

18 Iyar 5780  
12 May 2020

Dear Shaarei Tefillah Mispalelim,

The Kehillah will be well aware that the Victorian Government has announced it will gradually ease restrictions. Starting from midnight tonight they are allowing places of worship to operate with 10 people.

When it comes to making decisions that impact our lives, the Torah approach towards protecting even one life is that it overrides all other Halachic requirements.

Over the past 24 hours I have consulted with other local Rabbonim as well as local frum doctors and with the advice of Harav Zimmerman Shlita (Av Beis Din London Federation), I have decided to keep the Shul closed to all minyonim, both indoor and outdoor for the next two weeks. At which time I will reassess the situation.

It obviously pains me that we are not able to daven and meet as a kehillah, however for the safety of the community I feel this is the correct מהלך.

I would like to take this opportunity in expressing my very proud feelings of how the kehillah has reacted to the new reality of life at home. Boruch Hashem we have been holding many Shiurim over Zoom, including 2 daily Daf Hayomi Shiurim, Gemorah Shiurim, Halocha Shiurim, Hashkofa Shiurim, Women's Shiurim and many kid's programs, as well as a number of guest speakers.

These times are certainly not what we would have expected many months ago, however every situation is an opportunity to grow.

It is vital that we strengthen our commitment to limud HaTorah and dedication to Tefillah as well as general vigilance to Mitzvos.

May we be זוכה to be able to join together very soon and witness the ultimate גאולה.

בברכת כל טוב



Rabbi Arieh Berlin