



Diocese of Johannesburg

FROM THE OFFICE OF THE ANGLICAN BISHOP DIOCESE OF JOHANNESBURG



Our Vision is: To Achieve the Practice of the Ministry of All Believers

28 July 2021

Dearly beloved of God

Paul says in Romans Chapter 8 verses 38-39 *“For I am convinced that neither death **nor life**, neither angels nor demons, neither the present nor the future, nor any powers, neither height nor depth, nor anything else in all creation, will be able to separate us from the love of God that is in Christ Jesus our Lord.”*

We give thanks to God for the government’s recent announcement regarding the COVID vaccination roll out and especially for the lifting of restrictions relating to in-person worship services.

We are aware that parishes need to open church worship both for the spiritual and financial purposes. In this regard, we are thankful for the relative calm that has been restored in our country where there was unrest. With the relaxation of some of the strict lockdown rules, we hope that businesses will recover and begin to contribute to the growth of our economy. It is in this hope that the church would also have some respite in being able to provide for the spiritual needs of our parishioners.

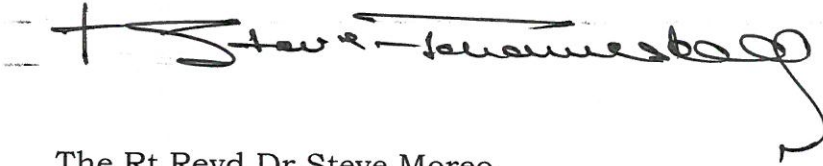
Having said this there is still a need for us to be vigilant in following all the protocols relating to gathering safely. We are still only allowed 50 people per service or 50 per cent of a buildings capacity and need to wear our masks and sanitise regularly.

Parishes may use their discretion as to whether they wish to open now or wish to open later, but both the Anglican Province and our Diocese are happy to go ahead with the opening of churches for in person worship with immediate effect from Sunday 1st August 2021.

Please continue to support the vaccination roll out and continue to be faithful in lifting our country and people to God in prayer as we face this ongoing pandemic. COVID has taught us that there is no going back to church as normal, but it has also taught us that there is strength in community and relationships. Continue to build on your existing relationships as brothers and sister in Christ. Be creative in the ways you are church in the world. Encourage and support one another as best you

can and be open to the new direction the Holy Spirit is taking us in as the people of God.

God bless you all

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Steve Moreo". The signature is written in a cursive style with a large, stylized initial 'S' and a long horizontal stroke.

The Rt Revd Dr Steve Moreo
+Johannesburg