

Friday 24th September 2021.

Dear all,

I trust you are well and keeping safe and encouraged in the Lord. It's been a long time since we last met together in person and met for church. I trust you have been listening into the service on line and found it meeting a need, as well as keeping in contact with each other.

We're getting closer to the 80% double vaccination number. When we arrive at that number the Government have indicated that there will be some relaxing of regulations and the opportunity for the Church to return to meeting together COVID Safe. I am writing to let you know that with the Wardens and Parish Council we have already begun thinking 'what will that look like'?

On Monday evening Rectors, with one warden, from the South Sydney Region were invited to meet with Bishop Michael on line. The purpose of the meeting was to answer any questions or concerns we may have about going back. Both Stephen Smith and myself attended. Michael began by explaining the Theological, Medical, Legal and Pastoral implications for going back. It was very helpful. Much of what he said is contained in the video interview of Michael with the Rev Dominic Steele. Please watch. He has promised this in writing in the coming weeks once all the Regions have met with him.

Here is the link. <https://www.thepastorsheart.net/podcast/road-map-back>

When we are allowed to return, we will not be rushing to go back. We will do so eventually when we believe we are fully prepared. Our first gatherings together maybe small and an at various times and in various places. Of course we will be directed by and compliant with Public Health Orders and directions by the Diocese. If you have any concerns about going back, please don't hesitate to call me and raise them with me.

In the coming weeks let us be thinking about the needs and fears of others, as I am sure we will be, as well as your own. May it shape our thoughts, prayers and actions. Closer to the time our Bible teaching time will take us to places in the Bible that will help us. As we wait patiently, let us continue to pray for wisdom for our governing authorities and for our health professionals and for a smooth and safe return to meeting together once more.

"Grace and peace be yours in abundance" – 2 Peter 1:2



A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "T. Young".

Rev Trevor Young

Rector – Abbotsford Anglican Church St. Andrews

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