



December 2021

Grace and peace to you

On Friday I received a pastoral message from the Anglican Bishops, Tikanga Pākehā, which I have already sent out to you all.

Since then, the Standing Committee has met with the Bishop to decide what this means for Waiapu.

On Monday the Prime Minister announced that Tauranga would start the Covid Protection Framework – or traffic lights, in the orange setting.

On Tuesday morning the clergy of the diocese met with the Bishop on zoom for two hours to talk through the new guidelines sent out by the government and how we might implement those for our parish.

What this means is that from this Sunday 5 December, unless otherwise stated, you will need to show a vaccine pass to attend church. For some of you, I suspect, this will be a relief. For others, it will be a cause of some pain. I am more than happy to talk with anyone who has any concerns about this.

Some of you may be stressed working out how to obtain your vaccine pass. If you need help, please ask. I have included a list of pharmacies who can print your pass off for you if you go there with your NHI number. You will need to take some form of identification with you, either your passport or driver's license.

For regular attendees at our services, if you give permission, once we have seen your vaccine pass, we will note it on our list of attendees so that you will not need to keep showing it each week.

Because we will be operating with vaccine passes many of our restrictions will be removed. There will be no limits on numbers or where you can sit. We will ask you to continue to wear a face mask during the service. We will continue to have communion in one kind (bread only). Singing quietly while wearing a mask will continue. Once we have the rosters up and running, we hope to offer morning tea after the 10am service. Wonderful.

As we look ahead to the next weeks of Advent, Christmas, and Epiphany, we will be asking people to be part of the roster for the many roles in our services. You will, of course, need to be double vaccinated.

So, we look forward to seeing you and your vaccine pass on Sunday morning.

Be kind to yourself and others. Wash your hands.

Te pai me te rangimārie (peace and all good)

Rev. John Hebenton TSSF - Vicar

Anglican Parish of Gate Pā

St. Georges Church

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You can get Vaccie Passes printed out here

- Chemist Warehouse Bethlehem
- Unichem Brookfield Pharmacy
- Unichem Metro Pharmacy Bethlehem
- Bethlehem Pharmacy
- Unichem Greerton Pharmacy
- Life Pharmacy Tauranga

