

# DIOCESAN COVID-19 UPDATE

1 July 2020



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Dear Brothers and Sisters

The latest news and information from the Diocese.

The Archbishop is on two weeks' annual leave so there is no video this week.

All details on restrictions are found on the diocesan website [here](#).

## Restrictions

Last week, we overlooked the restriction for prayer meetings in churches of 10 people. It is not clear why this limit is lower than for church services and other groups.

## Suburban hotspots

Ten postcodes revert to stage 3 restrictions on Wednesday night. The parishes with churches in these postcodes are: Glenroy/Hadfield, Broadmeadows, Brunswick West, Fawkner, Ascot Vale, Hume, City on a Hill (West), Redemption Craigieburn, Pascoe Vale, St Albans and Sydenham. Parishes neighbouring and likely having parishioners in these hotspots include: Brimbank, Brunswick, Caroline Springs, Coburg, Coburg West & Pascoe Vale South, Footscray, Moonee Ponds, Moreland, Strathmore, Sunshine, Taylors Lakes and Westmeadows.

If your parish or congregation is in one of these ten postcodes, your church is now closed and you can have no services, meetings or events in your churches or homes. If you livestream services, a maximum of five people can be involved. Funerals can be held in hotspot areas with a maximum of ten mourners. Weddings can be held in hotspot areas but with a maximum of five people including the couple and celebrant.



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Parishioners who live in one of those ten postcodes are not allowed to go to church outside their area, however they may attend weddings or funerals outside the hotspot areas. All parishes must refuse entry to anyone who lives in one of those ten postcodes other than for weddings or funerals.

The diocese will investigate the eligibility of parishes in the hotspot postcode suburbs for the further state government grants announced on Tuesday.

## Stipends

Archbishop-in-Council has accepted the Stipends Committee's recommendation for no change to stipends this year. The next review will be in early 2021.

## Synod

There is likely to be a very brief Synod meeting on the morning of Saturday, October 17, simply to pass legislation to enable an extension of time for holding parish annual meetings and also to allow the next ordinary session of Synod to be held in 2021 and to meet by videoconference or teleconference, if necessary.

## Wellbeing Zoom Seminar

Sleep Hygiene Workshop for Clergy and ASLMs led by Anna Johnson. Wednesday, July 29, 12 noon -1pm. See [here](#) for details.

## Parish op shops in partnership with the Brotherhood of St Laurence

A couple of parishes operate their op shop in partnership with the Brotherhood of St Laurence by means of a profit share agreement. The BSL offers support with operating standards and policies, insurance, workplace safety, other compliance, back of house support such as volunteer management and recruitment, and the shop is branded as a BSL enterprise. This can be an attractive option for parishes who are struggling with the administrative burden of running an op shop but wish to enjoy the financial and missional opportunities of hosting an op shop and support the great work of the BSL in working for an Australia free of poverty. Contact Archdeacon Nick White ([nwhite@melbourneanglican.org.au](mailto:nwhite@melbourneanglican.org.au)) if interested.

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## Playgroups

Playgroup Victoria and Playgroup Australia (the peak body for state Playgroup Associations) have produced two excellent resources to help playgroups prepare for the safe eventual return to on-site playgroup sessions. From Playgroup Victoria, this Getting Back to Playgroup booklet is full of sound advice, tools and resources, and practical ideas [here](#). "Healthy and Safe at Playgroup" posters and fact sheets from Playgroup Australia [here](#). Contact Dorothy Hughes, the Diocesan Children and Families Ministry Facilitator, 0400484131, [dhughes@melbourneanglican.org.au](mailto:dhughes@melbourneanglican.org.au) with any questions or concerns.

## Diocesan Crisis Relief Grant

The Crisis Management Committee of Archbishop in Council has allocated money for parishes with significant financial needs now and into the next twelve months. The first round of applications for this grant are due by Monday, July 20, to the Registrar, Malcolm Tadgell ([registrar@melbourneanglican.org.au](mailto:registrar@melbourneanglican.org.au)). Full details of requirements for applying can be found [here](#) and will also be in the next Business Services Bulletin. These include a parish's 2019-20 budget and year-to-date figures to end of March and to end of June. A second round of applications will be offered in September.

## Streaming your live worship service

Free Webinars with Evan Englezos

Beginner's guide to live streaming from church

Tuesday, July 7, 10am-12noon

As we transition back to in-person services, we must consider how we continue to cater for online viewers who cannot return to church. This practical workshop will assist you with how to live stream your "in-person" church service on a small budget and with a small technological footprint. Topics include:

- 1) video and audio for live streaming
- 2) connecting hardware & software together
- 3) managing the feed.

Register [here](#).



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## Next-level live streaming from church

Tuesday, July 7, 2pm-4pm

Coming out of COVID-19 lockdown, there are new challenges with providing simultaneous in-service and livestreaming inside your church. If you have had some experience with live streaming you may need to consider extra resources to improve the quality and consistency of your online church services. This practical workshop will assist you with live streaming from your church by:

- 1) improving your hardware, video and audio
- 2) connecting up and broadcasting from your PC with multiple inputs and outputs
- 3) upskilling your AV team

Register [here](#).

Grace and peace in Christ Jesus,



VICAR GENERAL

Bishop Paul Barker  
Vicar-General