



# Parish Newsletter Pūrongo a te Pāriha



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 Catholic Parish of New Plymouth

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## First Sunday of Lent 26 February 2023



Fr Simon, Karen, Claire, Mary Elizabeth and Jude.



Karen points out Rain— a poster girl at the Conference!



## AUSTRALASIA CONFERENCE 2023

Close to five hundred delegates from Australia and New Zealand came together recently in Sydney for the Divine Renovation Conference, including a team of five from our Parish. Divine Renovation is a movement, founded by Fr. James Mallon, on parish renewal.

The guiding statement of the Conference was “Called to Mission” and as Kevin Bailey – Executive Director of Divine Renovation Australasia said “this Conference will ‘call us to more’ and that is exactly the challenge we want to place before you. We want you to go back to your parishes as witnesses of what is possible and with a desire to commit yourselves to the task at hand.”

In the coming weeks, we will be sharing with you what Divine Renovation is. What does Mission mean? What does the word evangelisation really mean? And what does all this mean for our Parish?

This week we’re sharing some main points that stood out for the team:

- Meeting many people from all over Australasia with a thirst to know how.
- Realising it isn’t that hard to learn new ideas and how to put them in place.
- For everyone to pray that our parish be led by the Holy Spirit.
- To setup pathways that meet people where they are on their faith journey.
- To help people into a committed relationship with Jesus Christ.
- To paddle (work and lead) the waka (our parish) upstream – otherwise we drift downstream with the culture.
- The church exists for mission – it’s not what we do but who we are.
- A parish is praying people with a purpose.
- The absolute privilege of being able to attend such a conference – what a gift.
- Inspirational, motivating, energising, the positivity was contagious.
- Amazing speakers from Australia, NZ and Canada.

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

## GENERAL NOTICES

**LENT: PRAYER FASTING ALMS GIVING**

**FOOD FOR FAITH:** Fr John O'Connor visited the parish in 2021 for a memorable retreat at Our Lady Help of Christians. Have you ever looked at his website?

Food For Faith <https://foodforfaith.org.nz/> He offers:  
Food for Faith - talks and reflections  
Lectio Divina - daily prayer with the scriptures  
Homily Studio - weekly discussions on the Sunday scriptures.

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

**MORNING PRAYER:** Monday and Tuesday 7.40am and Saturday 8.10am before Mass.

**EVENING PRAYER:** Thursday St Joseph's 5.00pm

**STATIONS OF THE CROSS:** Our Lady Help of Christians each Friday during Lent 5.30pm

### 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. Have a look at the programme on the Caritas website [www.caritas.org.nz](http://www.caritas.org.nz) – Join this discussion group in the Parish Office 5.15pm to 6.15pm, each Monday during Lent.

And the Bell Block Caritas Lenten Reflection group meets each Thursday in Lent, starting 23 February, 7.00pm to 8.15pm, at the Bell Block Catholic Centre. Everyone is welcome to come to be part of this group.

**THE LETTER** tells the story of the Laudato Si' the papal letter focused on the environment, 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. Friday 24 March 5.30pm in St Joseph's Church hall we are offering a workshop on this documentary to all interested persons. (Light tea will be served).

It would be a good idea to view THE LETTER prior to the workshop. Google "The Letter Pope Francis" or <https://TheLetterFilm.org> Please contact the Parish Office if you need any assistance.

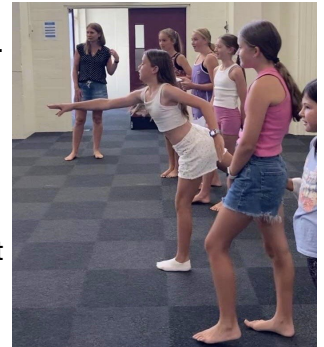
**ANointing MASS** at St Joseph's 11.00am Saturday 4 March. Everyone is welcome at this Mass.

**CHRISTOPHER LUKE ORGAN RECITAL: THURSDAY** 2nd March 12.15pm St Joseph's church. This would be an enjoyable way to spend a lunch hour.

### SHINE AND ILLUMINATE YOUTH GROUPS –

Shine and Illuminate have started again for 2023. It was great to have Shine and Illuminate back in action for 2023. Our junior youth group, Shine, which is for Year 4 to 8 children, started with a paper plane flying competition.

Illuminate, our senior youth group for Year 9 to 13 students, kicked off with some karaoke! Please spread the word that these groups have started again. They are a great way for our young people to form connections within our parish community.



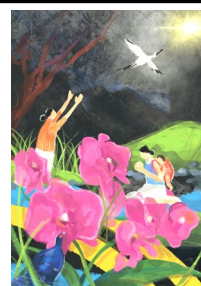
Please note: These groups will not run on Taranaki Anniversary Weekend 12 March.

**HOSPITALITY SUNDAY:** We will begin Catholic café again Sunday 5th March. Stay after Mass to enjoy coffee and the company of fellow parishioners.

