

Due to the COVID19 Pandemic

The Church is Closed Until Further Notice

The Bishop of Nelson, Bp. Gregory Bittman, writes:

Out of an abundance of caution and concern for our clergy and all of our parishioners, and given the continued spread of the coronavirus and the uncertainty around it, I am issuing the following directive to be implemented immediately:

The closure of our parishes and parish offices for 2 weeks,
to be re-evaluated by 31st March.

This means **all weekend and weekday Masses are cancelled.**

I grant all the Catholic faithful a dispensation from
their Sunday obligations to attend Mass until further notice.

As the Eucharist is central to our lives as Catholics this will come as a hardship,
but let us offer this suffering up for those enduring the effects of the virus
and for the stop of its spread.

This means that all church buildings in the diocese are to be closed.

Apart from funerals, where only immediate family are present,
there will be no other gatherings in church buildings
and individuals are asked to pray at home and not in the churches.