



# Parish Newsletter Pānui i te Pārihi

Sunday, 26th January 2025  
Third Sunday in Ordinary time



## Jubilee Year 2025

Pilgrims of Hope

Pope Francis has declared 2025 as a year of Jubilee with the theme 'Pilgrims of Hope'. This gives voice to his desire for the year to foster a greater sense of global sisterhood and brotherhood, solidarity with the poor, and caring for the environment. It will be a year of hope for a world suffering the impacts of war, the ongoing effects of COVID-19 pandemic, and economic and climate crises.

The Jubilee Year, or Holy Year, is a significant event in the Catholic Church, traditionally observed every 25 years. This special year is a time for spiritual renewal, dedicated to encouraging the faithful to embark on pilgrimages, to repent for their sins, to forgive others, to commit to acts of charity and to renew their focus on spiritual life.

The term "Jubilee" originates from the Hebrew word *yobel*, referring to the ram's horn used to announce the start of the jubilee year in Jewish tradition. The idea of joy and liberation associated with this celebration inspired its adoption into Catholic practice. The Jubilee Year is seen as a time to reset spiritually, embrace forgiveness, and embark on a path of hope. It dates back to biblical times, drawing inspiration from the ancient Jewish tradition described in the Book of Leviticus, where a jubilee year was celebrated every 50 years. During this time, debts were forgiven, slaves were freed, and land was restored to original owners, symbolising renewal and liberation.

Pope Boniface VIII proclaimed the first Catholic Jubilee in 1300. The frequency of Holy Years has changed over time: At first, they were celebrated every 100 years; later, in 1343 Pope Clement VI reduced the gap between Jubilees to every 50 years, and in 1470 Pope Paul II made it every 25 years. There have also been "extraordinary" Holy Years. In 1933 Pope Pius XI chose to commemorate the 1900<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the Redemption, and in 2015 Pope Francis proclaimed the Year of Mercy as an Extraordinary Jubilee, marking the 50th anniversary of the closing of the Second Vatican Council. The way in which Jubilee Years are marked has also changed through the centuries: The practice has since evolved, becoming a cornerstone of the Church's efforts to promote faith and reconciliation.

Jubilees are designed to be a time of conversion and increased emphasis on God's mercy and forgiveness of sins. They are marked by the opening of the Holy Door in St Peter's Basilica in the Vatican. The Holy Doors, present in each of the four papal basilicas in Rome, are destination points for pilgrims who travel to Rome during a Jubilee and who pass through seeking special graces and outpourings of God's mercy.

On 9 May 2024, Pope Francis published his Papal Bull for Jubilee 2025, *Spes non confundit; Hope does not disappoint*, setting out the details of this Jubilee Year. "We must fan the flame of hope that has been given us and help everyone to gain new strength and certainty by looking to the future with an open spirit, a trusting heart and far-sighted vision." The Jubilee "can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth that we so urgently desire," he added. "That is why I have chosen as the motto of the Jubilee, *Pilgrims of Hope*."

### Important Dates

During the coming week our new priest, Fr Sobin Sebastian will arrive and will be celebrating Mass during that weekend. Please welcome Fr Sobin to our community and pray for his time here with us.

#### Sunday 2 February

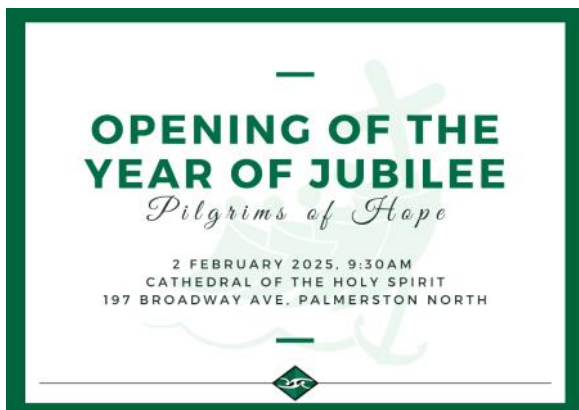
We open the Jubilee Year 2025 Pilgrims of Hope, here at the Catholic Parish of New Plymouth.