**SCHOOL LED MASSES Sunday 5 March 2023.** St Joseph's school will be at St Joseph's church 9.00am Mass and St John Bosco at Our Lady Help of Christians 10.30am

**CATHOLIC WOMENS LEAGUE:** First Friday lunch after 12.05pm Mass 3 March. Everyone is welcome at this delicious lunch, \$7.00 which includes a raffle ticket. This is part of the fundraising for the projects CWL supports. There will also be a sales table.

**FIRST COMMUNION DRESSES:** Catholic Women's League have heard from their mission stations in the Pacific Islands that some young girls are not able to celebrate their First Communion as they do not have a white dress. Can any one help? If you have First Communion dresses that are no longer needed, we would be able to forward these to Samoa and Tonga. All sizes are needed and these could be left at the Parish Office. Do contact the Parish Office if you need more information.



### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER 3 March .

On this day throughout the world, people from various denominations gather in one another's churches to celebrate, using a service prepared this year by the women of Taiwan. Please join with women from other New Plymouth Churches for a time of prayer and fellowship. Friday 3

March 10.00am St Joseph's Church.

**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 and culture survey was analysed and reported on, and the next stages of our parish's mission discernment, please come to the two listening sessions in St Joseph's church 4.00pm Sunday 26 February, (today) and in Our Lady Help of Christians, 7.15pm Wednesday 1 March.



Cyclone Gabrielle has caused widespread damage and suffering for many people across the North Island. Parts of the Diocese of Palmerston North, in particular the Hawkes Bay and Wairoa regions, have been significantly impacted.

Fr Craig Butler reported in Cath News "People's suffering is very real and they need our help. As a diocese we have a responsibility to show we care." As part of the outreach, we are invited to contribute to a [Cyclone Relief Appeal](#) to help those in desperate need.

Donate today to help families and communities who have been affected. To donate to this appeal, payments can be made directly online to the Catholic Charities Foundation by direct bank transfer using the following information: Bank Account: 02-0630-0237950-010 With references: "Cyclone" and "your surname and initials" Please email [reception@pndiocese.org.nz](mailto:reception@pndiocese.org.nz) with your email details for a receipt.



**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 or for more details contact Efren Montalla 021 063 9503.

**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). For more details see the poster in the church foyers or go to the Jubilee Facebook page or email [admin@stjosephs-stratford.school.nz](mailto:admin@stjosephs-stratford.school.nz)

#### 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](http://www.currentofgraceconference.info) See the poster in the church foyers for more details.



**MUSIC NOTES:** The Mustard Seeds have their first Youth Mass this Sunday, 5.30pm at St Joseph's. The Seedlings, St Joseph's and St Pius X all have Masses coming up in March, and the Little Angels have been learning a few new action songs and enjoying their music making on a Monday morning.

#### 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. 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 by emailing [dst@shgcnp.school.nz](mailto:dst@shgcnp.school.nz) Denise Stachurski, Executive Assistant, 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: [dst@shgcnp.school.nz](mailto:dst@shgcnp.school.nz)

**KIMI ORA FAITH AND LIGHT COMMUNITY** meet today 26 February in St Joseph's Hall at 1.00pm.

**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.

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 available in the Mass centres today. Envelopes 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](http://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 provides.



**We pray for our deceased family and friends:**

Selwyn Knuckey, Venna Byrne, Andrea Dravitzki, Betty Koorey, Marie McLean and John Dickson,

## WEEKLY MASSES: 27 February to 5 March 2023 (First Sunday of the month)

	MON 27 February	TUES 28February	WED 1 March	THURS 2 March	FRI 3 March	SAT 4 March	SUN 5 March
St Joseph's Church	8.00am	8.00am C/S 12.05pm	8.00am	8.00am	8.00am 12.05pm	8.30am 11.00am Anointing Mass	9.00am 5.30pm
Our Lady Help of Christians		9.10am	9.10am	9.10am		5.30pm Vigil Mass	10.30am
St Patricks Okato						6.00pm Vigil Mass	
Bell Block Mass Centre							10.30am
Francis Douglas Memorial College			2.20pm				
St Pius X school					9.00am		

C/S is Communion Service. For updated information, during the week refer to the APP or Website

**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 resumes at St Joseph's Church this 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.

**EVENING PRAYER** Thursday 5.15pm St Joseph's Church

**SCHOOL WEEKDAY MASSES:** Please check our newsletter timetable each week. Sacred Heart School weekday Mass will resume Term II. St Pius X Mass is now fortnightly.

### SUNDAY READINGS FOR: 5 March 2023 2nd Sunday of Lent

FIRST READING: Genesis 12.1-4  
PSALM 33  
SECOND READING: 2 Timothy 1.8b-10  
GOSPEL: Matthew 17.1-9

## MINISTRY TEAM:

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

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tom@catholicparishnp.nz

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

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**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