



Parish Newsletter Pānui i te Pārihi

106 Powderham St, PO Box 32, New Plymouth

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office@catholicparishnp.nz

www.catholicparishnp.nz

Emergency Phone 027 224 2100



27th September 2026 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time



PARISH
PRIEST



Fr Simon

Our baptism preparation (for children under 7 years of age) session is held every month. It involves welcoming families to celebrate initiation into the parish family and into a public discipleship of Jesus Christ. We talk to parents about how welcome they are to the Sunday gathering, to the children's Masses and the commitment they are making to raise their children in the Catholic faith and practice of it. The children are normally from infancy to 6 or 7 years at this preparation session. Older children's baptism happens at other times in the parishes calendar (7 - 14yrs).

It is the traditional Catholic practice to baptise our children at infancy or in the early years. We are conscious that the parish family needs to maintain contact with these families and continue to welcome them into a belonging and participation in the life of the parish. We talk about the rite of baptism celebration with everyone who comes, godparents and other family members may also be there. We do need to be a little more organised with these families. They could be invited to Sunday Mass the Sunday before baptism and anointed with the oil of Catechumens and introduced to the parish. This would require us to be prepared for this and also to connect with these families after baptism. At the moment no one is doing this. We still need to develop this area of sacramental preparation and celebration. Fr Simon



Thriving in this Land

Over the last 3 months Justice and Peace have held 3 sessions to help us all think about how to follow Jesus in thinking about the big questions that are facing New Zealand right now. This will help us to decide what to consider when voting.



The materials were provided by Common Grace Aotearoa which is a movement of Christians across Aotearoa which provides resources to help people to think about providing for the common good of all members of our nation.

Our first session was about "The Cost of Living". We learned of the effect of the rising cost of living on the poor and marginalised of this nation. We looked at the budgets of some of those who really struggle.

The second session taught us more about "The Treaty of Waitangi". We learned about the treaty from its beginnings in the ideas of William Wilberforce, leader of the movement to abolish the slave trade in the British Empire, and his nephew James Stephen, writer of the original idea for the treaty. Sir James Stephen wanted "the prevention of the cruel wrongs which our country has inflicted on so large a portion of the human race."



Our third session focused on "The Climate". We looked at the effects the changing weather is having on our country and on the whole world. We were presented with a timeline on New Zealand's response to this.



Pics of attendees for the program and Hélène Doyle above who presided over the program

Important Dates

Adoration

Thursday Evenings
St Joseph's Church
7.00pm

Tuesdays at OLHC
(after 9:10am Mass)
9:35am to 10:35am

Bell Block Catholic
Centre, **First Saturday**
3rd October
(New Time and Date)
9.30am - 10.30am

Saturday 25th September
School Holidays Begin
End of 3rd School Term
No Masses at Schools
(Details on Pg 4)

Sunday 27th September
Youth Mass
St Joseph's Church
9.00am

Thursday 1st October
RCIA Information
Evening
Our Lady Help of
Christians
Church foyer,
7:00 pm

Thursday, 1st October
Marian Mother's Meeting
Parish Office
Ngāmotu room 7.00pm

Saturday 3rd October
Anointing Mass
St Joseph's Church
10.30am

Friday 4th October
CWL Committee
11:00am
First Friday Lunch
After the 12.05pm Mass
at St Joseph's Church
foyer

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, 7 October 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, 7 October 2026
Wednesday, 21 October 2026

ST VINCENT DE PAUL FEAST DAY

Today we celebrate the Feast Day of the **St Vincent de Paul Society**.



We sincerely thank our parishioners and the wider community for your generous donations of clothing, linen, household goods, and financial contributions over the years. Your support enables us to assist those in need throughout our community.

Through referrals from Social Workers and the Cancer Society, we help people travelling for medical treatment and support a wide range of initiatives, including our twinned SVDP conferences in Samoa and Sri Lanka, local Catholic schools (FDMC, SHGC, St Joseph's New Plymouth, St Joseph's Waitara, St Pius X, and St John Bosco), Life Teen Summer Camp participants, Foodbank, Gabby's Starlit Hope, school lunches, Women's Refuge, Women's Centre, PARS, petrol vouchers, food parcels, and community meals.

If you would like to learn more about the work of the Society, we warmly invite you to attend one of our meetings, held on the **first Wednesday of each month at 6.00pm in the Ngamotu Room, St Joseph's Presbytery**.

Please join us after Mass today for a cuppa and some cake as we celebrate together.

Thank you for your ongoing support and generosity.

