

## EXTRA-ORDINARY MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION – VETTING REQUIREMENTS

Further to a meeting on 2<sup>nd</sup> March 2021 between the Northern Dioceses and Access NI to discuss the vetting of Extra–Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion, I write to confirm the following vetting requirements.

### **Private Residences**

Access NI have indicated that distributing Holy Communion to the Sick & Housebound in their own home, is **NOT a “Regulated Activity”**.

**Vetting for this role can therefore no longer be carried out.**

### **Mass Setting**

As before, a Minister of Holy Communion, assisting a priest in the Church during Mass does not require to be vetted as this is **NOT a “Regulated Activity.”**

**Vetting for this role will not be carried out.**

### **Residential Care/Nursing Homes**

Visiting individuals in a Residential Care or Nursing Home, on behalf of the Catholic Church, regardless of the role (which may include distributing Holy Communion), will continue to be vetted under Access NI’s pre 2012 legislation, as Residential Care and Nursing Homes are defined as “Specified Establishments” within the legislation.

**It is therefore only in these circumstances that a Minister of Holy Communion can be vetted.**

The role should be recorded on the Identity Verification Form as:

*“In contact with Vulnerable Adults on Specified Premises, Residential Care/Nursing Home”.*



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