



Parish Newsletter Pūrongo a te Pāriha



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 Catholic Parish of New Plymouth

Emergency Phone 027 224 2100

Palm Sunday 3 April 2023



Above: Couples at the Recollection Retreat held recently. The Retreat was led by visiting Priest—Fr Alliston and sponsored by Couples for Christ (CFC).

RECOLLECTION RETREAT: “The Retreat conducted by Fr Alliston Fernandes was both prayerful and thought provoking. Topics covered were marriage, service in the Church and giving of one’s gifts and talents. The afternoon concluded with a reflective and powerful Adoration to the Blessed Sacrament. We came away with joy and peace in our hearts.” - Mark Biddick.



SIMON SAYS

Holy Week begins on Palm Sunday. My understanding of this sacred time is that we enter into these events Jesus experienced. We try not to simply attend them.

They are the experience of Jesus of Nazareth, who as human, went through these traumatic and joyful acts, and on the other hand, as a divine person, achieved our salvation. I think we are meant to allow ourselves to be shaped by these events. To ask the Holy Spirit to draw us into them.

Recognising Jesus is present in the liturgies we celebrate, not simply remembered. We seek the encounter with him that the liturgy opens up for us. An encounter that led the woman at the well to run to tell her village about him.

Palm Sunday begins with the crowd acknowledging the reign of God’s kingdom arriving in Jesus. For those who could see it, like the man blind from birth, something incredible is occurring with the presence of Jesus.

The Mass of the Last Supper containing the mystery of the betrayal of Judas, Jesus giving us himself in the eucharist - the reason many no longer followed him, the dignity of service to another is highlighted. Later that evening Jesus is arrested. Casting suspicion upon such a good person tears some people apart, like Peter, and then Judas. And probably many more.

The trial of Jesus that causes us to hang our heads with embarrassment. The horror of the scourging, the crown of thorns, the crucifixion. As though the sin of the world is counterbalanced by the weight of a crucifixion of the Son of God.

The grief, the loss, the disbelief, the heartache is reversed as the law of nature is broken and he rises from the dead. As Martha was informed, he did say, “I am the resurrection and the life.”

We gather to enter this Holy Week, to encounter this Jesus, because we believe in him.

COLLECTIONS/DONATIONS

HOLY PLACES SPECIAL COLLECTION: There will be a special collection at the Good Friday liturgies, for Holy Places. Your donation will directly help in the care, protection and preservation of the sites associated with the life, death and resurrection of Jesus in the Holy Land. "This is the responsibility incumbent upon the whole universal church with regard to the mother Church of Jerusalem, which all Christians have an unforgettable obligation." Pope Francis.

EASTER SUNDAY SPECIAL COLLECTION: There will be a special collection at the Vigil and Easter Sunday Masses. This collection is a "thank you" for our priests, and is used by the Clergy Trust Fund to support the priests in the various costs pertaining to their ministries and personal lives. The Clergy Trust Fund endeavours to respond to every aspect of our priests' wellbeing. The priests have always expressed their gratitude for the people's financial support and care that they receive.

Those who give by envelopes, will have special envelopes for these collections. The Parish APP is also easy to use for the upcoming Special Collections. Good Friday Holy Places and 'Easter Sunday Special Collections will be able to be selected when choosing what fund you would like to support. Thank you for your generosity to these causes.

SACRAMENTAL PREPARATION

RECONCILIATION | FIRST HOLY COMMUNION PROGRAMME 2023:

Thank you to all parents and caregivers who came along to the Information and Registration session on Thursday night. It was such a good night.



First Reconciliation – 21 July 2023.

First Holy Communion at St Joseph's Church – 10 September 2023.

First Holy Communion at Our Lady Help of Christians Church – 17 September 2023.

Registration is now available by scanning the QR code below or via the Parish website. For more information please email Karen - youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz



CONFIRMATION

WHAKAATURANGA 2023:

Registration is open for the Confirmation Programme 2023. If you are 15 years and over and have been baptised, this programme is for you.



The sessions are held weekly on Monday evenings in St Joseph's Church hall, from 1 May to 19 June, 7pm – 9pm. The programme includes a weekend camp from 26 to 28 May. Confirmation Mass, Sunday 11 June, 5.30pm. Parents are required to attend the first session on the 1st of May.

