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Hello Everyone,

As you may have seen, the Victorian Government has announced **new Covid regulations to come into effect from 11.59pm tonight (Thursday 18 November 2021).**

The government website has not yet been fully updated. However, a government page gives a summary of key points. Under the heading “Weddings, funerals and worship”, the summary is as follows.

“If everyone present is fully vaccinated, you can host or attend weddings, funerals and religious ceremonies at places of worship with no capacity limits or density limits. (Vaccination requirements will apply from the age of 12 and 2 months, unless a medical exemption applies.)

If vaccination status isn't being checked, these events are restricted to one person per 4 square metres up to a maximum of 50 people per facility.

The cap at funerals doesn't include those required to conduct the funeral and the cap at weddings doesn't include the marrying couple, celebrant or photographer.”

I note in particular that there are **no capacity and density limits for gatherings where everyone present is fully vaccinated.** I note also the **increase in the limit to 50 people where vaccination status is not being checked.** For further details, you could go to the government website www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au as it is more fully updated in the coming days.

I renew my thanks to you all for continuing to support one another through these trying times. As we take another step towards being able to gather for worship as a whole community, may the Holy Spirit unite us more and more with Christ and with one another.

God bless you all.

Bishop Paul