



Parish Newsletter Pānui i te Pārihi

Sunday 30 March 2025
Fourth Sunday of Lent



SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMMES 2025



Photo above: First Holy Communion 2024



Photo above: Confirmation 2024



Photo above: Baptism 2024

OLDER CHILDRENS BAPTISM – FIRST RECONCILIATION – FIRST COMMUNION – CONFIRMATION IT'S TIME TO ENROL NOW

If your child is 7 years and older and you want them to make their First Communion, or be baptised this year, or if your child is 15 years and older and you want them to be Confirmed this year, the process is starting now. You will need to be at our parent information evening on:

Thursday 3 April 6.30pm in St Joseph's Church Hall

Our sacramental programmes of Older Children's Baptism, First Reconciliation, First Communion, and Confirmation are family based, we need all involved to see firsthand the process for preparation for these sacraments, and how it works in our parish! It will be very important for a parent or care giver to be at this meeting as enrolments for First Communion and Older Children's Baptism are opened at this meeting.

Enquiries

OLDER CHILDRENS BAPTISM – FIRST RECONCILIATION – FIRST COMMUNION

Karen: youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz

CONFIRMATION

Susilo: youth@catholicparishnp.nz

{ See page 6 of the online and emailed newsletter also }

Important Dates

Monday 31 March
Lenten Faith Formation
7.30pm in St Joseph's
Church Hall

Tuesday 1 April
Adoration

Our Lady Help of
Christians 9.35am

Thursday 3 April
Adoration and
Reconciliation

St Joseph's Church 7.00pm

Friday 4 April
First Friday Adoration
Bell Block Mass Centre
4.00pm

Sunday 6 April
First Sunday Adoration
Our Lady Help of
Christians 3.00pm

Thursday 3 April
And Thursdays of Lent
Caritas Lenten
Reflection Programme
St Joseph's Office 5.45pm
Bell Block Catholic Centre
7.00pm

Friday 4 April and
Fridays of Lent
Stations of the Cross
OLHC 5.30pm
St Joseph's 7.00pm

RECONCILIATION
DURING LENT
Monday 7 April 7.00pm
At St Joseph's
Wednesday 9 April
7.00pm at Our Lady Help
of Christians and
Thursday 3rd and 10th
April during Adoration at
St Joseph's
Saturday times. See pg 4

EMPOWERING PARENTS
SACRAMENTAL
PREPARATION PARENT
INFORMATION

Thursday 3 April 6.30pm
St Joseph's Church Hall

OUR PARISH VISION

A COMMUNITY CALLED BY GOD FOR MISSIONAL DISCIPLESHIP
GATHERED AROUND JESUS CHRIST FED WITH THE EUCHARIST AND
SENT TO TRANSFORM LIVES EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT





Support for Lent Appeal is an 'act of generosity' A statement from the Catholic Bishops of Aotearoa New Zealand

Every year in this sacred time, the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference asks Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand to run a six-week fundraising campaign on their behalf called **the Bishops' Lent Appeal**.

The money raised during this time is essential to the mission of Caritas. It provides much of the funding necessary for them to continue their life-changing work in Aotearoa, the Pacific and beyond.

This year's appeal is even more urgent than usual. The US government recently stopped almost all foreign aid. France, the Netherlands, Switzerland, Germany and the UK have also cut their overseas development aid budgets. These decisions will cause significant suffering for those facing poverty, conflict, disasters and the effects of climate change. Your support is needed so Caritas can step in across the Pacific as donor governments withdraw.

Every year, individuals and parishes across New Zealand demonstrate great generosity by donating to this appeal. We hope that this will continue for this Lenten season.

The theme for the Lent appeal in 2025 is **Restoring hope: Your compassion in action / Kia puawai te Tūmanako**. Caritas' mission, as the Catholic agency for justice, peace and development, is of vital importance to us all. The **Bishops' Lent Appeal** is the best way to directly fund Caritas' work – supporting vulnerable communities around the world.

For the Catholic community, Caritas is how we help our brothers and sisters in need, upholding their human dignity through local partnerships grounded in Catholic social teaching.

