



Diocese of Dunedin

Ko Te Tonga kei te Karaka - The South Calling: 14 October 2021

Celebrating a new appointment at Parata, plus reflecting back on Mulled Conversations (our latest Connecting Faith Video).

[Click here](#) for a printable version of this newsletter. If you have any articles for inclusion in the next edition, please forward these to bishops.pa@calledsouth.org.nz by 9 am Monday 18 October. We appreciate any news and photos you have to pass on.

Remember that we are at Alert Level 2: We are bringing our face coverings to church, scanning or signing in, while continuing with non-contact forms of worship including communion in one kind only. Many places are now open for worship, [check out our website for options](#). Make sure you follow Government Advice to keep yourselves and others safe.

Opportunities for daily prayer can be found on our [Prayer Resources](#) web page and for [Sunday worship here](#).

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Connecting Faith: Mulled Conversations 2021

Over the winter of 2021 some mulled conversations took place in rural locations throughout the Diocese. Our latest Connecting Faith video looks back...

[Link to Video](#)

We talked to Bishop Steve Benford and the Venerable Anne van Gend about these Mulled Conversations - a joint venture between The Diocese of Dunedin, the Catholic Diocese of Dunedin and local Presbyterian churches. The invitation was for all to join Bishop Steve Benford and Bishop Michael Dooley for a relaxed evening of drinking mulled wine and mulling over questions about life, the universe and everything!

In this interview, we ask +Steve and Anne:

1. How did this idea for mulled conversations come about?
 2. What was the reason for it being a partnership with the Roman Catholic Church as well as others?
 3. What's the value in the conversations from your perspective?
 4. What stood out for you in some of them?
 5. How do you see something like this "Connecting Faith"?
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New Care Manager at Parata Anglican Charitable Trust

Last Thursday Peter Hargest, the Parata Anglican Charitable Trust Chair announced that Alisha McColl has been appointed as Care Manager of Parata.

Peter thanked Jan McKeown for her stewardship as Acting Manager through 2021 and wished her well while she takes a break to enjoy her grandchildren.

Jan's plan is to return to Parata in a casual role in a few months' time.

Jan's last day as Acting Manager will be Friday 15 October – Alisha has been completing some familiarisation this week.

A huge 'thanks' to Jan for all her care, support and leadership.

For those who do not know Alisha, she has grown up around Parata as her mother Pam has been a Night Nurse at Parata for over 30 years; Alisha joined Parata as an After School and Holiday job about 15 years ago.

Alisha is a Registered Nurse and has a very strong background in Age Care.

On Tuesday 12 October there was a 'Changing of the Guard' and Blessing (Chaplin, Lois Shallard) to farewell Jan and welcome Alisha.

We welcome Alisha back to Parata.

Nga mihi

Mary Pullar
Administrator
Parata

Email: parataresidence@xtra.co.nz



Gospel Conversations

The Latest Gospel Conversations for the 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time/Te Rātapu Rua Tekau mā iwa o He wā noa iho (Mark 10: 35-45)

[See all the videos in this series on our website](#)

The disciples have almost made it to Jerusalem and they still don't get it. John Franklin, Gillian Townsley and Jeremy Nicolls join Michael to discuss James and John's ambitions and the indignant remaining disciples. You'll find some insights here you may not have thought of before!

Mark [10:35-45](#) (NRSV) James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, 'Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.' And he said to them, 'What is it you want me to do for you?' And they said to him, 'Grant us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.' But Jesus said to them, 'You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink, or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?' They replied, 'We are able.' Then Jesus said to them, 'The cup that I drink you will drink; and with the baptism with which I am baptized, you will be baptized; but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to grant, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.'

When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. So Jesus called them and said to them, 'You know that among the Gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. But it is not so among you; but whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve, and to give his life a ransom for many.'

Each week the Diocesan Ministry Educator engages with a panel of biblical thinkers, in a free-flowing conversation about the forthcoming gospel reading. The idea of these conversations is to tease out and float ideas about and responses to the weekly passage, not as an academic exercise but as a creative dance with the text and the Spirit who enlivens the text for us.

[Link to Video](#)



Alert Level 2 and Hospitality

Auckland remains at Alert Level 3 with the rest of Aotearoa-New Zealand at Alert Level 2. Bishop Steve has more to say about hospitality...

Hospitality

I'm very mindful that Parishes are starting to ask again about offering hospitality. This has been weighing heavily on me, especially around the current situation with the Delta variant and what appears to be a shift towards having to live with this in our

communities.

I've come to the conclusion that Parishes are able to offer hospitality as they were able to under previous Level 2 conditions as we may be in this Alert level for some time, using the processes we developed in the [Diocese of Dunedin Hospitality Checklist](#) (also attached below) and according to your plans that were signed off last year.

Along with the Government, my main plea is for people to make sure they are fully vaccinated. This is the only way that we can fully protect ourselves and show our love to others around us. We can't mandate this, but we are asking everyone to arrange to do this now so that we can have more confidence to meet with each safely and protect everyone we love. I realise there will be some for whatever reason do not want to be vaccinated: please be kind to each other, respect different points of views but also encourage people to access the [best sources of information](#) on this to help make good choices.

As someone who has accessed the vaccine and for the undecided, I am very willing to talk to anyone to give my understanding of theological and medical viewpoints to anyone who wants to speak to me. Please contact my EA [Nicola Wong](#) (phone 03 488026) to make a time to talk on the phone or in person.

A reminder of what we have said so far around operating at Alert Level 2:

As indicated previously, in our Diocese we ask that only churches with a current Action Plan in place can open.

Although the number allowed is 100, when we have been in this setting previously we have asked people to assess their building capacity for the maximum number who can be accommodated at 1 metre distancing between individuals and small bubbles of people. **Rather than for everyone to resubmit their Action Plans again, we are asking that you revert to what you had put in place for previous settings of Level 2**, using the previously agreed maximum numbers.

Everything else agreed to in your plans can remain the same.

As already indicated, we are asking you to continue to make sure people are well spaced out in your setting and are feeling safe at worship. We have also updated our [Office Poster](#) for church office spaces where people work and the public may visit, as well as the [Church Safety Poster](#) (both attached below).

Further reminders of what we need to do:

You will need to ensure you have robust contact tracing measures in place, arrange for physical distancing, avoid any physical contact during The Peace or other places in the service and provide communion in one kind (bread) only. **The Government has asked that we wear a face covering in churches. We are limited to 100 people or under in attendance, but you will need to follow the numbers you have assessed can be safely managed in your setting.** There is some leeway to exclude people directly involved in the service in the total numbers of people who can attend, but we don't recommend "stacking the numbers" with an array of servers and choir members: the general principle is to be more restrained. If you had ways that worked well in the past around this when numbers were limited, do this again... [and tell us about](#) it so we can pass any good ideas on.

