



Parish Newsletter Pānui i te Pārihi



Sunday 25 February 2024
2nd Sunday of Lent



Important Dates

Sunday 25 February
Meet Fr Trung at Youth Mass, 9.00am
St Joseph's Church.

Sunday 3 March
St Joseph's School led Mass, 9.00am
St Joseph's Church

Tuesday 12 March
Fr Chris Ryan
St Joseph's church
7.00pm

Sunday 10 March
Youth Mass 5.30pm
St Joseph's church

Sunday 17 March
St Pius X school led Mass 9.00am
St Joseph's church

Sunday 17 March
St John Bosco School led Mass
Our Lady Help of Christians Church

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION 2024

Dear Young People

I am pleased to announce the Sacrament of Confirmation Programme for 2024 is back.

Confirmation is a Sacrament of Initiation that enhances and fortifies the spiritual journey initiated through Baptism.

This year's Confirmation Programme theme is **GREATNESS**, echoing the wisdom of the late Pope Benedict XVI: **"The world offers you comfort, but you were not made for comfort. You were made for greatness!"**

Through the programme, we are going to learn more about God, Jesus and specially the Holy Spirit in a very fun way.

I hope and pray to have you in the programme!

Your Youth Minister:

Susilo

SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION IS FOR THOSE WHO HAVE BEEN BAPTISED IN THE CATHOLIC CHURCH AND ARE AGED 15 AND ABOVE.

The Gifts of the Holy Spirit are enhanced: wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord.

By developing these gifts, Christians, like yourself, are better prepared to serve as witnesses of Christ in the world.

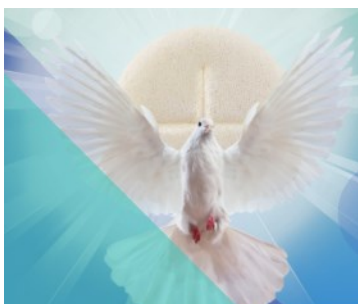
May all of you come to know Jesus in a personal way and not to be afraid to follow Him.

May through the Confirmation Programme, you discover that you are created by God, loved by Jesus, and empowered by the Holy Spirit to make a positive impact on the world.

THE CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME IS SET TO START IN TERM 2. FOR EXACT DATES AND TIMES, PLEASE REFER TO THE POSTER LOCATED AT THE CHURCH FOYER ON THE YOUTH NOTICE BOARD AND PARISH WEBSITE.

THIS PROGRAMME WILL CONSIST OF 7 SESSIONS AND A CONFIRMATION CAMP IN JUNE 2024.

REGISTRATIONS OPEN ON MONDAY, 26 FEBRUARY 2024 AND CLOSE ON FRIDAY, 12 APRIL 2024



**OUR NEW 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**

THE THREE PILLARS OF LENT: PRAYER ~ FASTING ~ALMSGIVING.

ALMSGIVING DURING LENT THROUGH CARITAS

BISHOPS' LENT APPEAL 2024

The Time is Now! Ko tenei tonu te Wā!

The time is now to empower vulnerable families to thrive. The Bishops' Lenten Appeal, as we connect with God and look to serve others, gives us the opportunity to support Caritas in their work of listening to the most marginalised and vulnerable and working alongside them to support them to transform their own lives. \$35 can pay one month of fees for a young person attending a rural training centre in the Solomon Islands. Every gift makes a difference. Every coin, every note makes a difference. Lenten Giving Envelopes for the Bishops' Lent Appeal 2024 were distributed last week with the newsletters. This year, there is just one single giving envelope for the entire appeal. More envelopes are available in the foyer if you wish to use them. These can be put on the plate or please use the Freepost option. Caritas encourages and welcomes online giving at www.caritas.org.nz and if you have any questions or would like to donate over the phone, please reach out to the Caritas team on 0800 22 10 22.



PRAYER DURING LENT

ADORATION: Our Lady Help of Christians Tuesday 9.35am to 10.30am after Mass.

STATIONS OF THE CROSS DURING LENT: Each Friday at Our Lady Help of Christians Church 5.30pm and also at St Joseph's Church at 2.15pm and 7.00pm.

