

In order to meet the Regulatory Reform (Fire Safety) Order 2005, St Ann's Church is required to determine a maximum safe capacity of people allowed to attend Mass.

The Church can be broken down into 2 distinct areas as follows:

- 1. Main Body of the Church (including the Porch Area)
- 2. Parish Room (where Mass would be televised live for those attending).

The maximum safe capacity for each area has been identified as follows:

1. Main Body of the Church Maximum Capacity = 312 people.

Broken down as follows:

266 seated at approximately 7 per pew in the 38 pews.

40 people standing only in the Porch Area

6 people with mobility issues accommodated, 3 per side aisle in single seats adjacent to the front pews.

Note: No standing down the side aisles is permitted.

2. Parish Room Maximum Capacity = 60 Persons seated and 20 Standing in the Main Room = 80.

Using information provided by the Diocese via the Merseyside Fire & Rescue Service on the numbers that can be evacuated from a venue safely. Which suggests that using 1 Final Exit with Double Doors, 120 people can be evacuated in 1 minute.

At St Ann's for the Main Body of the Church we have 2 Fire Exits, these being the Main Church Entrance Double Doors and the Single Large Sacristy Door. We should from the information provided in an emergency situation assume 1 of the Fire Exits to be blocked by fire/smoke. In this circumstance we can evacuate approximately 120 people per minute via the Main Entrance Double Doors, or the Large Single Sacristy Door.

Therefore, we could empty the Main Body of the Church (including the Porch Area) in approximately 2.6 minutes. We would also need to include the 6 persons with mobility restrictions who would require help and a longer exit time, so 3 minutes is a more realistic figure for the whole evacuation of the Main Body of the Church.

We have 4 Fire Exits in the Parish Room. We should again from the information provided in an emergency situation assume 1 of the Fire Exits to be blocked by fire/smoke. We could empty the 40 people in the Parish Room in approximately 20 seconds.

Finally people should not congregate in small groups in the front or rear car parks as this will impede access for the Emergency Services. They should either assemble at the Evacuation Assembly Points in each car park or more likely make their way home.