

The “4Rs” of emergency management and their application within the parish.

The generic definitions have a strong focus on human health and property. The 4 ‘Rs’ is the emergency management model accepted across the whole of NZ, and originates from Ministry of Civil Defence and Emergency Management (MCDEM) (2015) National Civil Defence & Emergency Management Framework.

A fifth ‘R’ is added, Relationships, based on the importance of this aspect as outlined in the National Ambulance Plan.

“R”	Generic definition	Application of the concept in the parish context
Reduction	Identifying the long-term risks to human life and property from hazards, and taking steps to eliminate these risks if practical, and if not, reducing their likelihood and the magnitude of their impact.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Buildings are inspected and their % of building code determined. • Parish decides if the risk associated with this % is acceptable in terms of the continued use of the building. • Short, medium and long term plans developed to bring buildings to accepted % of building code (as determined by the local authority for public buildings), or, decision made to close and deconstruct buildings. • Parishioners advised of the usability of buildings (reasons).
Readiness	Developing operational systems and capabilities before an emergency happens. This includes self-help and response programmes for the public, as well as specific programmes for emergency services, life line utilities and other services.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Communication plan to be developed and communicated to parishioners, ADW and others as necessary. This will explain how messages will be communicated. • Parishioners advised of the usability of parish buildings, and the reasons. • Parishioners advised of point at which this use might cease, and the decision-making process to be used. • Parish Leadership Team (PLT), Parish Pastoral Council (PPC) and Parish Finance Committee (PFC) develop plans for alternate locations for services should a building cease to be usable. Parishioners are advised of these plans. In the first instance this will mean enjoining existing services at other, still operating churches in the parish.

		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PLT, PPC and PFC consider plan to open St Anne's campus for welfare purposes (pastoral support, shelter, coordinating billeting and other support as needed).
Response	The actions taken immediately before, during or directly after an emergency to save lives and property, and to help communities recover.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parish incident management team formed (to include representative of the PLT, PPC, PFC and schools, as available). • Implement this plan and the draft incident action plan (attached).
Recovery	Co-ordinated efforts and processes used to bring about the immediate, medium-term, and long-term holistic regeneration of a community following a Civil Defence emergency.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • A recovery team is appointed at the time of the event, or very soon after. • This team plans for the return to normal parish activity.
Relationships	The development and maintenance of communications, coordination and understanding of the emergency response within the parish (including ecumenically), neighbouring parishes and the Archdiocesan office (ADW).	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • This framework and any policies and action plans are shared with parishioners, neighbouring parishes and ADW. • These parties will have met and established policies, procedures, relationships and lines of communication as part of Reduction and Readiness.