The Jubilee of 2025 for the Universal Church began on December 24, 2024, with the Opening of the Holy Door of Saint Peter's Basilica. Pope Francis invites us to embrace this hope, grounded in the unshakable love of God, as a source of strength and perseverance. During this special year, the Church encourages a deepening of faith through pilgrimage, prayer, the sacrament of Reconciliation, and works of mercy. These practices – embodying mercy, healing, and renewal – offer us a path of conversion, reconciliation, and service, helping to renew our commitment to love, compassion, and faith. Join us as we walk this sacred journey, embracing the transformative power of God's mercy and the hope that never diminishes.

The Jubilee Year in the Diocese of Palmerston North will open Sunday 2nd February. If you are in Palmerston North or wish to travel to Palmerston North for this Mass, you are most welcome.



The Jubilee Year will be opened in the Catholic Parish of New Plymouth the same day, 2 February with ceremony at the Sunday Masses.

**ADORATION:** Next Thursday we recommence adoration at St Joseph's on Thursday evenings between 7.00pm and 8.00pm.

As a Eucharistic minister, parishioner Maria Bushell has been commissioned in our Parish with a special blessing to assist in the provision of adoration. With assistance from Maria, adoration will still take place in the event a priest is not available. There would be no Benediction on these occasions. Please come and join us. Thursdays at 7.00pm. A cup of tea and fellowship will follow and everyone is welcome.



Adoration will resume at Bell Block Mass Centre, First Friday of February, 4.00pm 7 February. Adoration at Our Lady Help of Christians will resume within the next few weeks. This will be announced in the newsletter.

### The Jubilee Logo

The logo shows four stylized figures, representing all of humanity, coming from the four corners of the earth. They embrace each other to indicate the solidarity and fraternity which should unite all peoples.

The figure at the front is holding onto the cross. It is not only the sign of the faith which this lead figure embraces, but also of hope, which can never be abandoned, because we are always in need of hope, especially in our moments of greatest need.



There are the rough waves under the figures, symbolising the fact that life's pilgrimage does not always go smoothly in calm waters. Often the circumstances of daily life and events in the wider world require a greater call to hope. That's why we should pay special attention to the lower part of the cross which has been elongated and turned into the shape of an anchor which is let down into the waves.

The anchor is well known as a symbol of hope. In maritime jargon the 'anchor of hope' refers to the reserve anchor used by vessels involved in emergency manoeuvres to stabilise the ship during storms. It is worth noting that the image illustrates the pilgrim's journey not as an individual undertaking, but rather as something communal, marked by an increasing dynamism leading one ever closer to the cross.

The cross in the logo is by no means static, but it is also dynamic. It bends down towards humanity, not leaving human beings alone, but stretching out to them to offer the certainty of its presence and the security of hope. At the bottom of the logo is the motto of the 2025 Jubilee Year: Pilgrims in hope, (*Peregrinantes in Spem*) represented in green letters.

### GOODBYE FR TRUNG:

Fr Trung celebrated his final farewell from the parish, at St Joseph's church at the 9.00am Mass on Sunday 19th. If you are interested in supporting Fr Trung at his first Mass celebration, 9.00am at St Bridget's in Fielding on Sunday 9 February please email [Parishleadershipteam@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto:Parishleadershipteam@catholicparishnp.nz).



After the morning tea at St Joseph's on Sunday morning

If you need a ride or you have room in your vehicle please also advise. After Mass we will look to arrange a morning tea at a local cafe with Fr Trung.



**PARISH  
PRIEST**



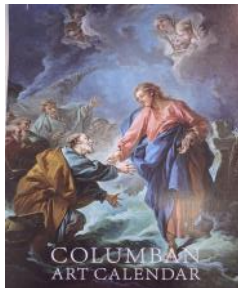
Fr Simon Story

I hope everyone has enjoyed some holiday time and the beautiful warm days. I am looking forward to the year ahead in our parish. As a community we have so much potential. We offer Jesus Christ to seekers who are curious and open. This gives us great purpose. It brings me so much peace, joy and passion. I hope you can find a way to be a part of our mission to transform people's lives empowered by the Holy Spirit. When you are unable to participate in our evangelisation events, please consider praying for the mission of our parish at the ministry of intercession holy hour opportunities available.

We are looking for people who would consider joining the parish centre steering group. The parish needs a bigger and better parish centre. Our parish mission needs space to gather people and to welcome them. Would you consider being a part of the planning?

This year Pope Francis has asked us to celebrate the year of Jubilee as pilgrims of Hope. We officially begin the year of jubilee on 2 February. Bishop John is asking us to consider joining a pilgrimage to Hiruharama/ Jerusalem, up the Whanganui river on 8 March. Would you set aside the day to travel there? Details of the day are still to be set. We will let you know what is planned for this pilgrimage as soon as they are made available.

**COLUMBAN CALENDARS:** Last year we ran out of Columban calendars for sale. We even had to sell the copy we had set aside for the office use. We now have a further 15 copies for sale. These are still only \$12.00, and will be available from the Parish Office or at OLHC Sunday Mass in the foyer from John Goodin.



Please let us know in the office if you would like us to save you a copy.

**SUNDAY MISSALS YEAR C.** The Sunday Missals have arrived!!!! These can be purchased from the Parish Office \$15.00. Excellent for preparing for Sunday Mass, reflecting on the readings and considering the parts of the Mass on that day. The Parish Office is opening on regular hours again, 9.00am until 4.00pm.



**SACRAMENT OF CONFIRMATION**  
PURPOSE  
year 11 - 13  
Applications open in Term 1 of 2025, with the session starting on Monday, 28 April 2025.

"Be STRONG and COURAGEOUS; do not be frightened or dismayed, for the Lord your God is with you wherever you go." - Joshua 1:9

## FORMED

is an online library resource and the Catholic Parish of New Plymouth has a paid subscription to Formed. This

means that parishioners of all ages and stages on their faith journeys can use FORMED at no cost.

Instructions to access:

1. Visit <http://signup.formed.org/>
2. Enter our parish name: Catholic Parish of NP
3. Enter your name and email.

FORMED brings beautiful and faithful Catholic content to parishes, families, and individuals. There is something for everyone here: Bible study, small group studies, the Liturgical calendar, the Sacraments, award-winning studies and parish programmes, inspiring audio content, movies, e-books, and family-friendly kid's programming. Led by the Augustine Institute and Ignatius Press, and in collaboration with over 100 content providers, this site reaches more than one million subscribers worldwide. Hop online and discover this resource available FREE. TO PARISHIONERS!

Let us know what you think.

**FOODBANK:** Each week the baskets for Foodbank are in the church foyer. Foodbank welcomes donations of non-perishable goods: Spreads/cereals/biscuits/beverages/toiletries. When you are at the supermarket please consider adding something extra for Foodbank.

**We pray for our deceased family and friends:** Gary Butler, Mary Bernet, Margaret Fleming, Lance Gudgeon, Joan Hickey, Marie Hickey, Peg Harbottle, Ignatius Fernandes, Flory Fernandes, Domnic Fernandes, Sue Jolly, Anthony Dias and Colleen Holdt.

JAN

# WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

<b>27</b> MON	8.00am	St Joseph's Church
<b>28</b> TUES	8.00am 9.10am 12.05pm	St Joseph's Church Our Lady Help of Christians Church St Joseph's Church
<b>29</b> WED	8.00am 9.10am	St Joseph's Church Our Lady Help of Christians Church
<b>30</b> THU	8.00am <del>9.10am</del>	St Joseph's Church No Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>31</b> FRI	8.00am 12.05pm	St Joseph's Church St Joseph's Church
<b>FEB</b> <b>1</b> SAT	8.30am 11.00am 5.30pm 6.00pm	St Joseph's Church Anointing Mass (Everyone is welcome at this Mass) Our Lady Help of Christians St Patrick's Church Okato
<b>2</b> SUN	9.00am 10.30am 10.30am 5.30pm	St Joseph's Church Our Lady Help of Christians Church Bell Block Mass Centre St Joseph's Church

## SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 11.30am to 12 noon at St Joseph's Church OR 4.45pm at OLHC prior to the 5.30pm Vigil Mass. Reconciliation is also available by appointment with the priests, by initially phoning the Parish Office 757 3682.

**MORNING PRAYER:** Monday and Tuesday 7.40am and Saturday at 8.10am. Please go to the back door of Parish Office building. We are in the Mary McKillop Room.

## MONDAY GOSPEL REFLECTION GROUP

meets in the Parish Office each Monday at 9.15am. The group shares the Sunday readings for the coming week. Everyone is welcome to join this group. The readings are provided. Contact the Parish Office for further details, or just come along on Monday. The Thursday Gospel Reflection Group meets at Our Lady Help of Christians 10.15am and this group will begin again Thursday 13th February. Everyone is welcome at either or both groups.

