



# Parish Newsletter

## Pūrongo a te Pāriha

106 Powderham Street, PO Box 32, New Plymouth | 9 am to 4 pm | **(06) 757 3682**

[www.catholicparishnp.nz](http://www.catholicparishnp.nz) | [office@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto:office@catholicparishnp.nz) |  Catholic Parish of New Plymouth

Emergency Phone 027 224 2100

**Third Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**22 January 2023**

### OFF TO LIFE TEEN SUMMER CAMP



On Wednesday morning the church car-park was buzzing with activity, as 21 young people left to travel in the college vans and the Parish car to Life Teen Summer Camp at St Peter's Cambridge. Waiting for them there, was Rain our former Youth worker, who was to act as one of the camp chaperones.

What is Life Teen Summer Camp? Their web site tells us....

*"There's no camp quite like Life Teen Summer Camp! Every year we dream up new, crazy ways to get you laughing, shouting, and pushing yourself out of your comfort zone. Our desire is for every teen to leave camp with a stronger relationship with Jesus Christ".*

More camp details to follow in the newsletter next week.

### SIMON SAYS

Dear parishioners,

We are looking to do some things differently. In place of our past approach of maintaining the ship, we are moving towards a parish that is more missional. This means welcoming everyone who wants to be a disciple of Jesus Christ and grow in the Catholic faith. We are starting from the ground up. Examining everything we do with a missional lens. We hope that Jesus, our friend, and Lord, will become the first love of people's lives. We believe that the Holy Spirit will transform lives. We expect this to happen.

Families will notice a gradual difference in the approach to sacramental preparation in 2023 and over the coming years. We hope that families will discover a profound relationship with Jesus Christ and deep sense of belonging to the parish through the development in sacramental preparation and celebration. This project will require patience, trial and error, adaptation, and some culture change. The power of prayer will be behind us. Many people are praying for the Holy Spirit to lead our parish.

We ask for your support and patience. Constructive criticism is welcome. The design of sacramental process is intended to achieve the parish vision. "...a healthy and growing Eucharistic faith community that brings people to Christ, forms disciples, and sends them out to transform the world." The new approach to sacramental preparation is still being shaped. However, it will focus on the parents as much as their children. The primacy of evangelisation is being recognised. The catechesis of each sacrament will of course remain. We are doing this because most of our families celebrate the sacraments and rarely return. The support to parents by way of evangelisation and catechesis will mean more time is required, but not always.

While we are all busy, it remains the case that "The kingdom of heaven is like a treasure buried in a field, which a person finds and hides again, and out of joy goes and sells all that he has and buys that field." Matthew 13:44. Fr. Simon Story

**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

### December 2022 Collection Totals:

Thank you for your donations to the two collections in December which assist the clergy across the Diocese in various ways. To date giving is

Christmas Donations Clergy Trust Fund \$4,715.00

Sick and Elderly Priest Collection: \$3,397.00



31st March 2023 is not far away, and with it comes the end of the tax year. We are beginning to set everything in place for the preparation of the tax receipts that will be produced in April. If you want to make any changes to your receipt, name, initials, change to a joint receipt, just contact us in the parish office. If you want to bring your giving up to date prior to 31st March, it will mean that you will be able to claim that amount as a rebate now in 2023, rather than waiting until 2024.

If you have any queries about becoming a donor through planned giving, by envelopes or online giving, again just contact the Parish Office.

## GENERAL NOTICES

**WE ARE HIRING:** We are looking for a new **full time Youth Minister** to lead our AMAZING young people in the Catholic Parish of New Plymouth, Sacred Heart Girls College, and Francis Douglas Memorial College into a closer relationship with Christ and the Catholic community.



Do you celebrate the presence of God in your life, passionately share your living Catholic faith, connect well with young people, and love having fun?? This position could be for you!!!

To apply please email your C.V and cover letter to Alex McDougall Chairperson of the Leadership Team - [alexmcdougall@xtra.co.nz](mailto:alexmcdougall@xtra.co.nz) Please email Alex also for the job description.

If you have any questions for our current youth minister please contact Rain - [youth@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto:youth@catholicparishnp.nz) or 0277573612

**PYX:** If you have a pyx at home that you are no longer using, can it be returned to the Parish Office please. It could be left in the letter box. We would rather reuse the pyx than buy new replacements.