We are also advising that good hygiene practices put in place during Levels 2 and 1 previously need to continue - the Delta variant is highly infectious whether it be airborne or on surfaces. This means that if you are managing this by having more than one service, you need to ensure there is enough time between them to allow for ventilation and cleaning, and taking

special care with any objects that may be used by more than one person e.g. a microphone. It also means **implementing everything else that is highlighted in your Action Plan and in the [Diocese of Dunedin Pandemic Response Framework](#) for Alert Level 2.**

Contact Tracing

The Government has now mandated at all Alert Levels people attending events must scan in using the COVID-19 tracer app or note their contacts details on a manual register. Have extra copies of the tracer app poster displayed so people are not congregating to sign in. If you can, **have someone who can ensure people scan in or [note down details of people attending](#) or mark off a roll.** This stops multiple handling of ball point pens. If this is too difficult to arrange, greeters/welcomers should remind people to use the hand sanitiser before and after they have used a pen, or bring and use their own.

You may want to check people into worship inside the church rather than a (cramped) foyer - have a look at your own space and think about where bottlenecks are and how you can maintain at least a 1 metre distance.

We do have some alternative forms ([sign in sheet](#) and [individual sheets](#)) that can be used for people to note their attendance. We also have a [privacy disclaimer](#) that you can print out and display. For more information on how to maintain privacy, [see the Privacy Commission Website](#).

Face Coverings

Encourage (and remind) everyone over the age of 12 to wear a face covering, and consider having some disposable ones handy if people have forgotten to bring one with them. **Be kind to people who may have difficulty with this.**

Although currently not mandatory, we are strongly advising that this takes place.

[If it does become mandatory in the future to wear face coverings and someone is not wearing one, greeters-welcomers could say **"I notice you are not wearing a face covering, are there medical reasons for this?"** If the answer is "yes", check that they feel safe worshipping today and ask them to make sure they have extra space around them. If the answer is "no", offer them a disposable face covering. If they refuse, ask the person politely to come back another day when they are able to wear a face covering/mask. If there is a problem, ask one of your Wardens for assistance.]

Spacing Suggestions

Put pew sheets (if you have them) on the pews to indicate where people can sit to encourage social distancing according to the plan you are following. This also stops greeters from physically handing things to people. **If "bubbles" want to sit together, they must have some space around them.**

Talk to your greeters-welcomers and ask them to remind people to look at the [Diocese of Dunedin Church Safety Poster \(revised 22 September 2020\)](#) and to look for the service sheet on the pews indicating where they can sit. (A revised copy of the poster is also attached below - you can enlarge it to A3 size).

Communion - the Eucharist

Remember that we will be having communion in one kind (bread) only, and ensure you can do this safely in your settings (physical distancing, sanitising). **Advise people to remove their face covering only for receiving the bread, and replace it afterwards.** Have sanitiser available so people can clean their hands before and after touching their face covering (always a good idea to advise people to bring some with them as well).

You will need to think carefully about how people move around: for smaller groups, you may decide to take the Bread to them (but only if you can do this while maintaining physical distance). You may decide to put markers to indicate a 1-2 metre distance and not to have people gather by an altar rail i.e. ask people to come forward, maintaining a 1-2 metre gap and distributing the Bread in an area at the front of the church where people can return via side aisles. **Whatever you arrange, it needs to be in your Action Plan and clearly explained to your congregation.**

Singing

What about singing? The [Diocese of Dunedin Pandemic Response Framework](#) has advice on this in the Liturgical Practices and Hospitality section (pg. 17 onwards) as follows:

*In the absence of specific Government advice you may like to consider **not** having congregational singing but listen to recorded singing or have one or two cantors singing with appropriate physical distancing i.e. at least 1 metre of clear space around each singer. It's fine to hum along with your face covering on.*

Current evidence has shown that there is a risk for any activity such as singing, shouting, talking loudly where airborne droplets can travel significant distances. For those in the pews, keep your face covering on at all times.

If you do decide to allow choir or community singing, you must clearly indicate that you are doing this in your service publicity and before the service begins, so that anyone who is not comfortable with this can take precautions e.g. continue to wear a face covering, ensure they have extra distancing, or choose to attend a spoken service or an on-line opportunity. You may also choose to increase physical distancing in your setting to reduce the risk of any airborne transmission.

In Level 2 any choirs who are practicing or performing must be included in faith community Action Plans. These will ensure that Choirs can demonstrate how they will maintain physical distancing of at least a 2 metre between the singers, music group and congregation.

Hospitality

Please think deeply about hospitality: you will know your individual settings better than I do and please note that I have a responsibility to the community for how the church acts. If a majority of your congregation cannot (or will not) be vaccinated, please think of how safe or sensible this is to offer hospitality. If you do go ahead, use the processes we developed in the [Diocese of Dunedin Hospitality Checklist](#) (also attached below) and according to your plans that were signed off last year.

Still... this is a lot to take in...

The Diocesan team are continuing to update information on the website, and you can access this by [following this link](#).

If you realise that your Action Plans still need some tweaking and have not done this to date, please contact the Diocesan Office now via [Andrew Metcalfe](#) or [Nicola Wong](#) so that we can ensure you have everything in place. A reminder: I'm asking that all plans are updated and signed off before you reopen.

All of us in Aotearoa-New Zealand are taking this extra care to ensure we keep ourselves and our communities safe and to reduce the risk of community transmission. Let us continue forward in love and faith (not fear!) and remind ourselves how much we are loved by God.

+ **Steven**

Link to [Government Advice for Churches at Alert Level 2](#)

The Government advice (22 September 2021) for places of worship is as follows:

At Alert Level 2, places of worship can host services and ceremonies to a maximum of 100 people in any indoor or outdoor defined space. The gathering limits do not include staff — for example, clergy.

Advice for places of worship

- All places of worship must have ways for attendees to record their visit. This can be done by asking everyone to scan in using the NZ COVID Tracer app, or by recording their contact details manually.
- Offer online services so people who cannot attend in person can participate.
- Some religious rituals or practices need close contact — for example, a christening. Try to keep the time spent in close contact to a minimum.
- Remove communal resources such as prayer mats or prayer books.
- Encourage attendees to wear a face covering.
- Clean and sanitise musical instruments and other shared surfaces thoroughly before and after use.
- Singing, for example church choirs and other types of performance can go ahead. Performers do not need to wear a face covering.
- You can serve food and drink and host events or functions such as catered morning tea — as long as you keep to the gathering limits.
- Encourage contactless donations instead of a cash collection box.

[Funerals, tangihanga and last rites at Alert Level 2](#)

[Weddings and civil unions at Alert Level 2](#)

If you are going to a place of worship

- We strongly encourage you to wear a face covering when visiting a place of worship.
- You can mix with friends and whānau, but please be considerate of others and leave enough space for people to keep their distance if they want to.
- Do not attend a service or prayer if you are unwell.
- Scan in using the NZ COVID Tracer app or give your details to the place of worship to support contact tracing.
- Take home any personal items you bring in with you — for example, a prayer mat or prayer beads (**or, in our settings, a prayer book**)

Celebrations and festivals

At Alert Level 2, you can get together with up to 100 people for a faith-based celebration or festival. The number of people who can attend a gathering or celebration does not include anyone leading or working at the gathering.

