

25 March 2020

COVID-19 FAQs

As information is being distributed and we are gaining some clarity on matter, so other questions are being raised. The following seeks to provide some answers to the common questions we are being asked.

For ALL situations we recommend that the intent for these measures be applied; that of reducing the number of persons any individual has physical contact with and/or proximity to.

In all these responses it is assumed that good hygiene practices and mandated social distancing are applied (4m² per person, 1.5m separation).

Qu. Do the new rules include all meetings at a church property?

As per our email advice of 24 March the rules do exclude any form of public or program gathering such as worship services, weddings, youth, kids, craft, men's shed, seniors, lunches etc. It does not include staff working on site and associated staff meetings. It does not include "very small groups" – where the 4m² per person applies. Such small groups could include a prayer group, leaders meeting or a team preparing for service broadcast etc.

Qu. Can individuals still visit the church property?

At this point in time, yes. People may want to come and reflect or be still in prayer or just be on same property as another. One should still bear in mind that the 'intent' of all these rules is to reduce the number of people an individual interacts with, therefore use of phone and video calls may still be preferable.

Qu. Can we still hold a Members' Meeting?

Remember what all the rules and recommendations are about. We would now advise that members' meeting should NOT be held.

Qu. What about weddings?

Weddings have been limited to 5 people including the celebrant. (you only need the celebrant, couple and 2 witnesses for a marriage to be legal) Receptions/ afternoon teas are NOT permitted on church properties, or elsewhere.

Wedding dates may be postponed legally provided the Notice of Intended Marriage validity period is not exceeded.

Qu. What about funerals?

Funerals may still be conducted provided attendance does not exceed 10 and 4m² space per person is available. Liaise with your funeral director to ensure appropriate and compliant arrangements are in place.

Qu. What about outside gatherings?

We refer you to the intent of all these measures!