Bishop’s Liturgical Guidelines in light of COVID-19

Parishes are to follow the Guidelines confirmed by Bishop Tim Harris on 13 May 2020.

- Those who are sick are advised to stay at home
- Those who are over 65 and vulnerable, and those with existing medical conditions are advised to stay at home
- Indigenous peoples over 50 are encouraged to carefully consider their vulnerability
- Priests handling vessels and books for set-up to also then clean up so as to reduce possibility of contagion
- All in attendance are to sanitise their hands upon entering and leaving the Church
- Social distancing to be observed in seating and general movement, especially the Communion line
- The communal Sign of Peace is not to be exchanged physically
- Communion is only to be distributed under the Host and Communion in the hand is strongly encouraged
- Only the Priest will distribute Holy Communion and he will sanitise his hands before and after distribution of Holy Communion
- The pews in use are to be cleaned after each service, as are all frequently touched surfaces.
- Communion to the sick - training is to be provided for ministers on safe and healthy practices.