



Parish Newsletter Pānui i te Pārihi

Sunday 23 February 2025
7th Sunday in Ordinary Time



RITE OF CHRISTIAN OF INITIATION FOR ADULTS

Rite of Christian of Initiation for Adults, commonly referred to as RCIA is the process for adults to enter the Catholic Church. In our parish 17 adults are being accompanied in the RCIA process by their sponsors and the Parish RCIA team. 13 Catechumens are discerning their readiness for the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Holy Eucharist and 4 Candidates for Full Communion into Catholic Church.



During RCIA, we explored the teachings of Christ as revealed in the Scriptures, the Church's teaching authority (i.e. Magisterium) and her living Tradition. Much time is spent on the 7 Sacraments and how these Sacraments are sources of God's love, mercy and grace and are essential for our faith journey. In availing ourselves to the Sacraments, and animated by the Holy Spirit, we can be drawn into a deeper union with God and his Church.

At each RCIA session, Catechumens, Candidates and respective Sponsors have an opportunity to respond to reflective questions and share how their faith impacts their lives everyday.

In the coming weeks, Catechumens and Candidates will be participating in various Liturgical Rites with us. These include Rite of Election, Celebration of the Sacraments of Initiation and Sunday Masses. These are great opportunities to welcome them and make yourself know to them

Please pray for the Catechumens, Candidates, Tracy Turner, Andrea Pretty, Brent Parker, Jason Peterken, Craig Connolly, Alex Connolly, Aaron Bibby, Larissa Standish, Tom Smith, Keith Bognuda, Melda Brewer, Rico Mapanao, Lisa Fitzgerald, Hayden Fitzgerald, Maxime Lauilhe, Lee Ann Mullin and Laurie Edwin, as they continue their Catechesis and Conversion for a long-life relationship with Jesus as part of our Catholic family.



Pictured a group of Candidates and Catechumens and sponsors after RCIA on Tuesday.

Important Dates

Thursday 27 February
7.00pm Adoration
St Joseph's Church
with Reconciliation

Saturday 1 March 2025
Anointing Mass
St Joseph's Church
11.00am

Sunday 2nd March
St Joseph's School led
Mass 9.00am

Sunday 2nd March
Adoration 3.00pm
Our Lady Help of Christians

LENTEN FAITH FORMATION
Starts 3 March 7.30pm in
St Joseph's Church hall

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION PARENT INFORMATION
Thursday 3 April 6.30pm
St Joseph's Church hall

QUIET YOUR HEART
Music with Kadisha
St Joseph's Monday
11.00am to 11.30am
Our Lady Help of Christians
Friday 9.30am to 10.00am

PARISH NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

To include articles in the newsletter, please contact the Office 757-3682 office@catholicparishnp.nz
The cutoff time for content is Tuesday 3.00pm.

Late submissions will be considered for the next issue.

Because of space constraints, Parish and diocese news have priority.



ASH WEDNESDAY 5 MARCH 2025.

ASH WEDNESDAY MASS TIMES:

We celebrate Mass on Ash Wednesday

St Joseph's 8.00am and 12.05pm

Our Lady Help of Christians 9.10am and 5.30pm

ECUMENICAL CELEBRATION with the Anglican community Ash Wednesday 7.00pm at St. Joseph's church. Do join together with the Anglican communities for a time of prayer and song and the receiving of the ashes.

CARITAS LENTEN APPEAL:

The Caritas theme for Lent 2025 is "Restoring hope: Your compassion in action/ Kia puawai te Tumanako. As we focus on the three pillars of prayer, fasting and almsgiving during Lent, we connect with God and look to serve others. Caritas encourages supporters to donate online, through the website or through direct deposit. But next week we will have the donation envelopes available for cash and credit card donations.

CARITAS LENT REFLECTION PROGRAMME: The Lenten season provides an opportunity each year to deepen our understanding of our faith by reflecting on the Gospels. During Lent we are called to turn away from the things that encumber our faith journey and to turn towards God. Lent is an opportunity to renew ourselves and our relationship with God

We have the Caritas Lenten Reflection Booklets in the office. Would you consider starting a group? Would you consider joining one of the groups we will be organising? More details next week. If you would like to download a copy of the booklet please go to the Caritas website.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS THROUGH LENT: If you are interested in leading the Stations of the Cross through Lent at St Joseph's Church or Our Lady Help of Christians Church, please contact the Parish Office.



