



Clearing the Way for Jesus

The newsletter of the Illawarra Prayer Network links Christians and churches from Helensburgh to Gerroa, promotes prayer and facilitates church unity. A printer-friendly 2 x A4 PDF file of this newsletter is available at www.5icm.org.au/index_files/ipn.html.

Please send prayer requests and feedback to prayer@5icm.org.au.

Distribution of this edition: 3,554

Prayer

1. **Annette Rearden** suggested we pray for people undergoing medical treatment for cancer.

"In our community there are people (I know several in particular) who have a cancer diagnosis and I would like prayer to provide strength and peace for them through the diagnosis, treatment, recovery or end of life."

2. **Rev. Anthony Douglas**, is the new Executive Assistant to the Anglican Bishop of Wollongong, Right Rev. Peter Hayward. Since Anthony is the acting Rector of St Peter's, Shoalhaven Heads Church, he would appreciate prayer for wisdom in balancing these roles.
3. As churches in the Illawarra start to hold physical services again, pray that there are no new cases of Covid-19.

News and Feedback

1. **Radio Station Pulse 94.1** is holding its [June appeal](#) to raise funds for the Christian community-based station.

"David, a listener from Albion Park, says:

"I've been so encouraged by many of the words in the Christian songs during what has been a very difficult time. It's uplifting to find that you're not the only one going through what you're going through"."

2. **The latest Covid-19 restrictions on church meetings** are as follows.

- Up to 20 visitors may visit another **household** at any one time, provided physical distancing is maintained.
- **Weddings** can have up to 20 guests plus the celebrant/s, the couple, a photographer, and a videographer.
- **Funerals** can have up to 50 mourners plus minister and funeral directors.
- Religious gatherings and **places of worship can have up to 50 worshippers plus the minister/s**. Places of worship are asked to find alternatives to practices that might spread the virus like singing, sharing books and passing around the collection plate to reduce infection risks. A small number of singers at the front, and at least 3m away from the congregation, is allowed. Churches with halls or outdoor areas cannot simultaneously have 50 people in each separate area. See the Government [checklist here](#).
- **Places of public worship** may be used for other purposes, e.g. classes or organised events, but a maximum of 20 people plus the person/s conducting the event are allowed. All such classes and events need to have a COVID-19 safety plan in place.
- Churches that meet in a **school hall** will need to contact the school and sign an agreement to comply with current expectations.

Note that these guidelines require 1.5m distancing, and more than 4 sq m/person in a room for indoor gatherings, good hygiene practices, contact tracing provisions, and if you are at all unwell you must stay at home.

Live streaming of church services that include worship music requires a separate CCLI [Streaming Licence](#).

God bless,
Derek Thompson,
Illawarra Prayer Network

A member of the registered charity, **Five Islands Christian Ministries Inc.**

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Ecumenical Activities in the Illawarra

Wollongong Gospel Choir - Rehearsals on Tuesdays during school term times.

Rehearsals **CANCELLED**. Contact: [John Sandercock](#) 0499 444 151

Wollongong City Bible Talks - Thursdays to 25th June

Bishop Reg Piper will be teaching on 2 Corinthians.

Details: 12:30 - 1:00 p.m. on Zoom. All welcome.

Contact: [Reg Piper](#) 0408 029 379 or 4284 1128.

See the [5icm Events page](#) for more events, the **Regular Events** list, and latest cancellations.