Over the last few years there has been a drop in giving to Caritas, putting pressure on their ability to fund the programmes that serve those most in need. We ask that during this time of preparation, prayer and almsgiving, you make a special donation to the **Bishops' Lent Appeal 2025** at caritas.org.nz/lent or by using the envelopes provided at Mass.

This act of almsgiving is an act of generosity. It will mean so much to the people Caritas serves across our region.

ANOINTING MASS: The monthly Mass of Anointing will be held at 11.00am next Saturday 5 April at St Joseph's Church. Everyone is welcome.

ANOINTING MASS at Bell Block Catholic Centre, Wed 9 April, 9.30am, followed by a cuppa. Everyone welcome. Residents in Bell Block rest homes will also be anointed.

CWL COMMITTEE MEETING: Friday 4 April - Committee Meeting at 10.30am in St Joseph's Church foyer.

CWLFIRST FRIDAY LUNCH: Friday 4 April, after the 12.05pm Mass at St Joseph's. CWL offer a delicious lunch. Plated sandwiches and cakes with tea or coffee for just \$7, and this also includes a raffle ticket! This is a fundraising activity for the CWL, so the more lunch guests there are, the more CWL can help others. Go to the CWL website to see CWL nationwide work www.cwl.org.nz



FOOD FOR FAITH CONVERSATIONS: Wednesday 2 April at 10.00am at Stumble Inn Merrilands Shopping Centre, 198 Mangorei Road NP. Come along and have a coffee or tea and faith sharing with your fellow parishioners. Just look for the orange F.F.F sign on a table

MARIAN MOTHERS will meet Thursday 3 April at Our Lady Help of Christians 24 Clinton Street, Fitzroy, 7.00pm to 8.30pm. Please come along and join in prayer and a cuppa. Please bring a small sharing plate. Any queries, please phone Glenda 021 323 765.



FROM POPE FRANCIS

APRIL PRAYER INTENTION:

Let us pray that the use of the new technologies will not replace human relationships, will respect the dignity of the person, and will help us face the crises of our times.



CHRISM MASS for the Diocese of Palmerston North will be celebrated Tuesday 15 April 12.05pm at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit. All welcome

EASTER VIGIL MASS at St Joseph's 19 April, will begin at 6.00pm. There will be no Vigil Mass at St Patrick's Okato or at Our Lady Help of Christians that night.

ALPHA 2025 IS COMING:

We are starting ALPHA @6 Thursday 1 May 6.00pm in St Joseph's Church Hall. BUT before we start ALPHA we need volunteers to help run the programme. We need people to be involved. It's not hard work and it's fun. It's with people and building relationships with people. Could you help with the hospitality, like doing the dishes? Could you help with the childcare? Could you help with the group discussions? Could you help with the setting up for the night? Could you socialise with the guests? It's only 2 and a half hours a week for 10 weeks. The Alpha team is a friendly group who work together. We all have a meal together at 6.00pm, so why not think about coming in at 5.30pm, joining the Alpha meal at 6.00pm, and then being part of the Alpha experience from 6.30pm until the finish at 8.00pm. If interested email Karen at youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz or alphateam@catholicparishnp.nz or contact the Parish Office 06 757 3682. We need your help. We need you.



DONATIONS AT THE END OF THE TAX YEAR:

The tax year ends 31 March 2025 and tax receipts for church donations will be issued during April. Any donations received online or handed into the office 31 March will be recorded in this year's receipts. We have had several online donations, which we cannot match with a donor. We issue tax receipts by number not name, so a number is important. If you think we may have an unknown donation from you, (eg from a Family Trust) please contact the Parish Office.

March 2025 Funding Round

Catholic Charities Foundation
Parish groups, agencies and church organisations that provide a helping hand by supporting Families and Social Services are invited to apply for funding from the Catholic Charities Foundation of Palmerston and the Tindall Foundation through the Diocesan Allocations group. Applications are now open and are due by Monday 31 March 2025. Application forms and more information can be found at: <https://pndiocese.org.nz/who-we-are/application-for-funding-catholic-charities-allocations/> or please contact reception@pndiocese.org.nz

All are invited to come to **NIGHT OF WORSHIP, ADORATION & RECONCILIATION** on Friday, 11 April 2025, from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm at St Joseph's Church Hall.

