



*For all things give thanks.*

1 THESS 5:18

## CLARIFICATION ON UPDATED CLERGY DIRECTIVES FROM BISHOP BRIAN MASCORD as a result of coronavirus (COVID-19)

AS OF 23 MARCH 2020

To my Brothers in Christ

I apologise for any confusion and inconvenience.

Information has been received from the NSW Premier's Department and as a result I would like to clarify the directives in relation to funerals and weddings.

The NSW government has advised that the shut down of religious gatherings and places of worship exclude **“small weddings and funerals that comply with the 4m<sup>2</sup> rule, which can proceed”**.

Given this new information, funerals and weddings can take place in the church if they are in compliance with the government regulations as mentioned above. It is the responsibility of the parish priest and the celebrant for any wedding or funeral to ensure that the government regulations are respected to avoid unnecessary risk to the community and the possibility of incurring heavy fines as mentioned in today's previous correspondence.

Yours in Christ

**Most Rev Brian G Mascord DD**

BISHOP OF WOLLONGONG

23 March 2020

**MOST REV BRIAN G MASCORD DD**

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