

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

15th November 2026 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



Important Dates

Adoration
Wednesday, 18th November
St Joseph's Church
7.00pm
(Please note change of Day)

Tuesdays at OLHC
(after 9:10am Mass)
9.35am to 10.30am

Sunday 15th November
Bake Sale
St Joseph's Church
9.00am

Wednesday 18th November
AV Gospel Encounter
Our Lady Help of Christians Church foyer
7.00pm to 8.15pm

Thursday 19th November
Annual Parish Get-together
St Joseph's Church Hall
6.00-9.00pm

Sunday 22nd November
St Pius X School
Led Mass
St Joseph's Church
9.00am

Sunday 29th November
First Sunday of Advent

Sunday 13th December
Advent/Christmas Carols Service
Bell Block Catholic Centre
4.00-5.45pm

Justice and Peace Group
Tuesdays 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd December
Advent 2026
Our Lady Help of Christians church
7.00pm

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

NOVEMBER - MONTH OF THE HOLY SOULS

During November, many Masses celebrated in the parish, will be prayed for our dead brothers and sisters who as yet do not enjoy the fullness of God's love and joy.

Our Book of the Deceased and the Remembrance Boxes will be placed in the sanctuary near the altar at St Joseph's church or near the altar at Our Lady Help of Christians church. You can express your love by making a list of your beloved dead and placing it in the Remembrance Box. No money is required to be left.

If you would like names of deceased to be recorded in the Memorial Book please contact the Parish Office.

AV Gospel Encounter

On Wed 18th Nov, we will be prayerfully entering into the coming Sunday Gospel's reality as we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King.

We pause and allow the Holy Spirit to breathe through the following Scriptures on death and when Christ comes as a judge: Matthew 25:31-46. No prep needed. Come as you are. You are warmly welcomed!

Next Gospel Encounter:

Wed 18 November 2026
Our Lady Help of Christians church foyer. 23 Clinton St, Fitzroy. 7.00pm to 8.15pm

Doors open 6.45pm for fellowship

Meeting dates for your diaries for the rest of the year are 2nd December 2026 and 16th December 2026

We joyfully meet again in 2027 on Feb 3rd.

CATHOLIC WOMENS LEAGUE CHRISTMAS RAFFLE:

CWL will be selling tickets for their fabulous Christmas raffle in St Joseph's church foyer Sunday 29th November and 6th December. $2 a ticket and $5.00 for 3 tickets. (Please bring some cash). Proceeds of the raffle support the work of CWL.



RED NOVEMBER; Churches in Australia and New Zealand come together in prayer and solidarity with Christians who suffer for their faith. Red November is an international initiative led by Aid to Church in need (ACN), a pontifical foundation supporting the suffering and persecuted Church. The central focus of this campaign is Red Wednesday, 18th November, when churches around the world are illuminated in red in solidarity with persecuted Christians. Persecuted Christians repeatedly ask us to pray for them so they are strengthened in faith, speak up for them so they are not forgotten, and support them so they can survive. Our church tower will be lit up in red during the month of November.

ROSTERS: We are beginning to make the rosters for the next period, December, January and February. If you have any special requests, (remembering that this covers Christmas and the school holiday times) please contact your roster co-ordinator or the Parish Office for St Joseph's, or Helen Chitty helen4sun@hotmail.com for Our Lady Help of Christians.

JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP

Caritas is helping the Catholic Parish of New Plymouth to prepare in a special way to celebrate the coming of Jesus at Christmas.



Take time out from the hectic pre-Christmas world to prepare in a way that really matters.

St Anthony choir will lead our singing.
We will listen to scripture and hear real stories of hope, peace, joy and love from around the world. We will reflect silently on what we have heard, and pray.

Come to **Our Lady Help of Christians Church 24 Clinton Street Fitzroy, 7pm every Tuesday in Advent (December 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd)**.
Join us for a cuppa after our service.

St. Vincent De Paul Christmas Care Package Appeal

The Society of St Vincent de Paul (SVdP) sincerely thanks parishioners for their generous support, donations, and prayers throughout 2026, which have helped sustain the Tuesday Community Meals programme in New Plymouth.

As a Christmas gesture for the approximately **75 diners** who attend these meals, SVdP hopes to provide each person with a care package at the final Community Meal on **8 December**. Parishioners are invited to donate **one or more items**, such as toiletries, socks, sun caps, chocolates, biscuits, or other personal care essentials, to help make this possible.

Donation boxes will be available in the church foyers at all weekend Masses on 14/15, 21/22, and 28/29 November.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support of SVdP's ministry. Your kindness truly makes a difference.

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.

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.

Annual Sick & Retired Priests Special Collection | After Communion Sunday, 29 November 2026

The Clergy Trust Fund supports the wellbeing and care of priests in our Diocese. This includes stipends, food, travel home for overseas priests, retreats, and healthcare -related costs.

