



# The Parish of St Paul Rondebosch

(The Anglican Church of Southern Africa)

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Dear St Paul's family

Peace, love and mercy.

I greet you in the name of God our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.

These past few months have been very challenging and traumatic for all of us. Some of us have either been infected and contracted the coronavirus ourselves or we have lost loved ones because of the virus. Some of us have also experienced emotional, physical, social and financial challenges.

Our church has been closed for services since 25 March when President Cyril Ramaphosa announced the national lockdown, and we have missed the spiritual nourishment, love, support and community from our St Paul's family.

We have finally been given permission to open the church for in-person services. Our first Eucharist service will be on Sunday 6 September at 9 am. We will have only one service every Sunday.

**Please note that as per the COVID 19 regulations a strict protocol will be observed inside the church, as follows:**

- One of the restriction regulations is that only 50 people are allowed in the church, therefore any parishioner who is intending to attend is requested to phone the office to book a place (021 689 4720 between 9 am and 12 pm Mondays to Fridays).
- We are required to record the details of everyone attending each service. Therefore all persons entering the premises will be subject to a screening questionnaire as well as hand sanitising and temperature testing.
- The church interior will be cleaned and sanitised before and after every service.
- Seating markers will be in place to ensure that people are seated at least 1,5 metres apart.
- Social-distancing markers will be indicated in aisles.
- Wearing of a cloth mask is mandatory. (and please wear it throughout the service)

- Collection plates will be placed at either side of the aisle. Worshippers should place their offering in the plate on arrival.
- There will be NO books in the pews (please bring your own prayer book).
- No singing: recorded hymns will be played.
- No personal contact is permitted, such as for the Peace.
- Communion will only be served in in one kind i.e. *Bread only*. The presiding priest will place a wafer in each communicant's hand with no direct contact.
- Communicants will go up to the altar using only the centre aisle and maintaining a 2 metre distance from the next person
- Anyone wishing to use the bathroom facilities must be escorted and hand sanitiser must be used on leaving the bathroom and when entering the church.
- Worshippers are requested to leave the church in single file via the side door, maintaining social distance
- If you are not feeling well or you have any flu-like symptoms, will you please stay at home that Sunday.
- For those who are choosing not to return to church yet, please let the Office know and be assured that we will continue to send you our sermon and prayer recordings.

We look forward to the joy and blessing that comes with worshipping as St Paul's community of faith.

Blessings

Rev Reeva, Rev Darron, Rev Isaias and the Parish Council

*R. Mulder*