

## **Copy of talk presented at last week's Masses**

I am Mike Williams, Chair of the Parish Finance Committee.

All Parishes in the Wellington Archdiocese were sent a letter on 18 January 2023 concerning the rising cost of Insurance premiums over the past four years. The Archdiocese is aware that a lot of its Parishes are having difficulty in paying their Insurance Premiums, in particular for Natural Disaster Cover.

All the five Dioceses of New Zealand are part of the New Zealand Catholic Church Insurance Scheme. Through this scheme the Archdiocese is able to obtain insurance premiums at levels that are more competitive and secure better terms than each Archdiocese would be able to achieve on its own.

Natural Disaster Cover in the Wellington Archdiocese costs between 3 to 10 times as much as most other dioceses in New Zealand. This is due to a combination of the acknowledged greater seismic risk in our part of the country, and the concentration of that risk with a large number of insured assets in the Wellington region.

To try and keep the costs of Natural Disaster Cover lower, the Archdiocese had already made the decision to only cover one Church in each Parish at only 80% Natural Disaster Cover

After consultation with the Board of Administration, Cardinal John has given his approval for Parishes within the Archdiocese to consider not having Natural Disaster Insurance.

Before The Parish Finance Committee makes a decision on this matter, we are asking you our parishioners for your thoughts.

Our Insurance Premium last year was \$35,500. Of that amount \$17,600 was for Natural Disaster Cover for our Church. Please Note that The Finance Committee has to give the Archdiocese our decision by 17<sup>th</sup> March 2023.

**NOTES:**

Natural disaster cover includes earthquakes, tsunami and geothermal or volcanic events.

General cover (Material Damage) includes Fire, vandalism, storms and such like.

Our Church is 100% of new building code in transverse direction and 80% of new building code in longitudinal direction

At the moment we have Natural Disaster Cover on the Church, The stained Glass Windows, the presbytery, the rentals at Shanly Street and our contents.

**Parish income over the past eight years and the cost our Parish insurance over the past nine years**

Year End 31 March	Income	Insurance
2015	\$ 189,308.00	\$ 19,361.00
2016	\$ 155,689.00	\$ 18,318.00
2017	\$ 153,849.00	\$ 19,934.00
2018	\$ 146,781.00	\$ 20,256.00
2019	\$ 144,955.00	\$ 20,010.00
2020	\$ 233,059.93	\$ 26,608.42
2021	\$ 247,019.86	\$ 31,042.28
2022	\$ 257,845.00	\$ 33,208.87
2023	?	\$ 35,491.91

If we decide to discontinue Natural Disaster Cover on our Church and Presbytery, then it is important that we retain insurance cover for

- Other perils i.e. fire, theft, flooding etc and
- Demolition costs, should a natural disaster destroy the uninsured building

Some options are

- To keep paying Natural Disaster Cover for the Church and Presbytery
- To reduce the amount of cover to between 75% to 10%
- To start our own Self Fund from all or some of the money we would save from not having Natural Disaster Cover

**Please Note that we have to give our decision to the Archdiocese by 17 March 2023**

Your thoughts or comments can be sent to Mike Williams

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Phone / Text 0272484675 after 5pm

Or drop off in the letter box at the Presbytery