If you are organising a faith-based celebration, you need to do the following:

- Make sure you do not exceed the gathering limits. You can offer a livestream option so more people can attend from home.
- Keep a record of everyone who attends. You can do this by creating a NZ COVID Tracer app QR code for your venue or location and asking your guests to scan in, or by recording their contact details manually. You do not need to keep contact tracing records if you are hosting a private gathering at your home and everyone knows each other.
- Make sure the venue is big enough for people to spread out comfortably if they want to.
- Provide seated table service if you are serving food or drinks. Try to seat extended household bubbles together at one table and place the tables 2 metres apart to help with physical distancing.

Travelling to a faith-based gathering at Alert Level 2

At Alert Level 2, you can travel to other regions that are at Alert Level 1 or 2 to attend a faith-based gathering — such as services, ceremonies and festivals. If the gathering is in an Alert Level 2 region, the gathering limits apply.

If you are travelling to an Alert Level 1 region to attend a faith based gathering, make sure you do it in a safe way. This includes:

- keeping a record of who you have been in contact with, and what transport services you used
 - wearing a face covering on public transport services and flights
 - keeping a 2 metre distance from people you do not know
 - regularly washing or sanitising your hands.
-



Updated: Frequently Asked Questions - COVID-19 Vaccination and the Christian Response

Not sure where to go for the right information about vaccines? We have the latest update in the following article.

Vaccine Information

- We have an updated **Interchurch document** attached below - helpful if you have questions about the vaccine and also if Te Reo Maori is your first language.
- A useful **Dunedin City Baptist document** is also attached below.

Link to article on [Dealing with misleading of false vaccine information in your workplace \(or Church\).](#)

The Anglican Health and Community Network

This network has been working with the World Health Organisation Faith Based Communities of Practice to help shape a series of webinars on advocacy for COVID-19 vaccine equity.

Please find the link to WHO webinars for civil society and faith-based organizations on COVID-19 here: [WHO EPI-WIN - YouTube](#). There are lots of technical updates here as well as the series on faith engagement in advocacy for Covid-19 vaccine equity. Rev. Rachel Carnegie Executive Director of the Anglican Alliance is speaking on Webinar 2. Part 2, entitled: 'The role and impact of faith actors in overcoming Barriers to Covid-19 Vaccination' [here](#).

Please find the Anglican Alliance resources on COVID-19 for Churches [here](#):

Bible studies in a time of Covid-19 can be found [here](#):

WHO information on COVID-19 Vaccines and Vaccine Safety

What follows is more technical links to information that may be helpful to many.

- Ethical framework for WHO's work in the ACT-Accelerator (1 July) [COVID-19 Vaccines](#) > [Ethical Considerations](#)
- Sentinel surveillance of Adverse Events of Special Interest (AESIS) after vaccination with COVID-19 Vaccines (1 July) [Vaccine Safety](#) > [Observational Study Protocol Templates](#)
- Cohort Event Monitoring (CEM) for Safety Signal Detection after vaccination with COVID 19 Vaccine (Observational Study Protocol Template) (1 July) [Vaccine Safety](#) > [Observational Study Protocol Templates](#)

International Travel

Implementing a risk-based approach to international travel (Policy Brief + Technical Considerations) (2 July) [International Travel](#) > [Risk Based Approach to International Travel](#)

Essential Health Services

Strengthening real-time monitoring of health services in the context of the COVID-19 (Implementation Guidance for Assessments of Frontline Service Readiness) (1 July) [Essential Health Services](#) > [Health Service Capacity Assessment](#)

IPC

Considerations for quarantine of contacts of COVID-19 Cases (Interim Guidance) (25 June) [Considerations for Quarantine](#)

Lab

Recommendations for national SARS-CoV-2 testing strategies and diagnostic capacities (25 June) (Interim Guidance) [Laboratories](#) > [Testing Strategies \(Recommendations\)](#)

Surveillance

Indicator framework to evaluate the public health effectiveness of digital proximity tracing solutions (25 June) [Surveillance](#) > [Digital Technologies for Contact Tracing](#)

RCCE

- Joint (WHO-UNICEF-IFRC-GOARN) toolbox for empowering families to manage risks (18 June) - [RCCE](#) > [Family Risk, Health and Happiness](#)
- Joint (WHO-UNICEF-IFRC-GOARN) toolbox for managing health and happiness (18 June)- [RCCE](#) > [Family Risk, Health and Happiness](#) and [Mental Health and Behavior](#)
- [Epi-Win](#) Slide Sets:

61 on how to care for a person with COVID-19 infection at home
60 on SARS-CoV-2 variant nomenclature
59 on COVID-19 therapeutics
58 on the role of health workers in the uptake of COVID-19 vaccines

Public Health and Social Measures



10 Steps to Less Waste in 10 Months

One of our Five Marks of Mission is to strive to safeguard the integrity of creation and sustain and re-new the life of the earth. **Here is Step 9 of the challenge** for the month of October

The following is a resource for churches and whanau. Please copy and share (free copyright). More material and videos at: www.conversations.net.nz/rubbish-challenge.html.

Step 9) October: Cleaning

Bible verse: 1 Corinthians 8:9 *Be careful, however, that the exercise of your rights does not become a stumbling block to the weak.*

'Big Idea'

As Christians we try not to get caught up in lots of rules. Following Jesus is not about being 'good'. We are free to eat and to buy what we choose. However, as Paul warns us, not everything is good for us or good for those around us. Could our freedom damage the environment around us? The chemicals we use can have a destructive effect 'down-stream'. They are a 'stumbling block to the weak', not just people but fragile ecosystems and creatures.

Question - for reflection & discussion

In a global pandemic, of course we need good hygiene. But how does our human need for cleanliness impact on God's creation?

Watch video at www.conversations.net.nz/rubbish-challenge.html

Action Steps for October

- What chemicals are used at your home, work or church? Look on the labels. Find out what is in the stuff you handle.
- Buy 'eco friendly' cleaning products, or make your own from safe ingredients.
- At church or work talk to your Cleaners about what they use, and work towards more environmentally safe alternatives.

Prayer

The Lord has set us free! We are free indeed!
Dear God, thank you for our freedom and for our responsibility.
Thank you for ethics that guide our choices
May our actions not become a stumbling block for others
May our choices protect the vulnerable,
both people and environments. Amen.

To receive the resource (free!) each month (Feb-Nov this year only) please email: silvia.purdie@gmail.com



I te Pāpaho - In the Media

Keeping up to date with recent news about our parishes, organisations and the wider church.

