



Happy New Year!

Advent is the Beginning of the Church year. It is a wonderful opportunity to make a fresh start in our faith Journey. We are called to reflect on the two comings of Jesus. We Prepare to celebrate his birth – God coming among us and we look forward to the promise that Christ will come again.

This year is the third of the 3 year cycle of Readings from the Bible. Together we are called to listen and pray through the Gospel of Luke.

O tatou mate: Recently Deceased:

Eugene Harris one of our Katekita died last Sunday. He was buried on Friday at Motukaraka, Hokianga.

Ben Wortelboer long serving Parishioner from Ruakaka also died this week.

And for all the Holy Souls - *May the Rest in Peace*

The Sick:

Rachael Allen

Proclaimers of the Word; This weekend we will commission several new Readers. At the same time, we will Recommission and Bless the current Readers. Thank you for your special service in our Parish.

Navigating through these times

The **Government** announced that the entire country will move to a Traffic Light system from midnight on December 3.

They have introduced a **Vaccine Pass** for those who have been fully Vaccinated. They require it to be used to enter many venues and that includes our Church gatherings.

Our primary concern is to care for both groups and keep everyone safe.

We will offer Masses for those who have the Vaccine Pass and also some open Masses for those who do not.

Please note: if we are in Red Zone this is limited to 10 people.

If orange 50 there can be 50 people.

Our **Catholic Bishops** have written a Pastoral letter *Living, Caring, Worshipping and Ministering in a Covid-19 World*.

They share in the struggle that people not feel alienated. They affirm Churches be safe places for all people. They also want our Churches to be places of hospitality and welcome.

At St Francis Xavier from Sunday 5 December, we will provide an **Open Mass 12 Noon every Sunday**.

From 6 December the **Monday 7:00 am and the Wednesday 12:10 pm** Masses will be **Open Masses**.

Please remember to book in for all Masses:

Website: www.whangareicatholic.org.nz

or phone Parish Office 4377902.

If you need assistance to obtain a Vaccine Pass do contact the Parish Office for Assistance.

For the safety of all we ask you to continue wearing your Masks and keeping 1 metre distancing.

To see the Bishops Statement please see Parish website.

Condensed: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/.../Bishops-Pastoral-Letter...>

Copies are also available in Foyer.