Sunday 26th January parishioners travelled very early in the morning to be with Fr Trung as he celebrated his first Mass at St Bridget's Fielding. Pictured left are the younger members of the group with Fr Trung.

SAVE THE DATE: - Thursday 3 April 6.30pm

Sacramental Preparation Parent Information Evening

If you wish this year for;

Your child over 7 years to be baptised or

Your child to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion or

Your child (Years 11 to 13) to be Confirmed

Then you will need to be at our parent information evening. As our programmes of Older Children's Baptism and Reconciliation and First Communion are family based, we need all involved to see firsthand the process for preparation for these sacraments, and how it works in our parish!

Thursday April 3 6.30pm St Joseph's Church Hall. For children and families to be part of the sacramental programmes, it will be very important for a parent or care giver to be at this meeting. Enquiries to youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz



A LENTEN FAITH FORMATION SERIES:

Christina and Jamie invite you to join in an Enlightening Video Series with Dan Burke!

We are excited to invite you to our upcoming video sessions on "Spiritual Warfare and Discernment of Spirits," led by Dan Burke. An introduction into understanding the spiritual battles we face and learn how to discern the spirits with wisdom and faith.



About Dan Burke: Dan Burke is the founder and President of the Avila Institute for Spiritual Formation, which offers graduate and personal enrichment studies in spiritual theology to priests, deacons, religious, and laity in 72 countries. He is also the author and editor of more than 15 books on authentic Catholic spirituality & hosts the Divine Intimacy Radio show with his wife, Stephanie, broadcast weekly on EWTN Radio12.

Don't miss this opportunity to grow spiritually and strengthen your faith journey.

When: 3 March to 7 April 2025. 7.30pm to 9.00pm

Where: St. Joseph's Church Hall (New Plymouth)

Week 1: Introduction and Overview of the Series

Week 2: The Armour of God

Week 3: Discernment of Spirits

Week: 4 Strategies for Spiritual Victory

Week: 5 Welcoming the Holy Spirit

Week: 6 Standing Firm and Following his will.

For more details please see page 6 of the emailed or website newsletter. Contact: Jaime jzle012@gmail.com or Christina jp2padua2020@gmail.com or leave your name and phone number with the Parish Office and we will phone you.

ASH WEDNESDAY 5 March. Please bring the palms that you have from Palm Sunday 2024, to the Parish Office or leave in the marked trays in the church foyers. We will burn these palms, to give us ashes for Ash Wednesday.

LEADERSHIP TEAM

VACANCY: Parish Strategic Leader (Fulltime)

Strategic, organised, driven, relational and passionate – is this you?

Do you have people management experience and have worked in an organisation with both operational and strategic responsibilities?

Does building relationships and collaborating with others around shared goals sound like you?

The Strategic Leader will be joining the vibrant New Plymouth Catholic Parish team, supporting and growing our Parish faith journey – could this be you?

Then call the office on (06 757 3682) or contact by email ParishLeadershipTeam@catholicparishnp.nz to request the Job Description and Application Form.

Applications close Friday 7 March 2025.

SHORT TERM VOLUNTEER FOR THE PARISH OFFICE:

The parish is looking for someone who has computer skills who could work for a few hours at a time in the Parish Office. Would you be able to volunteer some time? Please contact Fr Simon simon@catholicparishnp.nz Thank you. The Parish Leadership Team.

ANOINTING MASS: The monthly Mass of Anointing will be held 11.00am Saturday 1 March St Joseph's Church. Everyone is welcome. Refreshments afterwards.

The Bishops Conference has launched the renewed CathNews New Zealand project. This ministry supports Catholics and people interested in the Church in accessing news and other content of interest. It draws from material that has already been published and includes original content. The best way to receive CathNews New Zealand is by signing up to the newsletter, which is sent on Tuesday and Friday mornings. Visit the CathNews New Zealand website and sign up at <https://cathnewsnz.com>



DIVINE MERCY CONFERENCE IN AUCKLAND May 23-25 2025 Fr Chris Alar - Keynote Speaker

Divine Mercy NZ is excited to be bringing back to New Zealand Fr Chris Alar MIC from the US plus several other international speakers.

