



## AD CLERUM

The Right Reverend John Stead  
Bishop of Willochra

18<sup>th</sup> August 2020

# UPDATE #10

## 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 releasing the first update concerning the Diocesan response to COVID-19 on the 17<sup>th</sup> March, the situation has continued to be dynamic. This update reflects the Roadmap for Easing COVID-19 Restrictions issued by the SA Government that come into force on the 19<sup>th</sup> June:

As of the 14<sup>th</sup> August 2020, the guidelines are as follows:

1. Two (2) Square metres is to be allowed for each person for any gathering
2. 1.5 metres between people still applies
3. Weddings and Funerals are now limited to 100 people in attendance (N.B. the actual capacity below 100 is determined by capacity adhering to 1 and 2 above)
4. Your authorized COVIDSafe Plan is still to be followed
5. There is to be a clearly designated person who monitors the implementation of the COVIDSafe plan. **The SA government has announced that a COVIDSafe Marshall is to be appointed for 'ceremonies', i.e. worship. This role is identical to the COVIDSafe Warden that you were requested to appoint as part of the COVIDSafe Plan for each church. The government has now required that the designated COVIDSafe Marshall complete a thirty minute online training, the following link will take you to that training, which was only made available late yesterday (Monday 17<sup>th</sup> August): <https://www.covid-19.sa.gov.au/recovery/covid-marshals> Please ensure that the people who have been acting as COVIDSafe Warden undertaking the training. The person exercising this role should be easily identified.**
6. The guidelines require that a COVIDSafe Marshall:

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/)

- a. Promote and take practical steps to ensure infection control practices (e.g. frequent handwashing) are followed by people involved in the operations (patrons, employees and contractors);
  - b. Promote and take practical steps to ensure people participating in the operations are complying with density requirements, physical distancing principle;
  - c. Must ensure that all COVID Safe Plans and COVID Management Plans (where relevant) or specific polices/protocols in relation to the prevention of coronavirus are effectively implemented and monitored;
  - d. Ensure the environment is appropriately established and there is sufficient seating, hand washing facilities and cleaning regimes; and
  - e. Be present supervising prescribed operations at all times (except with respect to 24 hour sites where staff are not always present, at all times of high patronage).
7. **CONGREGATIONAL SINGING** Recent advice (an it is only advice not a direction) from the Deputy Chief Public Health Officer is that in terms of risk mitigation, it is better not to have congregational singing since singing involves greater expiration of breath than normal speaking and therefore has more potential for the virus to be spread if it is present. N.B. the Deputy Chief Public Health Officer is having further work undertaken in this area to give greater clarity. At this stage it may be best to refrain from congregational singing (I apologise for not being in a position to be more definite about this)
8. A live-streamed service is available on Sunday mornings on the diocesan Facebook page, the location from which the service is made available will vary as will the time, this will be announced on the dioceses' website and Facebook page (these can be accessed at a later time on Facebook and YouTube)
9. Morning Prayer is live-streamed at 8:00 am each day except Sunday on the diocesan Facebook page (these can be accessed at a later time on Facebook and YouTube)
10. Morning Tea may occur ensuring that the authorized COVIDSafe Protocol is followed and that no utensils are shared (see previous communication about this)
11. Op Shops, Cafes and Mission to Seafarers may operate as long as they have a COVIDSafe Protocols which has been authorized
12. The SA Government have not banned singing in church (NSW and Victoria have)

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

Yours in Christ,



Bishop of Willochra