



PRAY THE NEWS

Severe storms have battered much of Aotearoa New Zealand, causing widespread damage, disruption, and tragedy.

Severe winds battered Aotearoa this week, with gusts up to 160 km/h triggering red warnings for Wellington and Wairarapa. A man died after being struck by a falling tree branch in Wellington — a tragic reminder of how quickly storms can turn fatal.

Across the country, damage was widespread: hundreds of homes are without power, roads are closed from flooding and fallen trees, and transport has been disrupted nationwide. Farmers face damaged crops and livestock loss, while essential workers continue operating despite dangerous conditions.

NIWA reports an increase in sudden, severe wind events, especially during seasonal transitions. While some can wait out the storm, others — especially the vulnerable — bear the brunt of compounding climate and infrastructure risks with few options for safety or shelter.

TODAY, WE PRAY THE NEWS FOR AOTEAROA NZ STORMS.

- We pray for the family and loved ones of the man killed in Wellington. May they be comforted in grief and supported in their sorrow.
- We pray for communities most impacted — rural residents, essential workers, and those facing power outages, isolation, or housing insecurity.
- We pray for decision-makers and planners responding to storms like this. May they act with foresight, compassion, and justice as climate impacts grow.