MASKS

Dear friends,

As part of loving our neighbour and each other, as well as respecting those in authority over us, our senior minister and wardens are asking all of us to wear masks to church. Masks do not replace the need for hand hygiene, social distancing, and staying home if you feel unwell.

Multi-generational Church

Youth and children 12 years and above should wear masks when in the presence of adults in church.

Youth and children and their leaders are not required to wear masks in their age-specific programs.

Young people aged 0-18 must maintain the same 1.5m physical distancing as the adult members unless they are members of the same household.

Youth Group and Children's Groups

Masks are not required for children and leaders. This follows the current advice for Government schools and mask use for children and teachers.

Could I ask you please to click on this link from NSW Health and study it well. There's a very good video on masks on that page.

If you wish to make your own cloth mask, look at NSW Health's instructions here.

A few extra tips:

- Clean your hands before putting on a face mask and after taking it off.
- Wear a disposable mask with the coloured side outward.
- Store a mask in its own plastic or paper bag, not loose in a handbag or pocket.
- Use the elastic or ties to put the mask on and off. Try not to touch the mask once you've adjusted it to fit tightly.

Cloth masks need to be washed frequently in the washing machine. Masks make communication more difficult, especially if either party has hearing loss. You might need to move to a quieter location to hear or be understood. Make sure you maintain 1.5m distance. Why not give the other church member a quick phone call after church? We take heart from the fact that there is no barrier between us and God: Jesus's death removed it. There is nothing that can separate us from his love. We need no masks with God: he knows us utterly and accepts us through our union with his son Jesus.