Margaret Roylance

President, St Vincent de Paul Society

ANOINTING MASS: The monthly Mass of Anointing will be held at 10.30am next Saturday 5th October at St Joseph's Church. Everyone is welcome to be part of this Mass, even if they do not wish to be anointed There is a morning tea (or could be lunch) for everyone after Mass.

VOTE WITH AROHA



JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP:

You will soon notice a new sign on the lawn in front of St Joseph's church and Our Lady Help of Christians church.



The "Vote with Aroha" poster gives a simple message. The heart that is on the poster is in orange, the colour of the Vote NZ campaign. It is not associated with any political party. In teenage emoji use, the red heart represents romantic love, but the orange heart represents friendship, warmth, care and support.

In the words of The Most Reverend Paul Martin SM, Archbishop of Wellington, "Following Jesus shapes every part of our lives including how we participate in our democracy. Before we vote we think carefully, not just about what is best for ourselves, but about what is good for our neighbours, our communities, and our nation." There is nothing party political in this sign. Common Grace Aotearoa have produced these placards for homes, businesses and churches, to help remind our communities that when we vote with aroha, we vote for each other.

We are going to visit Parihaka to learn more of their story so we can better stand with them. YOU are welcome to join us.



Saturday October 24th in the afternoon
Transport is available. We need numbers by October 11th.

If you want to come with us please email Justiceandpeace@catholicparishnp.nz Or phone the Parish Office (06) 757 3682 or phone or text Joan 0211100775

CWL COMMITTEE MEETING: Friday 2nd October – Committee Meeting at 11:00 am in St. Joseph's Church foyer.



CWL FIRST FRIDAY LUNCH: Friday 2nd October, after the 12:05pm Mass at St. Joseph's. CWL offers a delicious lunch. Plated sandwiches and cakes with tea or coffee for just \$7, and this also includes a raffle ticket! This is fundraising activity for the CWL that can help others. Go to the CWL can help others. Go the CWL can help others. Go to the CWL website to see CWL nationwide work www.cwl.or.nz

FROM POPE LEO: OCTOBER INTENTION

For mental health ministry



Let us pray that the health ministry be established throughout the Church, helping to overcome the stigma and discrimination of persons with mental illnesses.

TŪMANAKO The newsletter for the diocese of Palmerston North: Issue 17 is available in the foyer. For those who wish to have a printed copy please take one. But to read online, go to tumanako.pndiocese.org.nz or cathnewsnz.com. Or you can join up to receive monthly an emailed copy of Tūmanako at www.pndiocese.org.nz.



Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible

JEFF CAVINS and SARAH CHRISTMYER

In Session 3 of the Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible, The Patriarchs (Genesis 12-50), we cover the stories of Abraham, Isaac, Jacob and Joseph.

We focus on the everlasting covenant God establishes with Abraham, who passes down God's threefold promises of land, kingdom and worldwide blessings through descendants of Isaac and Jacob. Joseph is presented as a figure of Christ, one who reconciles his brethren to their father.

Come along and discover how God's salvation plan can use even difficult circumstances to do marvellous things—and how we are invited to remain faithful and trust in Him

Wednesday, 30th 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

MARIAN MOTHERS:

Our next Marian Mother's Meeting will be Thursday 1st October, 7 to 8.30 pm. To be held in the Parish Office Ngamotu Room. Please come through the back door by the priests carpark. Please bring a small sharing plate and join us in prayer and a cuppa. Any queries phone Glenda 021 323 765.



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 foyer, Fitzroy**. It is strongly encouraged that you attend Alpha before RCIA.



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**.

CHURCH CLEANING AT OLHC: We need extra volunteers to help clean at Our Lady Help of Christians Church. There is an eight week roster and we work in teams of 4 to 6 members. Cleaning takes between 1 and 1and a half hours and involves vacuuming, dusting, the kitchen and toilets.

So if you are able to volunteer for a turn every eight weeks, we would love to hear from you. Please contact Carol 027 481 6520 or the Parish Office. If anyone on the current roster has any alternations they wish to make for next year's roster, please contact Carol.

WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Fons Zieltjes, Mary Riordan, Jim and Kath Riordan, Len and Annie Butler, Alastair Hancock, Mark Odowd, Mark Walsh, Sophia Macris and Shirley Scott.

