



ALERT LEVEL TWO

“Play it Safe”

do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.

Philippians 2:4

Updated advice as at 4.30 pm on Monday 11 May 2020

- **Worship services are limited to 10 people:** Therefore Churches in the Diocese of Waikato and Taranaki are to remain closed until further notice.
- **Detailed Level Two guidelines** will be circulated tomorrow evening (Tuesday 12 May 2020) but all advice regarding services may be planned for but not implemented until the Bishop indicates that Churches may reopen.
- **Local Communities** will be responsible for making their own assessment of their capacity to meet Level 2 requirements. These requirements must be strictly adhered to. These include; strict social distancing, contact tracing and all health and safety requirements for a workplace such as sanitising all surfaces, hand sanitiser and, no hand contact etc.
- **Protect the most vulnerable** – A significant proportion of our ministers are at higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19. This includes kaumātua (elders) and those with underlying health conditions. The risk of Māori and Pacific Island infections rates are also significantly higher (see [COVID-19 Research by Te Punaha Matatini](#)). As Anglican ministers we serve in some of the most deprived communities in Aotearoa-NZ. While we are many parts we must act as one body to keep the most vulnerable in our communities, and indeed all of us, safe.
- **Apply the principle 'Common Good'** which teaches us to seek what's best for everyone, beginning with the last, the least, the lost, and the most forgotten. Ask: how can we include those who could be excluded from our regathering because they are vulnerable?
- **Start simply - Take small steps:** don't try to begin everything consider simply gathering for prayer, community and support. Consider not making your first service Eucharist with the additional logistics required.
- **Prepare your site carefully for re-entry:** including offices and other spaces. **Clergy and lay employees** may return to offices which have been cleaned to required standards and can be maintained at safe levels for a working environment. The Diocese has provided a template to support Parishes to re-open their premises <https://www.wtanglican.nz/page/health-and-safety/>
- **Pastoral Visiting:** Limited and controlled pastoral visiting permitted. We must continue to offer pastoral care but be cautious when offering in-person ministry. Limit time spent, maintain physical distance, and use best hygiene practices.
- **Wash hands, do not have physical contact, cough and sneeze into your elbow, regularly disinfect surfaces, stay home and seek advice if unwell.**

Family of God, Followers of Christ

Marked by Gratitude, Growing Disciples, Transforming Communities