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## COVID-19 PROTECTION FRAMEWORK

26 November 2021

The Government has introduced a new framework to protect us during the current Covid pandemic from 3 December.

It has 3 levels **Red**, **Orange** and **Green** and is often referred to as the traffic light system. Auckland will be moving into the Red level on December 3.

The most important feature of the new system is the Vaccination Certificate 'My Vaccine Pass' (details are attached) which will determine how many people can enter the Church and other places.

The Parish Pastoral Council and Fr Aleki have carefully considered the Framework and the guidance provided by the Diocese of Auckland and agreed that while we are at **Red**.

- **Mass will be held at 8.00am and 10.00am on Sundays starting from Sunday 12 December for fully vaccinated people.**
- **Everyone over the age of 12 will need to have the 'My Vaccine Pass' and these will be checked before entry into church.**
- **1 metre physical distancing in Church is required so this reduces the number of people who can attend to 52.**
- **A booking system will be introduced so that people can book places in advance – this gives us an opportunity to see if a third Mass will be necessary.**
- **At Mass face masks will be required, there will be no singing, communion will be in the hand only.**
- **There will not be refreshments in the Hall after Mass.**
- **At this stage there will be no weekday Masses.**
- **The Parish Hall will not be open or available for hire at this time.**

At the **Red** Level the parish is not providing Mass for unvaccinated parishioners but we will keep this under review.

The PPC and Fr Aleki will review the situation each week to consider whether any changes need to be made.

When Auckland moves to the next level -**Orange**- we will review the guidance. The 'My Vaccine Pass' will be still be required at this level.

The lockdown has been a difficult time for many and the requirements of the new Protection Framework will be challenging for some people. The New Zealand Catholic Bishops have strongly supported vaccination against Covid-19 and "believe that, on balance, the introduction of vaccine mandates for certain sectors, as well as the use of vaccine passes, are warranted for now."

It is very important that we as a church community continue to respect each other even when we have different views.

**Fr Aleki Piula**  
**Parish Priest**

**Bill Kilgallon**  
**Chair, Parish Pastoral Council**