



Parish Newsletter Pānui i te Pārihi

106 Powderham St, PO Box 32, New Plymouth

Phone (06) 757 3682 | 9am to 4pm

office@catholicparishnp.nz

www.catholicparishnp.nz

Emergency Phone 027 224 2100



4th October 2026 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time



PARISH
PRIEST



Fr Simon Story

The Parish Leadership Team is a group of people normally around 4 - 6 members, who share responsibility for the success of the parish with the parish priest. They take responsibility for helping the parish priest do what is needed to make the parish amazing. Together with the Holy Spirit, they strive for the parish vision - where we are heading. The vision is too big for just the team alone. Critical topics will need to be discussed and seeing the parish as a whole. They are a leading and managing body that helps the parish priest to make good decisions. This is a new leadership team that was formed in September.



From Left in the picture are Pip Hall, Louise Llyod, Fr. Simon Story, Kirk Roberts and Fr. Sobin.

Dear Parishioners,

The mission of the Church, the mission of Jesus is your mission. We are disciples of Jesus who help people to encounter Jesus Christ, to be followers of him. Transformed lives lead to a transformed world. Our world needs what Jesus offers and mission needs to be resourced. It takes your donations to hold our events, to pay our staff, to maintain our buildings, to form community. It is good for you to give because it is your mission. When your money goes into Jesus' mission, then it is happening because of your contribution - you are personally invested. You share in the work and in the outcomes of our parish - our portion of this universal work of God's. Please join planned giving and please make a sacrifice for the mission here in New Plymouth. Information pamphlets are on your seats and in the foyer. Thank you. Fr Simon

Children's Liturgy at St Joseph's 9am Mass

We are very blessed to have a small team of volunteers who lead Children's Liturgy at St Joseph's 9am Mass. Children's Liturgy allows those that attend to have the readings and Gospel of the Mass broken open to them on a level they can understand and therefore access the main messages. We have quite a large group of children who regularly go out to Children's Liturgy. They enjoy this time and it helps them make connections with other children in our parish community. But we need your help! We need several more adults who can go on a roster to help run Children's Liturgy. Rachel and Sheryl, who coordinate Children's Liturgy, have great systems in place and the children know the routine. Perhaps you and a friend might be able to work together? It might be that you only are needed once or twice a term to help out. If you regularly attend Mass at 9am please consider if this is a way you can contribute to our parish community.

Get in touch with Karen if you want to know more or are keen to be involved.
youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz

Important Dates

Adoration

Thursday Evenings
St Joseph's Church
7.00pm

Tuesdays at OLHC
(after 9:10am Mass)
9:35am to 10:30am

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

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

Sunday 4th October
Illumin8 Formal
Presented by Youth
Group
7.00pm-9.00pm
(See Pg 3 for
Ticket Details)

Wednesday, 7th October
AV Gospel Encounter
Our Lady Help Of
Christians
7.00pm-8.15pm

Wednesday, 14th October
Unlocking the
Mystery of the Bible
Our Lady
Help of Christians
7.00pm-8.15pm

Saturday 24th October
Justice and Peace Group
Come with us to Parihaka
in the afternoon
(Details on Pg 2)

**Fri-Sat 23rd-25th
October 2026**
St Joseph's School New
Plymouth Centenary



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

✠ 📢 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

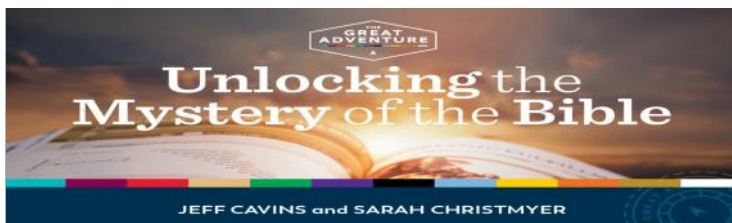
Join us from 6.45pm onwards for a cuppa/biscuit.

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



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, 14th and 28th October, 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

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.



JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP:

Come with us to Parihaka We will be able to hear from the people of Parikhaka, tour their maara and share kai together,
Saturday October 24th in the afternoon

Transport is available. We need numbers by October 11th.

If you want to come with us, please email Justice-andpeace@catholicparishnp.nz

Or phone the Parish Office (06) 757 3682 or phone or text Joan 0211100775



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.



