



WELCOME TO COVID-SAFE CHURCH – WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW –

Updated 21 January 2021

St Michael's Uniting Church has reopened for 10am Sunday Gatherings.

To keep everyone safe, we are adhering to the restrictions required by the Victorian Government.

What to do:

- If you're at all unwell, please stay home
- Arrive at the church between 9:30 and 9:45am
- Wear your facemask while inside the church
- Enter via the corner of Russell and Collins St, or via St Michael's Walk
- Scan the QR code located at the entrances or sign-in with a St Michael's Welcome team member on entering
- Use hand sanitiser as you enter
- Observe 1.5m physical distancing from people not in your household (waving hello rather than hugs or handshakes)
- Follow an usher to your seat
- Sit in the seat allocated to you
- Don't move around before or during the service
- Savour the moment of gathering with old friends and new, as we are held in the Spirit's endless love; the Divine Presence with us in church and everywhere!

FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS

- **Do I need to pre-book?**
No. We no longer require TryBooking registration. You can attend Sunday Gatherings without booking, however you must still scan the QR code on entry or leave your details with a Welcomer. Collection of your name and phone number is required by law. It will be only ever be used for COVID tracing.
- **What personal information do I need to give?**
In line with Victorian Government guidelines, we will collect names and phone numbers of everyone attending for contact tracing in the event of a suspected COVID-19 case.
- **How to scan the QR code**
 - QR codes will be displayed at all St Michael's entrances; St Michael's Walk, Collins Street and Russell Street.
 - To scan: open your smartphone's camera and allow it to focus on the code. The smartphone will then generally identify the code and say what to do next.

- If this does not work, you can download the Service Victoria app from the [Google Play Store](#) or [Apple App Store](#).
 - Alternatively, a St Michael's Welcome Team member can collect your name and phone number on our sign-in form.
- **What measures and cleaning standards are you putting in place to keep the congregation safe?**
 - Numbers attending worship are limited, facemasks inside are compulsory, and everyone must observe safe physical distance.
 - There is an additional cleaning schedule for surfaces and amenities and there are sanitising stations provided at the church.
 - Offering plates will not be passed around. We invite you to leave your offering in one of the donation boxes by the exterior doors as you leave.
 - Communion will not be celebrated until we receive further guidance from the Uniting Church.
 - We will not use printed orders of service. Responsive elements of the liturgy will be displayed on the screen. Or you could download and print an order of service from the website.
 - **Will we be able to sing?**

Sadly, we will not be able to sing as a congregation, but we can 'sing in our hearts' as we listen to the cantors and read the words of the hymns. Initially we will project the recordings of the cantors that are used in the Online Gathering.
 - **Will there be 'live' music?**

Yes! Rhys Boak, our organist and music manager will play, and guest musicians will offer music for reflection.
 - **Will the minister wear a mask?**

There is an exemption from the mask rule for people engaged in public speaking, who need to be heard clearly. This applies to the Minister while leading worship, and lay people doing the readings or notices.
 - **Where can I park?**

The Grand Hyatt Hotel car park on Russell Street (between Collins St and Flinders Lane) provides \$7.00 discounted parking for people attending Sunday Gatherings at St Michael's. Discount vouchers will be available at the welcome tables when you sign in.
 - **What happens after church?**

We leave the building maintaining physical distancing. For now, we are not able to serve morning tea. People may gather in St Michael's Walk to chat afterwards. Please continue to wear your mask as lapses in physical distancing could inadvertently occur during conversation time. A small number of chairs will be set out for those not able to stand for long. The church will be closed 30 minutes after the service and people will be asked to say their farewells and disperse.

If you're unwell, please stay home and enjoy the Online Gathering.

Online Gatherings will continue for the foreseeable future. If you are not quite ready to come back to church, or if health, distance, or other commitments make it impossible, then please join us at <https://stmichaels.org.au/the-church/gatherings-reflections/>