Divine Mercy Conference 2025 will be in a real sense an encapsulation of all that has gone before, and yet more, and to the point – how that is lived out, witnessed, in the Third Millennium. Please join us for this important event in the Jubilee Year. Registrations are essential;

www.divinemercyconference2025.co.nz
Pat Barrett 03 359 2087 info@divinemercy.co.nz
See too, page 5 of the emailed or website newsletter.



YOUTH GROUP WE GATHER ON SUNDAYS DURING THE SCHOOL TERM AT ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH HALL.	SHINE LIFE TEEN NEW PLYMOUTH	JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP FOR YEARS 4 TO 8 4:00 pm - 5:00 pm	SENIOR YOUTH GROUP FOR YEARS 9 - 13 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm
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YOUTH GROUP THIS SUNDAY 23 FEBRUARY 2025



YOUTH GROUP NEXT SUNDAY 2 MARCH 2025

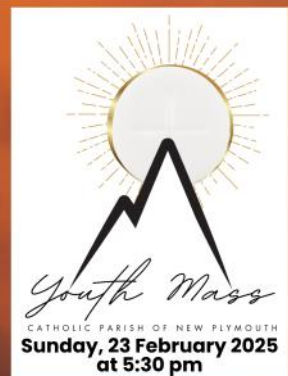


SEEING THE WORD Jesus' Birth

How does the birth of Jesus supercharge my faith in God?

Come along on this mind-blowing journey as we dive into the incredible mystery of Jesus' arrival on Earth!

DRESS CODE:
Put on something orange for the youth group, and together, we will turn the hall into an orange paradise!



The very first words, then, that I would like to say to every young Christian are these: Christ is alive and he wants you to be alive!
CHRISTUS VIVIT (CHRIST IS ALIVE) - PARAGRAPH 1- POPE FRANCIS

CHILDRENS LITURGY GROUP AT SUNDAY 9.00AM MASS. We do need a few more volunteers to help. Volunteers working in pairs or groups would be welcome. Talk to Karen youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz

	PURPOSE <i>whakawhaka</i>	
	<p>"Be STRONG and COURAGEOUS; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:9</p>	
	SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION year 11 - 13	2025
REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN		
Here are some options to register and access further details about the important dates:		
<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Visit the parish website• Scan the QR code found here or on the YOUTH notice board in the foyer		
SCAN HERE		



We pray for our deceased family and friends: Mary Wilson, Janice Cuniel, Marie Hickey, Andrea Dravitzki and Bill Murphy.

FEB

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

24 MON	8.00am	St Joseph's Church
25 TUES	8.00am 9.10am 12.05pm	St Joseph's Church Our Lady Help of Christians Church St Joseph's Church
26 WED	8.00am 9.10am	St Joseph's Church Our Lady Help of Christians Church
27 THU	8.00am 9.10am 2.20pm	St Joseph's Church Our Lady Help of Christians Church Francis Douglas Memorial College
28 FRI	8.00am 9.00am 12.05pm	St Joseph's Church St Pius X School (in Philomena Hall) St Joseph's Church
MAR	8.30am 11.00am 5.30pm 6.00pm	St Joseph's Church Anointing Mass Everyone is welcome Our Lady Help of Christians Church St Patrick's Church Okato
1 SAT	9.00am 10.30am 10.30am 5.30pm	St Joseph's Church (St Joseph's School Led Mass) Our Lady Help of Christians Church Bell Block Mass Centre St Joseph's Church

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 11.30am to 12 noon at St Joseph's Church OR 4.45pm at OLHC prior to the 5.30pm Vigil Mass. And during Thursday Adoration at St Joseph's Church 7.00pm. Reconciliation is also available by appointment with the priests, by initially phoning the Parish Office 757 3682.

MORNING PRAYER: Monday and Tuesday 7.40am and Saturday at 8.10am. Please go to the back door of Parish Office building. We're in the Mary Mckillop Room.