September Edition

2026

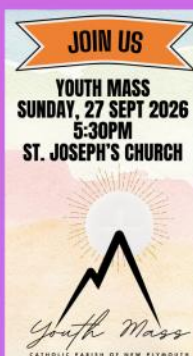
WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUTH GROUP



**THIS SUNDAY
YOUTH GROUP
SUN, 27 SEPT**

**JOIN US FOR
YOUTH MASS,
THEN HANGOUT
AND COME
BOWLING WITH
US!**

**BRING \$15 FOR
BOWLING**



**JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP
FOR YEARS 4 TO 8
4:00PM - 5:00PM
ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH HALL
DURING THE SCHOOL TERM**
Contact KAREN
youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz



**YOUTH GROUP
FOR YEARS 9 TO 13
6:30PM - 8:30PM
ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH HALL
DURING THE SCHOOL TERM**
Contact LOUISE
youth@catholicparishnp.nz

Older Children's Baptism

COMING UP IN NOVEMBER IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR CHILDREN SEVEN YEARS AND OLDER (AND THEIR YOUNGER SIBLINGS) TO BE BAPTISED.

IMPORTANT DATES

8TH NOVEMBER - 4.15PM AT ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH - PREPARATION AND PRACTICE. FOLLOWED BY ATTENDING 5.30PM MASS TOGETHER AS A GROUP, WHERE CHILDREN WILL BE ANOINTED AS PART OF THE PREPARATION FOR BAPTISM.

15TH NOVEMBER - 2:00 PM BAPTISM CELEBRATION AT ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, FOLLOWED BY AFTERNOON TEA.

If you know of families who may be interested, please let them know to get in touch.

To Register
Contact Karen at
youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz

SEP

28

MON

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

TO 4TH OCTOBER FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

8:00am St Joseph's Church

29

TUE

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

30

WED

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

OCT

1

THU

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

2

FRI

8:00am St Joseph's Church
12:05pm St Joseph's Church

3

SAT

8:30am St Joseph's Church
5:30pm Our Lady Help of Christians (Vigil Mass)
10:30am St Joseph's Church (Anointing Mass)
6:00pm St Patrick's Church Okato (Vigil Mass)

4

SUN

9:00am St Joseph's Church
10:30am Our Lady Help of Christians
10:30am Bell Block Mass Centre
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 School Library. No Children's Liturgy on 4 October. (First Sunday of the school holidays) but will resume on 11 October.

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

LITTLE ANGELS MUSIC AND PLAY GROUP FOR PRESCHOOLERS



There will be no Little Angels Music and Play Group for pre-schoolers during the school holidays on September 28th, and on October 5th & 12th. For more details contact Amelia at musiccoordinator@catholicparishnp.nz

SUNDAY READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

27th Sunday in Ordinary Time 4 October

1ST READING: Isaiah 5.1-7

PSALM: 80

2ND READING: Philippians 4.6-9

GOSPEL: Mathew 21.28-32



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS
Tuesday
9.35am to 10.30am
(after 9.10am Mass)

First Sunday of the month
3.00pm - 4.00pm

BELL BLOCK CATHOLIC CENTRE
First Saturday of the month
9.30am to 10.30am

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
www.catholicparishnp.nz
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Emergency Phone - 027 224 2100

PRIESTS:

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

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YOUNG FAMILIES MINISTER Karen

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YOUTH MINISTER Louise

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MUSIC COORDINATOR Amelia

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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



For updates on parish, diocese,
and national events.



Catholic Parish of New Plymouth

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-Sixth Sunday in Ordinary Time
World Day of Migrants and Refugees
21 - 27 September 2026

Could you be a St Carlo Missionary?

St Carlo Acutis' feast day is October 12 and this year we celebrate only his second feast day as a saint.

Were you inspired by St Carlo during the relic mission or have you found yourself drawn to his love for Jesus and the Eucharist?

Over the next four weeks, we invite you to pray and notice whether God might be stirring something.

Prayer:

St Carlo, help me to love Jesus as you did. Pray that I may recognise the gifts God has given me and have the courage to use them for His mission. Amen.

Save the Date: Permanent Diaconate Ordination of Charles Ropitini

You are warmly invited to attend the Permanent Diaconate Ordination of Charles Robert Ropitini on **Friday 16 October 2026 at 5.30pm** at **St Joseph's Māori Girls' College, 25 Osier Road, Napier**. Hospitality will follow. All are welcome.

Principal / Tumuaki Vacancy - Sacred Heart College Napier

The Board of Trustees of Sacred Heart College Napier invites applications for the position of Principal / Tumuaki, commencing Term 1, 2027. The College is seeking an outstanding Catholic faith and educational leader committed to strengthening the school's special character and fostering excellence in learning, leadership, and wellbeing.

