

22/06

Dear people of St Matthew's,

As a result of an increase in the diagnosis of Covid19 cases in Victoria, attendance at services of worship continues to be capped at **20**. I therefore need to ask you to **continue registering to attend worship** (details at the end of this letter). **Please do not attend church if you or anyone in your household is unwell.**

For the foreseeable future, there will be two services of worship at St Matthew's each week.

**1) Commencing Wednesday 24<sup>th</sup> June, 10:00am**

A short Eucharist, without hymns, and with only a very brief reflection on the Gospel of the day. (Approx. 30 minutes)

**2) Commencing Sunday 28<sup>th</sup> June, 9:30am**

A Eucharist, with hymns, a children's address, and a homily. (Approx. 50 minutes)

This pattern will minimise the risk of infection and limit the amount of cleaning I have to do. I recognise that this will not suit everyone but I hope it is a compromise that you will understand and accept given our circumstances.

**Please arrive at the door of the church a minimum of 10 minutes early.** This is to allow time for hand sanitising and for the Covid19 announcement to be made prior to our worship commencing. I have legal obligations in this regard and I am grateful to you for making it possible for me to fulfil them. **The doors of the church will be locked prior to the service commencing.**

It has been a great joy to see some of you at church over the last couple of weeks and to receive positive feedback from others regarding our online worship. Online versions of our Wednesday and Sunday services will continue to be available on our YouTube channel; St Matthew's Anglican Church Cheltenham

If you have any concerns or questions regarding any of what I have said, please feel free to contact me. As I meet more of you I am beginning to have a greater sense of the St Matthew's community. Your faithfulness and perseverance is life-giving and hopeful. Thank you.

God bless you,

The Rev'd Colleen Clayton  
0490 363 465  
anglican.church@bigpond.com

**Register for worship by calling or emailing the parish office.**  
**Ph: 9583 2205                      Email: stmatthewsanglicanchurch@bigpond.com**

Our gatherings will continue to conform to the practices below.

- Covid Safe posters have been placed at the church entry. Please ensure you are familiar with their content.
- We are legally obliged to record the first name and phone number of each person attending worship. This is to allow for contact tracing. Worshippers must therefore **register with our parish office prior to attending**. Registration is by phone or email.  
Ph: 9583 2205 Email: [stmatthewsanglicanchurch@bigpond.com](mailto:stmatthewsanglicanchurch@bigpond.com)
- **Please maintain social distance prior to entering the church.** Ensure that you do not stand closer than 1.5m from another person.
- **Hand sanitiser** has been placed just inside the church doors and must be used when entering and leaving the church.
- To ensure adequate social distancing, the pews have been marked with blue Jerusalem crosses. **Seating is only in these marked places.**
- Pew sheets for the week are placed beside the hand sanitiser at the entry to the church. Please take one for your own use and take it home with you at the end of the worship service.
- Communion will be in one kind only. In order to maintain social distancing, **please follow the directions of the sidesperson** as you come forward.
- The church will be thoroughly cleaned at the end of each service.