Theme: HOPE RENEWED (Be strong and take heart, all you who hope in the LORD. – Psalm 31:24)

We pray for our deceased family and friends: Dennis Walsh, Rev Don Campbell, Norma Charteris, Adam Adamski, Michael Mrozek, Felicity Woodfield, Ngaire McDonald, Margaret O'Connell and Judy Scott.

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

YOUTH GROUP THIS SUNDAY 30 MARCH 2025

SUNDAY 30 MARCH 6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
WIN A PRIZE FOR THE TOP TEAM

Photo CHALLENGE

SELECT A COLOUR THEME AND DRESS AS A TEAM.

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH HALL

ILLUMIN8 & SHINE

YOUTH GROUPS FAMILY DINNER

Sunday, 6 April 2025
7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

Please bring a dish to share with everyone!

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

FEARLESS

PURPOSE

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2025
year 11 - 13

REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN

Here are some options to register and access further details about the important dates:

- Visit the parish website
- Scan the QR code found here or on the YOUTH notice board in the foyer

SCAN HERE

Be STRONG and COURAGEOUS; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go.
Joshua 1:9

FILMING: We are filming (professionally) a 2 minute video clip after 9.00am Mass at St Joseph's Church, Sunday 30 March. Stay behind after Mass and become a film star. Bring your hats, beanies, scarves, thick winter coats and blankets, if you really want to be in character.

MAR		WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH	
31 MON	8.00am	St Joseph's Church	
APR 1 TUES	8.00am	St Joseph's Church	
	9.10am	Our Lady Help of Christians Church	
	12.05pm	St Joseph's Church	
2 WED	8.00am	St Joseph's Church	
	9.10am	Our Lady Help of Christians Church	
3 THU	8.00am	St Joseph's Church	
	9.50am	Sacred Heart Girls College	
	2.20pm	Francis Douglas Memorial College	
4 FRI	8.00am	St Joseph's Church	
	12.05pm	St Joseph's Church	
5 SAT	8.30am	St Joseph's Church	
	11.00am	Anointing Mass Everyone is welcome at this Mass	
	5.30pm	Our Lady Help of Christians Church	
	6.00pm	St Patrick's Church Okato	
6 SUN	9.00am	St Joseph's Church	
	10.30am	Our Lady Help of Christians Church	
	10.30am	Bell Block Catholic Centre	
	5.30pm	St Joseph's Church	

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturdays 11.30am to 12 noon at St Joseph's Church OR 4.30pm at OLHC prior to the 5.30pm Vigil Mass. Reconciliation at 7.00pm Thursday Adoration at St Joseph's Church. Reconciliation is also available by appointment with the priests, by initially phoning the Parish Office.

LENT AND HOLY WEEK RECONCILIATION TIMES:



Monday 7 April St Joseph's 7.00pm
 Wednesday 9 April OLHC Fitzroy 7.00pm
 Every Saturday 11.30am St Josephs
 Every Saturday 4.30pm OLHC Fitzroy (Note earlier time)
 Every Thurs at 7.00pm Adoration at St Joseph's.
 Wednesday 16 April after Mass OLHC Fitzroy

MORNING PRAYER: Monday, Tuesday and Friday 7.40am and Saturday at 8.10am. Please go to the back door of Parish Office building. We are in the Mary McKillop Room.

MUSIC NOTES:

Don't miss the Youth at Mass!

Youth Mass: The Mustard Seeds - this Sunday 30 March, St Joseph's at 5.30pm

Worship/Adoration night: The Mustard Seeds - 11 April, St Joseph's Church Hall at 7.00pm

Palm Sunday-Junior Youth Mass The Seedlings - 13 April, St Joseph's at 5.30pm

SUNDAY READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

5th Sunday of Lent 6th April 2025
 Because we have RCIA baptisms at Easter we are using Year A readings during Lent

1ST READING: Ezekiel 37.12-14

PSALM: 130

2ND READING: Romans 8.8-11

GOSPEL: John 11.1-45

St Joseph's banner: Lazarus



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

EUCCHARISTIC 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:

