



Parish Newsletter Pūrongo a te Pāriha



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 Catholic Parish of New Plymouth

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Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time – 19 February 2023

FRANCIS DOUGLAS MEMORIAL COLLEGE DEDICATION MASS

On Friday 10th February we dedicated the 2023 school year to God. We also blessed our Year 13 cohort as leaders of our school and then presented the sixteen young men in our Student Leadership Team with their badges.

The whole school travelled by bus down to St Joseph's Church to celebrate this very auspicious occasion. Francis Douglas Memorial College is an active member of the Catholic Parish of New Plymouth and it is wonderful to be able to gather in our Parish church.

Our Year 13 cohort were asked to affirm their commitment to the rest of the college with a positive response to six oaths of brotherhood. Our readings all focused on being a light for others, of witnessing to the love of Christ in our lives. Fr Brian Carmine, an Old Boy of the College celebrated Mass for us. William Poole, Deputy Head Boy, and Gabriel Gerente, Special Character Leader, spoke directly to their younger brothers as part of the Homily and Zac Perrett, Head Boy gave his opening address to the school after communion. Sir Br Pat Lynch also spoke at the end of Mass and our Principal, Mr Tim Stuck, welcomed us all to the occasion. All our speakers reiterated two very important foci for 2023.

All College students will continue to grow and develop as Good College Men and in memory of Father Francis Vernon Douglas, whose 80th anniversary is this year, will do everything to the best of their ability and "With no Regrets."

Finally, six of our Year 12 and 13 young men took on the mantle of Eucharistic Minister and were commissioned to the role after the Liturgy of the Word. They then undertook this duty for the first time at this Mass where they served their school community in the distribution of the Blessed Body of Christ.

Our celebration was enhanced with music played by The Mustard Seeds, (a combination of FDMC and SHGC students) and our school choir. Music really does lift the mood of all present. Our Mass began with our Hymn to the Founder and ended with Shine Jesus Shine, both songs enthusiastically and very well sung! There is no better way to begin the school year than in praise to God. Live Jesus in our Hearts Forever.

Contributed by Anna Zsigovits-Mace

Director of Religious Studies Francis Douglas Memorial College



Opening Procession at FDMC 2023 Dedication Mass



Francis Douglas Memorial College Year 13 cohort and School Leaders at Mass

OUR VISION: The Catholic Parish of New Plymouth is a healthy and growing Eucharistic faith community that brings people to Christ, forms disciples, and sends them out to transform the world. We commit to worship, to grow, to serve, to connect, and to give.

COLLECTIONS/DONATIONS

EMAILING TAX RECEIPTS:

31 March 2023 is not far away, and with it comes the end of the tax year. This year we will be able to email the tax receipts to donors who would rather have an emailed version instead of a printed copy. If you would like the tax receipt emailed, please contact the Parish office by emailing office@catholicparishnp.nz

GENERAL NOTICES

ASH WEDNESDAY 22 FEBRUARY.

ECUMENICAL CELEBRATION with the Anglican community Ash Wednesday 7.00pm at St. Joseph's church. Do join together with the Anglican communities for a time of prayer and song and the receiving of the ashes.

We celebrate Mass on Ash Wednesday

St Joseph's 8.00am and 12.05pm

Our Lady Help of Christians 9.10am and 5.30pm

Evening prayer during Lent will be prayed at St Joseph's Church Thursday 5.15pm, starting 2nd March.

PRAYER ON FASTING from Pope Francis

Fast from hurtful words and speak kind words.

Fast from sadness and be filled with gratitude.

Fast from anger and be filled with patience.

Fast from pessimism and be filled with hope.

Fast from worries and have trust in God.

Fast from complaints and contemplate simplicity.

Fast from pressures and be prayerful.

Fast from bitterness and fill your heart with joy.

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

Fast from words and be silent so you

CARITAS LENTEN REFLECTION PROGRAMME

2023: This year's theme, "I am the Light of the World" reminds us that Jesus brings light to a darkened world. The Caritas Lenten Reflection programme provides a six week reflection based on the Lenten Sunday gospels. An electronic copy of the booklet used is available on the Caritas website www.caritas.org.nz – Have a look at the programme and join this discussion group in the Parish Office 5.15pm to 6.15pm starting tomorrow, Monday 20 February.

THE LETTER: In 2015 Pope Francis wrote *Laudato Si*, the first Papal Letter focused on the environment. It encouraged us to see that "everything is connected". The way we treat the Earth, our common home, is a reflection of how we treat each other. Caring for each other means caring for the home we live in.

