



AD CLERUM

The Right Reverend John Stead
Bishop of Willochra

14th August 2020

UPDATE #9

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 17th March, the situation has continued to be dynamic. This update reflects the Roadmap for Easing COVID-19 Restrictions issued by the SA Government that came into force on the 19th June.

As of the 14th August 2020, the guidelines are as follows:

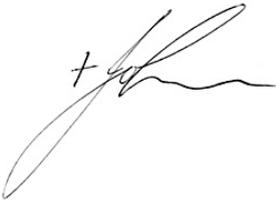
1. Two (2) Square metres is to be allowed for each person for any gathering
2. 1.5 metres between people still applies
3. Weddings and Funerals are now limited to 100 people in attendance (N.B. the actual capacity below 100 is determined by capacity adhering to 1 and 2 above)
4. Your authorized COVIDSafe Protocol is still to be followed
5. **There is to be a clearly designated person who monitors the implementation of the COVIDSafe plan**
6. **CONGREGATIONAL SINGING** Recent advice (and 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)

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7. 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)
8. 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)
9. Morning Tea may occur ensuring that the authorized COVIDSafe Protocol is followed and that no utensils are shared (see previous communication about this)
10. Op Shops, Cafes and Mission to Seafarers may operate as long as they have a COVIDSafe Protocols which has been authorized
11. 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,

A handwritten signature in black ink, featuring a large, stylized initial 'B' and a cross symbol to its left.

Bishop of Willochra