

From the Bishop

18 November 2020

To all Clergy, Secretaries, Diocesan Councillors and Synod Representatives

COVID-19 Update 12

Dear Friends in Christ,

This comes in light of the State Premier's announcement earlier this afternoon that, from 11:59pm tonight, all South Australians will have to **stay put in their house for six days**. Wherever we are at midnight tonight, that's where we will have to remain.

The Government hopes that this measure will mean our health experts can get on top of the Parafield's cluster so that our community can stay safe and stamp out this virus. We will be given more information about what we will be able to do beyond this initial six day period.

For now, this means;

- There will be <u>no</u> church services, op-shops or other similar activities anywhere within our Diocese until further notice.
- The Registry Office will be <u>closed</u> to all visitors and phone calls until further notice. You can still make contact via email.
- Synod, as a face to face meeting in Murray Bridge on the 27th and 28th November will be cancelled. When the dust has settled from today, we will know better about how we might proceed with this.
- <u>All weddings and funerals</u> will be banned for the next six days.

This is a very serious step in our battle with this virus. In these next six days the only reason we will be allowed to leave our homes will be for essential services such as medical services and supermarkets, although supermarkets will only be open for one visit from one person per household per day. Continue to monitor the government's websites for up to date information; www.covid-19.sa.gov.au

Please continue to keep in touch with each other through things such as phone calls, emails, Facebook or Zoom. Please pray for each other as we all come to terms with what our next few days will be like, and that God's love and comfort is felt by everyone within our communities. Please especially pray for those in authority, that they may be guided to make the best decisions to keep as many people safe as possible.

Please share this information widely. I will be back in touch with you all again soon.

With continued prayers and best wishes,

The Right Reverend Keith Dalby Bishop of The Murray

