

GUIDELINES FOR WORSHIP DURING COVID

PREPARING

- If you have multiple entry doors it is best to have one designated as entry and another exit.
- Make sure all items likely to be shared such as prayerbooks, hymnbooks, Bibles etc are put away and not distributed. Parishioners are welcome to bring their own Bibles to church.
- Hand sanitiser should be available at all entry and exit points and COVID signage should be displayed at entry points.
- Ensure that markings are placed, if appropriate, where people may stand, particularly during communion.
- Calculate the capacity of the church based on the 1 person per 2sqm rule.
- Set up the QR code for your church that has been provided by the NSW Government. Two QR codes near the entrance should help reduce crowding and help those who are uncomfortable with this system or need extra time.
- Ask parishioners to download the Service NSW app for ease of registering attendance. Those who have attended a café, restaurant or bar will already be familiar with this.

GATHERING

- Welcomers should check that attendees have no COVID symptoms. Any one who has, must not attend.
- There is now no need for parishioners to pre-register to attend. As people arrive, direct them to the QR code and ask them to check in. Those without phones, can be checked in by someone who has, using the concierge function on the NSW service app. (Paper registration may be used as a back-up, but note there is no need to use paper if a person has used the QR code.)
- Please ask parishioners to limit their crowding together before and after the service and during communion.

WORSHIP

- Attendees are permitted to sing quietly during worship, though masks are recommended.¹
- Please do not observe the greeting of peace.
- Please observe, where possible, social distancing of 1.5m. Families may sit together.
- Use a projection system where practical or printed orders of service for worship. Printed matter should be taken home by parishioners.
- Encourage electronic giving or use a retiring plate for offering.
- Requirements for Holy Communion when it is held:
 - Should be distributed 'pilgrim style'.
 - Must be in both kinds and individual cups must be used.
 - Hand sanitiser should be used by clergy and assistants immediately before and after communion.
- Clean the church or worship space as per usual afterwards, then wipe down all surfaces likely to have been touched with antiseptic solution or antiseptic wipes – gloves are recommended to protect hands.

HOSPITALITY

- Parishioners may have morning tea following the service under the following conditions:
 - Parishioners should be seated and appropriately distanced.
 - Morning tea should be served to those seated by one or two people to limit movement.
 - Cups etc should not be shared.

MORE INFORMATION

For further information, or if there are questions please contact the Registrar, Karen Trafford at registrar@bathurstanglican.org.au or on 0439550051 or the Rev'd Tim Fogo at mdo@bathurstanglican.org.au or on 63324606.

¹ "We believe the current advice re congregants 'should not sing' to be advice (only), and that there has been a failure to delineate between greater Sydney where singing was prohibited again prior to Christmas and regional NSW where there is reduced risk. This advice was changed without any public announcement, at midnight on 10th January – way after all other rules changed."