[Latest Videos](#)

[See also our Faith Communities webpage \(it may take a few moments to load\)](#)

Latest Gospel Conversation

See also the [full article](#) for videos in our Gospel Conversations series.

Local and Diocesan Media

[Petra Zaleski shares the compassion that prompted the Onehunga Anglican community to claim and name Anahera.](#)

Just before lockdown, the body of a newborn baby girl was found abandoned in Onehunga. This is the story of how St Peter's Onehunga and the wider community responded. (Tui Motu InterIslands Magazine, 1 October 2021)

[During lockdown, religion goes online. Can it stay there?](#) The Spinoff talks to a variety of faith community leaders, including Bishop Ellie from Wellington Diocese... (The Spinoff)

[Selwyn College to mandate vaccinations:](#) Dunedin's oldest residential college will require residents to be vaccinated as of next year. (ODT, 7 October 2021)

[Soap For Society](#)

Have you heard about Soap for Society? This awesome charity works in partnership with Wellington City Mission and other mission agencies around New Zealand, to collect cleaning, hygiene and sanitation products to support those doing it tough. (Anglican movement, Diocese of Wellington,)

[Ordinary blessings made](#) [National Anglican News at Taonga](#) [sublime](#)

The Rev Glynn Cardy has written a 'Book of Blessings' that entice the reader to consider the divine blessings that can arise from the ordinary things of life.

[Church installs new standards monitor](#)

The Anglican Church has installed a Ministry Standards Commission to help it ensure that ministers and office holders exercise the exemplary level of conduct the Anglican Church owes to all those in its care.

[Anglicans urge G7 vaccine share](#)

The Anglican Communion's Health and Community Network and the global Anglican Alliance for aid, development and advocacy have called on the G7 group of countries to share their Covid-19 vaccination stocks.

In the National & International Media

(with thanks to the Diocese of Christchurch for information below)

News...

- Rev'd Randall [blesses pets and collects money](#) for South Canterbury charities—SPCA, Street Cats and Bird Rescue
- Nelson Anglican leaders are encouraging Christians to [trust the science and get vaccinated](#), the [Catholic church](#) is debating the issue, while [other churches are still undecided](#).
- [City Mission](#) (Christchurch) was out in the Square in support of #WorldHomelessDay, Sunday 10 October—[Homelessness](#) is a complex issue but one that is not going away
- A new Children's [Commissioner is appointed](#)
- RNZ talks to Professor Peter O'Connor who advocates using 'The 3 Billy Goats Gruff' story to help children understand about [terrorism and empathy](#)
- The Spin Off's Toby Morris continues to use his [non-fiction comic articles](#) to explore the idea of the inequitable cancer outcomes for Māori v non-Māori.

Worth a look

- [Ghanaian Anglican bishops support anti-gay law](#)
- [US Indigenous leaders lament schools' trauma](#)
- [NZ churches face vax vs no-vax dilemma](#)
- [Pacific churches plan eco-training farm for Fiji](#)
- [Australia's election will be a cruelty competition](#)
- [Brian Tamaki pleads not guilty over protest](#)
- [Vicar finds bell stolen when it failed to ring](#)
- [Sculptor covers Glasgow church in concrete crosses](#)
- [Pope launches global consultation on reform](#)
- [ABC preaches on Alexandria Province in Cairo](#)
- [Teaching Jesus' love through pet blessings](#)
- [Aussie report aims to seize Catholic burial sites](#)
- [Pope, ABC, faith leaders urge action on climate](#)
- [NZ churches should reject vaccine passports](#)
- [Lockdown delays Wellington Mission's homeless hub](#)
- [The Queen lauds BBC Songs of Praise on 60th](#)
- [Calls to charge Brian Tamaki for lockdown breach](#)
- [Indian Christians living in fear of Hindu extremists](#)
- [RC+Brisbane supports Uluru Statement](#)
- [Orthodox Church pledges help after Crete 5.8 quake](#)
- [Spirituality is essential to Black mental health](#)
- [Outgrowing a small punitive version of God](#)
- [French Catholics find 3K pedophiles since 1950s](#)
- [Hillsong's abuse reckoning will cut deep](#)
- [Chch Catholics sell resthome to fund Cathedral](#)



Events and Calendar

Read on for events throughout the Diocese, including community events which may be of interest.....

Let us know anything that your Parish, community service or other organisation is doing and we will place it here. Make sure you visit this page regularly and keep all that is going on in your prayers. Some events have been removed as they will not be possible in person under Alert Level restrictions.

[Link to Diocesan Office Calendar](#)

Regular meetings and events at/organised by the Diocesan office in a monthly calendar format

[Link to Christian Calendar](#)

Dates for feast days and other Christian observations

SHARED WORSHIP OPPORTUNITIES

Daily Morning Prayers: Tuesday to Saturday at 9 am via Zoom with Bishop Steve. **Meeting ID: 959 771 603 66**
No computer or smart phone? Telephone **03 659 0603** (it may be a toll call depending on your plan), then key in the meeting ID: **959 771 603 66**

Daily Evening Prayer: Tuesday to Friday at 5 pm with Bishop Steve. **Meeting ID: 934 8425 0283.**
No computer or smart phone? Telephone **03 659 0603** (it may be a toll call depending on your plan), then key in the meeting ID: **934 8425 0283**

See [our website page](#) for details on connecting electronically and in-person to worship.

CHILDREN AND YOUTH TRAINING OPPORTUNITIES

See [separate article](#) for more information

ANGLICAN and ECUMENICALLY BASED EVENTS IN THE SOUTH

Diocesan Ministry Conference Saturday 20 November 2021 - [see this separate article](#)

Southland

All of the below events are "covid willing" and we will accept the requirements applying at that particular date.

CONTEMPORARY SERVICE: 7pm @ All Saints Invercargill on the first and third Sundays of each month except January.

Latest South Centre Newsletter (October) is attached below.

Dunedin

NATIONAL EVENTS

AFFIRM Training Opportunities - a variety of these are planned for 2021, see the flyer attached below:

- Confidence in the Bible with Bishopdale College, 3 evenings in the weeks of October 18—November 1

For Southland News to pass on, contact Keith Gover: keithgover@xtra.co.nz or 027 222 4055

For all other news, contact the [Diocesan Office](#)



Bishop Steven's Diary 14 - 21 October 2021

To invite Bishop Steven to an event or make an appointment to see him, please contact his EA Nicola Wong bishops.pa@calledsouth.org.nz or 03 488 0826. Thank you.

