

RETURN TO GATHERING

A THREE STEP FRAMEWORK FOR COVID19 SAFE PARISH LIFE



Government Guidelines
Step 2 in place from 1 June, 2020

Grafton Diocesan Guidelines - Updated 4 June 2020

Whatever plans we make as churches, we must continue to show concern for the most vulnerable within our fellowship and community and be good citizens in seeking to follow Government regulations. These guidelines assume 1.5m distancing and good hygiene. Any decision to recommence gatherings in person will need the approval of the Bishop. Updates will be issued by the Bishop or the Registrar.

STEP 1	WEDDINGS, FUNERALS & RELIGIOUS SERVICES	CHURCH SERVICES	SMALL GROUPS	YOUTH & CHILDREN	FOOD	CONTACT RECORDING	HYGIENE	CLEANING	OTHER
<p>Connect with friends and family - allowing groups of people to be together in homes and in the community. Businesses reopen, and more people return to work.</p>	<p>Weddings may have up to 10 guests in addition to the couple and the celebrant Funerals may have up to 20 mourners indoors and 30 outdoors Religious gatherings may have up to 10 attendees Every gathering must record contact details</p>	<p>No public worship in church on Sundays or weekdays. Services should remain online. Outdoor weekday services of the Word with max. of 10 participants as per the Bishop's letter.</p>	<p>Prayer meetings and small groups in homes - a maximum of five visitors. On church premises, a maximum of 10 persons and each person's contact details must be recorded. This includes Parish Council, Staff Meetings, Bible Studies etc.</p>	<p>Up to 10 people (including leaders) with social distancing and full hygiene measures. We recommend postponing these ministries in person unless Government guidelines can be strictly followed.</p>	<p>Food service must be done hygienically, maintaining social distancing and observing other guidelines for any food consumed on church property.</p>	<p>The Government requires a record to be kept for every person to enable contact tracing if someone later tests positive for COVID-19. Names and at least one contact detail (such as a phone number) be recorded for all attendees and kept for 28 days.</p>	<p>Stay home if unwell. Enable easy access to sanitiser and handwashing. Use Government posters to promote good hygiene. Download posters.</p>	<p>Clean and disinfect communal areas frequently. Download cleaning advice from Safe Work Australia.</p>	<p>Halls and facilities may be used or hired by external groups limited to 10 people for non-contact activities with 4m² per person. Physical distancing. Sanitizing of space before and after each group. Hirers should be asked to submit a WHS plan to manage risk.</p>
<p>STEP 2 Building on slightly larger gatherings and more businesses reopening. Higher risk activities may have tighter restrictions.</p>	<p>Weddings may have up to 20 guests in addition to the couple and the celebrant Funerals may have up to 50 mourners Religious gatherings may have up to 50 attendees Every gathering must record contact details</p>	<p>Public church services may recommence with Bishop's Approval where a COVIDSafe Plan is in place. A maximum of 50 people including all adults and children provided space allows 4m² per person with 1.5m physical distancing. Online services continue</p>	<p>Up to 20 people meeting on church property. The people can meet in different locations but not exceed the total number.</p>		<p>Refer to COVIDSafe Plan for the worship centre.</p>		<p>Ensure adequate supplies of hygiene and cleaning products are procured before more people are allowed to gather.</p>	<p>Refer to COVIDSafe Plan for the worship centre.</p>	<p>For churches with an approved COVIDSafe Plan it may be possible to open for private prayer, but this would need someone on duty to monitor COVIDsafe Guidelines, including cleaning.</p>
<p>STEP 3 A commitment to reopening of businesses and the community with minimal restrictions, but underpinned by COVIDSafe ways of living.</p>	<p>Allow gatherings of up to 100 people Every gathering must record contact details</p>	<p>A maximum of 100 people including all adults and children provided space allows 4m² per person with 1.5m physical distancing. Consider how to continue online ministry.</p>	<p>Larger groups, bounded by building and space restrictions of 1.5m distancing and 4m² per person.</p>						<p>Questions to consider What have you STOPPED? (that you don't want to go back to) What have you CHANGED? (that you want to continue with) What have you STARTED? (that you want to adopt from now on)</p>