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.

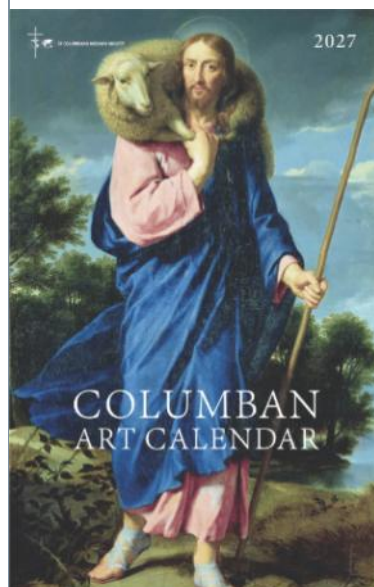
ADORATION: First Saturday Adoration at Bell Block Mass Centre Saturday 3rd October 9.30am - 10.30am

First Sunday Adoration at Our Lady Help of Christians Sunday 4th October 3.00pm



ANOINTING MASS: The monthly Mass of Anointing will be held at 10.30am Saturday 3rd October at St Joseph's Church. Join us for something to eat afterwards. Everyone is welcome.

Columban Art Calendars



For sale in the Parish Office, Columban calendars. It has been a long time tradition in Catholic homes, to have a Columban calendar. Wonderful art calendars, featuring religious masterpieces. See at a glance, Lent, Easter the dates of the major feast days. At \$15.00, this could be a simple gift for a loved one.



St Joseph's School New Plymouth Centenary - Register online 23rd-25th October 2026

Celebrating 100 years of Catholic Education
a special milestone in the life of
St Joseph's Catholic School New Plymouth.
Join us in this joyful celebration of this Mission Sisters', RNDM school

Friday 23 October:

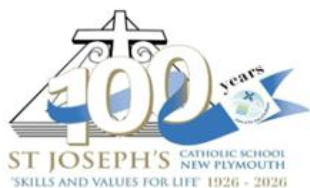
9.15 am Mihi Whakatau;
9.50am Grandparents Day and 10.30 am Morning Tea
6pm Supper, Tour and Photos

Saturday 24 October:

11 am Morning Tea Scones; Tour and Photos
6pm Gala Dinner at the Devon Hotel New Plymouth

Sunday 25 October.

10.30am Mass in the School Grounds
with Food Stalls, Raffles, Bouncy Castles etc. for Centenary Fun Day!



For further updates, the following is the official Centenary Facebook Page
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61576850039718>

"Register Your Interest" form here:

<https://docs.google.com/.../1FAIpQLSeUuzs83RR.../viewform...>

October Edition

2026

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUTH GROUP

ILLUMIN8 YOUTH PRESENTS
OUR 2026 FORMAL

A Wedding in Cana

7.00 - 9.00PM
SUNDAY 11 OCTOBER
ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH HALL

SINGLE TICKET: \$25
DOUBLE TICKET: \$40

TICKETS AVAILABLE HERE
UNTIL SUNDAY 4 OCTOBER:
[HTTPS://FORMS.GLE/VW3vN5V9AEAGERTB7](https://forms.gle/VW3vN5V9AEAGERTB7)

SCHOOL'S OUT FOR THE
HOLIDAYS!
THAT MEANS THE YOUTH GROUP
WILL BE TAKING A BREAK.

ENJOY YOUR BREAK!

WE'LL BE BACK WITH YOUTH
MASS AND THE YOUTH FORMAL
ON 11 OCTOBER

JUNIOR & SENIOR YOUTH MASS

5.30PM, SUNDAY 11 OCT 2026
ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

FEAST DAY OF
ST. CARLO ACUTIS



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

St Vincent de Paul Society Christmas Cards



We are delighted to bring you
the well-known St Vincent de Paul
Society Christmas Cards, available
during the Christmas season at
the parish office.

The pack includes 1 each of 5 beautiful designs. The
inside of each card carries various Christmas messages.
Each pack costs \$5.00.

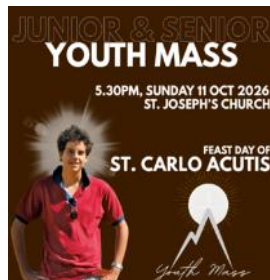
Proceeds from these cards go to supporting the Society
of St Vincent de Paul New Zealand and the wonderful
work that they do. - Limited Supplies Available.

