

ASSEMBLY OF WORD AND COMMUNION

RESTRICTIONS ON PLACES OF WORSHIP DURING COVID-19

Places of worship are able to open with the following current provisions about distance between people, signage, hygiene and cleaning, as well as the compulsory use of QR codes to check in. The use of the QR check in code applies for any gatherings in your parish.

COVIDSafe update from August 9, 2021:

- Religious gatherings and ceremonies are permitted for up to 100 people indoors and up to 300 people outdoors, excluding those required to conduct the religious ceremony.
- In general, a density quotient of 1 person per 4 square metres applies. However, a venue smaller than 100 square metres can have up to 25 people per venue before the density quotient applies. In other words, even very small churches are permitted to have up to 25 people for a religious gathering. For a gathering of more than 25 people, the number would be calculated at 1 person per 4 square metres. COVID Check-in Marshals must ensure attendees check-in.
- Funerals (indoor and outdoor) are limited to 50 people, not including those required to conduct the funeral and infants under 12 months. You can travel anywhere in Victoria to attend a funeral. However, if anyone from metropolitan Melbourne attends a funeral in regional Victoria, no more than 10 members of the public can be in attendance, excluding those necessary to conduct the funeral and any infants under 12 months. COVID Check-in Marshals must ensure attendees check-in.
- Funerals held at a private residence in regional Victoria may only have 5 attendees excluding those necessary to conduct the funeral, anyone who lives at the premises or their intimate partners, and infants under 12 months. COVID Check-in Marshals must ensure attendees check-in.
- Weddings at a venue are limited to 50 people, which includes the marrying couple and two witnesses. A celebrant, photographer or infants under 12 months are permitted in addition to this limit. Weddings must also comply with restrictions in place at the wedding venue. COVID Check-in Marshals must ensure attendees check-in.
- Weddings are not permitted in a private residence except for compassionate reasons, and are restricted to 5 people: the couple, the celebrant and two witnesses.
- A person from metropolitan Melbourne can only attend a wedding in Regional Victoria held for end of life or exceptional reasons at a private residence and only involving 5 people: the marrying couple, a celebrant, and two witnesses.
- Masks must be worn indoors and outdoors except if at home or if an exception applies.
- Allow a reasonable time between events to allow for cleaning between each service.
- Cleaning by wiping with disinfectant:
 - Frequently touched surfaces (at least twice/day).
 - Whenever a surface is visibly soiled.
- Holy water fonts are to be emptied or removed. At the Sign of Peace, the practice of shaking hands has ceased. During this time the congregation will be asked to pray for peace.
- The distribution of Holy Communion will be in the hand only and not on the tongue. There will be no distribution of the chalice.
- All ministers of Holy Communion (both ordinary and extraordinary) are to use hand sanitiser before the distribution of Holy Communion commences and are not to physically touch anyone in the act of blessing.

Updates are available from <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/religion-and-ceremony-regional-victoria>

YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

ALL SAINTS – YEAR B 2021

INTRODUCTORY RITES

GATHERING HYMN

Stand

A hymn expressing the unity of the community which is a song of praise, is sung as the first act of worship of the Assembly.

The Leaders move to the front as the hymn is ending.

GREETING

All make the sign of the cross.

Leader 1: In the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

The Leader addresses the people.

Leader 1: We adore you, Lord God,
for you are the holy one
and are glorified in all your saints.
Bless the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

All: Blessed be God for ever.

WELCOME

Leader 2: On this Feast Day of All Saints,
we assemble as the Catholic community of
in the parish ofto hear the Word,
receive communion and offer praise to God.
As we gather in the absence of a priest,
we are assured of our inclusion in the prayers
of our diocesan community
who are able to celebrate the Eucharist on this day.

PENITENTIAL ACT

Leader 1: We are gathered here in the unity of our faith.
As we begin our praise of God, let us not forget that we have sinned against the Lord,
and against one another.

Brief pause for silent prayer.

Leader 1: Lord Jesus, you bless the poor and the humble: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader 1: Christ Jesus, you are our saviour and brother: Christ, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy.

Leader 1: Lord Jesus, you gather people from every nation around your throne: Lord, have mercy.

All: Lord, have mercy.

Leader 1: May almighty God have mercy on us all, forgive us our many sins,
and lead us home to everlasting life.

All: Amen.

GLORIA: *The Gloria should be used on All Saints Day*

Leader 2: On this Feast of All Saints, we join together in praise of God,
whom they loved so well, and pray:

All: Glory to God in the highest,
and on earth peace to people of good will.
We praise you, we bless you,
we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King,
O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, Only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world,
have mercy on us;
you take away the sins of the world,
receive our prayer;
you are seated at the right hand of the Father,
have mercy on us.

