

GUIDELINES AND POLICY FOR MINISTRY AND WORSHIP DURING COVID-19 ALERT LEVELS

The New Zealand Government Te Kāwanatanga o Aotearoa has issued a COVID-19 Alert Level structure. As a Diocese we have interpreted the implications of these levels in the life of our Church. In doing this, we seek to provide a plan that:

1. complies with the Government instructions including updated changes;
2. creates clarity for those governing, managing and leading in our Ministry Units; and,
3. meets or exceeds minimum requirements to ensure best practice to protect the vulnerable in our communities.

At each level the guiding principle for all gatherings is related to the table below:

	Level 4	Level 3	Level 2.5	Level 2	Level 1
Under 100 people (INDOORS)	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓
Under 100 people (OUTDOORS)	✗	✗	✗	✓	✓
100+ people (INDOORS)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
100+ people (OUTDOORS)	✗	✗	✗	✗	✓
Online	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

Level 4 – Lockdown

Likely the disease is not contained. For more information please refer to the government COVID-19 website

<https://covid19.govt.nz/covid-19/alert-system/>.

CHURCH SERVICES/GATHERINGS		PASTORAL VISITS		EDUCATION/EVENTS	
Under 100 people (INDOORS)	✗	Home visits/communion	✗	Study groups	✗
Under 100 people (OUTDOORS)	✗	Hospital visits	✗	Conferences	✗
100+ people (INDOORS)	✗	Online/Phone calls	✓	Online	✓
100+ people (OUTDOORS)	✗	Rest Home visits/services	✗	BUILDINGS	
Online	✓	Home meals delivery	✗	Open for personal prayer	✗
LITURGICAL PRACTICES		GROUPS		Access for cleaners	✗
Holy Communion in one kind	✗	Home groups	✗	Access for admin/ministry teams	✗
Holy Communion in full	✗	Choir	✗	Access for facility users	✗
Sharing the Peace	✗	Children’s groups	✗	Building/Property inspections	✗
WELLBEING		Youth groups	✗	Emergency maintenance	✓
High Risk people able to attend	✗	Prayer groups	✗	Other maintenance	✗
People who are sick able to attend	✗	Online (incl. above groups)	✓	Building Projects	✗
Ensure contact tracing/QR Codes	✓	Selwyn Centres	✗	Good venue hygiene	✓
Good personal hygiene	✓	Creches	✗		
Maintain physical distancing	✓	ADMINISTRATION			
Church staff may work in church offices	✗	Leadership/Team meetings	✗		
FUNERALS AND WEDDINGS		Governing Body meetings	✗		
Use of church for these services	✗	Online meetings (incl. above)	✓		
Funerals/Tangihanga	✗	Virtual communications	✓		
Cremation/Burials	✗	OUTREACH			
Prayers in the Time of Death	✗	Op Shops	✗		
Online provision of the above	✓	Local Food banks	✗		
Weddings	✗	Community gardens	✗		
		Community gatherings	✗		

Level 3 – Restrict

High risk the disease is not contained. For more information please refer to the government COVID-19 website

<https://covid19.govt.nz/covid-19/alert-system/>.

CHURCH SERVICES/GATHERINGS		PASTORAL VISITS		EDUCATION/EVENTS	
Under 100 people (INDOORS)	✗	Home visits/communion	✗	Study groups	✗
Under 100 people (OUTDOORS)	✗	Hospital visits	✗	Conferences	✗
100+ people (INDOORS)	✗	Online/Phone calls	✓	Online	✓
100+ people (OUTDOORS)	✗	Rest Home visits/services	✗	BUILDINGS	
Online	✓	Home meals delivery	✗	Open for personal prayer	✗
LITURGICAL PRACTICES		GROUPS		Access for cleaners	✗
Holy Communion in one kind	✗	Home groups	✗	Access for admin/ministry teams	✗
Holy Communion in full	✗	Choir	✗	Access for facility users	✗
Sharing the Peace	✗	Children’s groups	✗	Building/Property inspections	✗
WELLBEING		Youth groups	✗	Emergency maintenance	✓
High Risk people able to attend	✗	Prayer groups	✗	Other maintenance	✗
People who are sick able to attend	✗	Online (incl. above groups)	✓	Building Projects	✗
Ensure contact tracing/QR Codes	✓	Selwyn Centres	✗	Good venue hygiene	✓
Good personal hygiene	✓	Creches	✗		
Maintain physical distancing	✓	ADMINISTRATION			
Church staff may work in church offices	✗	Leadership/Team meetings	✗		
FUNERALS AND WEDDINGS		Governing Body meetings	✗		
Use of church for these services	✓	Online meetings (incl. above)	✓		
Funerals/Tangihanga (max 10 people)	✓	Virtual communications	✓		
Cremation/Burials (max 10 people)	✓	OUTREACH			
Prayers in the Time of Death (max 10 people)	✓	Op Shops	✗		
Online provision of the above (no limits)	✓	Local Food banks	✗		
Weddings (max 10 people)	✓	Community gardens	✗		
		Community gatherings	✗		

Level 2.5 – Reduce

The disease is contained, but the risk of community transmission remains. For more information please refer to the government COVID-19 website <https://covid19.govt.nz/covid-19/alert-system/>.