Youth Mass - Feast of St. Carlos Acutis

Join us for a special Junior & Senior Youth Mass as we
celebrate the Feast Day of St Carlo Acutis, a modern-day
saint who inspires young people to live their faith with
courage and joy.

We warmly invite all junior youth,
senior youth, and their families to
come together for this celebration
of faith, fellowship, and community.

Date: Sunday, 11 October 2026
Time: 5:30 PM
Venue: St Joseph's Church



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



WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Betty Wickers, Faye Dravitski, Susanna Chamany,
Josephine O'Guedes, and Walter Arthur O'Guedes,

OCT

5
MON

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

TO 11TH OCTOBER SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

8:00am St Joseph's Church

6
TUE8:00am St Joseph's Church
9:10am Our Lady Help of Christians
12:05pm St Joseph's Church7
WED8:00am St Joseph's Church
9:10am Our Lady Help of Christians8
THU8:00am St Joseph's Church
9:10am Our Lady Help of Christians9
FRI8:00am St Joseph's Church
12:05pm St Joseph's Church10
SAT8:30am St Joseph's Church
5:30pm Our Lady Help of Christians (Vigil Mass)
6:00pm St Patrick's Church Okato (Vigil Mass)11
SUN9:00am St Joseph's Church
10:30am Our Lady Help of Christians
10:30am Nga Pekanga (Cnr Bayly St and Princess St Waitara)
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 4th 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 and on 12th Oct. It restarts 19th Oct. For more details contact Amelia at musiccoordinator@catholicparishnp.nz

SUNDAY READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

28th Sunday in Ordinary Time 11 October

1ST READING: Isaiah 25.6-10a**PSALM:** 23**2ND READING:** Philippians 4.12-14, 19-20**GOSPEL:** Mathew 22.1-14 or 22.1-10

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 Tuesday 9.35am to 10.30am (after 9.10am Mass) First Sunday of the month 3.00pm - 4.00pm	HOLY HOUR "God Dwells in our midst in the Blessed Sacrament of the altar". St. Maximilian Kolbe
	BELL BLOCK CATHOLIC CENTRE First Saturday of the month 9.30am to 10.30am	EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
	ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH Every Thursday 7.00pm-8.00pm	