As medical and care costs continue to rise, the Fund is under increasing pressure. Your generosity towards this special collection is therefore deeply appreciated, particularly by our elderly and retired priests who benefit directly from your support.

Contributing to this collection is also a meaningful way of expressing our gratitude for the many years of faithful pastoral care, ministry, and service our priests have given to our parishes and communities.

How You Can Support:
Specially marked envelopes were attached to the newsletter next week. More are available in the foyers. Those who donate by planned giving will have a white Sick and Retired Special Collection envelope with their envelope pack. (Ignore the date on the envelope). Alternatively, you can donate via online banking to The Catholic Parish of New Plymouth bank account 02 0630 0288002 03. Please include your name as the payee and use **'S and R'** as the reference and your planned giving number if you have one. And of course putting cash in the plate contributes as well. Every contribution, large or small, makes a difference.

Thank you for your generosity and continued support of our priests.

With sincere thanks and blessings,
Monsignor Brian Walsh - Clergy Trust Fund - DPM

Children's Liturgy St Patrick's Okato
Saturday 21st November 6.00 pm

If children want to be involved please let me know.

Marian ph 027 630 3428, or arrive at the church before 5.40pm. All are welcome.

AOTEAROA BIBLE DIARY 2027



On sale in the Parish Office. This hard cover Bible Diary has the readings for each day of the year. The psalm for each day of the year. Prayers: Stations of the Cross, Chaplet of the Divine Mercy, the Rosary, Daily prayers and Family prayers. Quotes and listing of daily saints. Just $20 from the Parish Office.

Change in Adoration Schedule for Next Week: Please be advised that Adoration next week will be held on Wednesday, 18th November at 7:00pm instead of Thursday, 19th November. This change has been made due to the Annual Parish Get-Together scheduled for 19th November.



Advent / Christmas Carols Service, Sunday 13 December, 4.00 -5.45pm, at Bell Block Catholic Centre, 138 Parklands Ave, Bell Block

Adults and children will mime the Christmas Story, which will be interspersed with readings and multicultural Christmas Carols, involving people from other cultures.

A shared finger-food tea will conclude the evening of prayer, song, reflection and fun.

The one and only practice will be Saturday 12 December, at 9.30am (for the Christmas Story) and 10.45am (music practice) at the Bell Block Catholic Centre.

Everyone is very welcome to come to this Bell Block community preparation for Christmas.



WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Cushla Brennan, Kevin Drinkwater, Grey Dow, Nora "Tess" O'Connell, Clara O'Connell, Francis Morris, Francis and Susanna Chamany, Ivan and Rae Edgecombe and Pat and Shirley Scott.

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

TO 22nd NOVEMBER FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

NOV 16 MON	8:00am	St Joseph's Church
17 TUE	8:00am	St Joseph's Church
	9:10am	Our Lady Help of Christians
	12:05pm	St Joseph's Church
18 WED	8:00am	St Joseph's Church
	9:10am	Our Lady Help of Christians
19 THU	8:00am	St Joseph's Church
	10:00am	Sacred Hearts Girls College (Mary's Chapel)
	2.20pm	Francis Douglas Memorial College Chapel
20 FRI	8:00am	St Joseph's Church
	12:05pm	St Joseph's Church
21 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)
22 SUN	9:00am	St Joseph's Church (St Pius X School Led Mass)
	10:30am	Our Lady Help of Christians
	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:
St Joseph's Church: Each Sunday at 9.00am Mass in the church foyer.
Our Lady Help of Christians:
Each Sunday at 10:30am in the St John Bosco School Library.
Bell Block Catholic Centre:
Children's Liturgy during Mass (1st Sunday of the month) and Liturgy of the Word with Communion (3rd Sunday of the month)
Everyone is welcome.

LITTLE ANGELS MUSIC AND PLAY GROUP FOR PRESCHOOLERS
Our Lady Help of Christians. Music, play, and morning tea from 9.00am during school term. For more details contact Amelia at musiccoordinator@catholicparishnp.nz

SUNDAY READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY
The Feast of Christ the King, 22 November

1ST READING: Ezekiel 34.11-12, 15-17

PSALM: 23

2ND READING: 1 Corinthians 15.20-26, 28

GOSPEL: Mark 25.31-46



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

FOLLOW US **For updates on parish, diocese, and national events.**
Catholic Parish of New Plymouth

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OFFICE ADMINISTRATION Ireen
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COMMUNICATIONS LEAD Russell
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YOUTH MINISTER Louise
youth@catholicparishnp.nz
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

You're invited to

HEAVENLY HOMES

A one day fundraising event celebrating the magic and joy of Christmas

15 November 2026

HEAVENLY HOMES 2026
AN INSPIRATIONAL CHRISTMAS

St Pius X

Scan for tickets and more info

Welcome

All the past, present parishioners
and friends of the Parish.



