

UPDATE: GENERAL GUIDELINES – COVID 19

The most recent Government updates on the General Guidelines regarding the COVID-19 pandemic allow for churches in Victoria to now be open under certain circumstances and strict restrictions. At this stage, we are allowed **no more than 10 people** for any Mass.

The conditions under which we can open include collecting of contact details of those attending (for the purposes of contact-tracing if it becomes necessary), strict monitoring of numbers (10), ongoing hygiene requirements and respecting social distancing protocols.

Each Parish in the Archdiocese of Melbourne has been asked to implement the gradual opening of its celebration of Mass depending on the facilities and resources that are available in each particular community.

For us we will begin moving forward with having a weekday Mass on **Thursday, 21 May and Thursday, 28 May, 9.15am at St Mary's Church, Whittlesea**. Also the live-streaming Mass on **Sunday, 24 May, and Sunday 31 May at 10.30am, St Mary's Whittlesea**, will be open for 10 people to attend.

In order to address the limit of 10 people at any one time in attendance, people will need to **ring the Parish Office (9412 8493) on Tuesday or Wednesday** giving their name, phone number, and email and stating your choice of one of the Masses within this month of May. You will be notified by Parish staff either by return phone call or email confirming your attendance for the Mass.

Until such time that restrictions are lifted to a significant level for our Parish worship, the overwhelming majority of our community will continue to rely on our **live-streaming Mass**. At this time this is a most important and valuable spiritual resource through which our people can participate.