery on Monday 11th May.

**Iris Hynes ( nee Foster.)** Iris was a native of Birmingham who married Vincent Hynes of Craughwell, Co Galway. They lived in Birmingham for many years and were active members of St. Anne's parish up until Vincent's retirement when they purchased a home next door to the farm Vincent had been born and brought up on. Iris and Vincent retained contact with the many friends in St. Anne's and with Iris' family in Birmingham. Her funeral took place on 26th May in the local church of Ballymana, Craughwell, and later to the crematorium in Shannon, Co Clare. Link to death notice on [rip.ie/death-notice/iris-hynes-craughwell-galway/424097](http://rip.ie/death-notice/iris-hynes-craughwell-galway/424097)