



St Paul Apostle Community

5 William Hovell Drv, Endeavour Hills 3802

T. 03 9700 3781 F. 03 97006888

office@stpaulapostle.com.au

www.stpaulapostle.com.au



Endeavour Hills, 26 March, 2020

Dear Parishioners,

Late yesterday afternoon we received a new set of guidelines from the Catholic Archdiocese of Melbourne. These guidelines are approved by Archbishop Peter Comensoli to assist Clergy and the Faithful with questions pertaining to specific areas of liturgy and ministry in the Archdiocese of Melbourne during this time of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Unfortunately, these guidelines have forced me to revisit and edit the letter I sent yesterday. The new guidelines contain the following directives:

- *It is important that the Sacrament of Anointing be available to those seriously ill and in danger death.*
- *Holy Communion is not to be given to anyone, including the sick and homebound, except as Viaticum for the dying*

I will continue to seek ways in which we can meet the needs of our parish community, but please understand we need to respect the guidelines instituted by the government and the archdiocese.

We will still be streaming Mass as from this weekend

- *Priests may celebrate Mass privately in a closed church for the purposes of live streaming. In doing so all precautions such as physical distancing and hygiene measures must be modelled and met*
- *This is not an opportunity to bring select groupings of people together, and numbers can only be extended to a Server and a Reader with the possible inclusion of a camera/iPad operator and a musician.*

I will continue to investigate ways in which the sacrament of reconciliation will be ministered. Prior to Easter I will formulate a penitential service for you and your families:

- *Priests will do their best to respond to individual requests for the Sacrament, but it is not possible to establish and publicise particular times when the sacrament will be available.*
- *The location for the individual celebration of the Sacrament can be adapted to ensure the required health needs.*
- *People who identify within themselves the need for Confession should contact their Parish clergy directly*

Thank you for your understanding and I apologise for the constant changes, but the fluidity of the situation demands that we continually adapt.

Blessing

Love,
Brendan (PP) CP