

E-ffervescence

Taranaki Cathedral Church of St Mary | 37 Vivian St , New Plymouth
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Not Exactly What We Had In Mind

A return to Level Two was not exactly what we had in mind for this week. For me, personally, I had relaxed into glorious complacency, and was looking forward to our Patronal Festival, and all the singing that was going to occur! A real celebration- a light at the end of the tunnel. My week, which was supposed to be full of planning and practicing- has gone totally topsy-turvy as I contemplate the joys of social distancing, contact tracing and sanitizers at every turn- yet again.

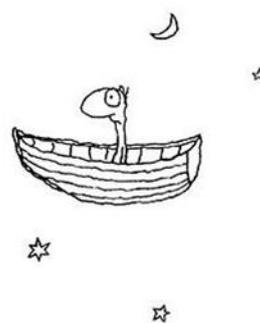
However, The Christian faith has never promised that life would be smooth and stable. Countless generations before me have dealt with disruption and discombobulation over and over again. Why should I be immune?

So this Sunday, at our 8 and 10 am services, we will focus on last Sunday's Gospel reading- the story of Jesus calming the storm- and reach into its depths of wisdom to consider where Jesus is when the storms of life confront us.

It does feel, indeed, like I am so small, navigating my tiny boat through the uncharted and unruly waters of Covid 19, which feels (to me anyway) like a great storm which I cannot control. All I can do is hold on ... and pray for God's presence to provide me with the hope and peace which is all I really need right now...

God bless this tiny little boat
And me who travels in it;
It stays afloat for years and years
And sinks within a minute.

And so the soul in which we sail
Unknown by years of thinking
Is deeply felt and understood
The minute that it's sinking.



Arohanui
Jacqui



Spirituality

Peace, be still the Conclusion of Sunday's message.

"There's a ship out on the ocean at the mercy of the sea. It's been tossed about, lost and broken, wandering aimlessly. And God, somehow you know, that ship is me".

Yes, that ship is me. And you. And every one of us. Life isn't easy, and it certainly isn't fair all the time. We all have times when we feel like crying out "Don't you care if we are perishing", when stories of Jesus' miracles, his power over life and death come flooding back and we ask "Why not me?" Faith is about remembering that empty cross-that symbol of suffering which tells us of the power of God's love for us. Unqualified love, unconditional love, absolute love that we cannot ever earn or buy because it was given to you and to me. It tells us that God won't necessarily rescue us from the storms of life, and that as humans, we can't understand the whys and wherefores about everything that happens to us.

The main thing to remember is that God is there

with us in the boat,

on the cross,

through this appalling epidemic,

wherever we've suffered and grieved.

"Peace, be still. Know that I am God. I love you

and I am with you always".

If you seek peace,
be still.
If you seek wisdom,
be silent.
If you seek love,
be yourself.

Becca Lee

Meditation of the Week!

Peace. Be still. And the winds obeyed.

Be now as the winds.

You are my child.

I knew you long before you were knit in your
mother's womb.

Peace. Be still. My breath brings form to dust.

You were created a little lower than the
angels,
created in my image.

You are my child. Peace. Be still.



Be as these winds, exhaled.

Wait on me, and I will give you rest.

The ninety-nine I would leave to find you.

The fall of a sparrow catches flight in my loving eye.

With my words, the worlds were.

My voice is small, still.

The waters know the sound of my voice and are stilled.

Wait on me, be renewed, and rise.

Prayer by Mark Dugger, [devozine](#), November/December 2012

Weekly Notices

AGM Sunday August 16

The AGM will still go ahead on Sunday beginning around 11am at the conclusion of the 10am service (see below). If there is a move to a higher alert level before Sunday we will need to rethink based on what rules and advice are in place. If in doubt check the website. If you do not have access to the internet reach out to a parishioner or friend who does and who can check for you. Our web address is www.taranakicathedral.org.nz

Regular 8am and 10am services this week

Our combined Patronal Festival service scheduled for 9am this Sunday has had to be postponed. With the move to alert level 2 we are not able to sing – and this was to be a key element of the service. While it is possible we will return to alert Level 1 by Sunday, the preparation and rehearsal required for the Patronal service has not been able to happen this week – hence the decision to postpone.

