



## AD CLERUM

The Right Reverend John Stead  
Bishop of Willochra

24<sup>th</sup> March 2020

# **UPDATE #3**

## **RESPONDING TO THE CORONA VIRUS (COVID-19)**

N.B. The Anglican Church of Australia has issued National Guidelines concerning the Church's response to COVID-19 which are updated regularly; they can be found at <https://anglican.org.au/resources/covid-19/>

Since issuing the first update concerning the Diocesan response to COVID-19 on the 17<sup>th</sup> March, the situation has continued to be dynamic.

On the 20<sup>th</sup> March I issued the following directions which are now updated:

1. All gatherings for worship **in church buildings** are suspended **immediately**
2. **At present the advice is that church buildings are to remain closed, this includes for individual prayer**
3. **Church grounds are not to be used for outdoor worship**
4. **Non-essential gatherings are not to occur in buildings owned by the church, including by those hiring halls, etc.**
5. you should ensure that you have up to date contact details including email addresses where they exist
6. Distribute the Pastoral Guidelines (issued on the 20<sup>th</sup> March) to all members of the congregation outlining how ministry will be maintained throughout this time; please include the contact details for clergy and Lay Ministers with responsibility for pastoral care

PO Box 96, Gladstone, SOUTH AUSTRALIA, 5473  
Phone: (08) 8662 2249 (O), (08) 8662 2057 (H), 0417 551 689 (Mob)  
Email: [bishop@diowillochra.org.au](mailto:bishop@diowillochra.org.au)  
Website: [www.diowillochra.org.au/](http://www.diowillochra.org.au/)

7. Members of congregations are to be encouraged to establish direct credit for their giving where they are not already doing so (it will be essential to maintain income through this time). Supply members of the congregation with details of appropriate Bank Accounts, i.e. BSB Number, Account Number, Bank and Branch. Guidance for doing this are available.
8. A worship service conducted at the Cathedral Church of Sts. Peter & Paul, Port Pirie will be live-streamed on Sundays (details will be supplied as soon as possible of how to access the live stream)
9. If you can live-stream your worship for members of your congregation you should do so (please ensure that the Diocesan Office knows the details for accessing your live stream)
10. If you do not already have a social media presence consider developing one so that people with access to the internet can keep in touch with the parish/ministry district
11. The Archbishop, Geoff Smith, has asked churches to join in a time of pray on Fridays at 8:00 am and where there is a bell to ring at that time

The situation will be reviewed on a weekly, if not daily basis, and as soon as possible, we will return to gathering for worship.

As things continue to develop, I will issue further updates.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to be 'G. Smith', written over a large, stylized cross symbol.

Bishop of Willochra