Thursday 14 and Friday 15 October

9am [Daily Morning Prayers](#) - Zoom

Various meetings

5pm [Daily Evening Prayers](#) - Zoom

Saturday 16 October

9am [Daily Morning Prayers](#) - Zoom

Sunday 17 October

8am and 10am - St Paul's Cathedral

5pm - St Peter's Caversham - Evensong and Benediction

Monday 18 October

Day off

Tuesday 19 October

9am [Daily Morning Prayers](#) - Zoom

10am - Diocesan Trust Board Meeting

5pm [Daily Evening Prayers](#) - Zoom

Wednesday 20 October

9am [Daily Morning Prayers](#) - Zoom

Various meetings

5pm [Daily Evening Prayers](#) - Zoom

Thursday 21 October

9am [Daily Morning Prayers](#) - Zoom

10.30am - Leslie Groves Rest Home and 11.15am Leslie Groves Hospital - Services

5pm [Daily Evening Prayers](#) - Zoom



From Bishop Steven: Updated Diocesan Cycle of Prayer - October 2021

Please find attached the updated Diocese of Dunedin Cycle of Prayer which is being distributed throughout the Diocese with my invitation and encouragement to use as part of daily prayer life in our faith communities, individually and collectively.

Please copy and distribute throughout your faith communities as needed.

Any amendments which need to be made for the next print run can be communicated to my EA, Nicola Wong (bishops.pa@calledsouth.org.nz) or 03 488 0826 .



Get one. Give one. Campaign

The Get one. Give one. Campaign is an opportunity for Anglicans in Aotearoa New Zealand to pay it forward to others as we receive our vaccines for free (and now all over 12 years can book in!). Over \$115k has been given so far to the Get One. Give One. campaign ... can you help increase this even more?

- [Donate here](#)
- [Drop box with resources](#)
- [Link to Campaign Video](#)

The Get one. Give one. Campaign has exceeded its target of \$80K and is now over \$115K!! THANK YOU for your generosity. We are now aiming for a new target of \$150,000. .

Here is how you and your church can promote Get one Give one:

- Put Get one Give one in your email signature.
- Share the [givealittle page](#) on social media, even add why you support the campaign.
- Put posters up in your workplace, community and school.
- Run a fundraising event like these awesome supporters: <https://movementonline.org.nz/blog/get-one-give-one-around-the-diocese>
- Let us know what resources/support we can provide you with at info@angmissions.org.nz
- Share your awesome stories with us!

Stuff article: <https://www.stuff.co.nz/national/health/coronavirus/300398551/covid19-campaign-aims-to-help-get-much-needed-vaccines-to-struggling-countries>

The 'Get one. Give one.' campaign protects and supports the world's most vulnerable from COVID-19 through vaccine equality.

Why the campaign

Vaccines are rolling out across Aotearoa New Zealand. We are grateful to have the opportunity to help communities to be safe from Covid-19. Yet as a global community, we know we are not safe until everyone is safe. As followers of Jesus, equal access to health care is a Kingdom justice issue. We know that in many developing countries vaccines may not be available or are expensive. In particular we know that developing countries often experience gaps in structure and networks which can adversely affect vaccine distribution.

The *Get one, Give one* campaign aims to protect and support the poorest and most vulnerable. Through your support, we have an opportunity to contribute to a global, recognised and respected initiative that aims to love our neighbours through funding access to vaccines in developing countries.

The idea behind *Get one, Give one* is simple. As each of us receive our vaccine, we are invited to donate the cost of getting a vaccine to someone in the developing world. This happens through the *Get one, Give one* Givealittle crowd fundraising page.

The unit cost of delivering one vaccine comes to between \$5 and \$10. We are asking everyone to donate \$10 to cover the delivery of a single vaccine to someone in the majority world. This includes the cost of delivery networks such as local distribution, storage, vaccination centre staffing, etc. See more here: <https://www.corecommitments.unicef.org/kp/covax-delivery-cost.pdf>.

This is why we encourage you to aim to not just vaccinate one person, but as many as possible. All donations are tax-deductible over \$5!

We have created a **dropbox** with materials for churches/dios/organisations [here](#)

Many thanks and God bless



Keeping Control of your Website

Websites are great at connecting us with our communities, but we are aware that some parishes have endured some real difficulties with them. This ranges from losing control of them if a key person moves on, or losing the site altogether if a domain name subscription lapses and is then on-sold.

The above scenarios have happened already, including one unfortunate occurrence where a church website domain was on-sold to an overseas service provider of

objectionable material.

We have been asking our information technology provider (OneCall) if they may be able to offer something for parishes who want to make things more secure for themselves. They say:

OneCall offers Domain Name Hosting services for \$40.00 plus GST per year per domain name. We would be happy taking on hosting for additional domains, but would prefer the billing relationship for the domains to be through the Diocese (if individual parishes would require separate invoices, then we'll need to get OneCall trading accounts set up for each Parish).

Here are the answers they have given to our questions:

1. Would this be difficult – or hard – to do with Domains that may be held by another provider (could a Parish essentially keep their own domain name)?

Domain name hosting can only be provided by a single Internet provider, so if you wanted OneCall to host these, they would need to be transferred from their existing provider to our hosting service. That would then mean that future changes made to individual Parish domain configurations would need to be managed through us. Thankfully, configuration changes on an Internet domain are usually not something you do very often.

1. How would an existing Parish go about transferring a domain to you?

We would guide the transition for you. Usually, the domain name holder would contact the current registrar to advise that they wish to change, and then the current registrar manages the transition to the new registrar for you. The transferral of registration typically wouldn't affect services that rely on the domain name. (please note, Registrar refers to registrar of the domain, not the Diocesan Registrar!)

1. Would it be possible to link any Parish domains with the Diocese so that there can be authorisation for assistance if something went wrong e.g. a key person moved on)?

Yes - in fact we would prefer this. That way we only have one invoice to raise, and only have to interface with a small number of users with the authorisation to request changes to domain configurations (i.e.: members of the Diocese).

If anyone wants to explore this further, please contact [Andrew Metcalfe](#) 03 488 0821. If there is interest in this, we will talk more with OneCall and get together a process to help do this for you.



Church installs new standards monitor

The Anglican Church has installed a Ministry Standards Commission to help it ensure that ministers and office holders exercise the exemplary level of conduct the Anglican Church owes to all those in its care. Julianne Clark- Morris writes in Taonga...

[For the full article in Anglican Taonga, click here.](#)

The Diocese of Dunedin is continuing to work on local responses to this, including our safeguarding policies and a local contact for anyone who needs support for a situation

where they may have experienced any form of abuse within the church. Watch this space...



Website and The South Calling - Ko Te Tonga kei te Karaka Update

We have been doing some reorganising on the Website to make some information easier to find, and continue to commend The South Calling - Ko Te Tonga kei te Karaka as a way of connecting us together.

We are sending out some updated posters promoting the Website and South Calling - Ko Te Tonga kei te Karaka for faith communities to display on their notice boards.

[Website: https://www.calledsouth.org.nz/](https://www.calledsouth.org.nz/)

The main changes to the website have been to add a new category **[Ministry Resources](#)**, and adding in new pages including the **[Bishop's Companion Programme](#)**, **[Gospel Conversations](#)** and some of our **[Te Reo resources](#)**. Other ministry resources have also now been gathered under this heading.