Reopening Celebration Mass

SUNDAY THE 15TH NOVEMBER

11AM

at St Martin de Tours Church

Pungarehu

Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish

Contact if any queries on

020 4009 3060 or email rcopunake@infogen.net.nz

Handel's Messiah

Saturday 28 November | 2.30pm

TSB Showplace, Theatre Royal



Ars Nova Choir | Taranaki Symphony Orchestra
Bryony Williams | Charlotte Secker
John Beaglehole | Roger Wilson
Christopher J. Luke director

Tickets from

eventfinda Puke Ariki

WEEKLY DIOCESAN UPDATES

for the Thirty-Third Sunday in Ordinary Time
9th-15th November 2026

Saint of the Week | St. Elizabeth of Hungary

This coming week, we are accompanied by St. Elizabeth of Hungary, the patron saint of bakers, beggars, brides, charities, and children who have died. Her feast day is celebrated on 17 November.

Join our WhatsApp channel to stay up to date with our Accompanied by the Saints series and discover the inspiring lives of the saints who journey with us in faith https://bit.ly/diowhatsapp

Job Vacancy: Parish Receptionist, Cathedral of the Holy Spirit

The Cathedral of the Holy Spirit Parish is seeking a friendly and reliable Parish Receptionist for a permanent part-time position (20 hours per week, Tuesday to Friday). The role begins in January 2027, with applications closing Friday, 20 November.

For more information and to apply: visit the TradeMe job ad at https://tinyurl.com/yfvtxhnm

A message from Aid to the Church in Need Australia and New Zealand

ACN is the Pontifical Foundation dedicated to supporting the suffering and persecuted Church. During this Red November, we invite you to pray, support and act in solidarity with 388+ million Christians persecuted for their faith. Around the world, churches and public buildings will light up in red as a symbol of the sacrifice and suffering of our modern-day martyrs. In Australia and New Zealand, over 20 Cathedrals will be lit in red, with some holding Masses and prayer vigils for persecuted Christians. Visit www.rednovember.org to learn more.

Young Catholic Leader is happening again in the diocese!

This programme is for Year 12 students returning to Year 13 in 2027. Inspired by the example of Jesus Christ, participants will develop the skills and confidence to serve as senior leaders in their schools.

This annual programme is an investment in the young people of our diocese and our Catholic colleges. A few places are still available. If you know a Year 12 student in your parish who would like to grow as a young Catholic leader, please contact Nick Wilson, Pastoral Services Director, at **nwilson@pndiocese.org.nz** by **Friday 20 November**.

Bishop Peter Cullinane's 90th Birthday Celebration

Everyone is warmly invited to join us in celebrating Bishop Peter Cullinane's 90th birthday on **Tuesday, 1 December 2026**.

Mass will be celebrated at 12.05pm at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Palmerston North, followed by lunch in the Manawatū Rooms (formerly the Diocesan Rooms).

For catering purposes, please RSVP to Chris Reilly at bishop-pa@pndiocese.org.nz by **Wednesday, 25 November**, and kindly advise of any dietary requirements when responding.

Bishop Peter's 90th birthday is on Sunday, 29 November, when he will be celebrating with his family in Hawke's Bay.

We look forward to gathering together to celebrate this wonderful milestone and to give thanks for Bishop Peter's many years of faithful service to the Church.

One Hope Project Academy NZ | Grow in Worship and Mission

Do you have a heart for worship and a desire to help others encounter Jesus? OHP Academy is a six-month online Catholic worship school offering formation, practical training and mentoring for musicians, singers, worship leaders and anyone wanting to grow in faith and worship.

You don't need to be an experienced musician, just a heart willing to grow!

Find out more: www.onehopeproject.co.uk/ohpacademy

Youth Ministry Coordinator | Catholic Diocese of Hamilton

Do you have a heart for young people and a passion for sharing Jesus Christ? The Catholic Diocese of Hamilton is looking for a full-time Youth Ministry Coordinator to support and grow youth ministry across our parishes and Catholic schools.

Based in Hamilton, this role will involve supporting existing youth groups, developing new initiatives, connecting schools and parishes, and helping organise diocesan youth events and Masses. The position starts in January 2027, or earlier by negotiation, and involves regular travel throughout the diocese.

For further information, contact Joanna Kearney at joannak@cdh.org.nz.

When was the last time you set aside time just for your marriage?

Join Dan and Stephanie Burke for a weekend of renewal, prayer and deeper connection with God and one another. Discover how your marriage can become a path to greater intimacy with Christ and a source of grace in your everyday life.

