

Subject: COVID-19 Update - new restrictions in place

Good afternoon to our parishes,

The [Queensland Government introduced new restrictions](#) this morning in response to 6 new coronavirus cases linked to the recent case at the Brisbane Youth Detention Centre.

In response to recent positive COVID-19 cases, a range of measures have been put in place across greater Brisbane, Ipswich and surrounds effective immediately. The Chief Medical Officer has expressed confidence in organisations with COVID Safe plans and at this stage parishes following the [Industry Plan for Places of Worship](#) can continue to hold acts of worship with no additional operating restrictions.

As the health and safety of parishioners, employees and volunteers remains our highest priority, the Archdiocese of Brisbane will take a conservative approach and require all non-essential parish gatherings to follow the government's new restrictions for public gatherings.

What's changed for parishes in these areas?

The information applies to parishes in the following Local Government Areas (LGAs):

- [Brisbane City Local Government Area \(PDF\)](#), [Ipswich City Local Government Area \(PDF\)](#), [Logan City Local Government Area \(PDF\)](#), [Scenic Rim Regional Local Government Area \(PDF\)](#), [Somerset Region Local Government Area \(PDF\)](#), [Lockyer Valley Local Government Area \(PDF\)](#), [Moreton Bay Local Government Area \(PDF\)](#), [Redland City Local Government Area \(PDF\)](#)

Parish restrictions:

- **Masses and acts of worship are not affected and will continue under current the current COVID Plan for Places of Worship.**
- **Weddings and Funerals remain at 100 people.**
- **Non-essential gatherings (such as Alpha, youth groups, social activities, etc) are restricted to a maximum of 10 people.**

Other general restrictions:

- Gatherings in private homes and public spaces are restricted to a maximum of 10 people.
- Residential aged care and disability accommodation facilities have restrictions on visitors and residents leaving the facility.
- Hospitals have been asked to restrict visitors as soon as possible.
- Hospital emergency departments, aged care facilities and disability accommodation facilities will use Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) including face masks and gloves to treat all patients and residents.

What's changed for parishes that are not located in those areas above?

Parish restrictions:

- **Masses and acts of worship are not affected and will continue under current the current COVID Plan for Places of Worship.**
- **Weddings and Funerals remain at 100 people.**
- **Non-essential gatherings (such as Alpha, youth groups, social activities, etc) are restricted to a maximum of 30 people.**

Other general restrictions:

- You have a maximum of 30 visitors to your home. The visitors can be from different households.
- You can have a public gathering with a maximum of 30 people including yourself, or with members of your household.

I ask you to please remain vigilant and continue the good work you're doing to protect parishioners, employees and volunteers.

Blessings on your Sunday celebrations.

+Ken



Bishop Ken Howell

Auxiliary Bishop - Brisbane