THE LETTER tells the story of the *Laudato Si* through the eyes from frontline leaders battling the ecological crisis across continents. Dialogue with the Pope in the Vatican brings new hope for our common home. In March we are offering a workshop on this documentary to all interested persons. The date is to be set, but it will be a Friday evening. To view THE LETTER or the trailers prior to the workshop google "The Letter Pope Francis" or <https://TheLetterFilm.org>

THE NATIONAL EMERGENCY: The devastation that has been wrought on New Zealand in the past few days is unbelievable and heart breaking. This is a time when communities are important. While we in New Plymouth may have come through this time relatively unscathed, we will all have friends, relations and sister parishes elsewhere who have not. We remember that there are others afraid, suffering, dealing with loss, alone or just trying to get through the day. A message, a text, a phone call, a prayer, can make all the difference. We can all play our part in supporting and being there for others, to be the presence of practical faith and service while creating a sense of family and home.

SHINE AND ILLUMINATE YOUTH GROUPS –

Start Date Today 19 February 2023:

Our junior youth group, **Shine**, is for those in Years 4 to 8. Shine runs from 4.00pm – 5.00pm in St Joseph's Church Hall. This junior youth group gives this age of young people in our parish a chance to form connections.



Our senior youth group, **Illuminate**, is for those from Year 9 and up. Illuminate runs from 6.30pm-8.30pm in St Joseph's Church Hall. Many of our Illuminate regulars come to 5.30pm Mass first, before heading along to Illuminate.

If you would like to know anything else about Shine or Illuminate, please email me. Karen Maclean

youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz

PARISH SMALL GROUPS ROSARY STROLL at Pukekura Park. Feel free to join us for a rosary stroll around the main lake at Pukekura Park. We meet outside Pukekura Park teahouse on Thursdays at 11:00am. For more information contact Michael phone 021 139 9931.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL Our Lady Help of Christian Conference will hold its monthly meeting at the St. Vincent de Paul shop, Fitzroy at 4.30pm Monday 20 February 2023. Anyone interested in the work of the Conference is most welcome to attend.



FR ALLISTON FERNANDES invites you to a spiritual retreat on evangelisation and married life 11 March 2023, 9:00am-4:30pm St. Joseph church hall, New Plymouth. Sponsored by Couples for Christ (CFC) Taranaki. Please bring lunch to share, snacks will be provided. RSVP to Efren Montalla phone 021 063 9503.

CURRENT OF GRACE CONFERENCE 2023

"RECEIVE HOLY SPIRIT POWER" by Charis

(Catholic Charismatic Renewal) at El Rancho

Waikanae, 24th to 26th March 2023. Speakers:

Cardinal John Dew, Fr John Rae SM, Dr Mary Healy, Robert Falzon, with Archbishop

Paul Martin SM celebrating the final Mass. Register now at www.currentofgraceconference.info

See the poster in the church foyers for more details.



WELCOME to St Pius X school at 9.00am Mass celebrating their school led Mass

THE MISSION DISCERNMENT TEAM, would like to meet with everyone to continue the listening to parishioners, to explain the culture and engagement survey report, and the formation of a mission plan for the parish. If you would like to know more about how the engagement & culture survey was analysed and the report put together and the next stages of our parish's mission discernment, please come. The Mission Discernment Team are holding two listening sessions in St Joseph's church 4.00pm Sunday 26 February, and in Our Lady Help of Christians, 7.15pm Wednesday 1 March.

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL STRATFORD JUBILEE Sunday 19th March 2023. (Note change of date). Beginning with 10.00am Mass at Immaculate Conception Church Stratford, followed by photos, cake and a light lunch. (Please provide a small plate for the shared lunch). This will be followed by school tours. For more details see the poster in the church foyers or go to the Jubilee Facebook page or email admin@stjosephs-stratford.school.nz

COLLEGE CHAPLAIN POSITION AVAILABLE: Sacred Heart Girls' College Manawa Tapu Chaplain
Start date: negotiable Permanent, Part-time, 5 hours per day - 25 hours per week (term time only) Sacred Heart Girls' College is a Catholic Integrated school for students from Years 7 – 13, which celebrates the charism gifted to us by our founding order, the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions.



We are seeking a Chaplain to be actively involved in building the Special Catholic Character of our college. Applications close Friday 10 March 2023 at 12 noon.

