

HAMILTON



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FROM Bishop Steve Lowe
TO All Parish Priests
DATE 29 March 2019
SUBJECT **NEW PROCESS for Initial Seismic Assessment (ISA)**

With reference to the *Diocesan Policy on the Earthquake Risk of Church Buildings*, I advise that I have accepted the recommendation from Fr Leonard Danvers, Mr Paul Barnett and Deacon Peter Richardson, that we engage one engineer to undertake and/or manage all Initial Seismic Assessments for the Hamilton Diocese. The firm chosen is Gray Consulting.

This decision has been made to facilitate a consistent approach across the Hamilton Diocese; not only in the assessment of our buildings, but also in the working relationship as we explore options to keep buildings open while permanent solutions are found.

The following will form part of the process:

- **Information gathering** - as much information as possible will need to be collated on each building prior to the inspection by Gray Consulting.
- **List of Priority Diocesan Buildings** - will be prepared based on the age, construction and materials used.
- **Estimated Cost of ISA** - will be communicated to the parish prior to the inspection.

Can I ask that you and your parish offer your prompt assistance with the provision of plans, photos, and any other relevant documents.

Once the ISAs are completed, parishes can decide whether they continue working with Gray Consulting or they may elect to work with another engineer.

The Diocesan Office **contact person** managing this process and working with Gray Consulting - is **Deacon Peter Richardson** peterr@cdh.org.nz

Yours sincerely in Christ the Good Shepherd

✠ Steve Lowe
BISHOP OF HAMILTON