Application packs available from: 28 September 2026

Applications close: 4.00pm, Thursday 22 October 2026

For confidential enquiries or to request an application pack, email: principalapplication@shcn.school.nz

Principal / Tumuaki Sacred Heart College Napier

Sacred Heart College Napier is a state-integrated Catholic Secondary School for girls in Years 9-13, located in the beautiful Hawke's Bay.

Founded by the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions, the College is a nurturing faith community where our Catholic Special Character is at the centre of all we do. Guided by Gospel teachings, we foster young women of faith, courage, compassion, and integrity, committed to excellence and social justice.

Our students are empowered to develop a love of learning and approach life with confidence, resilience, and self-discipline. A strong spirit of sisterhood enhances opportunities across sport, the arts and cultural activities, service and leadership supporting students to grow and celebrate together.

Our HEART Gospel values—Faith, Equity, Aroha, Respect, and Tenacity—shape College life and guide students in faith, learning and leadership.

The School Board invite applications from exceptional Catholic leaders to continue to build on the strong foundations of the College. We are seeking a faith and education leader who will:

- Be a visible and authentic witness to the Catholic faith
 - Lead and strengthen the Catholic special character and mission of the College
 - Inspire excellence in teaching, learning, and student achievement
 - Foster a culture of faith, belonging, wellbeing, and high expectations
 - Champion Te Tiriti o Waitangi, Te Ao Māori, and cultural responsiveness
 - Build strong relationships with students, whānau, parish, iwi, the Proprietor and the wider community
 - Lead strategically while remaining visible, approachable, and connected to the College community
- A willingness and ability to participate in religious instruction appropriate to the special character of the school is a condition of appointment.



For confidential enquiries or to request an application pack, please contact: principalapplication@shcn.school.nz

Application packs available from 28 September 2026

Applications close 4.00pm on Thursday 22 October 2026

Position commences Term 1 2027

Thanksgiving Mass for the Closure of St Joseph's School, Patea

All are welcome to attend the Thanksgiving Mass marking the closure of St Joseph's School, Patea, on Saturday 12 December 2026, 10.30am, at St Patrick's Church, 27 Egmont Street, Patea.

The Mass will be followed by a light lunch at St Joseph's School. For catering purposes, please RSVP with numbers attending to stpatspatea@xtra.co.nz by Thursday 1 December.

Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College Enrolment for 2027

Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College is now accepting enrolments for Semester One 2027. If you are a Catholic school teacher, preparing for ministry, seeking academic formation, or wanting to grow in understanding of the Catholic faith, CTC offers opportunities to learn and engage with Theology in a supportive environment. Go to www.ctc.ac.nz for more information.

TE KUPENGA CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Enrolment for 2027 Opens September 21, 2026

On-Campus Study | Online Study
Study Full-time or Part-time

- Bachelor of Divinity
- NZ Certificate in Christian Studies (Religious Education & Christian Ministry) - more online courses available in 2027
- Graduate Diploma in Theology
- Management of Church Organizations (Online micro-credential)

ctc.ac.nz

Ordination to the Diaconate of Peter Dung (Zung) Manh Phan

Bishop John Adams and the Catholic Diocese of Palmerston North are pleased to announce the forthcoming Ordination to the Diaconate of Peter Dung (Zung) Manh Phan, 11am on Saturday 21 November 2026, at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Palmerston North.

SAVE THE DATE

His Grace, Bishop John Adams and the Catholic Diocese of Palmerston North are pleased to announce the forthcoming Ordination to the Diaconate of

PETER DUNG (ZUNG) MANH PHAN

Saturday 21 November 2026
Cathedral of the Holy Spirit
137 Broadway Ave, Palmerston North

You are warmly invited to join us for this special occasion and witness the sacrament of Holy Orders.

For more details, contact:

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://bit.ly/MissionSundayNZ2026>

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.

