



187 Hinemoa Street,
Birkenhead,
Auckland 0626

20th April 2022

Easter Greetings,

The New Zealand Government last week announced that the whole of New Zealand would **move to the Orange setting** of the COVID-19 Protection Framework on Friday 15th April. This was great news as it removed the final gathering number restrictions on our worship. Here are a few things for you to note and consider as we have moved into Orange.

No Gathering Limits

There are no gathering limits under the Orange setting, either indoors or outdoors. This also means that there are no longer any physical distancing requirements. Care should be taken, however, to be mindful of any needs for people to create personal space if they wish.

Return to Two Services

For the past 6 months we have only had one service on a Sunday at 9am. Now that we have moved to Orange we will be returning to two services on a Sunday, **8am & 9.30am**. New rosters will have to be made.

Communion in Both Kinds

Communion is now allowed in both kinds. Mindful of those who may feel uncomfortable in receiving the wine, however, people will be reminded that receiving communion in one kind (the bread only) is considered by the Church to be a full participation in the sacrament.

Masks

Under the Orange setting, masks are no longer compulsory for people attending gatherings, including worship. Noting the increased risks associated with larger gatherings for longer periods of time, however, people will still be required to wear masks when gathering at church and in the hall.

Sharing the Peace 'Community Blessing'

Considering the risk and practicality involved we will stay with no longer holding hands during the Community Blessing.

Hospitality

There are no longer any restrictions on hospitality. Attention should always be given, however, to the hygienic and safe handling of food. We will therefore return to have morning tea on a Sunday.

Collection

We will now resume taking up a collection during the Offertory.

Yours in Christ,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads 'J. P. Greatbatch'. The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

The Reverend Jordan Greatbatch