



MEMORANDUM

To: **Very Rev. Fr. Drew Wayne Schmotzer**  
Parish Priest  
St. Martin Church - Al Yarmook, Sharjah.

Date 24 August 2022

Ref.: HH 3/1/1287

Cc: **H.E. Sheikh Salem Bin Abdulrahman Al Qassimi**, Chairman - Ruler's Office.  
**H.E Obaid Saeed Obaid Al Tunaiji** – Director General – Sharjah Municipality.  
**Col. Abdul Rahman Al Helo** – Director - Preventive and Security Department.

From: H. Edwin Maria Arasu

Subject: **Revised guidelines for Church services**

Dear Very Rev. Fr. Drew,

After Greetings,

After careful consideration of the situation connected with Covid-19 pandemic, I am glad to advise you that, effective 25<sup>th</sup> August 2022, we will revise the guidelines for your Church services as follows:

1. Entry restriction previously imposed for children below 6 years has been relaxed; hence you can now allow all children to attend the Church services.
2. Understanding the importance of the confessions being part of the Church tradition, permission is granted for the resumption of individual confessions in the Church. However, the Priests should be instructed to wear the mask and maintain social distance, for the benefit and wellbeing of the priests as well as the faithful who will be going for the confessions.
3. Wearing of masks and maintaining social distancing by all those attending the Church services, including the children, is mandatory and your volunteers should be instructed to strictly follow this. Anyone not following these guidelines should not be allowed to attend the services. However, the Priests during the service are exempted from wearing the mask.



4. Regular announcements should be made that those having flu symptoms (fever, cold and cough) should not visit the Church and if anyone comes to the Church with such symptoms will be sent back either while entering the Church or during the service.
5. Regular announcements should also be made to tell the attendees to disburse immediately after the Church services and not remain in the Church premises or in and around the Church gates or on the roads.

I would like to reiterate that, though the situation has improved, the pandemic has not ended; hence request you to ensure that rest of the guidelines previously issued are strictly followed and all precautionary measures are taken to safeguard the safety and wellbeing of all the faithful attending the Church services at all times. Please also ensure that utmost care is taken with regards to seating, sanitization and the movement of the faithful by maintaining safe distance before, during and after the services by deploying additional volunteers.

If you have any further queries, please do not hesitate to contact me on (Mobile # 0504629202.)

Thanking you for your kind assistance.

Kind Regards,

**H. Edwin Maria Arasu.**

Director – His Highness Special Projects  
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