**ON BEHALF OF OUR PARISH**

**IMMACULATE HEART OF MARY**

**HAPPY CHRISTMAS and HAPPY NEW YEAR**

**SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION IN PREPARATION FOR CHRISTMAS**

In this Christmastide, the sacrament of Reconciliation will continue every Saturday at 10.30am in preparation for all the other feast of Christmas. This year, Fr Vittorio will be available for the individual confessions also by appointment, but every Saturday, at 10.30am, will be dedicated to the confessions. There will be **no Mass** **anymore** **on Saturday morning, except for important solemnities.**

**GOVERNMENT COVID-19 RESTRICTIONS AFFECTING OUR MASSES**

The restrictions relating to Church gatherings as they currently affect us are:

1. The numbers who can attend Mass in our Church are now 100. This is based on the Government’s formula of one person for every four-square metres of floor space.
2. Masks are **again** required to be worn in Church **(and social distancing must be observed).**
3. Social distancing (1.5 m separation) must be observed during movement into and seating in the Church and our pews have been marked accordingly to assist.
4. Attendance/contact rolls must be maintained as is presently the case.
5. We have, as many parishioners now attending Mass know, continued to have a "Duty Officer" in the Narthex to take bookings and record attendees details as required. This has been done to avoid bottlenecks on entry to the Church (which would occur if we were to leave parishioners to complete the roll themselves or we would have to have multiple rolls).
6. Our attendances are increasing and at Christmas we anticipate a surge in numbers which will mean it is important that Parishioners book for Mass (ring 95983979) to guarantee that they have a seat at the Mass of their choice. Just turning up means you could be turned away if the nominated Church capacity of 100 has been reached.

Collection bowls are located in the main aisle for the Thanksgiving collection and the Presbytery collection. Thank you to all who have helped financially over this difficult year.

**MASS TIMES**

We have now resumed all our weekday Masses (Monday to Friday at 9am, excluding Saturday morning) together with Masses on Saturday at 6pm and Sunday at 9am and 10:30am. **At the entrance of the Narthex somebody will write your name, to keep the tracking record.** In this Christmastide Masses will be as follows:

**Saturday 2 January 6:00pm Mass Epiphany**

**Sunday 3 January 9:00am Mass Epiphany**

**Sunday 3 January 10:30am Mass Epiphany**

**Monday 4 January 9:00am Mass Weekday of Christmas Time**

**Tuesday 5 January 9:00am Mass Weekday of Christmas Time**

**Wednesday 6 January 9:00am Mass Weekday of Christmas Time**

**Thursday 7 January 9.00am Mass Weekday of Christmas Time**

**Friday 8 January 9:00am Mass Weekday of Christmas Time**

**Saturday 9 January 6:00pm Mass Baptism of the Lord**

**Sunday 10 January 9:00am Mass Baptism of the Lord**

**Sunday 10 January 10:30am Mass Baptism of the Lord**

All Sunday Masses will still continue to be broadcast on Zoom (login via the Parish website on [www.cam.org.au/hamptoneast](http://www.cam.org.au/hamptoneast)), until further notice. Weekday Masses will continue as normal **without Zoom.**

Follow the link on our Parish website for the liturgy and songs, including a copy of this bulletin.

All information about our Parish is on our website [www.cam.org.au/hamptoneast](http://www.cam.org.au/hamptoneast)

**CONTACT TRACING**

In order to help reduce the clerical workload on the Parish the Archdiocese has helped in facilitating the introduction of a system for people who have so called “smart phones”. The system has been referred to as a “QR code for contact tracing” system. The “new system” would allow Parishioners with “smart phones to scan a code on entering the Church allowing this parishioner to enter their details (Christian Name, Surname, email address and Phone Number). While this system could perhaps reduce some of the clerical workload of the Parish, the current manual system would still have to be run in parallel for those without smart phones and bookings would still be recorded manually. The Parish will investigate this system after Christmas.

 **OFFICERS AT MASS**

With the Covid restrictions affecting our Masses our rosters with nominated readers, eucharistic ministers, those carrying up the gifts, collections etc have not operated as before. With things returning to some normality, we hope to reintroduce at least some of these responsibilities and parishioners who would like to become involved should advise Father Vittorio.