For you alone are the Holy One,
you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High,
Jesus Christ, with the Holy Spirit,
in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

Leader 1: Let us pray that the prayers of all the Saints will bring us forgiveness for our sins.

Brief pause for silent prayer.

Almighty ever-living God,
by whose gift we venerate in one celebration
the merits of all the Saints,
bestow on us, we pray,
through the prayers of so many intercessors,
an abundance of the reconciliation with you
for which we earnestly long.

Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son,
who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
God, for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

LITURGY OF THE WORD

Sit

FIRST READING: *Apocalypse (Revelation) 7:2-4, 9-14*

A period of silence, about one or two minutes, is recommended at the conclusion of each reading.

RESPONSORIAL PSALM: Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.

SECOND READING: *1 John 3:1-3*

GOSPEL ACCLAMATION: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Come to me, all you that labour and are burdened,
and I will give you rest, says the Lord.
Alleluia!

Stand

GOSPEL: *Matthew 5:1-12*

One of the Leaders goes to the lectern.

Lector: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Lector: A reading from the Holy Gospel according to Matthew.

The Leader makes the sign of the cross on the book, then on forehead, lips and breast.

All: Glory to you, O Lord.

At the end of the Gospel:

Lector: The Gospel of the Lord.

All: Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

SHARED REFLECTION

Sit

- *A shared reflection explaining the meaning which these readings had for their original hearers, and indicating how these readings apply to this particular community, should now be given.*
- *The shared reflection may be led by one of the Leaders or another person from the Assembly.*
- *The reflection must be prepared beforehand and should be a sharing of what the scripture is saying to us today, rather than a 'sermon type' presentation.*
- *The reflection should only be of 3-5 minutes duration.*

** If this is not done, the following should be said:*

Leader: Let us now reflect in silence on the words of the Gospel and take them to our hearts.

PROFESSION OF FAITH: THE APOSTLES' CREED

Stand

Leader 2: Let us now stand and profess our shared faith:

Allow time for the Assembly to stand then say:

All: I believe in God,
the Father almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth,
and in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, **(all bow)**
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died and was buried;
he descended into hell;
on the third day he rose again from the dead;
he ascended into heaven,
and is seated at the right hand of God the Father almighty;
from there he will come to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic Church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and life everlasting. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE FAITHFUL

The people are invited to pray; after the Prayers of the Faithful, the concluding prayer is said.

*It is desirable that the individual prayers be given by someone **other** than the Leader.*

Invitation to Prayer:

Leader 1: My sisters and brothers,
as followers of Jesus, let us call confidently upon God
and beg the intercession of the Saints to help us in every need.

Prayers of the Faithful as prepared by the community. It is recommended that a petition for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life be included in the prayers and a petition for the Plenary Council.

Praying with Pope Francis: Each month Pope Francis puts forward a prayer intention and asks Catholics around the world to join him in prayer. These intentions cover all sorts of areas of life encouraging faith, renewing hope and calling us to loving service.

November universal intention: People who suffer from depression

We pray that people who suffer from depression or burn-out will find support and a light that opens them up to life.

Concluding Prayer:

Leader 1: Loving God,
hear the prayers of your people which we commend to you
through the intercession of the Saints who we remember today,
who live and reign with you and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

COLLECTION

Sit

Leader 2: Please be seated as we now take up the collection which is part of our contribution to the life and work of the Church.

As the collections are being gathered, a hymn could be sung.

As the offerings are brought forward, the Leader prays in these or similar words as the collection is placed at the foot of the altar:

Leader 2: Loving God, we give from our hearts,
in the name of Jesus, your Son,
who calls us into unity by the gift of the Holy Spirit,
who lives and reigns with you, Father, now and for ever.

All: Amen.

After leaving the offerings in the accustomed place, the ushers return to their place in the Assembly.

PRAYER OF PRAISE

Stand

Leader 1: We have heard the Word of God and responded in faith.
Let us now stand and give thanks and praise to the God
who has called us to be His people.

Allow time for people to stand.

All: Give glory to God, the most high.

Leader 1: We praise you, O God,
we acclaim you as Lord.
All creation worships you,
the Father everlasting.
The Holy Church acclaims you:

All: Give glory to God, the most high.

Leader 2: To you all angels of heaven
sing in endless praise:
Holy is the Lord
God of power and might.
The Holy Church acclaims you:

All: Give glory to God, the most high.