We have also put our **[Te Reo Karakia resources](#)** more prominently on the website, plus we have updated the **[About Us page](#)**.

Information about **[Churches](#)** is now accessed through the Directory and Faith Communities portals.

[Diocesan Resources](#) takes you to paperwork that you can use, as well as to our **[Statutes](#)** and **[Health and Safety information](#)**.

[The South Calling - Ko Te Tonga kei te Karaka](#)

Our weekly newsletter continues to keep our Diocese connected and informed, with more video content being available over the past 6 months or so.

We always welcome new subscribers to be part of this kōrero - feel free to print and display the attached poster (they will be in the post shortly).

We'd also love to have more contributors of photos and stories - material can be sent to [Nicola Wong](#) or [Andrew Metcalfe](#) at the Diocesan office (phone 03 488 0821).

If anyone reading this is in charge of putting notices in pew sheets (or can pass it onto someone who does) feel free to use the following wording:

The South Calling - Ko Te Tonga kei te Karaka is our weekly Diocesan newsletter that is the main way to inform, encourage and connect our wider Anglican Family in Otago and Southland. You can sign up to receive this on the following web page: <https://www.calledsouth.org.nz/news/>. Check out also the Diocesan Website for more information and resources: <https://www.calledsouth.org.nz/>



Vacancies: 14 October 2021

A regular update of Diocesan vacancies and those further afield.

Diocese of Dunedin

Hospital Chaplain (General) Part time (0.5 FTE) Hospital Chaplain (General Health) based at Dunedin Hospital, Southern DHB

You can find the [job description here](#)

You can find the [application form here](#)

The position is advertised on Seek : <https://www.seek.co.nz/job/54059631>

If applying for this position please submit a CV, Cover letter and Application form.

Applications close on Wednesday 20 October 2021.

Anglican Family Care: For current vacancies see their website [here](#)

Vacancy - Vicar, Parish of Birkdale Beach

Diocese of Auckland Haven

Applications are sought for the ministry of Vicar for the Parish of Birkdale Beach Haven. This is a full-time role with applications closing on Friday 29th October, 2021.

The Parish Profile can be found on the Diocesan Website ([click here](#)).

Please take time to consider this ministry and/or pass it to other clergy who you believe may be called to this role.

Vacancy - Priest Associate, Parish of Howick

See attached Parish profile for full details.

Applications close 22 October 2021

Diocese of Waiapu

Vacancy for Dean of Waiapu Cathedral, Napier.

The Bishop of Waiapu is seeking to appoint a priest to the role of Dean of Waiapu Cathedral.

Waiapu Cathedral is unique in that it holds the cathedra of the Bishop of Waiapu and the cathedra of te Atipihopa o Aotearoa reflecting the long history of the relationship between Waiapu and te Pihopatanga o Aotearoa. As well as being a place of worship for significant gatherings of the Diocese the Cathedral is also the home for the parish serving the needs of Napier's inner-city community. Parishioners regularly gather from across the Heretaunga Plains: Napier, Hastings, Havelock North and further afield to worship at the Cathedral enjoying a rich heritage of Anglican choral worship.

Following the retirement of the incumbent, Bishop Andrew is seeking to appoint a Dean to lead the Cathedral through the next season of ministry in Napier City and Waiapu.

For further information about the role, the Parish Profile and application details please contact in the first instance Sandra Gifkins (PA to Bishop Andrew Hedge, Diocese of Waiapu) sandra.gifkins@waiapu.com

Closing date for applications is **31 October 2021**.



Discipleship Pathway

Discipleship Pathway is a free, video based, online training resource where some of New Zealand's best church leadership trainers share their skills, stories and tools. Read on for more information.....

In July 2020, after the first New Zealand lockdown, a seed of a dream was planted. What would it look like to take the knowledge, skills and tools from New Zealand's best church leadership trainers and package them into a digital form that could be accessed by anyone in Aotearoa, at any time, for free? So began the journey of Discipleship Pathway.

Over the following year our team invited a number of incredible ministry trainers to have their skills recorded as digital classes, with key elements broken into short videos. During this time we have had the privilege of creating some very special content that will ensure no matter where you are in New Zealand, no matter the Alert Level, no matter what your church resources are, you and your team can access high quality training. This is a resource for all of God's people throughout Aotearoa.

We have started the journey of Discipleship Pathway focusing on youth ministry skills and over time we will release more classes which will provide training for church leadership, children's ministry and forming disciples. We are at the very beginning of this adventure and hope that you will join us. Our prayer is that these classes will help to equip you for the call Christ has placed on your heart, whether you live in Auckland or Invercargill, Whangārei or Whakatū. May you be blessed as you serve the Creator who is calling all people unto Himself.

Richest blessings in Christ,

Brad Wood - Discipleship Pathway Director

www.discipleship.nz

FAQs

What is it?

Discipleship Pathway is a free, video based, online training resource where some of New Zealand's best church leadership trainers share their skills, stories and tools. Our first classes are focused on youth ministry and over time we will release church leadership, children's ministry and discipleship focused classes.

Who is it for?

It is for anyone with a desire to be equipped to live out their faith in Aotearoa. Some of our classes are for specific ministry areas but many will be great for personal faith development.

Who made it?

It has been made in partnership between the Anglican Diocese of Nelson and the class trainers with funding from St. Johns College Trust Board.

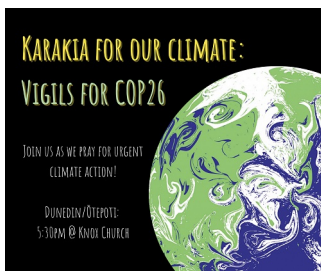
Where and when will it be available?

Our first classes are available now at www.discipleship.nz. These classes include:

- Youth Ministry Essentials with Phil Trotter
- Core Competencies of Youth Work with Zara Maslin
- Pastoral Care with Merrylin Withers
- Youth Ministry in Light of Te Tiriti o Waitangi with Caleb Haurua (available 1 September)

How much does it cost?

It is free to enrol in any class, there is no cost to accessing this resource.



Karakia for our climate: Vigils for COP26

Karakia For Our Climate is an ecumenical group of young Christians organising nationwide prayer events in support of strong climate action, including an in-person event at Knox Church, Dunedin, on 12 November. We now have some words you can put in your pew sheets.