KINGDOM KIDZ CHILDREN'S LITURGY:

Our Lady Help of Christians Church:

Each Sunday at 10.30am Mass. A special Children's Liturgy in the St John Bosco School Breakout Space.



St Joseph's Church: Each Sunday at 9.00am Mass in the church foyer.

LITTLE ANGELS MUSIC AND PLAY GROUP FOR PRESCHOOLERS



Music, play and morning tea. Our Lady Help of Christians Church foyer from 9.00am each Monday during term time. Enquiries please contact Tess 027 583 7732.

QUIET YOUR HEART: Music with Kadisha.

Each Monday at St Joseph's Church - 11.00am to 11.30am. Each Friday at Our Lady Help of Christians Church - 9.30am to 10.00am

SUNDAY READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

8th Sunday in Ordinary time
2nd March 2025

1ST READING: Sirach 27.4-7

PSALM: 92

2ND READING: 1 Corinthians 15.54-58

GOSPEL: Luke 6.39.45



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CHURCH

Tuesday
9:35am to 10:30am
(after 9:10am Mass)

First Sunday of the month
3:00pm - 4:00pm

BELL BLOCK CATHOLIC CENTRE

First Friday of the month
4.00pm - 5.00pm

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

Every Thursday
7:00pm - 8:00pm

HOLY HOUR

God dwells in our midst
in the Blessed Sacrament of the altar
St. Maximilian Kolbe

EUCHARISTIC ADORATION

CONTACT US

Parish Office, 106 Powderham St,
PO Box 32, New Plymouth
(06) 757 3682
office@catholicparishnp.nz
www.catholicparishnp.nz

Emergency Phone

027 224 2100

Catholic Parish of New Plymouth

PRIESTS:

Simon Story simon@catholicparishnp.nz
Tom Lawn tom@catholicparishnp.nz
Sobin Sebastian sobin@catholicparishnp.nz

OFFICE ADMINISTRATION Ireen
office@catholicparishnp.nz

FINANCE MANAGER Teresa
accounts@catholicparishnp.nz

YOUNG FAMILIES MINISTER Karen
youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz

YOUTH MINISTER Susilo
youth@catholicparishnp.nz

MUSIC COORDINATOR Amelia
musiccoordinator@catholicparishnp.nz

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM
ParishLeadershipTeam@catholicparishnp.nz

ST JOSEPH'S

106 Powderham St
New Plymouth



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

24 Clinton St, Fitzroy

BELL BLOCK CATHOLIC CENTRE

138 Parklands Ave
Bell Block

ST PATRICK'S OKATO

36 Cumming St
Okato

Rise, Let us be on our Way Divine Mercy in the 3rd Millennium Conference



Tommy Canning UK



Fr Rory Morrissey NZ



John Canavan Aust



Pat Barrett NZ



Anna Nuzzo, Singer, US

Auckland
May 23-25 2025

www.divinemercyconference2025.co.nz | Ph 03 359 2087



Fr Andrew Grace Aust.

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Don't miss this opportunity to grow spiritually and strengthen your faith journey.

When: 03 March to 07 April 2025. 7:30PM to 9PM (*Doors open at 7:15PM)

Where: St. Joseph Church Hall (New Plymouth)

Introduction and Overview of the Series

- o Authentic discipleship and narrow way
- o Recognizing the Signs of Spiritual Battles
- o **The Armour of God**
- o Equipping Yourself for Spiritual Combat
- o The Role of Faith and Prayer in Spiritual Warfare
- o **Discernment of Spirits**
- o Identifying the Presence of Good and Evil Spirits
- o Practical Steps for Discernment
- o **Strategies for Spiritual Victory**
- o Overcoming Temptations and Spiritual Attacks
- o Building a Strong Spiritual Defence
- o **The Power of Sacraments and Sacramentals**
- o Utilizing Sacraments in Spiritual Warfare
- o The Importance of Sacramentals in Daily Life
- o **Spiritual Warfare in Daily Life**
- o Applying Spiritual Warfare Principles in Everyday Situations
- o Testimonies and Real-Life Examples

We look forward to seeing you there!

To find out more, please contact: Christina jp2padua2020@gmail.com or Jaime jzle012@gmail.com. We can also ring you if you leave your name and phone number with the Parish Office.