Men's Breakfast & Mothers Union and Fellowship Ladies Day

The Men's Breakfast and Mother's Union events planned for this coming Saturday and Wednesday respectively have had to be postponed. We will reschedule and let you know what the new dates are.

Upcoming Organ Recitals

There are two currently two organ recitals scheduled for August. A decision about whether one or both will go ahead will be made next week. Check the website for updates.

Thurs 20 August @ 12.15pm - Taranaki Interim Cathedral

Wed 26 August @ 11.15am - Wesley Memorial Church, Hāwera

Checking In

Parish & Cathedral Life in Level 2

Hello E-ffervescence readers – Michelle from Communications here to let you know how things will change in and around our Parish should we remain at Level 2.

Before I get into what's on, off and changed I wanted to take a moment to acknowledge that stepping back into Level 2 has been emotionally hard on many people – myself very much included! I have been enjoying all the freedoms of Level 1 and the prospect of revisiting restrictions is daunting. I also don't deal well with uncertainty. Knowing what I'm facing, and making a plan to deal with it, helps me feel in control and fends off the worst of my anxiety.

I feel very grateful to be working with the wonderful team at Taranaki Cathedral. Jacqui is a brilliant boss and a calm leader in difficult times. While I wait with the rest of the country to learn what our immediate future will look like I am focusing on following her lead, being kind (to myself as well as others) and concentrating on what I can control.

SERVICES

I'm happy to report that in Level 2 our regular **8am and 10am Sunday services** will continue – with Communion in one kind. To maintain social distancing we will be limiting spaces to 50 people per service. Sadly singing will not be a part of services at during Level 2.

Our weekday **Eucharist services** will be continuing, with Communion in one kind, in Level 2.

CATHEDRAL & PARISH ACTIVITIES

During Level 2

- The **Stop In** shop will be closed
- The **Community Café** takes a break
- The **Welcome Desk** will not operate
- Jacqui's **Friday morning Cuppa & Chat** won't take place

A decision regarding activities for young people and families (Faith Crew, Pūkeko Stomp and youth groups) will be made early next week as will one around upcoming organ recitals.

If in doubt check our website as all changes to activity will be outlined there. If you know a parishioner who cannot access the website or doesn't receive our emails, please pass information on to them so they can stay in the loop. You can reach me on michelle@taranakicathedral.org.nz. Stay safe.

Ngā mihi
Michelle



ALERT LEVEL TWO GUIDELINES UPDATE 12 AUGUST 2020

“Play it Safe”

“do not merely look out for your own personal interests, but also for the interests of others.”

Philippians 2:4

Under Alert Level 2 the disease is contained, but there is a risk of community transmission. For full Government guidelines see www.covid19.govt.nz

GOVERNMENT LEVEL TWO UPDATE 12 AUGUST 2020

from <https://covid19.govt.nz/covid-19/restrictions/alert-level-2/>

- From 12 noon Wednesday August 12, 2020 all of New Zealand will move to Alert Level 2 (except for Auckland which will go to Alert Level 3).
- Schools and workplaces will remain open, but everyone should:
 - Maintain social distancing (2 metres in public and in retail stores, 1 metre in most other environments such as workplaces and cafes)
 - Wash hands frequently
 - Sneeze and cough into your elbow
 - Keep track of where you have been and who you have seen
 - Wear a mask if you can, particularly if social distancing is not possible as on public transport or in shops.
 - Stay home and contact your doctor or Healthline (0800 611 116) if you have any signs of illness
- People at a higher risk of severe illness from COVID-19 are encouraged to take additional precautions when leaving home

WHAT DOES THAT MEAN FOR US?