MORNING PRAYER: Before 8.00am Mass Monday, Tuesday and Friday at 7.40am and Saturday at 8.10am. Go to the back door of Parish Office building. We are in the Mary McKillop Room.

EVENING PRAYER: Each Thursday during Lent at St Joseph's Church 5.15pm.

CARITAS LENTEN DISCUSSION GROUPS: Join the discussion group in the Parish Office 5.15pm to 6.15pm, each Monday during Lent.

The Bell Block Caritas Lenten Reflection group meets each Wednesday in Lent, 7.00pm to 8.15pm, at the Bell Block Catholic Centre, 138 Parklands Ave. Everyone is welcome to come to be part of either of these groups.

MONDAY CONNECT GROUP: Each Monday in the Ngamotu Room, Parish Office, 9.45am to 11.00am. All interested are welcome at this group.

GOSPEL REFLECTION GROUP AT OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS: Each Thursday at Our Lady Help of Christians, 10.30am.

LENTEN REFLECTION MUSIC BY KADISHA: Something new for Lent this year. Come sit, pray and reflect listening to calm and reflective music. These sessions will also include some of Kadisha's original music - music from her heart. Each Monday during Lent at St Joseph's 12.00 midday and each Friday during Lent at Our Lady Help of Christians 9.30am to 10.00am.

PERSONAL PRAYER IN THE CHURCH: St. Joseph's church is open for prayer everyday. Just come and spend some time, just you and the Lord during Lent.

PERSONAL PRAYER anytime, anywhere.

FASTING DURING LENT

Do you want to fast this Lent?

Fast from hurting words and say 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 hearts with joy.

Fast from selfishness and be compassionate to others.

Fast from grudges and be reconciled.

Fast from words and be silent so you can listen.

(In the words of Pope Francis) Source USCCB.org

ANOINTING MASS: The monthly Mass of Anointing will be held at 11.00am next Saturday 2 March at St Joseph's Church. Everyone is welcome.

CWL COMMITTEE MEETING: Friday 1 March Committee Meeting at 10.30am in St Joseph's Church foyer.

CWL FIRST FRIDAY LUNCH AND CELEBRATION OF WORLD DAY OF PRAYER: Friday 1 March, after the 12.05pm Mass at St Joseph's. CWL offer a delicious lunch. Plated sandwiches and cakes with tea or coffee for just \$7, and this also includes a raffle ticket! This is a fundraising activity for the CWL, so the more lunch guests there are, the more CWL can help others.



MARIAN MOTHERS: The next Marian Mothers meeting will be held at Our Lady Help of Christian's church foyer, 7.00pm to 8.30pm on Thursday 7th March. The address is 24 Clinton Street, Fitzroy. All welcome. Come join in prayer and a cuppa. Please bring a small sharing plate. Any queries please phone Glenda on 021 323 765.



KIMI ORA COMMUNITY OF FAITH AND LIGHT: Gathering today - Sunday 25 February at St. Joseph's Hall NP starting at 1.00pm. All welcome.

SACRAMENTAL PROCESS IN THE PARISH 2024

For details of our sacramental programmes for Older Childrens Baptism, First Reconciliation and First Communion please see pages 5 and 6 of the online version of the emailed newsletter or on the website.

THE CASE FOR MISSION:

Living a life of renewed witness as Catholics today. Tuesday 12 March 7.00pm St Josephs church

We are fortunate that Fr Chris Ryan MGL, Director of the Arete Centre for Missionary Leadership, a centre which forms lay people as leaders in evangelisation and parish renewal, will be with us in New Plymouth for one night on his brief visit to New Zealand.



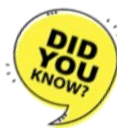
Fr Chris will talk about: **The Case for Mission.** Learn how we can live a life of renewed witness and be inspired to help our parish bring people to Jesus.

Mission is the Church's identity – and each parish is called to share the Gospel, leading people into a personal and life-changing encounter with Jesus. What does it mean for us as individual Catholics? What would it look like if Parishes lived the Great Commission to "Go and make disciples"?

This is a free event. Register today at divinerenovation.org/mission-tour or just come along on the night! Bring a friend. Come and listen to Fr Chris!

