



## FREQUENTLY ASKED QUESTIONS FOR CONGREGATIONS<sup>1</sup>

### **What do we need to do before we open up our buildings?**

Complete a [COVID-Safe Plan](#) and submit to the SA Government, print and display this in your building. Refer to information sent to congregations about additional cleaning and signage.

### **How many people can attend worship?**

From 29<sup>th</sup> June 2020 there is no restriction on the number of people, provided you have the appropriate space to adhere to social distancing requirements.

### **How do I calculate the 2m2 rule?**

Measure the floor space of your room and divide this number by 2. Eg your room is 5m x 4m = 20m<sup>2</sup>, therefore you can have 10 people in this room.

### **How can I do worship at home safely in a small group?**

Please ensure you have sufficient spacing to adhere to the 1.5m distancing rule and the 2m<sup>2</sup> rule. Food and drinks may be served but please do so safely.

### **Is there a time limit on how long our activities can be?**

Currently there is a two hour limit on all indoor activities.

### **What if I wake up in the morning and don't feel well?**

Please DO NOT go to worship or another person's home for gatherings. Instead, you should seek appropriate medical advice.

### **Physical distancing (no handshakes or hugs)**

If you are meeting with people at home or at church please remember to not hug or shake hands in greeting. An 'elbow bump' can be an alternative.

### **Can food and drink be served after worship?**

Yes, but with some limitations on how it is served. Please refer to [this poster](#) for more details.

### **Layout of seating and entry/exit points**

Consider moving the seating in your worship space to allow for the 1.5m distancing between people or family groups. You may need to section off every other pew or row of chairs to achieve this. Also consider if you have the possibility of having a separate entry and exit door to your space so that foot traffic can move in one direction. Arrows marked on the floor can assist with this.

### **How will we encourage good hygiene?**

Please provide hand sanitizer at all entry and exit points to your worship space. Cleaning wipes should be used after each gathering to disinfect frequently touched surfaces, including chair backs, door handles, railings, offering baskets, toilet facilities and any other surfaces that may have been touched by multiple people.

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<sup>1</sup> Current as at 29<sup>th</sup> July 2020

### **How will we record contact details of attendees?**

The [attached sheet](#) must be placed at the entry point to your worship space and be completed by everyone who enters the building. This record should be signed by the responsible person at the completion of worship and retained in your church office for a minimum of four weeks after the date.

### **What signage should I put up around the Church premises regarding social distancing etc?**

Please visit <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/doc/signage-and-posters-covid-19> to download various posters that can be used. Some have spaces that you can use to note specific details relating to your worship centre, eg maximum number of people per room.

### **What is our plan for cleaning of communal areas?**

The Safe Work Australia website has detailed information on cleaning that will assist you with this. Please visit <https://www.safeworkaustralia.gov.au/covid-19-information-workplaces/industry-information/general-industry-information/cleaning>.

### **Can I receive Holy Communion?**

South Australian Government have recently advised that Holy Communion can be practiced, with some guidelines.

One person is to prepare the elements, the wine must be in individual cups, as the common cup is not to be utilised, the bread is to be distributed by one person who is wearing gloves or using tongs and they must not touch the hand of the recipient. Disposable cups should be single use only.

### **What about baptisms, funerals and weddings?**

There is no restriction on the number of people allowed for a baptism.

For weddings and funerals the limit is now 100 people, or less if your church building will only accommodate less with the 2m2 rule.

Remember:

- You must adhere to your per room person limit (1 person per 2 square metres density requirement)
- Keep 1.5 metres distance from others
- If you have a cold or flu symptoms, seek testing and stay home until you are well.
- Wash your hands often, wipe frequently touched surfaces, and cover coughs and sneezes.
- Vulnerable people like the elderly and people with chronic health conditions should talk to their doctor about what is appropriate for them.

Please check your local state Government's regulations as they are updated. Please also refer to the [LCA's COVID-19 page](#) for additional information.