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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

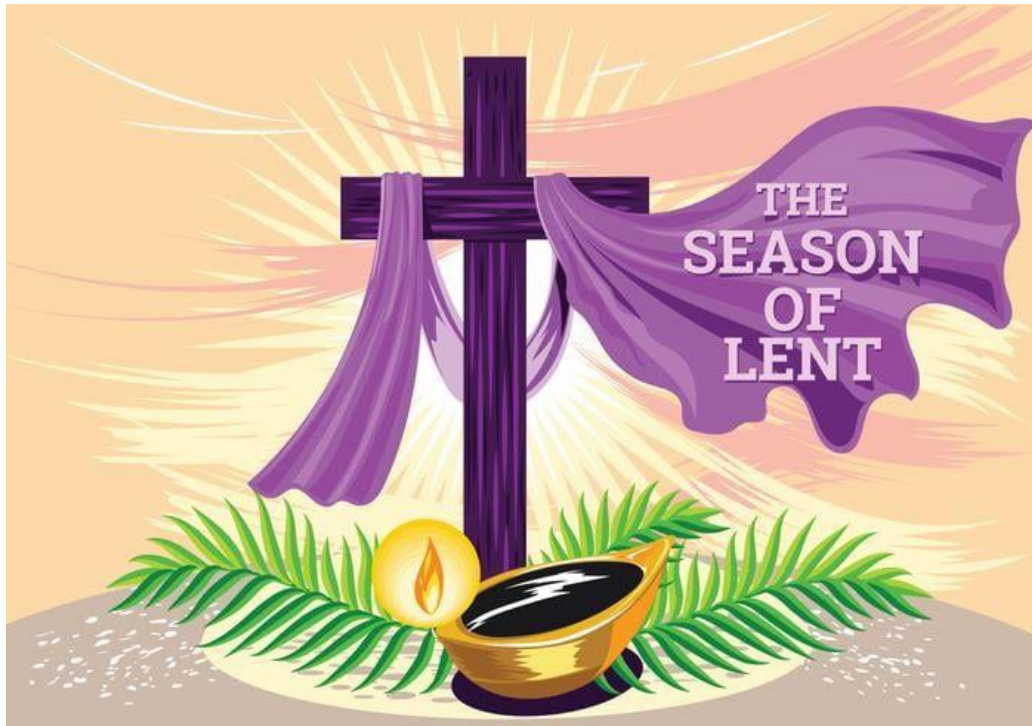
ST PATRICK'S OKATO

36 Cumming St
 Okato

Taranaki Spiritual Companions Group
A Sacred Quiet Morning

At St. Mary's Anglican Church, 204 Princes Street, Hawera

Listening to God in Lent



On Saturday 5th April 2025
9.30am - 1pm

A quiet time during lent for silent prayer, music, scripture reading, and reflection with a focus on listening to God as we journey with our Lord to the Cross

We wait in hope for the Lord; he is our help and our shield. In him our hearts rejoice, for we trust in his holy name. May your unfailing love be with us, Lord, even as we put our hope in you. Psalm 33:20-22

Bring your Bible, writing materials, rug and or cushion for comfort if desired. Refreshments are provided. Koha is welcomed in assisting to meet costs. Resources are provided.

Please register your attendance by the 30th of March 2025 with Heather Lofthouse Mobile - 021617894 Email heather1349@gmail.com



EMPOWERING PARENTS

The parish asks all parents to attend this evening if you wish your child to receive Baptism, Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation this year.



Day & Date
Thursday, 3 April 2025



Time
6:30 pm - 8:00 pm



Venue
St Joseph's Church Hall



Come and hear how you can be empowered to become your children's first teachers of faith and, as a family, grow in your relationship with Jesus Christ.



www.catholicparishnp.nz



Older Children's
Baptism



First Holy Communion



Reconciliation



SACRAMENT OF
CONFIRMATION



Contact Us
For Older Children's Baptism,
First Holy Communion, and Reconciliation inquiries,
contact KAREN at
youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz.

For Confirmation inquiries, contact SUSILO at
youth@catholicparishnp.nz.