

The logo for St Damien's Dawesville Catholic Parish features a gold cross on the left. To the right of the cross, the text "St Damien's" is written in a blue, sans-serif font, and "Dawesville Catholic Parish" is written below it in a bold, blue, sans-serif font.

St Damien's
Dawesville Catholic Parish

After prayerful and considered reflection on the pandemic and the recent announcement by the Prime Minister regarding non-essential indoor gatherings be limited to 100 people as well as directives from the Diocese, the Parish Pastoral Council and Liturgy Committee have determined the following action, **all Masses (weekend and weekday) at St Damien's Parish will be cancelled until further notice.** Given the seriousness of COVID-19, we believe this measure is being responsible and sensible, and we encourage everyone to follow public safety guidelines respectfully. **The Sunday Obligation**, for the faithful, does not apply during this time of emergency.

We encourage you to continue active participation in the life of the Church, through activities such as time in personal and family prayer, reflecting on the Scriptures, making a spiritual communion, or participating in a Mass online (<http://bit.ly/MassOnDemand> or www.wordonfire.org/daily-mass).

The church will continue to be open for prayer; however, please maintain the social distancing regulations which are continually being updated by the government. <https://www1.health.gov.au/internet/main/publishing.nsf/Content/cdna-song-novel-coronavirus.htm>

Fr Vincent will continue to offer the Mass privately, while you are not physically present, you still participate spiritually and will be close to his heart in the Eucharist. Fr Vincent is also working on setting up a live streaming of the Mass. Links will be on our Parish Facebook page and Parish Website.

We also need to consider the practicality of maintaining our Parish during this challenging time. For those who have asked and would like to contribute, please do so through direct debit. If you already have direct debit set up, thank you in advance for continuing your contributions to our Parish.

All of this is happening during the Season of Lent, a time of preparation for the Easter mysteries. While we are invited to be self-sacrificial at this time, we must remember the words of Jesus upon appearing before his disciples after his resurrection: Again and again he said 'peace be with you.' (Jn 20:19). Let us not panic, nor be anxious, nor reduce ourselves to caring only for ourselves. This is a time to be sensible, practical, prayerful, and to share Christ's peace with those who are struggling to feel calm and safe.

Thank you for all your patience, prayers and resilience.