

UPDATED RECOMMENDATION
FACE COVERINGS IN CHURCHES

The Church leaders, including Archbishop Eamon Martin, following recent consultations with public health authorities, are formally recommending and encouraging the use of face coverings at all Masses and other liturgical celebrations, along with the ongoing maintenance of 2 metre physical distancing, from Sunday 30th August 2020, and earlier if practicable.

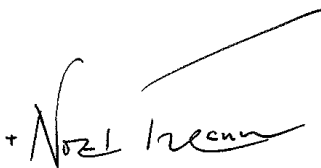
I would be grateful if you would bring this to the attention of your parishioners in your parish bulletin, website etc, to enable all to make the necessary preparations to follow this recommendation.

It should however be noted that some people are exempt from the wearing of face coverings, as outlined in public health agency guidance: <https://www.nidirect.gov.uk/articles/coronavirus-covid-19-face-coverings>

It has become increasingly clear that the wearing of face coverings, in conjunction with hand washing etc, is likely to reduce the spread of Coronavirus, thus helping to protect others. The use of face coverings is therefore one way in which we can evidence protection for the most vulnerable, support for our health workers and practical love for our neighbour.

With appreciation for your help and assistance in ensuring your own safety and that of your parishioners in these challenging days.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, starting with a cross and the name 'Noel Treanor' written in a cursive style.

+ Noel Treanor
Bishop of Down and Connor