Leader 1: The glorious apostles praise you.
The noble prophets praise you.
The army of martyrs praise you.
The Holy Church acclaims you:

All: Give glory to God, the most high.

Leader 2: Father of infinite majesty;
your true and only Son;
the Holy Spirit, advocate and guide;
we acknowledge you as Lord.
The Holy Church acclaims you:

All: Give glory to God, the most high.

COMMUNION RITE

The Rite of Communion begins with the Lord's Prayer.

Leader 1: Jesus invites us to call on his Father's name:
Filled with trust in Jesus' power, we pray in his own words:

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come, thy will be done
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours,
now and forever.

PRAYER FOR PEACE

Leader 2: Lord Jesus Christ, you said to your Apostles:
Peace I leave you, my peace I give you;
look not on our sins,
but on the faith of your Church,
and graciously grant her peace and unity
in accordance with your will.
Who lives and reigns for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

Leader 2: The peace of the Lord be with you always.

All: And also with you.

Leader 2: In the name of Christ, let us pray for peace.

If Communion is to be given, at the conclusion of the Prayer for Peace, the Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion moves to the table and cleanses her/his hands with sanitiser. She/he then goes to the tabernacle, opens it and removes the ciborium with hosts, leaves the lid at the tabernacle and moves to stand behind the Leaders.

ADMONITION TO UNITY

Kneel

Leader 1: We are now invited to share in Holy Communion in the Body of the Lord.

Allow time for all to kneel.

We are part of the universal Church
and all across the world on this day of the Lord,
Christ's saving passover to the Father
is being recalled and made present.
We are in union with the whole Church.

We are in union with our Bishop, Paul Bird
and our parish community.
Let us be one in mind and heart,
in prayer and service, now and always.

RECEPTION OF COMMUNION

*The Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion brings the Eucharist to the front of the Sanctuary,
and taking the host, raises it for all to see, saying aloud:*

Extraordinary Minister:

Behold the Lamb of God,
behold him who takes away the sins of the world.
Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb.

All: Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof,
but only say the word and my soul shall be healed.

The Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion holds the host in the view of each person and says:

The Body of Christ.

The communicant answers:

Amen.

COMMUNION SONG

COMMUNION REFLECTION or PERIOD OF SILENCE

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Stand

The Extraordinary Minister of Holy Communion leads the Prayer after Communion.

Extraordinary Minister:

Let us pray.

Brief pause for silent prayer.

Extraordinary Minister:

Father, holy one,
we praise your glory reflected in the saints.
May we who share at this table
be filled with your love
and prepared for the joy of your kingdom,
where Jesus is Lord for ever and ever.

All: Amen.

PRAYER FOR THE YEAR OF ST JOSEPH

"Show yourself a father, and guide us in the path of life"

All: Hail, Guardian of the Redeemer,
Spouse of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
To you God entrusted his only Son;
in you Mary placed her trust;
with you Christ became man.
Blessed Joseph, to us too,
show yourself a father
and guide us in the path of life.
Obtain for us grace, mercy, and courage,
and defend us from every evil.

CONCLUDING RITE

If there are announcements of note, this is the proper time for them to be made. In general, those who want announcements made should be invited to come forward at this point and make the announcements. People should then be invited to stand if they have been seated for announcements.

GREETING

Stand

Leader 2: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader 2: Let us bow our heads in silence and ask God to bless us.

Brief pause for silent prayer.

Leader 2: May the God who is the source of all holiness bless us.

All: Amen.

Leader 2: May the Son who is the Lamb slain for us keep us.

All: Amen.

Leader 2: May the Spirit who is love made present shine upon us.

All: Amen.

BLESSING

All make the sign of the cross.

Leader 1: May almighty God bless us,
the Father, and the Son, ✠ and the Holy Spirit.

All: Amen.

DISMISSAL

Leader 1: Go in peace.

All: Thanks be to God.

The Leaders bow to the altar and return to their places in the Assembly.

FINAL HYMN

An appropriate final hymn is sung.

Acknowledgements

Material for the Introductory Rites, Opening and Communion Prayers, Profession of Faith and the Praise Prayer have been taken from or adapted from Sunday Celebration of the Word and Hours, Catholic Conference of Canadian Bishops © Concacan Inc., 1995, LiturgyHelp www.liturgyhelp.com. All rights reserved. This material is used with permission for the purposes of Sunday Assemblies of Word and Communion in the Catholic Diocese of Ballarat, Victoria, Australia only.

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