



CATHOLIC ARCHDIOCESE
OF MELBOURNE

The Archdiocese is committed to the safety, wellbeing and dignity of all children and vulnerable adults.



Please consider the environment before printing this email

Good afternoon everyone,

As you may be aware, from 6:00pm tonight, Friday 18 February, **QR Code check-in for places of worship will no longer be required.**

However, there are a couple of important points to keep in mind until we have further clarification:

- Staff and Volunteers within the Parish setting, and its outreach, are still required to be 'fully vaccinated' or 'up to date' with their vaccination (have received two doses of the COVID-19 vaccine or have a valid medical exemption). This will require them to QR Code check-in at a location within the church or Parish if they are working or ministering during worship.
- Unfortunately for Halls and Offices, the QR Code check-in is still required if the venue isn't being used for a religious or worship gathering, and those attending need to be fully vaccinated.

As mentioned earlier in the week, random COVID-compliance audit inspections are being undertaken by government authorities. If a safety inspector arrives at your Parish office and you are not ready, you may feel unsure of yourself, and a Parish may risk a significant fine (up to \$20,000 for every breach). You are urged to:

1. Check your COVIDsafe plan and update if necessary
2. Ensure your COVIDsafe plan is on hand in an easy-to-find location for all clergy, staff, and volunteers, both in hard copy and electronically.

Guidance can be found at: <https://www.coronavirus.vic.gov.au/covidsafe-plan>

I will send out further updates on the most recent changes as more details emerge. We are also looking into Ash Wednesday and Holy Week, and how the current regulations may be expressed in the varying liturgies.

Please take care.

With kindest regards

Annie

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