



## **APC COVID-safe hygiene guidelines for in-person Sunday church**

### **BEFORE SERVICE**

- Display conditions of entry (website, social media, venue entry)
- Signage indicating that if you are unwell or vulnerable that you should not attend etc
- Hand sanitiser available. Encourage people to bring their own.
- NSW Health recommends masks for religious gatherings. Limited masks are available for use or people may choose to bring their own.
- Sign-in sheet for contact tracing
- e- bulletins (minimise paper distribution)
- Encourage everyone to be aware of the COVIDSafe app and its benefits to support contact tracing if required.
- Reduce mingling wherever possible and promote physical distancing. Where reasonably practical, ensure 1.5 metres physical distancing at all times. Note that family members do not need to physically distance.
- Have strategies in place to manage gatherings that may occur immediately outside the premises to ensure appropriate physical distancing.

### **DURING SERVICE**

- No communal singing. A solo singer at the front of the congregation is required to be at least 3m from the nearest person listening.
- Reduce mingling wherever possible and promote physical distancing. Where reasonably practical, ensure 1.5 metres physical distancing at all times, Note that family members do not need to physically distance.
- The maximum number of persons not to exceed 100 people or 1 person per 4m<sup>2</sup> of space (excluding staff), whichever is the lesser.
- Avoid sharing books, drinking cups or other shared objects used during the service such as collection plates.
- Parents of preschoolers are directed to bring their own food & toys for personal use.
- Children and youth ministries should be conducted in accordance with the NSW Government guidelines on Schools and Childcare. Children do not need to follow strict adult physical distancing guidelines but should follow good hygiene practices. Leaders should continue to maintain 1.5m physical distancing from children where practical.

### **MORNING/AFTERNOON TEA**

- Disposable cups to be used
- Tea/Coffee to be served by people wearing gloves
- Great caution should be exercised regarding food. People should be encouraged to bring personal food. Avoid sharing plates of food. If using pre-packaged food ensure no cross-contact.
- Reduce mingling wherever possible (especially when queueing) and promote physical distancing. Where reasonably practical, ensure 1.5 metres physical distancing at all times. Note that family members do not need to physically distance.
- Have strategies in place to manage gatherings that may occur immediately outside the premises to ensure appropriate physical distancing.

### **General Hygiene and cleaning**

- Adopt good hand hygiene practices.
- Ensure bathrooms are well stocked with hand soap and paper towels or hand dryers.
- See APC COVIDSafe Disinfectant Guide for further details.
- Each church is to develop their own cleaning & disinfecting plan.