

17 October 2021

Dear Parishioners

Greetings and peace to you all.

Sadly we have returned to Lockdown clearly due to the selfishness of two individuals. My constant prayer is that we all cooperate together for the common good of all. I think of this from an individual to a global perspective. The rich need to care for the poor. We are exploring possibilities as to how we might gather again when we hopefully return to Level 2 rules.

Please reach out and support those who you know may be in need, or isolated. Feel free to contact us too.

**Vaccinate** – Pope Francis said “to be vaccinated is an act of love. I have. I really encourage you to do so too.

Sadly the **Ruakaka 30th Jubilee Celebrations** (14 Nov) have been postponed.

**Synod:**

Most of us remember the significance of the Second Vatican Council in the life of the Church. Pope Francis has called a Synod: *“For a synodal Church: communion, participation, and mission”*.

The Synod will have a three phase consultation: diocesan, national and universal. It is a two year process. A Synod means a “walking together” as the people of God. A Diocesan Celebration begins this Sunday (17th) with an opening Liturgy at 7:00 p.m. It will be broadcast on Zoom and the Diocesan utube. You will see information on the Parish Web site.

I am grateful for a time away to visit family (and the farm) near Nelson. Air NZ operate direct flights to Wellington.

It was special to assist at the Ordination of Hayden Powick s.m. in the same Church I was ordained in 38 years ago.

All Prayers and Blessings in this time.

*Fr Chris Martin s.m.*