While this move to Alert Level 2 initially applies until midnight Friday 14 August, extension of this timeframe is very possible and we ask that you **prepare and hold your Sunday 16 August services under the Level 2 Guidelines**. All diocesan updates can be found on the diocesan website at www.wtanglican.nz/covid-19.

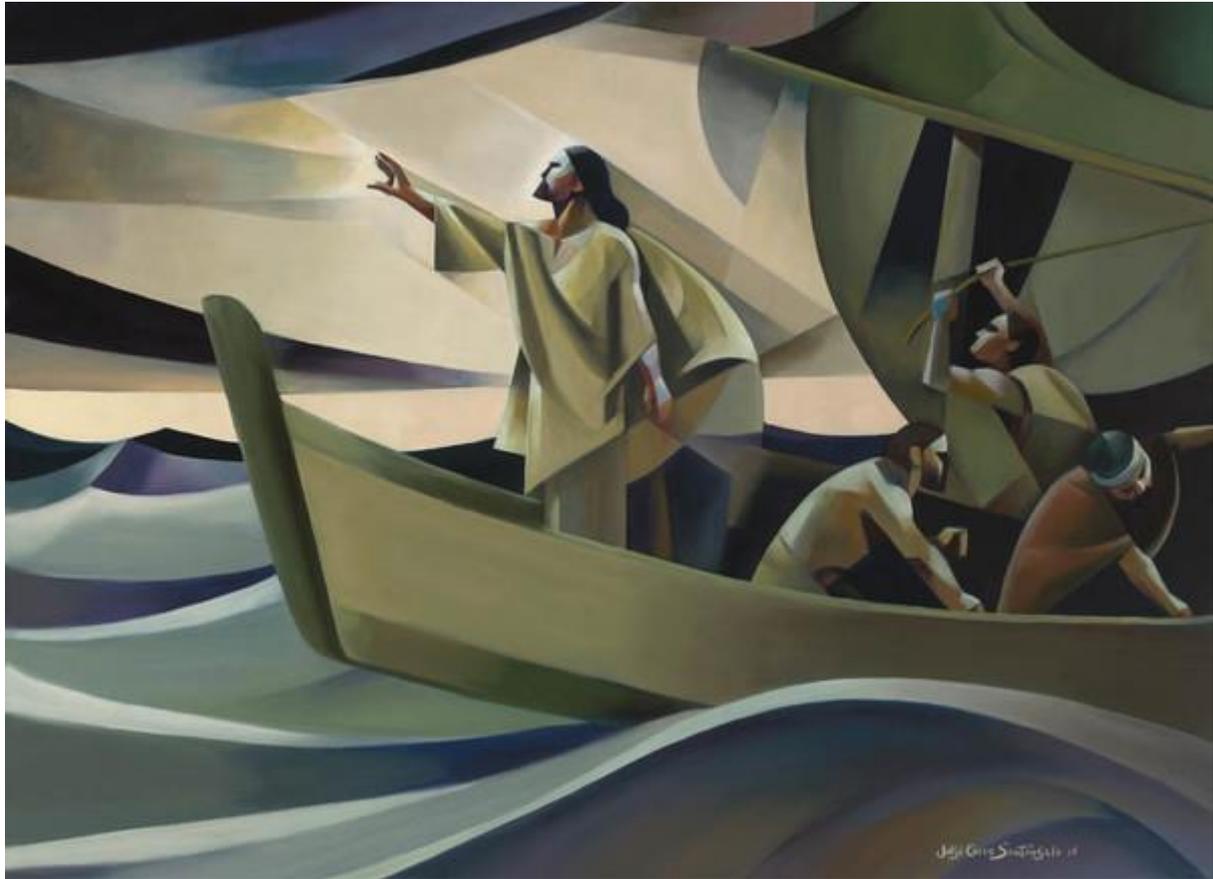
1. **Churches may remain open for Public Services:** weddings and funerals are permitted within the government guidelines up to 100 people, social distancing must be maintained.
2. **Contact Tracing must be performed:** All visitors to church buildings must be recorded. In addition to written contact tracing maintained by the parish, QR codes can be generated for each church building. To receive your code you can email Simon Cayley at manager@wtanglican.nz with the physical location name and address of the building and a contact name, email, and phone number (ideally a mobile number). It is encouraged that you use the government's contact tracing app, which can be downloaded [here](#).
3. **Communion in one kind** will be permitted, but please consider the option of holding a simple Service of the Word instead of a Eucharistic service.
4. **Congregational Singing** is currently permitted based on the latest Ministry of Health advice, but the 1 metre distancing requirement must be maintained.
5. **No food or drinks** to be served until we return to Alert Level 1.
6. **Ensure hand sanitiser is readily available**, particularly at entry and exit points. Frequent hand washing should be encouraged.
7. **Clergy and lay employees** may continue to use offices which have been cleaned to required standards and can be maintained at safe levels for a working environment.
8. Please review your **“Action Plan for the Provision of Ministry - Alert Level 2”** and ensure you can operate safely under your Alert Level 2 plan and comply with all Government Alert Level 2 Guidance.

