

ST. SAVA SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH  
FLEMINGTON  
A PARISH AND CHURCH COMMUNITY  
OF THE METROPOLITANATE  
OF AUSTRALIA AND NEW ZEALAND  
OF THE SERBIAN ORTHODOX CHURCH



СРПСКА ПРАВОСЛАВНА ЦРКВА СВ. САВА  
ФЛЕМИНГТОН  
ПАРОХИЈА И ЦРКВЕНА ОПШТИНА  
МИТРОПОЛИЈЕ  
АУСТРАЛИЈСКО-НОВОЗЕЛАНДСКЕ  
СРПСКЕ ПРАВОСЛАВНЕ ЦРКВЕ

My dear in Christ the Lord parishioners,

Based on the new provisions enforced by the Australian Government, and which will be in power until further notice, in order to prevent the spreading of the Covid-19 virus, please be aware of the following:

**1. All places of worship and their facilities, no matter the religious affiliation must be closed for public gatherings.** For our Church, exempted are those congregations which cannot be postponed or cancelled, due to their specific nature:

- Divine Liturgy and other church services at which the presence of two chanters in addition to a priest is allowed. This is the maximum number of people allowed for the performance of services during these extraordinary conditions;
- Weddings and baptisms, at which the presence of maximum of 5 people is allowed (including the officiating priest);
- Funeral services, with a maximum attendance of 10 people.

All services must be performed inside the Church, the Church and the courtyard must be closed. The previous provisions of the required social distance of one person per 4m<sup>2</sup> apply.

Please be aware that the presence of parishioners in the Church court-yard, or any other Church premises waiting for Holy Communion, Confession, various prayers or for the purpose of lighting of candles is NOT ALLOWED. Please consider that the fines for disobeying this Government legislation are significant both for the Church and yourselves.

2. The essential need for Holy Communion, the Holy Body and Blood of our Lord Jesus Christ, will be fulfilled if you contact me for organising and delivering to you and your immediate family. **Transferring the Church congregation from the temple to your private houses is not recommended.**
3. The provision of other services, the Holy sacrament of Confession, blessing of homes and Slava's bread and wheat, prayers and spiritual counselling will be provided in the same manner.

4. You are encouraged to provide a list of names for prayers in the Church during the Proskomidion service and the Great Entrance of the Divine Liturgy. This can be done via e-mail, text message, or sent to the Church mail-box.

Alongside with our Lord and his priesthood, you are also constituencies of the Church. Therefore, this decision to close the Church for your attendance is a sad and painful experience for us. It is already common knowledge that this is an event of unprecedented scale, at least in the newer history of the western world. For the sake of basic human solidarity with those who do not share our confidence in Almighty God and His protection, we count on your patience and tolerance for our broader society.

We will hold together in our prayers to the Lord, the Holy Mother of God, and our patron saint Sava of Serbia, to help us in overcoming this challenge and meet in joy the Holy Resurrection of Christ the Saviour.

For further explanations please contact me via e-mail or mobile phone.

Yours in prayers to God



Protopresbyter Sasha Cholich

Parish Priest

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