A job description is available on request – email Denise Stachurski, Executive Assistant at: dst@shgcnps.school.nz Apply by providing a cover letter along with your CV and provide referees with contact details to: The Principal Sacred Heart Girls' College PO Box 3241, New Plymouth 4341 or email:

the
Lent
appeal
2023

Caritas
AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

**"I am the Light
of the World"**

- John 8:12

CARITAS LENTEN GIVING: During Lent, New Zealand's Catholic Bishops invite us to provide for the needs of the poor through the work of Caritas. Money raised through the Bishops' Lent Appeal helps to fund both development and emergency relief work around the world. Please see Lent envelopes for examples.

In the First week of Lent, Caritas draws our attention to their work in Fiji. For many rural youth in Fiji who have left the formal school system, the village setting holds few meaningful work and life opportunities. Tutu Rural Training Centre has for over 40 years enabled rural Fijian youth to lead dignified lives by promoting sustainable self-employment using resources available by having access to customary land. Through a range of training and mentoring programmes, Tutu staff lead with compassion and culturally appropriate skills to re-connect youth and their Vanua (land and culture), family and their wider community.

You can donate to the Bishops' Lent Appeal each week by using the pack of six envelopes or as a single donation for all of Lent. These are being distributed in the Mass centres today. These can be returned through the parish's plate collection or posted freepost directly to Caritas. Please do include your contact details such as your name, address and email details so that Caritas can send you a tax receipt.

Alternatively, you can donate online by visiting www.caritas.org.nz and pay by credit card or make a direct transfer to the Caritas bank account, available on their website. Every coin donated adds to the help Caritas can provide.



We pray for our deceased family and friends:

Selwyn Knuckey, Conchita Porento Pintor, Dave Newland, Ken Clark, Marie McLean, Betty Koorey, Cajetan Dias, Clotilda Dias, Anthony Jerry Dias, Francis Castellino, Deceased members of the Lobo, D'Souza and Fernandes families.

WEEKLY MASSES: 20 February to 26 February 2023 (Fourth Sunday of the month)

	MON 20 February	TUES 21 February	ASH WEDNES- DAY 22 February	THURS 23 February	FRI 24 February	SAT 25 February	SUN 26 February
St Joseph's Church	8.00am	8.00am 12.05pm	8.00am 12.05pm	8.00am	8.00am 12.05pm	8.30am	9.00am 5.30pm
Our Lady Help of Christians		9.10am	9.10am 5.30pm	9.10am		5.30pm Vigil Mass	10.30am
St Martins Pungarehu							8.30am

(C/S) denotes Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion.

For updated Mass information, during the week please refer to the APP or Website www.catholicparishnp.nz

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION: Saturdays 11.30am – 12 noon St Joseph's Church OR 4.45pm at OLHC prior to the 5.30pm vigil Mass.

WEEKLY:

ADORATION – Wednesday Adoration at Our Lady Help of Christians after 9.10am Mass. Adoration will resume at St Joseph's Church Wednesday 1 March 5.00pm.

MORNING PRAYER – Before Mass Monday Tuesday and Friday 7.40am and Saturday's 8.10am. Go to back door of Parish Office building. We are in the Mary McKillop Room.

SCHOOL WEEKDAY MASSES: Please check our newsletter timetable each week. Francis Douglas and Sacred Heart School weekday Masses have not yet resumed. St Pius X 9.00am Friday Mass is now celebrated fortnightly.

SUNDAY READINGS FOR: 26 February 2023 1st Sunday of Lent

FIRST READING: Genesis 2.7-9, 16-19, 25.3.1-7
PSALM 51
SECOND READING: Romans 5.12-19
GOSPEL: Matthew 4.1-11

COVID: We are aware that the Covid virus is still circulating widely in the community, and this will include the parish community. To help keep our community safe, the Precious Blood will not be distributed at Communion. We will not be restarting Catholic Café as planned, but will adopt a wait and see approach. Weather permitting, the doors in the church will be kept open during Mass to aid the circulation of air. And we remember that the wearing of masks and social distancing in church are all means of stopping the spread of illness. If you feel unwell, please do stay at home. The 9.00am Mass is live streamed and can be viewed throughout the Sunday and the coming week.

MINISTRY TEAM:

Priests: Simon Story, Vui Hoang & Tom Lawn

simon@catholicparishnp.nz

vui@catholicparishnp.nz

tom@catholicparishnp.nz

Office Administrators Claire and Ireen **06 757 3682**

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Accounts Administrator Teresa
accounts@catholicparishnp.nz

Music Coordinator Amelia
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Young Families Minister Karen
youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz

Leadership Team leadershipteam@catholicparishnp.nz

Youth Leader Position open at present