IN SUMMARY: FROM NOON WEDNESDAY 12 AUGUST 2020

- Gatherings are limited to 100 people with social distancing of at least 1 metre, this will include church services on Sunday 16 August
- Please refrain for physical sharing of peace
- Contact tracing is enforced
- Services should be simple Services of the Word or Communion in one kind only
- No food or drink to be shared (such as morning tea, etc)
- Please review your Ministry Action Plan for Alert Level 2
- And most importantly, if you are unwell stay at home and call your doctor or Healthline (0800 611 116)

Sunday's Readings

Matthew 14:22-33



Immediately he made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid." Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God.

Weekly Readings List

SUNDAY August 16

Gen 45:1-15 Ps 133
Rom 11:1-2a,29-32 Matt 15:(10-20),
21-28

Morning Prayer: Ps 92

Jonah 1

Evening Prayer: Ps 90
2 Kgs 4:1-37 Acts 16:1-15

MONDAY August 17

Ezek 24:15-24 Ps 78:1-8
Matt 19:16-22

Morning prayer: Ps 71
1 Sam 24 Acts 3:11-end

Evening prayer: Ps 72,(75)
Prov 1:1-19 Mark 2:23-3:6

TUESDAY August 18

Ezek 28:1-10 Ps 107:1-
3,40,43 Matt 19:23-end

Morning prayer: Ps 73
1 Sam 26 Acts 4:1-12

Evening prayer: Ps 74
Prov 1:20-end Mark 3:7-19a

WEDNESDAY August 19

Ezek 34:1-11 Ps 23
Matt 20:1-16

Morning prayer: Ps 77

1 Sam 28:3-end Acts 4:13-31

Evening prayer: Ps 119:81-104
Prov 2 Mark 3:19b-end

THURSDAY August 20 (Bernard of Clairvaux, Abbot, Poet, 1153)

Ezek 36:23-28 Ps 51:7-12
Matt 22:1-14

Morning prayer: Ps 78:1-39*

1 Sam 31 Acts 4:32-5:11

Evening prayer: Ps 78:40-end*
Prov 3:1-26 Mark 4:1-20

FRIDAY August 21

Ezek 37:1-14 Ps 107:1-8
Matt 22:34-40

Morning prayer: Ps 55

2 Sam 1 Acts 5:12-26

Evening prayer: Ps 69
Prov 3:27-4:19 Mark 4:21-34

SATURDAY August 22

Ezek 43:1-7 Ps 85:7-end
Matt 23:1-12

Morning prayer: Ps 76,(79)

2 Sam 2:1-11 Acts 5:27-end

Evening prayer: Ps (81),84
Prov 6:1-9 Mark 4:35-end