We are just under a month away from the 2021 United Nations Climate Change Conference in Glasgow, known as [COP26](https://www.un.org/en/conferences/cop26). COP26 is a meeting of world leaders, scientists and climate activists from the 1st to the 12th of November 2021 to drive ambition and action towards climate change. **Attached to this article is a poster you can display in your church/faith community and words follow that you can place in your pew**

sheets:

Karakia for our Climate. Join with others all around the motu in praying for our climate during this year's UN climate change conference in Glasgow (COP26). The conference runs from 31 Oct - 12 November. At 8pm on Sunday 31 October, a nationwide service of karakia will be held on Zoom. A livestreamed daily devotion will then happen at 8pm on facebook every day during the conference. There will be a closing vigil in main centres around the country on Friday 12 November (there is one at 5:30pm in Dunedin at Knox Church). To find out more, go to: <https://www.ecochurch.org.nz/karakia-for-our-climate>.

You are invited to [join us in karakia \(prayer\)](#) for our climate throughout COP26, from 31st October - 12th November for a series of online and in-person vigils.

COP26 is a crucial meeting. Scientists have told us that the window to limit the global impacts of climate change is rapidly closing. Some of the impacts such as sea level rise are already locked in for decades to come. These will impact us all, and especially low lying nations, disadvantaged groups in our communities and future generations.

This meeting is a call for Christians across Aotearoa New Zealand to pray for climate action. We are holding prayer vigils to pray for our global leaders to increase their ambition and commitment towards securing global net zero emissions by 2050 and keeping to 1.5C degrees of warming.

[Join us as we pray for our global leaders, for climate justice, for humanity, for God's creation.](#)

The prayer vigils will wrap around COP26. There will be online prayer at the beginning and during:

- [Nationwide Zoom karakia: 8pm, Sunday 31st October](#) (Zoom link to be shared closer to the time only with those who [REGISTER](#))
- [Daily online prayer via Facebook Live: 8pm every day from 1st November - 11th November](#)

... and an in-person vigil for the closing of COP at **12th of November**, in: [Dunedin/Ōtepoti](#): 5:30pm at Knox Church, Dunedin

If you'd like to organise a public local vigil event please be in touch with us at: karakiaforourclimate@gmail.com

- Will you join us in community to pray for COP26? [Register here.](#)
- Unable to join the online vigils? [Sign up here to receive daily prayer resources.](#)

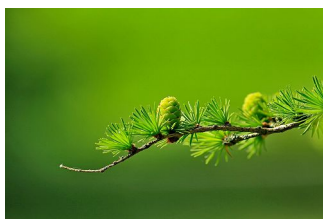
By coming together - whether online or in-person - we can feel more connected as we intercede for a better future.

Ngā manaakitanga,

Jordan and the Karakia for our Climate team.

<https://www.ecochurch.org.nz/karakia-for-our-climate>

Follow us on [Facebook](#)



Education for Ministry

Open Invitation to EFM Mentor Training

To support the life of EfM groups and provide for the possibility of new groups forming, we need mentors who are trained in the necessary skills to facilitate co-learning EFM groups.

A mentor is neither an expert, nor a tutor. A mentor is a co-learner who has the added group skills to ensure that a safe, honest, non-judgmental learning environment is

fostered within the group.

If you are or have been an EFM Mentor OR think that you might have what it takes to be a mentor, and/or are interested in stepping into the adventure that is EfM please register for this Mentor Training experience.

Education for Ministry (EFM) is offering EFM Mentor Training from 6pm Thursday 4th November – 6pm Friday 5th November 2021.

EFM will cover the travel, training, and accommodation cost for **1 night** (Thursday 4th November) for this Residential Training Event held at the Home of Compassion, Rhine Street, Island Bay, Wellington.

The training will commence with a light meal at 6pm Thursday 4th November at the Home of Compassion, and will conclude with a light meal at 6pm Friday 5th November.

All participants will be required to do some reading and preparation for the Training Event

REGISTRATIONS CLOSE Friday 8th October 2021

As there is a limited number of rooms available, please forward your registration promptly.

If you require accommodation for Friday night (5th November), EFM will invoice you for the additional \$70.00/person. Please note that we cannot guarantee availability of accommodation on Friday night.

Please share this invitation and attached Registration Form with all who may be interested in Mentor Training.

Nga mihi nui

Valda

Valda McBeth

Executive Officer EFM NZ

5 Ta Paora Drive

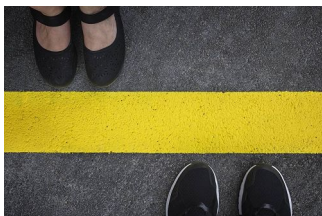
Bell Block

New Plymouth 4312

Phone 027 442 5569

educationforministrynz@outlook.com

www.efm.org.nz



Postponed: Boundaries Workshop Series for 2021

Given the Alert Levels and Delta situation the Workshops scheduled over the next few weeks are being rescheduled. New dates will be advised - watch this space!

The Diocesan Ministry Educator, Ven Dr Michael Godfrey, and the Diocesan CYF Educator, Rev'd John Graveston are leading a series of Diocesan wide Boundaries Workshops. Attendance at a Boundaries workshop every three years is an essential requirement for those wishing to hold, or holding, a Licence from the Bishop.

Lay Ministers - It is an essential requirement to ensure that you have attended a Boundaries Workshop within the last three years if you wish to be re-licensed or are being Licensed for the first time with a Lay Licence.

Those holding a **Licence as a Priest** need to ensure you attend a Boundaries Workshop every three years.

If you have not attended a Boundaries Workshop within the last three years, please ensure you attend one this year.

If you are not sure when you last attended a Boundaries workshop, please contact Nicola Wong, EA to Bishop Steven, for information bishops.pa@calledsouth.org.nz or 03 488 0826



Coronavirus Covid-19 Update: Level 2 Alert Information and Links to advice

We moved to Alert Level 2 at 11.59 pm on Tuesday 7 September 2021. This is requiring some adjustments for faith communities, with a requirement for contract tracing, up to 100 people only indoors and encouragement to wear face coverings.

Please consider how this may impact on any activities you have planned - this includes agreed on maximum numbers with physical distancing and ensuring other hygiene provisions are in place. Remember, you can still receive communion but only in one kind (the bread). Please contact us if you need any support with organising events by Zoom. *The main message is to play it safe so we can maintain all of our hard won gains.*

We are aligning ourselves with advice-resources from Government sources, including [information on Level 2](#) and have also developed our own [Policy and Guidelines around Level 2 including our Pandemic Response Framework](#)

[We also have a separate article from the Bishop that gives more information](#) to churches around what they need to put into place.

All churches which remain open under Level 2 must have a [COVID-19 Tracing Poster](#) displayed, as well as filling in contract tracing information for anyone attending services or groups.

Remember that the **vaccine** is rolling out - [find out more here](#).

This is an on-going situation where we need to plan carefully, follow guidance and not let our guard slip as it can only takes one contact to start a new cluster.

Summary of Level 2 for Faith Communities

Groups of up to 100 can meet including weddings and funerals - tangihanga (we have Action Plans in place that put local group number limits in place, so that we can safely distance ourselves in churches). For all group occasions appropriate public health measures include physical distancing and contact tracing measures. We are being encouraged to wear a face covering in any indoor area with others with this being mandatory in retail areas and public transport (including taxis and uber rides).