CHURCH SERVICES/GATHERINGS		PASTORAL VISITS		EDUCATION/EVENTS	
Under 100 people (INDOORS)	✗	Home visits	✓	Study groups	✗
Under 100 people (OUTDOORS)	✗	Hospital visits	✓	Conferences	✗
100+ people (INDOORS)	✗	Online/Phone calls	✓	Online	✓
100+ people (OUTDOORS)	✗	Rest Home visits	✓	BUILDINGS	
Online	✓	Home meals delivery	✓	Open for personal prayer	✓
LITURGICAL PRACTICES		GROUPS		Access for cleaners	✓
Holy Communion in one kind	✗	Home groups	✗	Access for admin/ministry teams	✓
Holy Communion in full	✗	Choir	✗	Access for facility users	✗
Sharing the Peace	✗	Children’s groups	✗	Building/Property inspections	✓
WELLBEING		Youth groups	✗	Emergency maintenance	✓
High Risk people able to attend	✗	Prayer groups	✗	Other maintenance	✓
People who are sick able to attend	✗	Online (incl. above groups)	✓	Building Projects	✓
Ensure contact tracing/QR Codes	✓	Selwyn Centres	✗	Good venue hygiene	✓
Good personal hygiene	✓	Creches	✗		
Maintain physical distancing	✓	ADMINISTRATION			
Church staff may work in church offices	✓	Leadership/Team meetings	✓		
FUNERALS AND WEDDINGS		Governing Body meetings	✗		
Use of church for these services	✓	Online meetings (incl. above)	✓		
Funerals/Tangihanga (max 50 people)	✓	Virtual communications	✓		
Cremation/Burials (max 50 people)	✓	OUTREACH			
Prayers in the Time of Death (max 50 people)	✓	Op Shops	✓		
Online provision of the above (no limits)	✓	Local Food banks	✓		
Weddings (max 10 people)	✓	Community gardens	✓		
		Community gatherings	✗		

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Under 100 people (INDOORS)	✓	Home visits/communion	✓	Study groups	✓
Under 100 people (OUTDOORS)	✓	Hospital visits	✓	Conferences	✓
100+ people (INDOORS)	✗	Online/Phone calls	✓	Online	✓
100+ people (OUTDOORS)	✗	Rest Home visits/services	✓	BUILDINGS	
Online	✓	Home meals delivery	✓	Open for personal prayer	✓
LITURGICAL PRACTICES		GROUPS		Access for cleaners	✓
Holy Communion in one kind	✓	Home groups	✓	Access for admin/ministry teams	✓
Holy Communion in full	✗	Choir	✓	Access for facility users	✓
Sharing the Peace	✗	Children’s groups	✓	Building/Property inspections	✓
WELLBEING		Youth groups	✓	Emergency maintenance	✓
High Risk people able to attend	✓	Prayer groups	✓	Other maintenance	✓
People who are sick able to attend	✗	Online (incl. above groups)	✓	Building Projects	✓
Ensure contact tracing/QR Codes	✓	Selwyn Centres	✗	Good venue hygiene	✓
Good personal hygiene	✓	Creches	✓		
Maintain physical distancing	✓	ADMINISTRATION			
Church staff may work in church offices	✓	Leadership/Team meetings	✓		
FUNERALS AND WEDDINGS		Governing Body meetings	✓		
Use of church for these services	✓	Online meetings (incl. above)	✓		
Funerals/Tangihanga	✓	Virtual communications	✓		
Cremation/Burials	✓	OUTREACH			
Prayers in the Time of Death	✓	Op Shops	✓		
Online provision of the above	✓	Local Food banks	✓		
Weddings	✓	Community gardens	✓		
		Community gatherings	✓		

Level 1 – Prepare

The disease is contained in New Zealand. For more information please refer to the government COVID-19 website

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CHURCH SERVICES/GATHERINGS		PASTORAL VISITS		EDUCATION/EVENTS	
Under 100 people (INDOORS)	✓	Home visits/communion	✓	Study groups	✓
Under 100 people (OUTDOORS)	✓	Hospital visits	✓	Conferences	✓
100+ people (INDOORS)	✓	Online/Phone calls	✓	Online	✓
100+ people (OUTDOORS)	✓	Rest Home visits/services	✓	BUILDINGS	
Online	✓	Home meals delivery	✓	Open for personal prayer	✓
LITURGICAL PRACTICES		GROUPS		Access for cleaners	✓
Holy Communion in one kind	✓	Home groups	✓	Access for admin/ministry teams	✓
Holy Communion in full	✓	Choir	✓	Access for facility users	✓
Sharing the Peace	✓	Children’s groups	✓	Building/Property inspections	✓
WELLBEING		Youth groups	✓	Emergency maintenance	✓
High Risk people able to attend	✓	Prayer groups	✓	Other maintenance	✓
People who are sick able to attend	✗	Online (incl. above groups)	✓	Building Projects	✓
Ensure contact tracing/QR Codes	✓	Selwyn Centres	✓	Good venue hygiene	✓
Good personal hygiene	✓	Creches	✓		
Maintain physical distancing	✗	ADMINISTRATION			
Church staff may work in church offices	✓	Leadership/Team meetings	✓		
FUNERALS AND WEDDINGS		Governing Body meetings	✓		
Use of church for these services	✓	Online meetings (incl. above)	✓		
Funerals/Tangihanga	✓	Virtual communications	✓		
Cremation/Burials	✓	OUTREACH			
Prayers in the Time of Death	✓	Op Shops	✓		
Online provision of the above	✓	Local Food banks	✓		
Weddings	✓	Community gardens	✓		
		Community gatherings	✓		