

7th September 2021

Dear Parishioners and Friends,

With the alert level changing to Alert Level 2, with stricter restrictions, gatherings inside will be limited to a maximum of 50 people. Please find attached Bishop Steve's letter to the Diocese explaining what these renewed restrictions will mean for the Catholic community.

Under Alert Level 2 there will still be no Masses on weekdays or Sundays, you may watch livestream Masses by Bishop Steve via this link, every day at 9.00 am.

[Livestream Mass — Catholic Diocese of Hamilton \(cdh.org.nz\)](https://www.cdh.org.nz)

The Parish office will be open and operating more like a 'click and collect' set up. Parishioners are welcome to contact the Parish by phone or by email stcol.parish@xtra.co.nz or you may email me at freamonkennedy@gmail.com

Please keep in contact by phone with fellow Parishioners and if you discover they are not getting an email from me please forward their email address to me so I can add them to the Parish Google Groups.

As a suggestion for your daily prayer, I would encourage you all to read slowly one the Scripture readings of the day.

Wednesday's Scriptures

The Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary (Feast)

Micah 5:1-4 or Romans 8:28-30

Psalm 12:6-7

Matthew 1:1-16, 18-23

A short reflection on the Gospel

The Gospel begins with Jesus' genealogy (whakapapa) on St Joseph's side of the family. St Joseph was married to Mary and Mary gave birth to Jesus. The rest of the Gospel talks about how Jesus was conceived 'through the Holy Spirit', and how Joseph took Mary as his wife. It is a beautiful Scripture where Joseph is central to God's plan. Mary needed a supporting husband whom she found in Joseph. God is working through us all, as he worked miracles through St Joseph and Mary.

Kind regards

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