Regular worship services can continue for Churches who have an approved Action Plan from the Bishop.

Directions for churches: Liturgical practice, hospitality, pastoral care, church activity groups and church office areas

*All of our current advice is in our updated **Diocese of Dunedin Pandemic Response Framework** and the associated **Diocese of Dunedin Policy for Ministry and Worship** [available here](#). Please review this and provide it for key people involved in ministry in your faith community.*

More Detail on Alert Level 2

[Level 2 i.e. Reduce](#) have a variety of requirements we need to meet. These measures, alongside the vaccination programme, are ultimately working towards reducing the impact/eliminating the COVID-19 virus.

Remember, not all people will choose to be vaccinated for a variety of reasons. Please be kind to each other and see if you can help direct others to reliable sources of information that will help with good decision making.

We have [policies, guidelines and resources](#) that will help you adjust your activities under Level 2.

Key information from the [latest Level 2 guidance](#) as it relates to Faith Communities is summarised below:

[Link to Government Advice for Churches at Alert Level 2](#)

The Government advice (22 September 2021) for places of worship is as follows:

At Alert Level 2, places of worship can host services and ceremonies to a maximum of 100 people in any indoor or outdoor defined space. The gathering limits do not include staff — for example, clergy.

Advice for places of worship

- All places of worship must have ways for attendees to record their visit. This can be done by asking everyone to scan in using the NZ COVID Tracer app, or by recording their contact details manually.
- Offer online services so people who cannot attend in person can participate.
- Some religious rituals or practices need close contact — for example, a christening. Try to keep the time spent in close contact to a minimum.
- Remove communal resources such as prayer mats or prayer books.
- Encourage attendees to wear a face covering.
- Clean and sanitise musical instruments and other shared surfaces thoroughly before and after use.
- Singing, for example church choirs and other types of performance can go ahead. Performers do not need to wear a face covering.
- You can serve food and drink and host events or functions such as catered morning tea — as long as you keep to the gathering limits.
- Encourage contactless donations instead of a cash collection box.

[Funerals, tangihanga and last rites at Alert Level 2](#)

[Weddings and civil unions at Alert Level 2](#)

If you are going to a place of worship

- We strongly encourage you to wear a face covering when visiting a place of worship.
- You can mix with friends and whānau, but please be considerate of others and leave enough space for people to keep their distance if they want to.
- Do not attend a service or prayer if you are unwell.
- Scan in using the NZ COVID Tracer app or give your details to the place of worship to support contact tracing.
- Take home any personal items you bring in with you — for example, a prayer mat or prayer beads (**or, in our settings, a prayer book**)

Celebrations and festivals

At Alert Level 2, you can get together with up to 100 people for a faith-based celebration or festival. The number of people who can attend a gathering or celebration does not include anyone leading or working at the gathering.

If you are organising a faith-based celebration, you need to do the following:

- Make sure you do not exceed the gathering limits. You can offer a livestream option so more people can attend from home.
- Keep a record of everyone who attends. You can do this by creating a NZ COVID Tracer app QR code for your venue or location and asking your guests to scan in, or by recording their contact details manually. You do not need to keep contact tracing records if you are hosting a private gathering at your home and everyone knows each other.
- Make sure the venue is big enough for people to spread out comfortably if they want to.
- Provide seated table service if you are serving food or drinks. Try to seat extended household bubbles together at one table and place the tables 2 metres apart to help with physical distancing.

Travelling to a faith-based gathering at Alert Level 2

At Alert Level 2, you can travel to other regions that are at Alert Level 1 or 2 to attend a faith-based gathering — such as services, ceremonies and festivals. If the gathering is in an Alert Level 2 region, the gathering limits apply.

If you are travelling to an Alert Level 1 region to attend a faith based gathering, make sure you do it in a safe way. This includes:

- keeping a record of who you have been in contact with, and what transport services you used
- wearing a face covering on public transport services and flights
- keeping a 2 metre distance from people you do not know
- regularly washing or sanitising your hands.

Only controlled gatherings will be permitted (a maximum of up to 50 indoors or 100 outdoors) while maintaining public health hygiene, physical distancing and contact tracing requirements. This is to reduce the risk when people who know each other well socialise or fellowship together.

Any small or larger church related groups or services must conform to public health measures including washing hands, keeping surfaces clean, limiting numbers to allow safe physical distancing and noting attendees for contact tracing. An Action Plan for these must be signed off by the Bishop. Smaller gatherings/groups can still take place on-line with no restrictions.

More about Gathering and Events

You can have friends and family over to your home, but play it safe — keep surfaces clean, wash your hands, and keep the

numbers low so you can practice safe distancing. **Please note, home groups or any other church related small group can meet in private homes if an [Action Plan](#) around this has been prepared and signed off (see also a [Small Group checklist](#) to help you prepare your plan).**

Please note we don't recommend you offer hospitality at Level 2. If you intend to, it must be signed off in your [Action Plan](#).

Are you potentially an at-risk person?

There is guidance for people at higher risk of COVID-19. It includes advice under the different Alert Levels, who is at higher risk, and how they can protect themselves. [Information for at-risk people](#)

Key additional points for all of us:

- Ensure you **follow directives** for places you visit or work in (see our posters on [Church Safety](#) and [Church office areas](#))
- **Be kind.** Make a difference by checking-in on others, especially the elderly and vulnerable.
- **Look after anyone that needs help.** Drop supplies to those at home sick and ensure you have no physical contact.
- **Keep up your physical distancing habits** and other ways of staying in touch with more vulnerable people i.e. the phone, a video messaging system or something similar

Got symptoms or have health questions?

Call your GP before you visit. Or call Healthline on 0800 358 5453. If you feel unwell, remain at home.

Not sure who to talk to?

If you're not sure what assistance may be available, or you don't know who to contact for help, phone the Government Helpline on 0800 779 997 (8am – 10pm, 7 days a week).

The Ministry of Health recommends that you should follow the usual precautions including:

Staying safe and well

At every alert level people should take measures to stay safe and well.

- Regularly disinfect surfaces
- Wash and dry your hands thoroughly and regularly
- Don't touch your face
- Stay home if you are sick
- Get tested for COVID-19 if you have flu like symptoms – call your GP or Healthline on 0800 358 5453.
- Continue to seek primary medical care.

Anyone who has returned to New Zealand from overseas **must abide by NZ government requirements.** Currently this is to remain at a Government organised quarantine facility. This involves self-isolating by staying indoors and avoid contact with other people for 14 days from the date of arrival and then follow lock down procedures until advised otherwise.

Want to know more? See the [Government's dedicated COVID-19 webpage](#)

For more information,
click [here](#).

The Diocesan office is very happy to answer any queries you may have. Please contact [Andrew Metcalfe](#).
