

27<sup>th</sup> February 2021

Dear Father and Lay Pastoral Leaders,

**Archdiocese of Wellington,**  
**Covid Alert level Two, NO Public Masses**

Late Saturday evening greetings to you all.

As you may have heard the Prime Minister announced a short while ago at a 9pm News Conference that Auckland will move back into Level Three of the Covid alert system and the rest of the country to Level Two as from 6am tomorrow (28<sup>th</sup> February)

I realize that this is late notice and that some of you may not see this message tonight.

However, once again this means that at Alert Level Two, we are not able to have gatherings of more than one hundred people present unless there is strict social distancing. As we did last year, and as we did two weeks ago this means that for the next seven days there are to be NO public Masses in the Archdiocese. Please be very strict about this. It will mean that tomorrow morning you may have to be at the Church doors to explain to people that it is not possible to celebrate Mass tomorrow. Parishioners will rightly be disappointed and may be angry but please explain that this is about peoples' safety. We must do all we can to keep one another safe.

I will communicate with you once again on Monday. But as from tomorrow morning there are to be NO public Masses. Please pray for all who are trying to keep New Zealand as free as possible from Covid 19 and please be patient as the Government roll out the vaccination programme.

With best wishes and prayers and thanks for all you are doing in these challenging times.

Your sincerely in the Lord

+ John

John Cardinal Dew  
Archbishop of Wellington