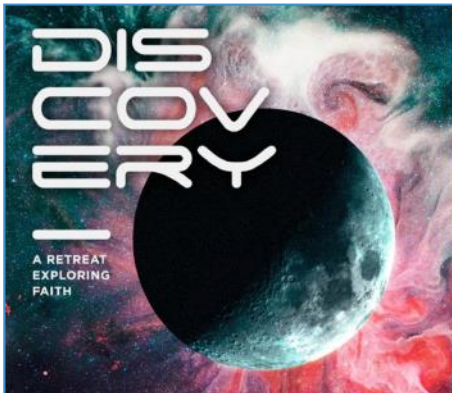




Parish Newsletter Pānui i te Pārihi

Sunday, 15th December
Third Sunday of Advent



Last weekend, on 6 and 7 December 2024, a group of 23 teenagers gathered for their annual retreat.

The weekend was filled with inspiring activities designed to strengthen their faith, including games, small group discussions, interactive talks, Adoration, reconciliation, and fellowship.

The purpose of Discovery is to guide teens in establishing a faithful and enduring relationship with Jesus by helping them recognise He works through the past, His presence in the present, and the hope He offers for the future.

I am grateful for your prayers and kindly ask that you continue to keep us in your thoughts.



SUSILO
YOUTH MINISTER

LIFE TEEN

Important Dates

Sunday 15 December and Sunday 22 December
Christmas Mince Pies
Available for distribution by Special Ministers to the Sick

Sunday 15 December
5.30pm Mass

St Joseph's First night of Simbang Gabi Novena of nine evening Masses

Monday, 16 December
7.00pm St Joseph's

Second night of Simbang Gabi Novena of Nine evening Masses.
See page 3 for timetable

Monday, 16 December
Social Justice Group
Preparing for Advent
Our Lady Help of Christians 6.00pm

Wednesday, 18 December
Christmas Concert
St Joseph's Church Hall
10.00am

Thursday, 19 December
Advent Gospel Reflections
Bell Block Mass Centre
7.00pm to 8.00pm

Reconciliation times are on page 4.

We have early evening reconciliation at St Joseph's Church 5.15pm to 6.30pm Thursday 19th December, prior to Simbang Gabi Mass at 7.00pm.

Reconciliation at Our Lady Help of Christians prior to the Vigil Mass will begin at 4.30pm for the next two Saturdays.

OUR NEW 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



GENERAL NOTICES

PRIESTS' SHIFTS: Recently Bishop John announced the names of priest who will be moving to new parishes in 2025. Parishioners may have heard the announcement made at Mass last Sunday, that Fr Trung is to move to St Bridget's Fielding, as Administrator and he will also be looking after Taihape and Ohakune parishes. We wish Fr Trung all the very best for his new responsibility which will begin early 2025. Fr Trung says his last weekend here will be 18/19th January, so we will have time for our goodbyes.

MINISTERS TO THE SICK: The Christmas mince pie packages are available to give to those you take Communion to, today Sunday, 15 December and again 22 December. They will be in the church foyers.

CHRISTMAS CARDS: Please pick up your Parish Christmas card from the foyer today. Take one as well please, for your relations, friends, neighbours, and anyone who you think may welcome a card. The Christmas and January Mass times are in the card.

FOOD FOR FAITH ADVENT: For daily, Advent encouragements that are only a few minutes long, go to Food For Faith. Sign up at www.foodforfaith.org.nz to prepare for Christmas by receiving daily readings, podcasts, prayer requests with Fr John O'Connor.

FOOD FOR FAITH CONVERSATIONS: Thursday December 19th at 10.00am at Stumble Inn. 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.

THE ALTAR SOCIETY at St Joseph's church are looking for two extra helpers to assist with the washing of the altar linen. It involves collecting the altar linen, mainly altar cloths & purificators, then washing, ironing & returning to the church for the following weekend. We use a roster system. If anyone is interested, please call Teresa Tooman (06) 751 3654 for more details.

SUNDAY MISSALS FOR YEAR C: Our supplier Pleroma, reports that delivery of these missals was delayed by printing issues and then by customs intervention in transit. The missals should be in the office by mid January.

CATHOLIC WOMENS LEAGUE CHRISTMAS RAFFLE

The raffle was drawn on Monday and the winners are.

1st Prize Jennifer Crowley 2nd prize Lois Sole
3rd prize Sharon Thomas 4th prize Sue England

CWL thanks parishioners who supported the raffle and for the support offered over the year. You have helped CWL to help others.



TO THANK GOD FOR ALL THE BLESSINGS WE HAVE RECEIVED:

New Years Eve, 31 December 2024, at St Joseph's Church we will have Adoration 11.00pm to Midnight. Adoration will be followed by Mass, offering everything to God. A perfect way to start the year.

COLUMBAN CALENDARS: Calendars are again only \$12.00, and are available from the Parish Office or at OLHC Sunday Mass in the foyer with John Goodin and at Bell Block and Okato. This week in the foyer after 9.00am Mass at St Joseph's with the eftpos. We have 37 calendars left to sell. At \$12.00 this will make a nice little Christmas present for a relative, a friend or a neighbour.

Beautiful soaps from Soap for HOPE are available from the Parish Office for \$5. These soaps are lovingly made as a fundraiser for Gabby's Starlit HOPE. Proceeds from the sale of these soaps enable Gabby's Starlit HOPE to do acts of kindness to support kids and their families in hospital. These soaps make a great gift or a little indulgence for yourself! Available at St Joseph's after Mass this Sunday with the calendar sales. Another great gift idea.

Christmas Dues Special Collection

Many thanks to parishioners who in the past have contributed to the Christmas Dues/Offerings Special Collection. The Special Collection planned giving envelopes gifted on Christmas Day are for this collection. The collection is given to the Clergy Trust Fund to support the priests of the Diocese.

Those who donate by Planned giving will have the special collection brown envelopes. There will also be collection envelopes attached to the newsletter next Sunday. These will also be in the church foyer. Or alternatively please pay by direct credit to the parish bank account 020 630 0288002 03 your name as payee, 'Dues' as reference and Planned Giving Number if you have one.

Your support and help is always appreciated!

The blessing of Christmas be with you all and your loved ones. Fr. Brian Walsh (Chairman ~ Clergy Trust Fund)



Every 25 years, the church proclaims a Holy Year, a special gift of grace and mercy for all people.

Pope Francis has declared 2025 as a year of Jubilee with the theme '**Pilgrims of Hope**', giving voice to his desire for the year to foster a greater sense of global sisterhood and brotherhood, solidarity with the poor, and caring for the environment.

"We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us, and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision. The forthcoming Jubilee can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth that we so urgently desire; that is why I have chosen as the motto of the Jubilee, Pilgrims of Hope. Pope Francis

Catholic Parish of New Plymouth
and
Couples for Christ Taranaki

invites you to...

SIMBANG GABI (Night Mass)

An evening novena Mass is a cherished tradition among Filipinos, held in anticipation of the birth of Christ.

AT ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH NEW PLYMOUTH

15 December 2024 5:30pm	20 December 2024 7:00pm
16 December 2024 7:00pm	21 December 2024 7:00pm
17 December 2024 7:00pm	22 December 2024 5:30pm
18 December 2024 7:00pm	23 December 2024 7:00pm
19 December 2024 7:00pm	

The first recorded celebration of Christmas, or the feast commemorating the birth of Jesus Christ, dates back to the 4th century. The earliest known reference to celebrating Christmas on December 25th is found in a Roman almanac from 336 AD., which lists the date as a Christian festival.



This would have been during the reign of the Roman Emperor Constantine, who was the first Christian Roman Emperor. December 25th was officially declared as the day to celebrate Christ's birth by Pope Julius I in the 4th century. The exact year of the declaration is unknown, but Pope Julius I served as Pope from 337AD to 352 AD, so it is generally believed that this declaration happened sometime during his papacy in the mid-4th century.

CATHOLIC PARISH OF NEW PLYMOUTH

Invites you to a

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

with MORNING TEA and CHRISTMAS CRAFTING for children

DECEMBER
WEDNESDAY 18 AT 10 AM

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH HALL
151 DEVON STREET WEST, NEW PLYMOUTH

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT
YOUTH GROUP

WE MEET ON SUNDAY DURING THE SCHOOL TERM AT ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH HALL

JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP SHINE Year 4 - 8 4pm - 5pm	SENIOR YOUTH GROUP LIFE TEEN Year 9 - 13 6.30pm - 8.30pm
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CHRISTMAS MIDNIGHT MASS

CHRISTMAS CAROLS
TUES, 24 DEC 2024
AT 11:30 PM
MUSIC BY THE MUSTARD SEEDS

MASS
TUES, 24 DEC 2024
AT 12:00 AM

Organised by
Illumin8 YOUTH GROUP

ATTENTION

YOUTH GROUP IS HAVING A CHRISTMAS and SUMMER BREAK!

YOUTH GROUP 2025
RESUMES ON SUNDAY, 2 FEBRUARY 2025

Set those calendars ablaze for the epic adventures headed your way in youth group in 2025!

COME JOIN THE FUN!

CHRISTMAS CONCERT Wednesday, 18 December 2024 10:00 am St Joseph's Hall	FUN AT THE FARM Friday, 24 January 2024 11:00 am - 7:00 pm The Joyce's Farm 563 Plymouth Rd, Oakura
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"Dear young people, make the most of these years of your youth. Give yourselves over to the best of life!"
CHRISTUS VIVIT (CHRIST IS ALIVE) - PARAGRAPH 143 - POPE FRANCIS

I am in search of an additional van and a driver to transport four teenagers along with twelve suitcases to and from Life Teen Summer Camp in January 2025.

HELP NEEDED

- DROP OFF: Tuesday, 14 January 2025 leave New Plymouth for Hamilton at 9:00 am from St Joseph's car park.
- PICK UP: Saturday, 18 January 2025 from Hamilton to New Plymouth. Be at the location by 12:30 pm.

Location: St Paul's Collegiate School
77 Hukanui Road, Chartwell, Hamilton 3210
Feel free to reach me at 022 185 8100 or send me an email at youth@catholicparishnp.nz.

PLEASE!

THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR HELPING MY TEENS!
With my deepest gratitude,
SUSILO (Youth Minister)

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION

PURPOSE *ngakabaranga*

2025
year 11 - 13

Applications open in Term 1 of 2025, with the session starting on Monday, 28 April 2025.

Fearless

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

We pray for our deceased family and friends: Malcolm Cotter, Lawrence "Scottie" Scott, Suzy Dymock, Bob Shaw, Matilda Gabriel Wong, Adam (Marian) Adamski, Kevin Byers, Deceased members of the Dudley Family, Beni Noelzli, Marie Hickey and Monica Beagle.

DEC

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE
FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

16 MON	8.00am	St Joseph's Church
	7.00pm	St Joseph's Church Simbang Gabi Mass
17 TUES	8.00am	St Joseph's Church
	9.10am	Our Lady Help of Christians Church
	12.05pm	St Joseph's Church
	7.00pm	St Joseph's Church Simbang Gabi Mass
18 WED	8.00am	St Joseph's Church
	9.10am	Our Lady Help of Christians Church
	There is no 5.30pm St Joseph's Mass this night	
	7.00pm	St Joseph's Church Simbang Gabi Mass
19 THU	8.00am	St Joseph's Church
	9.10am	Our Lady Help of Christians
	There is no 7.00pm St Joseph's Adoration this night	
	7.00pm	St Joseph's Church Simbang Gabi Mass
20 FRI	8.00am	St Joseph's Church
	12.05pm	St Joseph's Church
	7.00pm	St Joseph's Church Simbang Gabi Mass
21 SAT	8.30am	St Joseph's Church
	5.30pm	Our Lady Help of Christians
	6.00pm	St Patrick's Church Okato
	7.00pm	St Joseph's Church Simbang Gabi Mass
22 SUN	9.00am	St Joseph's Church
	10.30am	Our Lady Help of Christians Church
	5.30pm	St Joseph's Church Simbang Gabi Mass

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 11.30am to 12 noon at St Joseph's Church OR 4.30pm to 5.15pm at Our Lady Help of Christians prior to the 5.30pm Vigil Mass.

Advent Reconciliation times:

At St Joseph's:

11.00 am to 11.45am before 12.05pm Mass Tuesday 17th and Friday 20th December. And Tuesday 24 December 11.00am to 1.00pm. There is no 12.05pm Mass 24 December.

And 5.15pm to 6.30pm prior to 7.00pm Simbang Gabi Mass Thursday 19 December

Our Lady Help of Christians:

After the 9.10am Mass, 17, 18,19 and 24 December 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 are in the Mary MacKillop Room.

KINGDOM KIDZ CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Our Lady Help of Christians Church:

Kingdom Kidz finishes today 15 December and restarts on 2nd February.



St Joseph's Church: Children's Liturgy

Each Sunday at 9.00am Mass in the church Foyer and continues through the summer break.

SUNDAY READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

4th Sunday of Advent 22 December 2024 (Year C)

1ST READING: Micah 5.2-5a

PSALM: Psalm 80

2ND READING: Hebrews 10.5-10

GOSPEL: Luke 1.39-45



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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

CONTACT US

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PO Box 32, New Plymouth
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office@catholicparishnp.nz
www.catholicparishnp.nz

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027 224 2100

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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

CATHOLIC PARISH OF NEW PLYMOUTH

Invites you to a

CHRISTMAS CONCERT

with MORNING TEA
and
CHRISTMAS CRAFTING for children

DECEMBER

WEDNESDAY

18

AT 10 AM

 ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH HALL
151 DEVON STREET WEST, NEW PLYMOUTH





COLUMBAN CALENDARS

Each year the Columban Mission Society issues the Columban Art Calendar. This is a tradition that has lasted over 100 years. The calendar containing examples of religious art on each page, also highlights the liturgical events throughout the year. Calendars are again only \$12.00, no price increase this year. They are available from the Parish Office during the week. On Sunday at OLHC, in the foyer, John Goodin will be selling calendars as well as sales being available after Mass at St Patrick's Okato and at Bell Block. We are selling also at St Joseph's after 9.00am Sunday Mass. These calendars make a good gift and can be a daily reminder for families, of our Catholic faith.