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

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



WORLD YOUTH DAY

3 - 8 AUGUST 2027
SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

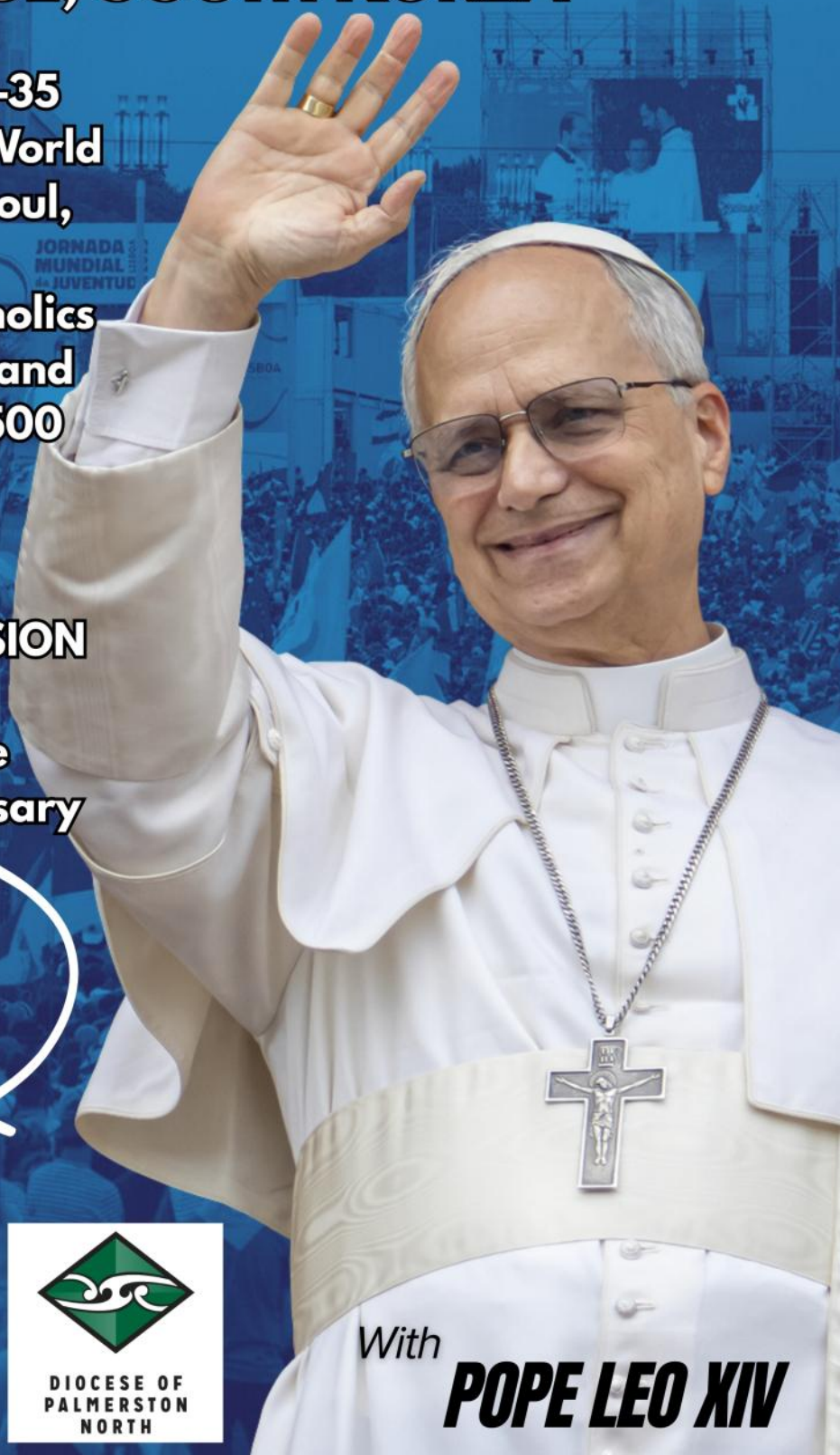
Young adults aged 18–35 are invited to attend World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul, South Korea, where millions of young Catholics will gather. New Zealand bishops aim to bring 500 young people.

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



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.

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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



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 - Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
28 September - 4 October 2026

Could you be a St Carlo Missionary?

We are exploring what a network of St Carlo Missionaries across our Diocese might look like.

It could involve sharing his story, accompanying the relic and Eucharistic Miracles exhibition, visiting schools or parishes, supporting Eucharistic initiatives, or even a period of missionary service.

Has something been stirring over these past weeks?

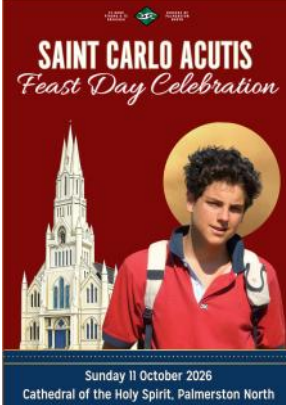
Email mission@pndiocese.org.nz to find out more and begin the conversation.

Diocesan Celebration of the Feast of St Carlo Acutis

All are warmly invited to join the Diocesan celebration of the Feast of St Carlo Acutis on **Sunday, 11 October 2026**, at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit. The day will begin with Mass at 7:30 am and continue with opportunities for Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, prayer, and veneration of the relic of St Carlo Acutis.

The Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition will be on display throughout the day, with tea and coffee available in the Cathedral Lounge during the afternoon. The celebration will conclude with Mass at 6:00 pm, followed by relic veneration.

"The Eucharist is my highway to heaven." – St Carlo Acutis



SAINT CARLO ACUTIS
Feast Day Celebration

Sunday 11 October 2026
Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Palmerston North

PROGRAMME

- 7:30am Mass, followed by Relic Veneration
- 10am Mass, followed by Relic Veneration
- 1pm Eucharistic Adoration (available until 5pm)
Reconciliation (available until 5pm)
Relic Veneration
- 3pm Divine Mercy
- 4pm Rosary
- 5pm Solemn Benediction
Preparation for Evening Mass
- 6pm Mass, followed by Relic Veneration

All are warmly invited to join us throughout the day.
Tea and coffee will be available in the Cathedral lounge in the afternoon,
and the St Carlo exhibition will be on display in the gathering area.

"The Eucharist is my highway to heaven." - St Carlo Acutis

St Mary's Whanganui 50th Jubilee Celebration

The Catholic Parish of Whanganui warmly invites parishioners and friends to celebrate the 50th Jubilee of St Mary's Church on Sunday, 1 November 2026. The celebrations will begin with a Jubilee Mass at 9.30am, followed by church and marae tours, a potluck lunch, speeches, and musical entertainment.

For catering purposes, please RSVP by 20 October 2026 to the Catholic Parish of Whanganui at admin@cpow.co.nz

LET'S CELEBRATE

St Mary's 50th jubilee

SUNDAY THE 1ST OF NOVEMBER, 2026

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A CELEBRATORY MASS AT 9:30AM, FOLLOWED BY CHURCH AND MARAE TOURS, A POTLUCK LUNCH, SPEECHES AND MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT!

RSVP by the 20th of October to the Catholic Parish of Whanganui (admin@cpow.co.nz)
Any queries please contact Kate Lynch (gaktylynch@gmail.com or 027 2439 430)



One Million Children Praying the Rosary for Peace

Families are warmly invited to join Pope Leo XIV and Catholics around the world in Aid to the Church in Need's "One Million Children Praying the Rosary" initiative from 1-7 October. The week of prayer begins with the Holy Father praying the Rosary with children at the Lourdes Grotto in the Vatican Gardens, united spiritually with children, families, schools and parishes across the globe.

Whether you pray a full Rosary or just a decade together at home, your family can be part of this worldwide prayer chain for peace and unity in the world. Prayer resources are available at <https://acninternational.org/millionchildrenpraying> and participants are encouraged to register their involvement so they can be included in the global tally of those taking part.

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

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 Mission, 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 volunteerism empowers support across sport, the arts and cultural activities, service and leadership, supporting students to grow and undertake together.

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

The School Board invites 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 23 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 stpatspa-tea@xtra.co.nz by Thursday 1 December.

Please join Bishop John Adams and the Diocese of Palmerston North at the

Thanksgiving Mass

for the closure of St Joseph's School, Patea.

Saturday 12th December 2026, 10:30am
at St Patrick's Church
27 Egmont Street, Patea, Taranaki

Followed by light lunch at St Joseph's School.
All are welcome.

RSVP to stpatspa-tea@xtra.co.nz by **Thursday 1 December** with numbers attending.

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.

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 and Christian Ministry) – more online courses available in 2027
- ✓ Graduate Diploma in Theology
- ✓ Management of Church Organisations (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

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
157 Broadway Ave, Palmerston North

You are warmly invited to join us for this joyful occasion as we gather to pray and celebrate.

Further 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/>

Registrations are open!

Divine Intimacy in Marriage

Accent your Union

An unforgettable weekend of encounter, renewal, and deeper union — with God and with each other.

with Dan & Stephanie Burke

Friday 22nd 8am – Sunday 24 January 12pm 2027
Capthorne Hotel, Palmerston North

For more info and to register:
divineintimacy2027.netlify.app

Early Bird \$60 per couple | Register by 31 October 2026 (Standard \$80 per couple)

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>

National Centennial Mass
for
Venerable Meri Hōhepa Suzanne Aubert



2pm, Sunday 4 October 2026
St Mary of the Angels Church
17 Boulcott St, Wellington

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>

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>



BILLINGS OVULATION METHOD™
Natural Fertility Seminar
Christchurch
Friday 9 - Saturday 10 October 2026

Who is this seminar for?	The Billings Ovulation Method™ is
Health professionals & natural health practitioners interested in women's health and fertility	Accurate
Anyone interested in becoming an accredited Billings teacher	Evidence-based scientific self-knowledge about human fertility
Couples using or interested in using the Method	Not dependent on regular ovulation, thermometers, kits, drugs or devices
Women keen to understand and track the menstrual cycle phases	Empowers couples to take control of their fertility to avoid or achieve pregnancy
Marriage educators, and community workers	Enables women to monitor their reproductive health and general well-being

Scan QR code to register for further details: 0800 693 376 or info@billingslife.org.nz www.billingslife.org.nz

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.

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.

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

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>

