

Bishop Pat does not yet know whether there is a legal responsibility to check Vaccination Certificates or not. [The various faith leaders have a meeting with the Government on Tuesday after that he will let us know.](#) I prefer to work on a "We trust you" basis.

The people of your Parish trust you to come to Mass **ONLY** if you are vaccinated. So, if you prefer not to disclose, please attend **ONLY** the Wednesday 7.00pm Mass. On that trust some vulnerable parishioners will choose to come, and we must make sure they are safe. Parents may bring children under 12 as part of the 100, but equally you may decide not to bring them. Ultimately, it all boils down to love.

All our ministers, from Church door to altar, **MUST** be fully vaccinated. To all ministers, including those with ministries outside the Mass, please email a copy of your Vaccination Certificate to the Parish office. Only those ministers who do so will be included in any roster.

**1. Sign in with your scanner app as usual.**

**2. Masks.** The Parish Council and I have decided that masks for the over-12 will be **mandatory**. Please bring your mask. Part of the reason is that if I catch the virus, all Masses will be cancelled. If Fr Bernard catches the virus, the entire Redemptorist community will be locked down. We can remove our mask to receive Christ in Holy Communion.

**3. Masses will be simple and quiet. We cannot have singing, offertory procession, or sign of peace. But we can celebrate MASS once again!!!**

So let's be thankful, smile, keep our sense of perspective, and devote ourselves to our unique calling of our moment - to protect, to include, to heal.

This Sunday's readings can be found at <https://bible.usccb.org/bible/readings/112821.cfm>

My homily can be found at <https://share.icloud.com/photos/0rEDRMbdssCwYojIDNdPuEZlg>

**Fr John Dunn**

## MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP PARISH

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**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**  
**Saturday 27 & Sunday 28 November**

## FEAST OF OUR LADY OF MIRACULOUS MEDAL 27 November

*Our Lady of the Miraculous Medal is also known as Our Lady of Grace for her apparitions to St Catherine Laboure in France*



**"My Child, God wishes to entrust you with a mission."**

*Our Lady to Saint Catherine during the first apparition 18/19 July*

1830

**O Mary, who was conceived without sin, pray for us who have recourse to thee! Amen**

Dear Parishioners,

## TO PROTECT, TO INCLUDE, TO HEAL

At last things are moving! We are into Traffic Light Red on Friday December 3, and I am sure that we will be progressing to Traffic Light Orange before Christmas.

So, in this time of ongoing change, we need to keep things in perspective. The main point of all our lockdowns is to avoid the worst of this contagious Covid-19 Delta virus, and keep our people safe. In this time, we all do what we can to help protect our country.

Our government has put measures in place which we as a Church must, in general, observe and deal with. We need to do so in a Christ-like way, with a concern to protect, to include all, to heal. I have sent you our NZ Bishops' Pastoral Letter.

On Thursday our Eastern deanery of priests met with Bishop Patrick Dunn, and I was impressed by the pastoral concern shown. And our Parish Councils have met together. So what follows echoes the spirit of these meetings.

We must, as the regulations require, have gatherings of up to [100 people with their Vaccination Certificate](#), and up to [10 for those who prefer not to disclose their status](#).

This division is deeply upsetting, but we must be aware of its primary purpose: to protect our people from this terrible disease. Our purpose goes further. It is to protect, to include and to heal.

Hopefully this situation will not last for more than a few weeks, so we need to make sure that, in the longer term we transcend this situation and make sure that our Christ-like love, inclusiveness and community health are built up.

Bearing in mind that things can change from day to day, here is our [short-term plan](#) for our Parishes.

From [Friday December 3](#) onwards, our two Churches will be open for your visit and private prayer.

We will start Mass on **Saturday 4** and **Sunday 5 December**, and [we will start weekday Masses in the following days](#). Our Parish Councils thought our numbers would be well down as people chose not to come back yet.

So we will have [3 Sunday Masses](#): **1 vigil Mass at Mother of Perpetual Help**, and **1 Sunday Mass in each Parish**. Weekday Masses will be shared. Bear in mind that this is very short-term planning.

	<b>St Ignatius Parish</b>	<b>Mother of Perpetual Help Parish</b>
Saturday 4 Dec	NO Vigil Mass	5.30pm Vigil Mass (up to 100 people)
Sunday 5 Dec	10am Sunday Mass (up to 100 people)	10am Mass (up to 100 people)
Monday 6/Tuesday 7 Dec	9am Mass at St Ignatius	—
Thursday 9 Friday 10 Dec	—	9am Mass at MPH Parish
Wednesday 8 Dec	7pm Mass - disclosure of vaccination status not required (Max 10 persons at the Mass)	—
Saturday 11 Dec	NO morning Mass or TBA	No morning Mass or TBA

I am hearing that many people will not come back to Mass under current Covid-19 conditions, because of various concerns.

You have my full support, whatever your decision. [Bear in mind that the Bishops have removed the Sunday Mass obligation](#). You may like to come to a weekday Mass, where there will probably be fewer people, and make that your Sunday Mass.