For more information please go our Parish website. Please use the QR code to register or register via our website.



FROM POPE FRANCIS

In the month of April, we pray for the spread of peace and non-violence, by decreasing the use of weapons by State and citizens.



GENERAL NOTICES

WEDNESDAY ADORATION: Our Lady Help of Christians Wednesday after 9.10am Mass, and at St Josephs 5.00pm.

MORNING PRAYER: During Holy Week, Monday only 7.40am in the office as usual. Thursday, Friday and Saturday 9.00am in St Josephs Church

STATIONS OF THE CROSS: The Syro Malabar Catholic community is planning to conduct the Stations of Cross on Good Friday like last year. This will be conducted at Church Hill Heights park, starting from the Morley Street entrance gate to the path that runs up to Church hill Heights, (this is on Morley Street Hill) at 5.00pm after the Good Friday service. Everyone welcome.

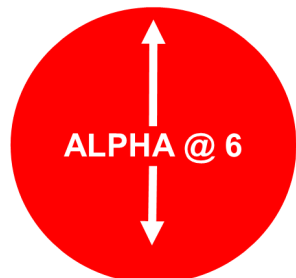
CARITAS LENTEN GIVING: Envelopes are still available in the churches. Alternatively, donate online by visiting www.caritas.org.nz

CATHOLIC WOMENS LEAGUE: The next First Friday lunch after 12.05pm Mass will be 5 May in St Josephs Church foyer. There is no luncheon 7 April, Good Friday.

CHRISTOPHER LUKE ORGAN RECITAL: Thursday 6 April 12.15pm St Joseph's church. **"A Musical Meditation for Holy Week"** A lovely way to spend a lunch hour during Holy Week.

SHINE AND ILLUMIN8 YOUTH GROUPS -Will be taking a break over the school holidays from next Sunday - 9 April. Will be back Sunday 23 April.

FOOD | VIDEO | CONVERSATION



We are excited to bring you ALPHA @ 6. A 10 week course that creates a space, in person, where you can bring your friends for a conversation about life and faith.

Beginning Thursday 27 April
6.00pm to 8.00pm
St Joseph's Church Hall

Please register scanning the QR Code or via the Parish website www.catholicparishnp.nz



GENERAL NOTICES

CHRISM MASS: Everyone is welcome to attend this very special Mass – Tuesday 4 April, 12.00pm, Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Palmerston North. As the priests will be at the Chrism Mass the usual Tuesday Masses will not be celebrated. There will be Liturgy of the Word with Communion as per back cover Mass times.

SPECIAL MINISTERS OF THE SICK: Volunteers are needed to join the teams who take Communion to the residents at either the Hospital Wing at Jean Sandel or Tainui Rest Home. We have rosters, so it is a turn every two or three weeks at Jean Sandel or now (thank you to two generous volunteers) every 5th Sunday at Tainui. If you are interested in sharing in this ministry or wish to know more, please contact Naomi 027 292 7051. Our need is rather desperate as we really want to be able to ensure that the rest home residents continue to receive Communion on Sunday. The time needed is probably one hour after Mass.

CAKE RAFFLE – TICKETS ON SALE NOW! Support our young people to attend the Set Free Catholic Youth Festival. Buy a \$2 ticket for a chance to commission your own cake made by our very own Youth Minister Susilo. Tickets available after some Masses and in the Parish Office. Prize drawn 16 April.



SACRED HEART GIRLS COLLEGE MANAWA TAPU

Chaplain position available. Start date: negotiable. Permanent part-time, 5 hours per day - 25 hours per week (term time only).



We are seeking a Chaplain to be actively involved in building the Special Catholic Character of our college. Applications close Monday 8 May 2023 at 12 noon.

A job description is available on request – email Denise Stachurski, Executive Assistant at: dst@shgcnpschool.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:

HELP SPONSOR A TEEN: To attend the Set Free Catholic Youth Festival, 18-20 April. An annual event run for Catholic teens with fantastic speakers, fun activities, and awesome worship. It costs \$125 per person. We're looking for people to sponsor our young people to attend. Donations don't have to be for the full cost, as every little bit counts. See the brochure in the church on how to donate online or the envelopes for cash. If you are Year 10 to 13 and would like to attend Set Free with our parish group, please email youth@catholicparishnp.nz for info and registration.



MISSION DISCERNMENT TEAM (MDT) invites parishioners to pray for the MDT and for parish transformation by forming a Prayer Team. To do this we have created a Whatsapp Broadcast Community - *Prayer Team | Mission Discernment | Parish Transformation* - which people can join if they wish to commit to praying for the parish's mission discernment. The MDT would let people on the prayer team know when the MDT are meeting and ask that they pray (wherever they may be) for the MDT during the meeting time. <https://chat.whatsapp.com/EFuplfZBncIBPi5TOeRrvX> is the link for the group or use the QR code.



DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET is a devotion that was revealed by God to St Faustina in Cracow, Poland in the 1930s. During the pontificate of Pope John Paul II. St Faustina's countryman, the devotion was given a special place in the life of the church when he designated the Second Sunday of Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday. A novena leads up to this celebration. Brochures for the novena, which is a private novena, beginning Good Friday, are available in the church foyers.



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY DEVOTION: The Divine Mercy devotion will be held at Our Lady Help of Christians church Sunday 16 April at 2.30pm. There will be Rosary and Exposition followed by the Chaplet 3.00pm. The Veneration of the Image will follow, finishing at approx. 3.15pm. Please come and learn about this devotion. All are welcome.

Achieving Pregnancy Naturally

The Billings Ovulation Method™ can help you to optimise your chances of conceiving naturally. Our Fertility Educators will teach you to recognise your body's natural signs of fertility and pinpoint the most fertile day in your cycle. The Billings Ovulation Method™ is effective, non-invasive and affordable! It is backed by over 50 years of medical research. For a free information leaflet, contact Billings LIFE NZ NZNZ. 0800 693 378 info@billingslife.org.nz or visit www.billingslife.org.nz



We pray for our deceased family and friends: Jane Hyde, Rev. Don Campbell, Judy Scott, Martin Rice, Norma Charteris, Adam Adamski, Michael Mroczek, Felicity Woodfield, Ngarie McDonald, Beth Poole, Margaret Bourke, Margaret O'Connell, Julius Marshal, Val Nolly and Maurice Strange.

WEEKLY MASSES: 3 April to 9 April 2023 Second Sunday of the month Easter Sunday)

| | MON 3 April | TUES 4 April | WED 5 April | THURS 6 April | FRI 7 April | SAT 8 April | SUN 9 April |
|--|----------------|---------------------------|----------------|-------------------------|---------------------|----------------|---------------------------|
| | | | | Mass of the Last Supper | Passion of the Lord | Vigil Mass | |
| St Joseph's Church | 8.00am | 8.00am C/S 12.05pm C/S | 8.00am | 7.00pm | 3.00pm | 7.00pm | 9.00am No evening Mass |
| Our Lady Help of Christians | | 9.10am C/S | 9.10am | | 3.00pm | No Vigil Mass | 10.30am |
| St Patrick's Okato | | | | | 2.00pm | No Vigil Mass | |
| St Martin's Pungarehu | | | | | | | 8.30am |
| Bell Block Mass Centre Parklands Ave BB | | | | | 3.00pm | | 10.30am |
| Francis Douglas Memorial College | | | 2.20pm | | | | |

WEEKLY:

WEDNESDAY ADORATION:

Our Lady Help of Christians after 9.10am Mass
St Joseph's Church at 5.00pm.

MORNING PRAYER: HOLY WEEK Before Mass, Monday 7.40am. Go to the back door of Parish Office building. We are in the Mary McKillop Room. Thursday, Friday and Saturday 9.00am in St Joseph's Church.

EVENING PRAYER: After Mass of the Last Supper, at the Altar of Repose, in the Supper Room 9.00am

SCHOOL WEEKDAY MASSES: School holidays start 6 April so there are no school Masses until week 26 April..

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION DURING HOLY WEEK:

Our Lady Help of Christians Fitzroy - Monday 3 April from 7.00pm to 8.00pm. Also, after 9.10am Mass Wednesday 5 April, from 9.45am to 10.30am

St Joseph's Church - Wednesday 5 April from 6.00pm to 8.00pm, also Holy Saturday, Saturday 8th April 11.30am to 12 noon.

MINISTRY TEAM:

Priests: Simon Story, Vui Hoang & Tom Lawn

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Youth Minister Susilo
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Leadership Team leadershipteam@catholicparishnp.nz