

From The Wardens

COVID 19 UPDATE

Unfortunately due to the ongoing mitigation requirements for COVID 19 as announced by the prime Minister – consistent with the Diocesan recommendations - the Acting Rector and Wardens have decided to cease all services and large gatherings at St Johns with immediate effect.

We are aware of the important place our Sunday Services have in many of our parishioner's lives and so we will be implementing a number of measures to mitigate those until we can return to our usual programme. These are listed below.

Our parish remains open and active and seeking to support our parishioners. We can advise the following interim measures.

Services on Line

The Acting Rector is putting together an on line broadcast facility via Facebook (you don't need to be a member of Facebook to access) so you can partake in the online service conducted live in the Church on Sunday Morning (without a congregation). The Links will be available to this and other national and international services on our parish web site at www.stjohnsgordon.org.au before Sunday 22 March.

Caring and Contact “Have a Yarn!” Programme (HAY!)

As well as the rich blessings of gathering as a Community of Faith each week - The Wardens are conscious of the number of our Parish family for whom the Sunday services are an important time of social contact in their week. For that reason, whilst the services are suspended, we will attempt to make contact with all those whom we are aware of, who are less mobile or live alone - under a new **“Have a Yarn!”** programme to be known as HAY! initiated by the Wardens.

If you would like to be part of this programme either as a Parish Contact person to ring a few people each week or would like to keep in touch with us each week just to “Have a Yarn” – or if you need help with anything within our ability that can't be done by your friends and family – please let Cynthia or Meg know at the Parish Office on 02 94982744 or email on office@stjohnsgordon.org.au. Alternatively feel free to contact any of the Wardens – Chris Russell, James Winter or JK Seo at the contact details on the back of the pew bulletin at any time. All calls will of course be in confidence.

Handyman Men's “Helping Us Group” (HUGS)

We are proposing to set up a new Men's Group to be known as **“The Helping Us Group ”** at St Johns geared around carrying out odd jobs to those elderly or disabled parishioners who need our help within our Parish Family. This will be to carry out small repairs, maintenance tasks such as light bulb or tap washer changes, assembling purchased kits for furniture or appliances or even driving tasks. This will not include licensed electrical or plumbing work (other than simple tasks such as light

bulb or tap washer changing etc). Nor will we allow working at heights or other work for which a WHS ticket is required.

As soon as we have a viable group of willing handymen who have put their name forward – we will meet and work out the details.

So if you are “handy” and have a few tools and would be prepared to help out on a rostered or shared basis from time to time – please let Meg at the Church office or Chris Russell know. This is an exciting and much needed service to our Parish and we would urge you to consider it as a wonderful (and enjoyable) volunteer opportunity.

Offertory and Cash Flow

It is also critical that we maintain our cash flow especially this year as we operate on a breakeven budget with a number of one off expenses such as the storm repairs, rectory refurbishment and the search for our new Rector. We would therefore prayerfully request that you review and continue with or increase your weekly giving as your personal circumstances allow - bearing in mind the current unusual and difficult situation that we find ourselves in.

If you are in the habit of making your offering by envelope or by cash in the collection plate the Wardens would ask you to make your weekly offertory either by changing to direct debit or alternatively by transferring your weekly offertory to the St Johns account at:

Name: St Johns Church Gordon

BSB: 032083

A/C: 810231

or simply contact the Church Office or any of the Wardens. We will keep you informed of the financial position as the situation evolves in the future.

The Acting Rector and Wardens thank you for your patience and enthusiastic support and ask that you continue to pray for God’s guidance through this testing time for our world.

The Wardens

Chris Russell AM

JK Seo

James Winter