Tuesday 12 March 7.00pm at St Joseph's Church.

In times of ease we can easily become dependent on our routines. Friends and possessions surround us, one day is followed by the next - good health and happiness for the most part are ours. We don't have to desire much of the things of this world in order to have gained this sense of comfort and well-being, to trust in them as our support and take God for granted. Somehow then, God must contrive to break through those routines of ours and remind us once again that we are ultimately dependent only upon him. That the things of this world, and this world itself, are not our lasting city. That His we are and that we must look to Him and turn to Him in everything.



"Lord Jesus, I surrender myself to You".

Source: Youtube - Interview with Jonathon Roumie & Mark Wahlberg on Fox News (duration 8mins 55secs) Search for this on Youtube if you wish to see the interview.

MARCH PRAYER INTENTION

Pope Francis in his prayer intention for March 2024, prays for victims of abuse:



"Let us pray for those who have suffered because of the wrongs done to them by members of the Church. May they find within the Church herself a concrete response to their pain and suffering".

Shine Junior Youth Group 2024

Shine junior youth groups has started up again for the year. Shine is for children in year 4 -8. This is a lovely way for children to form connections in our parish and make friends through their shared faith. Shine runs from 4.00pm on Sundays during term time in St Joseph's Church Hall. Many of our Shine families come along to 5.30pm Mass afterwards. A typical Shine session involves fun, faith and chocolate! Come along and check it out! Please get in touch if you have any further questions. Karen Maclean Young Family Minister. Youngfamiliesminister@catholicparishnp.nz



<p>SHINE</p> <p>VOIITI CORNER</p> <p>TOUHI</p> <p>ILLUMIN8 YOUTH</p>	<p>WE MEET DURING THE SCHOOL TERM</p> <p> Junior Youth Group Year 4-8 Time: 4:00pm - 5:00pm</p> <p> Youth Group Year 9 - 13 Time: 6:30pm - 8:30pm</p> <p>VENUE: ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH HALL</p>
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<p>SUNDAY 25 FEBRUARY 2023</p> <p>NO YOUTH GROUP</p> <p> FOLLOW US</p> <p> ILLUMIN8YOUTHNP</p> <p>Keep up with the latest news and updates from the Youth Group by giving that follow button on Instagram!</p>	<p>GAMES NIGHT</p> <p>Life Teen Hastings Parish Youth Group</p> <p>Join the epic bash as we team up with LIFE TEEN HASTINGS PARISH YOUTH GROUP for a legendary youth group extravaganza!</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> SATURDAY, 24 FEBRUARY 2024 6:30PM - 8:30PM ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH HALL <p>No youth group on Sunday, 25 Feb!</p> <p>START AT 6:30PM WITH BBQ!</p> <p>Meet at St. Joseph's Church Carpark for kit!</p>
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PURPOSE

CONFIRMATION 2024

The world offers you comfort, but you were not made for comfort. You were made for **GREATNESS**

POPE BENEDICT XVI

"Dear young people, make the most of these years of your youth. Give yourselves over to the best of life!"

CHRISTUS VIVIT (CHRIST IS ALIVE) - PARAGRAPH 143 - POPE FRANCIS



We pray for our deceased family and friends: Kathleen Kerrisk, Marie Hickey, Ellen Jennings, Jim and Margaret O'Connell, Nola Buchan, John McNeice and Brian Bennett.

WEEKLY MASSES: 26 Feb to 3 March 2024 First Sunday of the month

	MON 26 Febru-	TUES 27 February	WED 28 February	THURS 29 Feb	FRI 1 March	SAT 2 March	SUN 3 March
St Joseph's Church	8.00am	8.00am 12.05pm	8.00am	8.00am	8.00am 12.05pm	8.30am Anointing Mass 11.00am	9.00am 5.30pm
Our Lady Help of Christians		9.10am	9.10am	9.10am		5.30pm	10.30am
St Patrick's Okato						6.00pm	
Bell Block Mass Centre							10.30am

* **MASS TIMES:** Due to unforeseen circumstances Mass times can be changed after the printing of the Newsletter, therefore please refer to the APP or website www.catholicparishnp.nz for updated information. Weekday school Masses will resume in March.

