

DIOCESAN COVID-19 UPDATE

3 February 2021



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DIOCESE OF
MELBOURNE

- The Archbishop's weekly video
- Ash Wednesday
- Victorian Government Business Support Fund Expansion grants

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](#).

Ash Wednesday

One idea for the imposition of ashes is to use a disposable cotton bud rather than your finger.

Victorian Government Business Support Fund Expansion grants

You will recall that despite receiving the first round of the state government Business Support Fund grants, parishes did not receive the second round announced in August. The diocese has exhausted all approaches to Business Victoria and government ministers to overturn this. The presenting issue was the discrepancy in ABNs between parishes and diocese. Sadly, we have not been able to convince the government to make the grants to our parishes. Business Victoria has proven either unwilling or unable to negotiate. While remaining grateful to have been overwhelmingly successful in our applications for BSF 1, it is with a great sense of disappointment that we finally confirm to parishes that you will not be receiving the \$10,000 from the BSF Expansion nor the \$10,000 from BSF 3.

We understand that this is particularly difficult news for, and even a surprise to, some. Should this announcement create an especially detrimental effect on your parish's finances, or if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact your area bishop, the Registrar, or the CFO.



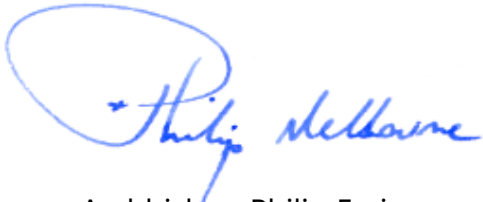
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Our website is updated so please refer to it if uncertain. For questions about restrictions, please check our website. If the question is not addressed there, please email Bishop Paul: bishoppaulbarker@melbourneanglican.org.au.

Grace and peace in Christ Jesus,



Archbishop Philip Freier