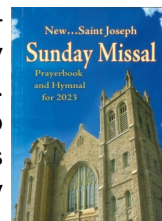
**THE SYNOD:** Where are we up to? NZ Catholic response to Synod's Continental Stage document has been published

Last October, diocesan and national groups were invited to take part in a discernment process on Enlarge the Space of Your Tent – the Document for the Continental Stage, which took place between late October and early December. Those responses were synthesised into the New Zealand response which has now been published by the NZ Catholic Bishops Conference.

A copy of this New Zealand document, along with a statement about it, is online here: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/synodresponse/>

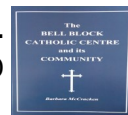
### THE PARISH OFFICE HAS EFTPOS NOW. IF YOU WISH TO BUY YOU DON'T NEED CASH.

**YEAR A SUNDAY MISSALS:** Missals include parts of the Mass and all Sunday Readings for the new Church year, Year A. Helpful for those who take Communion to the Sick, readers preparing the readings and for those who wish to think and pray over the reading prior to and after Mass. Available in the Office at just \$12.00.



**COLUMBAN CALENDARS:** No price increase this year. Still \$12.00. Available in the Parish Office. Proceeds from the sales of these calendars support the work of the St Columban's Mission Society.

**THE HISTORY OF THE BELL BLOCK CATHOLIC CENTRE AND ITS COMMUNITY:** \$20.00 each. Available in the Parish Office



**STATEMENT OF CATHOLIC CHURCH LEADERS IN LOOKING FORWARD FROM THE WORK OF THE ROYAL COMMISSION ON ABUSE IN CARE:** The bishops and congregational leaders of the Catholic Church in Aotearoa New Zealand have published a statement of commitments adopted in response to the continuing work of the Royal Commission on Abuse in Care.

The set of 10 commitments – along with others previously made – will become part of what the Church calls the “Tautoko Roadmap” for the path the Church is taking in response to the Royal Commission and the wishes of abuse survivors.

The statement is online here: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/jan10-letter/> and the Tautoko Roadmap is here: <https://tautoko.catholic.org.nz/roadmap/> The statement is a four page document. Please contact the Parish office if you would like a hard copy.

### FROM POPE FRANCIS Prayer for January

Lord God, your spirit of wisdom fills the earth and teaches us your ways. Look upon all teachers. Let them strive to share their knowledge with gentle patience and endeavour always to bring the truth to eager minds.

Grant that they may follow Jesus Christ, the way, the truth, and the life, forever and ever. Amen



## **BROTHER PETER BRAY FSC PRESENTATION THURSDAY 26 JANUARY 7.00pm ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH HALL**

Br Peter Bray, the Kiwi Vice-Chancellor of Bethlehem University, is making a NZ speaking tour on behalf of the bishops across Aotearoa, to talk about the Holy Land, his work with his students and the lives of other ordinary Palestinians.

Brother Peter raised in Waitara in Taranaki, was a long serving principal at FDMC. His work as a teacher and education consultant has taken him around the world. He moved from Wellington to Bethlehem in 2008 to take up the vice-chancellor role.

Next week Br Peter will give presentations in the Diocese of Palmerston North and will be speaking at St Joseph's church hall Devon Street West Thursday 26 January 2023 7.00pm. All are welcome to attend. Br Peter is well remembered having spoken to our community in earlier years. And this should prove again to be thought provoking, so do put Thursday 7.00pm 26 January in your diaries.



## **SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL**

St Vincent de Paul people are preparing for a busy year ahead – and we need your help:



### **More cooks are needed for the Community Meals**

St Vincent de Paul would like to recruit some more cooks for the weekly Community Meal which is held every Tuesday at 5.30pm in the supper room under St Joseph's Church.

We have spaces on the roster for regular cooks – i.e. people who cook part of a meal once a month and drop it off at the hall prior to the meal. Each cook contributes enough food for 15 people – either a meat dish, potatoes, other vegetables or a salad and delivers their contribution to the hall door between 4.30pm and 5pm on the day of the meal. The food is good basic cooking – cottage pie, sausages, casseroles, pasta / rice dishes, salads, cold meat, roast potatoes, jellies, cakes, fruit crumbles and so on.

AND we also need emergency cooks, who will cook part of a meal on a random basis, when one of the usual cooks can't make their rostered date. Cooks are sent a roster at the start of each month and reminded on a weekly basis that their turn is coming up. If a person is no longer available for their cooking duty, we usually know 5-6 days in advance. Thus emergency cooks have plenty of notice that their talents are required in the week ahead.

If you think you could help, please contact Gabrielle on 021 0786 809 or on 758 9228

### **Help with our Furniture Pick-Up and Delivery**

Donations of used furniture are delivered on an as requested basis to people in need. These people are referred for this help by the many social agencies in the city – e.g. MSD, Women's Refuge and Emergency Housing groups. If you have used furniture or whiteware in good condition, (clean and tidy, untorn, in working order) our furniture team will come and pick up the items and store them in our shed until a request comes in.

We are particularly interested in complete single and double bed bases with mattresses, small / moderate sized dining tables and chairs, and sets of drawers / shelves that can be used as storage.

People who can assist with pick-up and delivery will be welcome to the team.

If you have items to donate or can help with pick up and delivery, please contact Kevin Hartfield on (027)251-9998 or [kevinvincentdepaul1@gmail.com](mailto:kevinvincentdepaul1@gmail.com)

### **Help with Whare Kai**

Whare Kai consists of weekly cooking sessions where the Mums of young families cook a budget conscious, healthy family meal and get to take it home for that night's dinner.

St Vincent de Paul people, decide the recipes, work out the quantity of ingredients required, do the weekly shopping, adjust the recipe to suit the family size of the cooks, apportion the ingredients to a "food bag" for each cook.

The cooks and rostered helpers meet at St James hall in Moturoa on Tuesday mornings, cook the meal together and parcel up for transport home. Helpers may also transport Mums who can't get there under their own steam, look after pre school children, sit and chat with Mums while they enjoy a cup of tea and something to eat when they have finished cooking.

If you think you could help with Whare Kai please contact Gabrielle on 021 0786 809 or on 758 9228

**We pray for our deceased family and friends:** Lorraine Murray, Eugene Chylek, Moya Thompson, Anne Thompson, Mary Ballantyne, John Hermanns, Sister Vincent, Judy Scott, Harry Goodin, Mike Earley, Noeline and Sam Drought, Brian Collins, Dennis and Bernadette Garcia, Mick O'Connor, Sam Komene and Launce Gudgeon.





## WEEKLY MASSES: 23 January to 29 January 2023 (Fifth Sunday of the month)

	MON 23 January	TUES 24 January	WED 25 January	THURS 26 January	FRI 27 January	SAT 28 January	SUN 29 January
St Joseph's Church	9.00am	9.00am	9.00am	9.00am	9.00am	9.00am	9.00am 5.30pm
Our Lady Help of Christians						5.30pm (Vigil Mass)	10.30am
St Patrick's Okato						6.00pm (Vigil Mass)	

**(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](http://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.

**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, do stay at home. The 9.00am is live streamed.

### WEEKLY:

**ADORATION** – Wednesday Adoration at St Joseph's Church and Our Lady Help of Christians will resume in February.

**MORNING PRAYER** – Will resume Monday 30th January where we revert to the usual week day Mass times.

### "My Church" APP

To set up the Parish App on your smart phone to receive all the latest parish information as soon as it is available, as well as the newsletter.

- Step 1: Text CPNPAPP to 818 to download!
- Step 2: Select what groups you want to 'follow'
- Step 3: Set up your profile
- Step 4: Try the Give function – we really appreciate any donation you can make.



### MINISTRY TEAM:

**Priests:** Simon Story, Vui Hoang & Tom Lawn

[simon@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto:simon@catholicparishnp.nz)

[vui@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto:vui@catholicparishnp.nz)

[tom@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto:tom@catholicparishnp.nz)

**Accounts Administrator** Teresa

[accounts@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto:accounts@catholicparishnp.nz)

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

[reception@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto:reception@catholicparishnp.nz)

[office@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto:office@catholicparishnp.nz)

**Music Coordinator** Amelia

[musiccoordinator@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto:musiccoordinator@catholicparishnp.nz)

**Young Families Minister** Karen

[youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto:youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz)

**Leadership Team** [leadershipteam@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto:leadershipteam@catholicparishnp.nz)

**Youth Leader** Position open at present