



For all things give thanks.
1 THESS 5:18

The Church is the People of God

Roadmap to opening our churches

As of 1 October 2021

My Dear Brothers and Sisters

As you will be aware, the NSW Government has released its roadmap regarding reducing the current lockdown COVID-19 restrictions. After prayerful consideration of the proposed changes I would like to share with you the roadmap for the Diocese of Wollongong.

Stage One – When 70% Are Vaccinated – Estimated Date 11 October

As our churches cannot welcome everyone, churches in the Diocese of Wollongong will remain closed for the celebration of the Mass. The celebration of weddings and funerals continue in accordance with the current Public Health Order.

Stage Two – When 80% Are Fully Vaccinated – Estimated Date 25 October

From this date it is proposed to open our churches for the celebration of Mass and other sacraments to all irrespective of vaccination status in accordance with the Public Health Order in force at that time including capacity limits and other requirements.

Stage Three – When 90% Are Expected To Be Fully Vaccinated – 1 December 2021 – “The New Normal”

1 December is the date that the Government has advised that there will be no difference between the Covid safety requirements for all NSW citizens, whether fully vaccinated, partially vaccinated, or unvaccinated. Our Churches will continue to comply with the Public Health Order in force at that time including increased capacity limits and other requirements.

Further detailed information will be issued over the coming weeks taking into account any further information received from the NSW Government.

I look forward with joy to our opening up as one community over the coming months.

Yours in Christ

Most Rev Brian G Mascord DD
BISHOP OF WOLLONGONG

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