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

CHILDREN'S LITURGY is a special liturgy during Mass for children under (about) 8 years who have not made their First Communion, and those from kindy age. If your child is younger than this they are welcome too but just need an adult to come with them. Children leave for the liturgy from the church at the opening prayer with the leaders of the liturgy and return to the church at the Offertory. Join us at Childrens Liturgy at:



ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH: Each Sunday at 9.00am Mass in the foyer.

KINGDOM KIDZ – CHILDREN'S LITURGY AT OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CHURCH:

In the St John Bosco School breakout space with fun craft activities. Please contact our Young Family Minister Karen at youngfamiliesminister@catholicparishnp.nz with any queries. *NOTE: No Kingdom Kidz at Our Lady Help of Christians 10 March, Taranaki Anniversary weekend.*

SUNDAY READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY:

3 March 3rd Sunday of Lent

FIRST READING: Exodus 20.1-17

PSALM: 19

SECOND READING: 1 Corinthians 1.18, 22-25

GOSPEL: John 2.13-25



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 Catholic Parish of New Plymouth



Older Children's Baptism, Reconciliation and First Communion 2024

ATTENTION PARENTS: If you are considering the sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion or Baptism for your school age children in 2024, then please read on...

Kia ora Parents,

Welcome to our first sacraments process for 2024. We are excited to journey with your family this year as your children prepare for these very special sacraments! Over the last few years, we have been working to change the way we guide the children and families in our parish through the sacraments. This is due to our hope for our parish to become a more missional parish with a growing and thriving community. We want to support parents to become their children's first teachers of faith and give parents the confidence to be a huge part of preparing their own children to receive these very special sacraments. Our desire is for families to be having regular faith conversations in their homes. We will be supporting and empowering parents as they journey with their children.

- **Parent Information Evening**

Wednesday 20 March, 7.00pm at St Joseph's Church Hall

This is a requirement for parents who wish their children to prepare this year for Older Children's Baptism (for children aged 7 and older), Reconciliation and First Communion.

- **Registration for all these Sacraments**

Registrations open at the Parent Information Evening and close for Older Children's Baptism, Reconciliation and First Communion on Friday 12th April. This is the last day of term one.

- **Family Booklets**

We have produced family booklets which have information on each Sacrament on a child's level. These booklets also have information for parents to deepen their own understanding of each sacrament. We have had fantastic feedback on how helpful these booklets are! These booklets will be given out at the Parent Information Evening.

- **Alpha**

Parents are warmly invited to Alpha as preparation for guiding their children through Older Children's Baptism, Reconciliation and First Communion.

Through Alpha people can connect for conversations about life, faith and Jesus. Everyone is welcome, no matter their background or beliefs. Each Alpha session consists of time to connect over a meal, a video to watch together and then an opportunity for group discussion. We'd love to see you there!!

Alpha Dates – Thursdays 6-8pm for 10 weeks. First Session begins 2 May.
Registrations for Alpha open at the Parent Information Evening.

IMPORTANT DATES: Please take note of the following dates so you can decide if your family is able to commit to these sacraments this year.

- **Wednesday 20 March, 7.00pm, St Joseph's Church Hall**
Parent Information Session Older Children's Baptism, Reconciliation and First Communion
All parents are required to attend.
- **Sunday 19 May, 4.00pm, St Joseph's Church**
Older Children's Baptism Preparation
(Followed by Mass at 5.30pm)
For children and parents and godparents
- **Sunday 26 May, 1.30pm, St Joseph's Church.**
Baptism celebration.
Please note there will be another opportunity for your older children to be baptised later in the year.
- **Wednesday 24 July, 5.30pm, St Joseph's Church**
Reconciliation practice
- **Friday 26 July, 5.30pm, St Joseph's Church and Hall**
Reconciliation Celebration and Dinner
- **11 August, 10.30am, Our Lady Help of Christians**
First Communion Celebration – option one
- **25 August, 9.00am, St Joseph's Church**
First Communion Celebration – option two

Please get in touch if you have any questions. Please spread the word to other families who may be interested.

Karen Maclean
Youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz