



Parish Newsletter Pānui i te Pārihi

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www.catholicparishnp.nz

Emergency Phone 027 224 2100



13 September 2026 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Holy Communion at Bell Block Catholic Centre

The parish community gathered in joyful celebration at the 10.30am Mass on Sunday, 6 September, at the Bell Block Catholic Centre, as seven children received the Sacrament of First Holy Communion.

This special occasion marked an important milestone in the faith journey of the children as they received the Body and Blood of Christ for the first time. Surrounded by their families, friends, and parish community, the children participated reverently in the Eucharistic celebration, reflecting the significance of this sacred sacrament.

We congratulate the seven First Communicants on this memorable day and thank their parents, families, catechists, and all those who supported them in their preparation. May they continue to grow in faith, deepen their relationship with Jesus Christ, and remain active members of our parish community.

Following the Mass, while the 1st Communion children enjoyed their own special party, parishioners and the 1st Communion families shared a delicious morning tea to celebrate this joyful community occasion and important step in the children's lives. The celebration served as a beautiful reminder of the faith, unity, and support that exist within our parish family as we accompany our young people on their journey with Christ.



The seven First Holy Communicants at the Bell Block Catholic Center pose with Fr. Simon (Above)

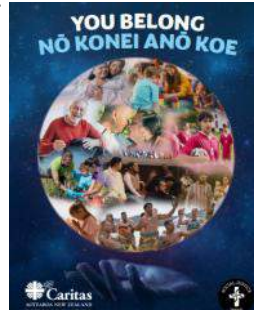
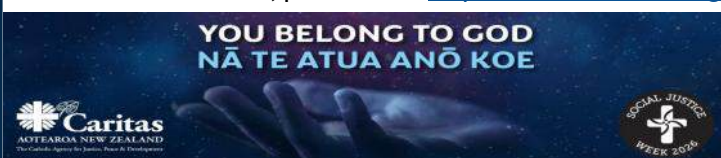
Social Justice week takes place on 6 – 12 September 2026.

This year we begin a three-year journey exploring what it means to truly belong – to God, to one another, and to creation – starting with the first and most important thread: we belong to God, made on purpose, fully known, and unconditionally loved.

Pope Leo XIV reminds us that every person carries a dignity that is not earned and not given by others but woven into us by the God who made us. In Aotearoa New Zealand, this truth echoes in the idea of *tūrangawaewae* – a place to stand, a place to belong. Wherever we come from, whoever we are, we are held by a God who knows our name and calls us home.

The theme for this year is 'You Belong to God | Nā Te Atua anō koe.'

For more information, please visit <https://www.caritas.org.nz/>



Important Dates

Adoration

St Joseph's Church
Every Thursday
Adoration and
Reconciliation 7.00pm

Adoration

Our Lady
Help of Christians
After 9:10am Mass
Every Tuesday

Sunday, 13th September

St John Bosco School
Led Mass at Our Lady
Help of Christians
10.30am

Sunday 13th September

Prayer Ministry after
9.00am Mass at
St Joseph's Church and
10.30am OLHC Mass

Wednesday, 16th September

Unlocking the Mystery of
the Bible
Our Lady's Help of
Christian church, Fitzroy.
7.00pm-8.30pm

Saturday 19th Sept

Youth For Christ Car
Wash And Bake Sale
St Joseph's Church
9.00am-3.00pm

Sunday 20th September

St Pius X School
Led Mass
St Joseph's Church
9.00am

Wednesday, 23rd September

AV Gospel Encounter
Our Lady Help Of
Christians
7.00pm-8.15pm

✠ 📢 GENERAL NOTICES ✠

AV GOSPEL ENCOUNTER GROUP

You are warmly welcomed to come and experience the warmth of upcoming Sunday's Gospels. We love to have you! Pressing 'pause' to breathe and make space for the Holy Spirit who always long to speak to us.

Not a bible study. No prep needed, just show up!

DETAILS:

Alternate Wednesdays

Next gathering

Wednesday, 23 September 2026

7 pm - 8.15pm @ Our Lady Help Of Christians church, Fitzroy

Join us from 6.45pm onwards for a cuppa/biscuit.

BYO Bible, only if you have one. (Optional: Notebook + a pen to note down what the Holy Spirit is saying through the Scriptures).



Gatherings till the end of October:

Wednesday, 23 September 2026

Wednesday, 7 October 2026

Wednesday, 21 October 2026

CATHOLIC WOMENS LEAGUE invite all women of the parish to join us at their September General meeting in the Supper Room St Joseph's Hall Thursday 17th September, 12.00pm. Bring your own lunch. Our guest speaker this month is parishioner Paul Brennan. Everyone is welcome to come along and hear Paul speak about his recent trip to the Chatham Islands. This will start about 12.30pm. Just come on down to the Supper Room.



RCIA Information Evening

Have you ever considered becoming Catholic or learning more about the Catholic faith? Join us for an **RCIA Information Evening** on **1 October, Thursday at 7:00 pm** at **Our Lady Help of Christians Church** Church foyer, Fitzroy.



Come and meet the RCIA team, ask questions, and learn about the journey of faith through the **Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults (RCIA)**. Whether you are exploring the Catholic faith, considering becoming Catholic, or returning to the Church, you are warmly welcome. For more information or details, please contact the **Parish Office**.

Would you like prayer? for yourself, family, or someone else?

PRAYER MINISTRY

will be available after Mass on
SUNDAY 13TH SEPTEMBER

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH
after 9:00am Sunday Mass
after 5:30pm Sunday Mass



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CHURCH
after 10:30am Sunday Mass

JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP:

The Justice and Peace group will be meeting on Monday 14th September at 5:45 in the Ngāmotu Room to continue our efforts to learn about, promote and follow the Church's social justice teaching. Everyone is welcome to join us. Please come in through the back door of the Parish House.

It is time to think about "**Thriving in this Land**" in advance of voting in the upcoming elections.



On Sunday September 20th at 12:30pm in the St. Joseph's hall supper room we will be watching the last in the series of thought-provoking videos from the Christian social justice group Common Grace Aotearoa. These videos stand alone. If you missed the others, you can still learn from this one.

This one is called "The Climate." Come and be challenged to think of things you might not have considered. You **MUST** enrol by October 25th to be able to vote in the 2026 elections.



There is **NO** enrolment on election day.

If you have received your enrolment pack in the mail, check that they have your email address. Voting cards will be emailed this year to anyone whose enrolment details include an email address. The rest will be posted out closer to the elections.

If you have not received your enrolment pack, go to vote.nz or phone 0800 36 76 56



ST JOHN BOSCO SCHOOL LED MASS at Our Lady Help of Christians 10.30am Sunday 13 September

ST PIUS X SCHOOL LED MASS, 9.00am at St Joseph's Church Sunday 20 September

THE ULTIMATE PARENTS' GUIDE TO PROTECTING OUR KIDS ONLINE

THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER

6:30-8:30pm (doors open 6pm)

St Pius X School Hall

With renowned
filmmaker and
online safety expert

ROB COPE



"Rob has great engagement
with the audience"

"This was everything I didn't
know I needed to know!"

"I feel empowered"

Tickets \$10
Use the QR code to book



Join us for a powerful presentation covering:

- screens and developmental delays
- how predators reach our kids
- video games and brain development
- how social media impacts kids mental health
- what kids are doing with AI chatbots
- how to protect and talk to your kid about x-rated material
- **PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS!**

Half-time
treats from
The Federal
Store!

RAW - REAL - OFTEN HILLARIOUS - ALWAYS EYE-OPENING!

Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible

JEFF CAVINS and SARAH CHRISTMYER

Have you ever wondered why the world is so beautiful, yet so deeply broken? Or why the stories at the very beginning of the Bible - like Adam and Eve, Noah's Ark, and the Tower of Babel - matter so much to our lives today?

In Session 2 of the [Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible, The Early World](#), we are diving straight into the opening chapters of Genesis 1-11 to look at the foundational plotline of Salvation history.

Together, we will discover:

The Blueprint: How God created us for perfect relationship, giving us intellect, free will, and a capacity for deep love.

The Fracture: How the first sin wasn't just a broken rule, but a profound breakdown of trust in God's goodness.

The Rescue Plan: How God, in His infinite mercy, immediately promised a Savior (the Protoevangelium) the moment we fell.

Come along and see how God's ancient plan of mercy is still actively chasing after you.

Wednesday, 16TH September, 7-8:30pm, Our Lady's Help of Christian church, Fitzroy. Everyone is welcome!

If you have any questions or need more information, feel free to email Albert: ahjchow@gmail.com

YOUTH FOR CHRIST CAR WASH AND BAKE SALE:

Our parish Youth For Christ group (YFC) are holding a car wash and bake sale at St Joseph's Church, Saturday, 19 September, 9.00am to 3.00pm, to raise funds to attend the YFC North Island Conference in Ngaruawahia. Your support will make it possible for more young people to participate in this life changing event of faith, fellowship and leadership formation. And you will have a lovely clean car.



NEW WORLD SMEG STICKERS: A huge thank you to so many parishioners who generously passed on their SMEG stickers. It was an amazing response. We were able to get 9 knives, (at least one of each), 3 chopping boards and a knife box, all for use in the St Joseph's hall. Thank you all so much. The hall will have great knives. I have finished collecting now. Thank you everyone Fiona Dravitzki Hospitality Team

The office staff are now collecting any extra stickers for knives for the church kitchens.

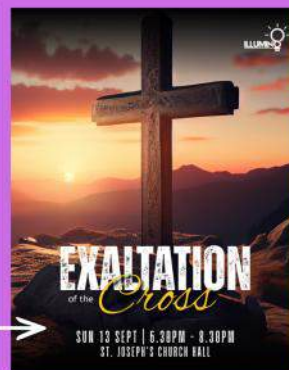


WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED FAMILY AND FRIENDS: John Huggins, Bill Ogier, Molly Ogier, David Ogier, Sunny Chamany, Rita Chamany, Josey Everest, Neil Richardson Shirley McGlinchey, Diane Healion and Daniel Healion.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUTH GROUP

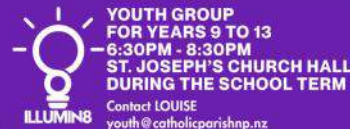
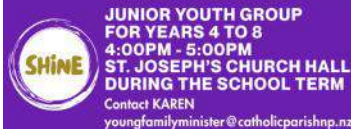
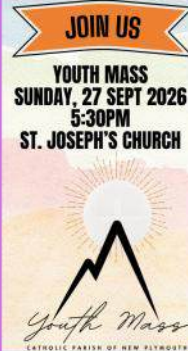
**THIS SUNDAY
YOUTH GROUP
SUN, 13 SEPT**

JOIN US TO
CELEBRATE THE
EXALTATION OF
THE CROSS
AND WHAT THIS
MEANS FOR OUR
LIVES



**NEXT SUNDAY
YOUTH GROUP
SUN, 20 SEPT**

I've Got News for
You
Let's look at how
we are called to
share the Good
News



SUNFLOWERS AT JUNIOR YOUTH MASS

ST JOSEPH'S SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 5.30pm

Come dressed in yellow!

This week, Sunday 13 September at the 5.30pm evening Mass (our Junior Youth Mass) at St Joseph's church there will be a short presentation about the Hidden Disability Sunflower Scheme.

The Hidden Disability Sunflower Scheme, aims to support people with hidden disabilities such as neurodivergence, chronic pain, concussion, diabetes, POTS, epilepsy, Alzheimers/dementia, by raising awareness and providing visibility and connection. There are over 900 recognised conditions, and the majority of them are invisible or not immediately recognisable to the outside world.

You can find out more at hdsunflower.com

**Not every disability is visible
some are hidden**



SEP
14
MON

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

TO 20TH SEPTEMBER THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

8:00am St Joseph's Church

15
TUE

8:00am St Joseph's Church
9:10am Our Lady Help of Christians
12:05pm St Joseph's Church

16
WED

8:00am St Joseph's Church
9:10am Our Lady Help of Christians

17
THU

8:00am St Joseph's Church
10:00am Sacred Hearts Girls College (Mary's Chapel)
No Mass at Francis Douglas Memorial College this week

18
FRI

8:00am St Joseph's Church
9:00am St. Pius X School (Philomena Hall)
12:05pm St Joseph's Church

19
SAT

8:30am St Joseph's Church
5:30pm Our Lady Help of Christians (Vigil Mass)
6:00pm St Patrick's Church Okato (Vigil Mass)

20
SUN

9:00am St Joseph's Church
10:30am Our Lady Help of Christians
10:30am Bell Block Catholic Centre (Liturgy of the Word with communion)
5:30pm St Joseph's Church

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION:

Saturdays 11.30am to 12 noon at St Joseph's Church OR 4.45pm to 5.15pm at OLHC prior to the 5.30pm Vigil Mass. And during Thursday 7.00pm Adoration at St Joseph's Church. Reconciliation is also available by appointment with the priests, by initially phoning the Parish Office 757 3682.

MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH:

Before morning Mass on Monday and Tuesday at 7.40am and Saturday 8.10am in the Parish Office Mary McKillop Room. Please come to the back door of the office building.

KINGDOM KIDZ CHILDREN'S LITURGY:



Our Lady Help of Christians: Each Sunday at 10:30am in the St John Bosco Break Out Space. No Children's Liturgy this week as it is a School Led Mass this week.

St Joseph's Church: Each Sunday at 9.00am Mass in the church foyer. No Children's Liturgy next week as it is a St. Pius X School Led Mass next week.

LITTLE ANGELS MUSIC AND PLAY GROUP FOR PRESCHOOLERS



Lady Help of Christians. Music, play and morning tea from 9.00am during the school term. For more details contact Amelia at musiccoordinator@catholicparishnp.nz

SUNDAY READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time 20 September

1ST READING: Isaiah 55.6-9

PSALM: 145

2ND READING: Philippians 1.20-24, 27

GOSPEL: Matthew 20.1-16

CONTACT US

Parish Office, 106 Powderham St,
PO Box 32, New Plymouth (06) 757 3682
www.catholicparishnp.nz
Email - office@catholicparishnp.nz
Office Hours - 9.00am to 4.00pm weekdays
Emergency Phone - 027 224 2100

PRIESTS:

Fr. Simon Story simon@catholicparishnp.nz
Tom Lawn tom@catholicparishnp.nz
Fr. Sobin sobin@catholicparishnp.nz
Fr. Sobin Sebastian Phone 027 255 8097



For updates on parish, diocese,
and national events.



Catholic Parish of New Plymouth

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

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

STRATEGIC LEADER Richard

sl@catholicparishnp.nz

FINANCE OFFICER Cynthia

accounts@catholicparishnp.nz

OFFICE ADMINISTRATION Ireen

office@catholicparishnp.nz

COMMUNICATIONS LEAD Russell

communicationslead@catholicparishnp.nz

YOUNG FAMILIES MINISTER Karen

youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz

YOUTH MINISTER Louise

youth@catholicparishnp.nz

MUSIC COORDINATOR Amelia

musiccoordinator@catholicparishnp.nz

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

parishleadershipteam@catholicparishnp.nz

JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP

justiceandpeace@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

THE ULTIMATE PARENTS' GUIDE TO PROTECTING OUR KIDS ONLINE

THURSDAY 24 SEPTEMBER

6:30-8:30pm (doors open 6pm)

St Pius X School Hall

Tickets \$10

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- PRACTICAL SOLUTIONS!

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RAW - REAL - OFTEN HILLARIOUS - ALWAYS EYE-OPENING!

St Joseph's School New Plymouth Centenary | 23 -25 October 2026

St Joseph's Catholic School invites former students, staff, and families to attend this significant milestone. The event will take place Friday 23 – Sunday 25 October.

Those interested are asked to register at St Joseph's School New Plymouth Centenary Registration: Labour Weekend 2026

Follow the official Centenary Facebook page for more information and updates:

<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61576850039718>



WEEKLY DIOCESAN UPDATES

for the Twenty-Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time
7 - 13 September 2026

Ordination to the Diaconate of Zung Manh Phan

Bishop John Adams and the Catholic Diocese of Palmerston North are pleased to announce the forthcoming Ordination to the Diaconate of Zung Manh Phan, on Saturday 21 November 2026, at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Palmerston North.

More details to follow.

Divine Intimacy in Marriage Retreat | 22–24 January 2027

Married couples are warmly invited to a special weekend retreat in Palmerston North with Dan and Stephanie Burke.

Come away for a time to pray, reconnect and grow together in Christ - a chance to step away from the busyness of everyday life and invest in your marriage.

22–24 January 2027, Palmerston North.

Registrations are now open! Find out more and register: <https://divineintimacy2027.netlify.app/>

National Centennial Mass for Venerable Meri Hōhepa Suzanne Aubert

All are invited to a special Centennial Mass marking 100 years since the passing of Venerable Meri Hōhepa Suzanne Aubert, celebrated by the Catholic Bishops of Aotearoa New Zealand at St Mary of the Angels Church, Wellington, at 2pm on Sunday 4 October 2026. The Mass will honour Meri Hōhepa's enduring legacy of service, particularly her work among Māori and with society's most vulnerable people.

For more information, visit <https://www.compassion.org.nz/history/celebrate-compassion-2026>

MISSION SUNDAY 100TH CELEBRATION

The Catholic Church around the world will mark the 100th Mission Sunday on October 18.

The day is set aside to pray for the Church's mission and to support those who carry the Gospel to places where hope is fragile, where faith is young and where believers often face hardship or persecution. That support can be financial and through prayer.

Find out more at: <https://missio.nz/>

The New Zealand Catholic Bishops have written a letter to Catholic Schools and Parishes – you can find it at <https://missio.nz/wp-content/uploads/NZCBC-Letter-Mission-Sunday-100-years-1.pdf>

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Mission Hub: Sharing the Heart of the Gospel – The Kerygma

What is the heart of the Gospel we are called to share? Join us for this month's Mission Hub featuring Fr Chris Ryan MGL, Director of the Areté Centre for Missionary Leadership. Fr Chris will guide us through the *kerygma* – the essential message of Jesus Christ – and offer practical wisdom on how to speak about Jesus with clarity, joy, and confidence.

Whether you're looking to grow in confidence talking about Jesus or wanting to share your faith in a clear, joyful, and inviting way, this session will leave you inspired, equipped, and renewed.

Monday 14 September, 7pm–8.30pm (online).

Register at <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/vmKuopICSOGDmNevdH9srw>

A Priestly Renewal Convocation | 25–29 January 2027

In January, priests from across New Zealand are being invited to Palmerston North for five days of prayer, fraternity and renewal in their priesthood. As the lay faithful, we are invited to pray for our priests and encourage them to attend, helping make space for them to step away from the demands of parish life and be renewed in Christ. Find out more: <https://priestlyrenewal2027.netlify.app/>

Billings Ovulation Method™ Natural Fertility Seminar

Christchurch | Friday 9 and Saturday 10 October 2026

The Billings Ovulation Method™ is a natural fertility awareness method that can help couples achieve or avoid pregnancy while gaining insight into reproductive health and general wellbeing throughout the menstrual cycle. When used correctly, it is highly effective.

The seminar is open to couples, women wanting to understand and chart their cycles, health and natural health practitioners, marriage educators, youth and community workers, and anyone interested in becoming an accredited Billings teacher.

Billings teachers needed: Demand for teaching services is growing, and more accredited educators are needed. If you are interested, please get in touch with Billings LIFE NZ.

Register: <https://www.billingslife.org.nz/training-seminar>

Atawhaingia ō tātau kāinga - Show mercy in all the places we dwell

Whānau Mercy Ministries has teamed up with Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington to co-host a 3-day symposium from December 13 – 15 2026. The symposium will explore the impact of religion across education, healthcare, and social services. Open to all, and ecumenical in scope, you won't want to miss this opportunity to hear several excellent speakers and engage in conversations to explore the theme with others.

Visit <https://whanaumercy.nz/catherine-mcauley-symposium/> to find out more and register.

November 2026 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.

The priority is to fund Catholic and community organisations who are working in areas identified as priorities by the Catholic Charities Foundation of Palmerston North and the Tindall Foundation, and aligned with the diocesan goals.

We are charged with the funding support of groups committed to social, pastoral, charitable and educational needs in the diocese. Applications are judged based on need, resource availability and the fulfilment of set criteria.

Applications are now open and are due by Wednesday 30 September 2026. Application forms and more information can be found here:

<https://pndiocese.org.nz/who-we-are/application-for-funding-catholic-charities-allocations/>

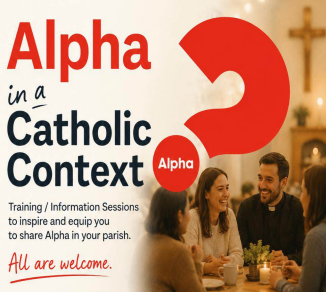
Alpha in a Catholic Context – Online Training

A series of online training sessions on *Alpha in a Catholic Context* will be offered via Zoom in the coming months. These sessions are open to parish priests, leadership teams, Alpha teams, and anyone interested in learning more about Alpha.

Upcoming topics:

- **16 September, 7pm:** Taking Alpha from good to great

Each session can be attended individually, though all are recommended for a fuller understanding. Please register to receive the Zoom link for each session: <https://forms.office.com/r/kVmxvX9hFb>



Alpha
in a
Catholic Context

Training / Information Sessions to inspire and equip you to share Alpha in your parish.

All are welcome.

WHO IS THIS FOR?	WHAT WILL BE COVERED?
- Parish Priest - Parish Leadership teams - Alpha teams - Anyone interested in running Alpha - Anyone who would like to know more about Alpha	16th SEPTEMBER 7PM How to take your Alpha from good to great.

Just like at Alpha, all are welcome.

Let's bring the hope of the Gospel to more people.
You're invited. You belong.

St Joseph's School Ōpunakē Celebrates 125 Years

St Joseph's School Ōpunakē is preparing to celebrate its 125th Jubilee on Thursday 22 and Friday 23 October. Past pupils, staff, parishioners and friends of the school are warmly invited to take part in the celebrations. More information for the weekend can be found at <https://www.trybooking.com/nz/events/landing/20235?embed>.

Register your interest at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1NaYZskvwQt6yzaSr4KExhfRtaNPCn5v-XKQRYX7JfAE/viewform?edit_requested=true#responses.

All are welcome to help celebrate this significant milestone in the life of St Joseph's School Ōpunakē.

St Joseph's School Ōpunakē

125th Jubilee

Thursday 22 + Friday 23 October 2026



ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL
ŌPUNAKĒ
FAITH, VALUES & SKILLS
SINCE 1901

The Schedule

Thursday 22 October 2026
JUBILEE MASS
9.30am @ Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish, Whitcombe Road, Ōpunakē

Friday 23 October 2026
AG DAY GALA
9.30am - 2pm @ St Joseph's School Ōpunakē, Whitcombe Road, Ōpunakē

JUBILEE DINNER
6.30pm @ Sinclair Events Centre, 156 Tasman Street, Ōpunakē

Buy dinner tickets at [trybooking.com](https://www.trybooking.com)





Register your interest at www.stjo.school.nz

Hope for the World Conference and Related Events

Pray, learn, be spiritually renewed, and become better equipped to defend life, strengthen families and bring hope to the world around us:

Demystifying Death with Dignity talk

Day of Prayer for Life & Family

Embracing Human Dignity Youth event

Begotten Not Made seminar

Tue 15 Sept | St Thomas More Church Mt Maunganui | 6pm Mass / 7pm talk

Sat 19 Sept | St Michael's Church in Remuera, AK | 10-4 (with Mass)

Sun 20 Sept | St Ignatius of Loyola College, Drury | 2-8

Thu 24 Sept | St John Vianney Church, Hillsborough AK | 1-5 / 6:30-9

Hope for the World Conference:

Opening Mass | Fri 25 Sept | St John Vianney Church, Hillsborough AK | 7pm

Sat 26 and Sun 27 Sept | Ellerslie Events Centre AK



TAKE COURAGE! I HAVE OVERCOME THE WORLD
JOHN 16:33



WORLD YOUTH DAY

3 - 8 AUGUST 2027
SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

Young adults aged 18–35 are invited to attend World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul, South Korea, where millions of young Catholics will gather. New Zealand bishops aim to bring 500 young people.

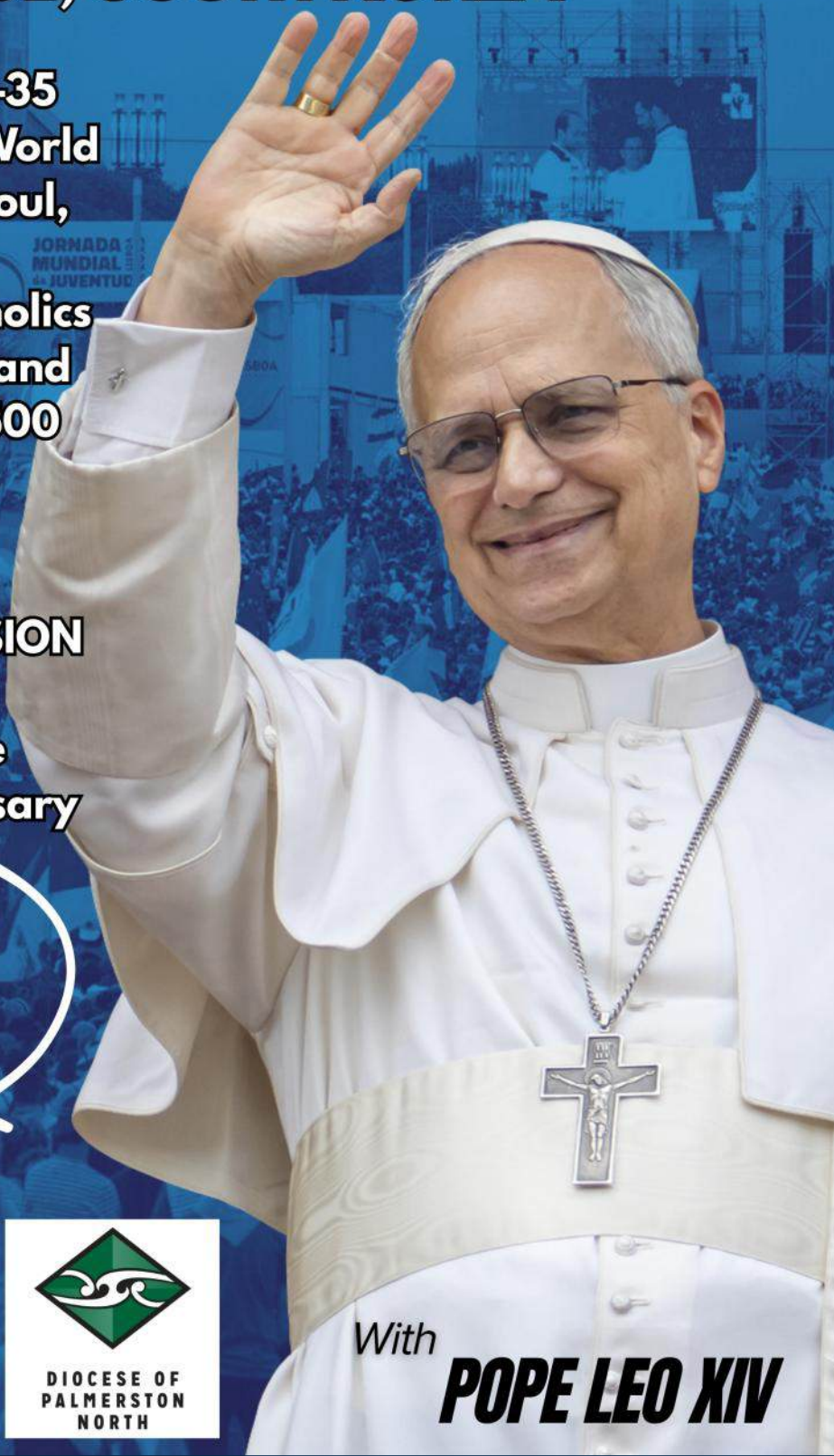
Scan the QR code to complete the **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST** form, allowing us to provide you with all the necessary information.

SCAN ME



DIOCESE OF
PALMERSTON
NORTH

With
POPE LEO XIV



Renewed & Sent: Parish Renewal Summit 2026

The **Renewed & Sent Parish Renewal Summit** is a national gathering for bishops, priests, deacons, parish teams, and lay leaders who are passionate about parish renewal and evangelisation. Hosted by **Divine Renovation** and the **Diocese of Wollongong**, the summit will take place from **1–3 October 2026** at **St Gregory's College, Campbelltown, NSW**. Participants will have the opportunity to hear inspiring stories of parish transformation, learn practical leadership and mission principles, pray and discern together, and connect with other parish leaders from across Australia.

The summit begins with a dedicated **Clergy Day** on 1 October, led by **Fr James Mallon** and **Matt Regitz**, offering formation, prayer, and conversation focused on the realities of parish renewal. Throughout the event, attendees will be encouraged to explore how their parishes can move from maintenance to mission and foster a renewed culture of discipleship.

Website: <https://renewedandsent.com.au>

Registration and information: <https://renewedandsent.com.au/register>



the Catholic Kiwi Podcast



Catholic Kiwi Podcast

The **Catholic Kiwi Podcast** is an inspiring digital ministry initiative of the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference, created to share engaging stories of faith, mission, and ministry from across Aotearoa New Zealand. Through meaningful one-on-one conversations, the podcast offers listeners an opportunity to encounter the lived experiences of Catholics whose faith shapes their personal, professional, and community lives.

Hosted by James Bergin and Joanna Kearney, the podcast features a diverse range of guests, from internationally recognised Catholic leaders and speakers to everyday people quietly serving the Church and their communities. The conversations explore topics such as discipleship, vocation, evangelisation, leadership, faith in contemporary society, and the many ways God continues to work through ordinary and extraordinary lives.

Since its launch, the podcast has welcomed notable guests including Br Guy Consolmagno SJ, former Director of the Vatican Observatory; professional basketballer Mary Goulding; missionary renewal leader Fr James Mallon; broadcaster Tim Wilson; Archbishop Paul Martin SM; and many others whose stories provide inspiration, encouragement, and practical insights for Catholics seeking to deepen their faith.

More than simply a series of interviews, the Catholic Kiwi Podcast reflects the Church's growing commitment to digital evangelisation and creating spaces where faith can be shared through authentic storytelling. By highlighting voices from New Zealand and beyond, it helps listeners connect with the richness of Catholic life, discover new perspectives, and be inspired to live out their own faith more intentionally.

The podcast is available on YouTube, Spotify, Apple Podcasts, and other major podcast platforms, making these stories of faith accessible to audiences wherever they are.

For episodes and further information, visit:

Catholic Kiwi Podcast – New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference

<https://www.catholic.org.nz/resources/catholic-kiwi-podcast>