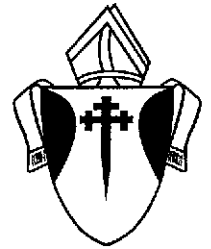


THE ANGLICAN BISHOP OF THE HIGHVELD

The Right Reverend Mthethellell Charles May

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PASTORAL NOTICE 20th March 2020

Dear Friends,

Greetings in the name of Our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ.

On Wednesday, as you may well know, we had a special Chapter meeting in response to the President's and Archbishop's statements. We communicated to you the guidelines and that we endorse the guidelines by the Archbishop. I am requesting that the information be circulated in the parishes and to be posted/pinned on the notice boards. I would like to reiterate the number to attend per service should not be more than 100.

- a) Council members to divide themselves for services. Churchwarden per service with 2 or 3 council members depending on the size of your Council. It will be their responsibility to maintain the attendance register. Please ensure that those in attendance sign. (We have attached the register format).
 - i) Name of the person attending;
 - ii) Date of birth, ID number or passport
 - iii) Home address
 - iv) Telephone numbers
- b) Please make sure that people spread themselves and do not sit close to each other. They must be at least 1 metre distance apart.
- c) Please ensure that there are sanitizers, soap and water where people can wash before and after the service. Allow at least an hour before the next service to allow the preparation for the next service. Those doing that should please wear gloves.

The Religious Faith Based Organisations met with the President on Thursday the 19th March 2020 in Pretoria in the light of the COVID 19. I believe that all of us need to adhere to the guidelines.

If you have the following symptoms don't attend the church services or any other gathering. Stay at home!

- Fever
- Cough
- Sore throat
- Shortness of breath

As per the advice of the Minister of Health, healthy people should not go to hospitals or clinics to be tested as they may be infected by others.

Make sure that our church surroundings are clean and arrange for appropriate waste management to minimize unnecessary exposure to potential infectious material. I humbly request that parishes should have plastic bags to dispose of the used tissues.

In addition to what we sent on Wednesday about service and the Eucharist

- There will be no Palm Sunday processions,
- Sunday School classes should be suspended,
- the MU Lady Day is cancelled.
- Minimise servers practices and limit numbers at the services
- Meetings in the Diocesan office are suspended until further notice including the HABSR meetings

We are including the updated guidelines from the Archbishop.

We can only overcome this pandemic if we work together and co-operate with one another to avoid the spread of the novel coronavirus in our communities.

Will the parishes that have doctors please request them to educate about the importance of self-quarantine, hygiene, give them an opportunity to share.

We will keep updating you with further developments.

Let us not above all forget to pray.

May the God the Creator of all bless you.

+ Charles Higuered