

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT

The Greek Orthodox Parish-Community of St Anna Gold Coast is committed to the health and wellbeing of every person. In light of the pandemic of Coronavirus (COVID-19) we will be following the advice of our Government departments and directives of our Archdiocese to assure everyone we are doing what is necessary to stop the spread of this virus. We begin by asking everyone to join us in **remote prayer**, so our loving God acts swiftly to eradicate this pandemic.

The following services of our Parish-Community will be suspended until further notice effective from 17 March 2020:

- Sunday School (every Sunday)
- Senior Citizens (every Tuesday)
- Greek School / Dancing (every Wednesday)
- Playgroup (every Thursday)
- Greek Dancing (every Friday)

The following gatherings will be **cancelled**:

- Greek National Day (25th March 2020)
- Making of Palm Crosses (11 April 2020)
- Annual Luncheon on Palm Sunday (12 April 2020)
- Annual Luncheon on Easter Sunday (19 April 2020)

CHURCH SERVICES

At this stage, all indoor church services of less than 100 people will continue as scheduled. Please refer to the Encyclical of the Archbishop regarding directions in Church participation.

http://www.greekorthodox.org.au/?p=21755

It is highlighted that the kissing of icons, the priest's hand, the gospel, close contact with others, including kissing and embracing is to be avoided at this time.

HOSPITAL/NURSING HOME VISITS

Pastoral visits to hospitals, nursing homes and private residences by the priest will continue in accordance with all Government, Queensland Health and Archdiocesan guidelines and by appointment. If you require a visit please contact the priest to discuss (0414 740 477).

HEALTH REMINDER

Everyone who is visiting any of our facilities, you are reminded to help stop the spread of the virus by:

- Washing your hands frequently with soap, or alcohol based hand sanitiser
- Covering your mouth and/or nose when coughing or sneezing with elbow, or tissues. Then wash hands as directed above or dispose of tissues immediately.
- Keep the stipulated Social Distancing of 1.5 metres from everyone where practicable.
- Stay at home if you are not well.

OUTDOOR GATHERINGS OF 500 PEOPLE OR MORE

The Parish-Community of St Anna will be following the Government ban of 500 people or more in any of its outdoor gatherings. Further announcements will be made as information comes to hand.

SELF-ISOLATION

The federal government has also made it a mandatory requirement for anyone entering Australia from overseas to Self-Isolate at home for a period of 14 days.

UPDATES

All updated information will be printed and posted on our Church, Hall and Greek school buildings, our website and social media. Please click one of the following to be updated.

Facebook: Greek Orthodox Church of St Anna, Greek School of St Anna Gold Coast

Website: <u>www.gocstanna.org</u>

Father Romanos and The Main Committee