

Catholic Parish of Christchurch South

LIVING, CARING WORSHIPPING and MINISTERING IN A COVID-19 WORLD

What does moving to the COVID-19 Protection Framework (Traffic Light System) mean for our Parish?

Next Friday, 3rd December, the country moves to the "Traffic Light System" and this has implications for us as a parish as we gather for Mass and for our parish life in general.

The Bishops of New Zealand in their recent pastoral letter have reminded us of *"the Gospel call to show care, love and respect for each other, even when others have a different view to our own"*.

The pastoral letter also includes some clear guidelines for parishes, including the provision of Mass for people with a *My Vaccine Pass* and ensuring as best as possible a Mass is available for people without a *My Vaccine Pass*. Also **those in public-facing ministries (for example, greeters, readers, collectors, Ministers of the Eucharist) will need to be fully vaccinated at vaccination-only Masses.**

There will be parishioners who will not be vaccinated. There will be a weekday Mass and a weekend Mass (yet to be worked out when and where) for those parishioners who, for whatever reason, have not been vaccinated.

My Vaccine Pass

Based on the government requirements, to access a Mass next weekend for those who are vaccinated, a [Vaccine Pass](#) will be required.

The *My Vaccine Pass* is an official record of your COVID-19 vaccination status for use within Aotearoa New Zealand that will allow you to access certain events and venues. You can request a *My Vaccine Pass* now if you are aged 12 or over and have had 2 doses of the Pfizer vaccine.

People under the age of 12 years and 3 months are not required to show proof of vaccination.

This week we encourage you to obtain a *My Vaccine Pass* or ask family or friends to assist you. If you can't find assistance please contact the parish office (3388395)

Your *My Vaccine Pass* can be saved to your phone or you can print a hard copy.

You can apply for your vaccine pass at: <https://mycovidrecord.health.nz/> or by phoning 0800 222 478

Communication

After the announcement this Monday, 29th November, we will know more about the traffic light system as it relates to Churches. We will be providing more information on our parish website <https://christchurchsouth.org.nz> other social media (App) and by email. **If we don't have your email can you please send the parish office your email address so we can communicate with you about the arrangements that will be in place for Mass next weekend.**

For those parishioners who do not have access to a computer or the internet we would ask you to ask one of your family to assist you or to please contact us at the parish office.

Please be patient and understanding

With this new system there will be a number of logistical challenges so we ask that you please be patient and understanding with us as we move towards implementing these requirements.



Fr Peter Head sm

Parish Priest

On behalf of the Parish Staff