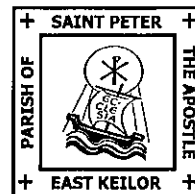


PARISH OF ST PETER THE APOSTLE

EAST KEILOR



17 May 2020

Dear Parishioners,

We are pleased to be able to celebrate public Masses at St Peter's subject to temporary conditions laid down by the Victorian Government and the Archbishop of Melbourne. We can accommodate ten people at Mass in addition to those required for the celebration of Mass.

Conditions include:

- No more than 10 attendees in the Church at any one time outside those required to enable the service. (Weddings and Funerals excepted);
- Clear signage around service schedules, social distancing and hygiene requirements;
- Availability of sanitiser and disinfectant wipes, and safe disposal sites;
- Churches to be cleaned after a scheduled service or opening;
- Maintenance of 1.5m of separation and planned entry and exit pathways;
- All attendees to provide contact details.

Masses will be celebrated weekly at St Peter's at the following times:-

Tuesday – Friday 9.00am and 10.30am (commencing 19th May)

Saturday – 6.00pm

Sunday – 8.30am and 10.30am

You cannot attend a Mass without making a booking. The 2 ways you can book in to attend a Mass are as follows:-

Online Bookings: For parishioners with internet access

Mass attendance will be via TryBooking. Please type TryBooking.com.au into your browser, then click on: 'Find Events' – Type in: Mass Keilor East 'Find an Event' and go to the Mass you wish to attend. Complete your booking. If all 10 spots are filled, please click on another time. You may book **one day in advance** of the scheduled Mass, from 9.00am-4.00pm, except for Sunday Masses, when you need to book by 4pm Friday.

Phone Bookings: For parishioners without internet access **only**

Please call the Parish Office on 9337 4141 by 4.00pm, **the day prior to the Mass you wish to attend** (except for Sunday Masses, where you need to let us know by 4.00pm on Friday), and leave your name and contact number. We will let you know if there is availability for the Mass you would like to attend.

To cater for the needs of all parishioners, I ask that you choose only one Mass to attend during the next two weeks. I encourage you to attend a weekday Mass and leave the weekend Masses time slots for those parishioners who are not able to attend weekday Masses.

I suggest you arrive at the Church approx. 10 minutes before commencement of the Mass and take your seat. Please provide your contact details as you enter the narthex and observe all the social distancing and hand sanitising requirements. If you are feeling unwell, please see stay at home but let us know if not coming. Thank you.

Yours in Christ,

Fr Arockia Manoharan Sebastian mfs
Parish Administrator



Wednesday 13 May 2020

Members of the Catholic community in Victoria,
The Catholic Dioceses of Melbourne, Ballarat, Sale and Sandhurst

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,

Throughout this situation of the Coronavirus pandemic our prayers and solidarity have been with you all, and will continue to guide the challenging decisions we have been called to make.

Despite the many weeks of worry and social restrictions, we are delighted that as of 11.59pm yesterday, Tuesday 12 May 2020, churches in Victoria may now be open in certain circumstances.

This opportunity for small gatherings and for some quiet moments of prayer in the sacramental presence of Our Lord is a gentle first step in the right direction, and rightly a moment of rejoicing for God's people. We are pleased to work constructively with our communities to make appropriate adjustments. Strict restrictions still govern our actions due to the risks of COVID-19 and we are all being asked to show patience and fortitude.

Each Diocese is communicating with their parishes about how various ministries, including sacramental care, will be conducted in this first stage of the easing of social restrictions. We wish to be fully compliant with the directives that apply across Victoria, so that we ensure the protection of elderly and vulnerable people, and work together for the common good of our communities.

The conditions under which a church can be open include a collection of contact details (for the purposes of contact-tracing if it becomes necessary), strict monitoring of numbers, ongoing hygiene requirements, publicising the scheduled times for private worship, and public worship limited to ten people at a time.

Arrangements for liturgies and access to churches while ensuring these conditions are met will vary, depending on the facilities and resources that are available in each particular community. We recognise that deciding on these arrangements and putting them in place is not straightforward, and we ask for patience and understanding during this time.

(Continued overleaf ...)

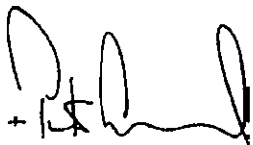
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This new stage of restrictions is subject to changing guidance that we receive from the State Government authorities, and we are advised this will be reviewed at the end of May.

After a difficult time for all of us, including many new pressures on families and great challenges for healthcare and emergency workers, we share in the disappointment that social restrictions are likely to continue for some time.

Nevertheless, we act with one accord in doing what is most prudent and loving for the sake of those most susceptible to the virus. We rejoice that Christ is with us and will walk with us as we begin the long journey out of the current stage of restrictions.

Yours sincerely in Christ Jesus,



Most Rev Peter A Comensoli
ARCHBISHOP OF MELBOURNE



Most Rev Paul Bernard Bird CSsR MA, DD
BISHOP OF BALLARAT



Most Rev Shane Mackinlay
BISHOP OF SANDHURST



Rev Peter Slater
DELEGATE OF DIOCESAN ADMINISTRATOR,
SALE