

Dear Friends

It was announced by the NSW Government this morning that churches and other places of worship will be treated equally with pubs and clubs, restaurants and cafes, museums and libraries.

From this coming Monday, places of worship will now be allowed to welcome 50 people at a time, instead of the limit of 10 that we have had over the past couple of weeks.

This wonderful result is because tens of thousands of you stood up and made your desire to return to church known. You weren't asking for special treatment, you were asking for equal treatment, and you prevailed.

Thank you for making your voices heard. Your swift and overwhelming response has demonstrated what can happen when we stand up for the freedom to practice our faith, and to be treated equally. I will keep you updated with ways in which you will be able to stand up for the right to practice your faith freely and fairly.

There is still more work to do, however. While we have been fortunate in NSW, other states still have unequal restrictions on places of worship. So, we have revised the petition and are now calling on all state premiers and chief ministers to treat people of faith fairly and equally. Please continue to share the link with your friends and family: www.openourchurches.com.au.

I know the priests of Sydney are looking forward to welcoming you back in greater numbers to your parishes from next week.

God bless you.

A handwritten signature in green ink that reads "Anthony Fisher" followed by a stylized flourish.