

DIOCESAN COVID-19 UPDATE

10 June 2020



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MELBOURNE

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Dear Brothers and Sisters

The latest news and information from the Diocese.

The Archbishop's weekly video

"All one in Christ", this week's video, is found [here](#).

We remind you that diocesan information and resources related to the pandemic is on the diocesan [website](#) under four main headings: online church, wellbeing, resources for ministry and mission, diocesan information. These pages also include the COVID-safe [checklist](#) for parishes and other links.

Meetings in homes

Homegroups, prayer meetings or other meetings can be held in homes, with the maximum of twenty people, keeping 1.5m apart as best as possible. Sanitiser ought to be provided and good hygiene maintained.

Children's Ministry

Last week we sent a checklist on children's ministry [here](#). While children themselves are not required to socially distance, the space used must comply with the 4sqm rule. Regularly clean as best as possible throughout the activity. The one-hour gap is not needed between children's groups. This includes the use of crying rooms.



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Hall users and tenants

Parishes should ask for a COVID Safe plan from groups who rent church facilities and to negotiate cleaning with those groups. Parishes should be confident each user group is adhering to government requirements for attendance recording and limits, social distancing, hygiene and to the particular restrictions for their group. These may vary from exercise/sport/ballet types of groups (not yet allowed indoors) to children's groups and adult groups.

Fetes and markets

Parishes are able to plan for fairs, markets or fetes. Assume social distancing will apply and have measures to enforce that. Have sanitiser available, a plan for handling cash and for serving food and drink, and keep watch on restrictions for sitting down to eat or drink.

Clergy and ASLM wellbeing: Mindfulness workshop

The Rev'd Dr Michelle Trebilcock is leading a workshop webinar on mindfulness on Tuesday, June 16, at 3.30pm. Michelle is chaplain to the Brotherhood of St Laurence. Details can be found [here](#), including for registration.

Sign in Safe App

We remind you of *Sign in Safe*, a web-based application that allows people to scan a QR code as they enter and leave your church building. There is a small set up cost, and monthly fee to cover the technology and development. Email Bree Mills for more information info@signinsafe.io and see the website [here](#).

Templates for reopening

We have uploaded templates from Ocean Grove/Barwon Heads ([here](#)) and Kilsyth/Montrose ([here](#)) as examples of what might be helpful in your parish. Use or adapt them as is helpful for your parish.

Diocesan Assessment

Last Friday's Business Services Bulletin gave details of assessment relief for this current financial year.

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Financial Hardship

For clergy in financial hardship now or in the future, please speak with your bishop about applying for some help through a trust fund.

Grace and peace in Christ Jesus,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Philip Melbourne". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large initial 'P'.

Archbishop Philip Freier