**SCHOOL MASSES:** School starts to return next week and we hope that all students feel refreshed and are looking forward to the new school year. The weekday Masses at Francis Douglas College, Sacred Heart and St Pius X will not resume until later in February, but this will be advertised at least the week before starting.

## SUNDAY READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

4th Sunday in Ordinary time 2 February 2025  
The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord

**1ST READING:** Malachi 3.1-4

**PSALM:** 24

**2ND READING:** Hebrews 2.10-11, 13b-18

**GOSPEL:** Luke 2.22-40



### Bell Block Mass Centre

First Friday of the month

4.00pm to 5.00pm

### St Joseph's Church

Every Thursday

7.00pm to 8.00pm

## HOLY HOUR

God dwells in our midst  
in the Blessed Sacrament of the altar

## EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

## CONTACT US

Parish Office, 106 Powderham St,  
PO Box 32, New Plymouth  
(06) 757 3682  
office@catholicparishnp.nz  
www.catholicparishnp.nz

### Emergency Phone

027 224 2100

Catholic Parish of New Plymouth

### PRIESTS:

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Tom Lawn       tom@catholicparishnp.nz

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**YOUTH MINISTER** Susilo  
youth@catholicparishnp.nz

**MUSIC COORDINATOR** Amelia  
musiccoordinator@catholicparishnp.nz

**PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM**  
ParishLeadershipTeam@catholicparishnp.nz

## ST JOSEPH'S

106 Powderham St  
New Plymouth



## OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

24 Clinton St, Fitzroy

## BELL BLOCK CATHOLIC CENTRE

138 Parklands Ave  
Bell Block

## ST PATRICK'S OKATO

36 Cumming St  
Okato



# Calendar of Events

## in the Diocese of Palmerston North

### FEBRUARY 2025

**2 Feb**

Opening of the Year of Jubilee

**8 - 9 Feb**

Jubilee of Armed Forces, Police and Security Personnel

**15 - 16 Feb**

Jubilee of Artists

**22 - 23 Feb**

Jubilee of Deacons

### MARCH 2025

**5 March**

Ash Wednesday

**8 - 9 March**

Jubilee of the World of Volunteering

**8 March**

Pilgrimage to Hiruhārama Jerusalem, Whanganui

**9 March**

Rite of Election

**28 March**

24 Hours for the Lord

### APRIL 2025

**5 - 6 April**

Jubilee of the Sick and Healthcare Workers

**18 April**

Good Friday

**19 April**

Easter Vigil

**20 April**

Easter Sunday

**26 - 27 April**

Jubilee of People with Disabilities

### MAY 2025

**3 - 4 May**

Jubilee of Workers

**10 - 11 May**

Jubilee of the Eastern Churches

**17 - 18 May**

Jubilee of Seminarians

**24 - 25 May**

Jubilee of the World of Education

**31 May - 1 June**

Jubilee of Families and Children

### JUNE 2025

**7 - 8 June**

Jubilee of Ecclesial Movements, Associations and New Communities

**8 June**

Pentecost Sunday

**14 - 15 June**

Jubilee of the World of Communications

**28 - 29 June**

Jubilee of Bishops and Priests

### JULY 2025

**26 - 27 July**

Jubilee of Grandparents and Older Persons

**28 July - 3 Aug**

Jubilee of Youth

### AUGUST 2025

**16 - 17 Aug**

Jubilee of Musicians

### SEPTEMBER 2025

**13 Sept**

Pilgrimage to Hiruhārama Jerusalem, Whanganui

**20 - 21 Sept**

Jubilee of Justice

**27 - 28 Sept**

Jubilee of Catechists

### OCTOBER 2025

**4 - 5 Oct**

Jubilee of Migrants

**11 - 12 Oct**

Jubilee of Marian Spirituality

**25 - 26 Oct**

Jubilee of Consecrated Life

### NOVEMBER 2025

**15 - 16 Nov**

Jubilee of the Poor

**30 Nov**

First Sunday of Advent

### DECEMBER 2025

**13 - 14 Dec**

Jubilee of Prisoners

**25 Dec**

Christmas Day

**26 Dec**

Boxing Day

**27 Dec**

Feast of the Holy Family

### FEBRUARY 2026

**1 Feb**

Closing of the Year of Jubilee

