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Hello Everyone,

As you may have seen, the Victorian government has announced the ending of the COVID lockdown from midnight tonight (Wednesday, February 17). For the most part, the provisions will now be as they were just before the February 12 lockdown.

There will be no overall limit on the number of people who can attend religious gatherings and ceremonies (including weddings and funerals). The number of people will depend on the size of the church.

We will still need to keep a record of the first name and contact phone number of each person who attends.

If we keep the record manually (using pen and paper), the density quotient will be 1 person per 4 square metres. If we keep the record electronically, using a QR (Quick Response) code, the density quotient will be 1 person per 2 square metres.

**Please note**, however, that **wearing a mask** will be **mandatory** indoors (with necessary exceptions such as for readers and presiders while they are reading the Scriptures or prayers). Wearing a mask will also be mandatory outdoors when we cannot maintain 1.5 metres distance.

Thank you all for your patience throughout the five days of lockdown and all through the months of restrictions. Special thanks to those who have been serving our communities as needed, such as in keeping records and doing the extra cleaning of our churches.

I rejoice that we will be able to worship together again in person.

Best wishes for a fruitful Lent.

God bless you all.

Bishop Paul