



St Basil's Homes for the Aged in Victoria

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Office of Chairman –

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22 July 2020

ALL STAFF MEMEBERS OF ST BASIL'S HOMES FOR THE AGED IN VICTORIA

I have to inform you all that under orders from the Department of Health and Human Services (DHHS) and the Chief Health Officer Prof Brett Sutton we are “vacating” all staff from our aged care home at Fawkner as from midday today.

The Commonwealth Department of Health have arranged for full replacement staff to commence from the AM shift today and fill all positions. We are assured that the replacement staff will be competent and will care well for our residents. We are to return on Thursday 30 July.

I attach herewith an email and a letter received in the above matter which is quite clear.

You will all be contacted by officers of DHHS to ensure that you are in isolation.

I require you to all be tested for COVI-19 on SUNDAY 26 July and NOT EARLIER.

Hopefully you will all test negative, in which case you are to report back to duty at St Basil's from the AM shift on THURSDAY 30 July.

Unless you have a test dated that was taken on 26 July or later and you are clear you will not be allowed to return to work until you are able to produce a test to the satisfaction of DHHS.

St Basil's will continue to pay you all ex gratia special COVID leave for your rostered hours at ordinary pay rates. I feel that is the least that we can do to support you and your families at these difficult and stressful times.

I know that you will all miss our loved residents and hopefully we will all be reunited with them soon.

I thank you all for your work and your dedication to St Basil's and I hope we will all get out of this together and well. I also wish to convey the payers and good wishes of Archbishop Makarios who is devastated with the current situation and has promised to me to come and visit us as soon he can be legally permitted.

Yours sincerely

Konstantin H Kontis

Chairman

St Basil's Homes for the Aged in Victoria

CC His Eminence Archbishop Makarios of Australia.