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



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

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



WORLD YOUTH DAY

3 - 8 AUGUST 2027
SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

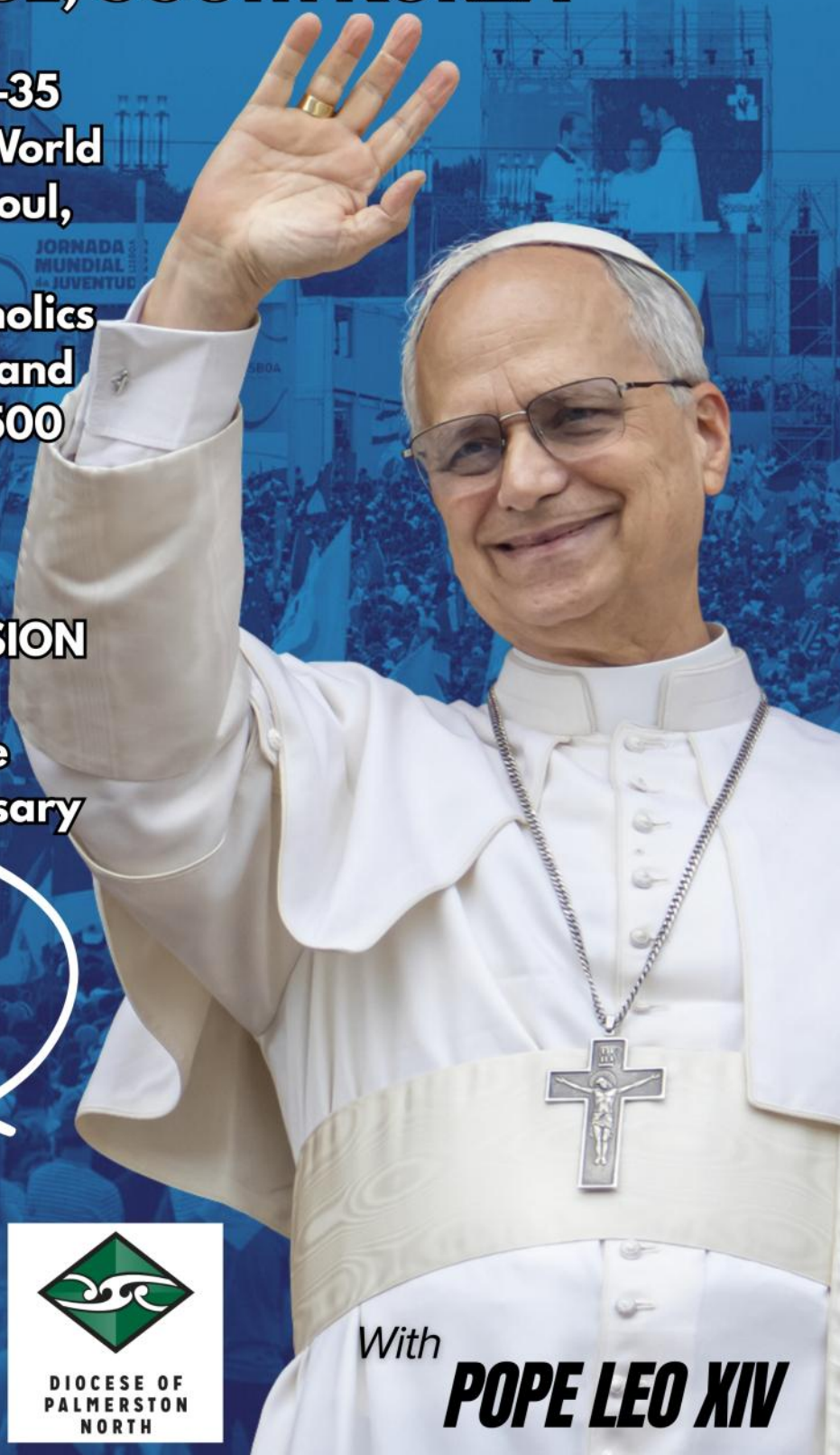
Young adults aged 18–35 are invited to attend World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul, South Korea, where millions of young Catholics will gather. New Zealand bishops aim to bring 500 young people.

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>



"AND I WILL PUT MY SPIRIT WITHIN YOU, AND YOU SHALL LIVE,
AND I WILL PLACE YOU IN YOUR OWN LAND."
(EZEKIEL 37:14)

Renewed & Sent: Parish Renewal Summit

Renewed & Sent gathers priests and parish leaders across Australia
who believe parish renewal is possible and want to discern what it
could look like in their parish

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>



Older Children's
Baptism



Older Children's Baptism

COMING UP IN NOVEMBER IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR CHILDREN SEVEN YEARS AND OLDER (AND THEIR YOUNGER SIBLINGS) TO BE BAPTISED.

IMPORTANT DATES

8TH NOVEMBER - 4.15PM AT ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH - PREPARATION AND PRACTICE. FOLLOWED BY ATTENDING 5.30PM MASS TOGETHER AS A GROUP, WHERE CHILDREN WILL BE ANOINTED AS PART OF THE PREPARATION FOR BAPTISM.

15TH NOVEMBER - 2:00 PM BAPTISM CELEBRATION AT ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, FOLLOWED BY AFTERNOON TEA.

If you know of families who may be interested, please let them know to get in touch.

To Register

Contact Karen at

youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz