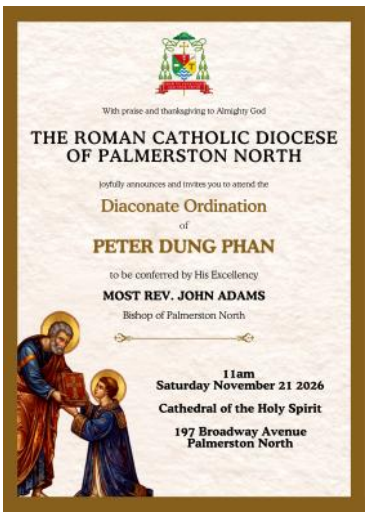
22–24 January 2027 | Copthorne Hotel, Palmerston North A residential retreat for married couples. Financial assistance is available.

For more information and to register: https://divineintimacy2027.netlify.app



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.



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.

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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.**





St Joseph's School, Patea

Taking Responsibility | Achieving Excellence | Having Respect | In it Together

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.

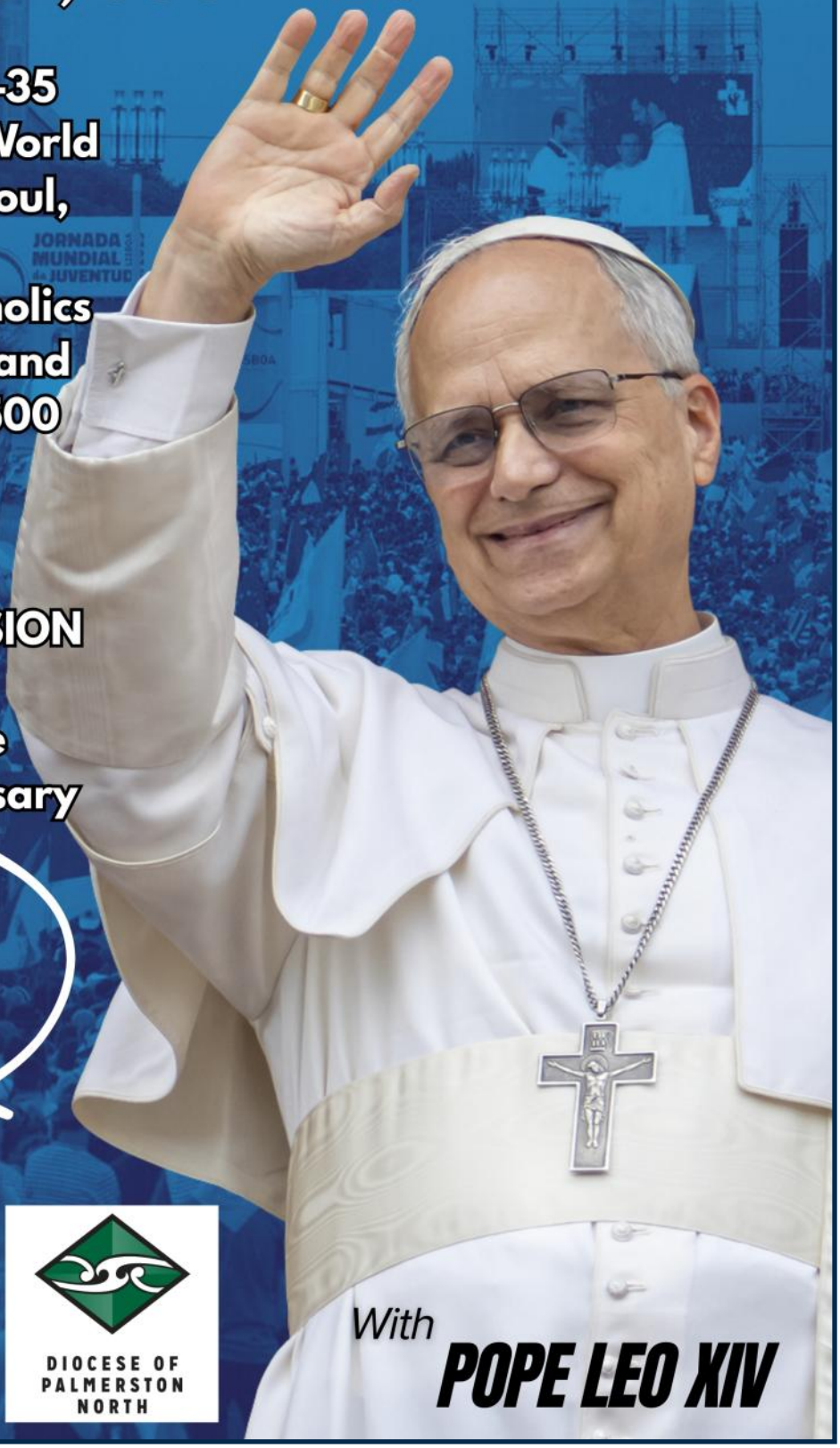
RSVP to stpatspatea@xtra.co.nz by **Thursday 1 December** with numbers attending.

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

WYD SEOUL 2027

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**