



Parish Newsletter Pūrongo a te Pāriha



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 Catholic Parish of New Plymouth

Emergency Phone 027 224 2100

Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 5 February 2023



Pictured above: Br Peter Bray speaking last Thursday night at Joseph's Church.

Br Peter Bray Presentation:

Br Peter Bray, formerly of Francis Douglas Memorial College, is Vice Chancellor of Bethlehem University. Bethlehem University was established under Israeli occupation in 1973. It was the first university established in the Occupied West Bank territory of Palestine and is the only Catholic University in the Holy Land.

The New Zealand Bishops, in drawing attention to the suffering of people in Palestine, invited Br Peter Bray to talk about Palestine and how we can try to help to bring peace to that land. Over 80 people from the province gathered at St Joseph's church last week to hear Br Peter's presentation which covered four main points:

- A historical presentation of the land of Palestine and the conflicts.
- The effect of the conflict on Palestinians
- How the Palestine people can and do respond
- What New Zealanders can do to stand in solidarity with Palestinians

Br Peter outlined the experiences the conflict has in the lives of those living in the refugee camps and the occupied lands. The extended question time at the end of the talk and then while we had refreshments show the interest of those gathered.

A series of three videos Br Peter has recorded called Greetings from Bethlehem can be easily viewed by going to the New Zealand Bishops Conference YouTube channel – www.youtube.com/@nzcbc2977/videos

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 than a printed copy. If you would like the tax receipt emailed, please contact the Parish office office@catholicparishnp.nz with your email address. Receipts will be available after Easter.

CARITAS LENTEN PROGRAMME 2023: This year's theme, "I am the Light of the World" reminds us that Jesus brings light to a darkened world. A world darkened by disease, disaster, violence, lies and hypocrisy. Jesus' life and his proclamation of the truth is a challenge to each of us. But we are invited to a personal encounter with him every day, through the people we meet, the stories we hear, and through the Word. That continues to echo down the ages, helping us meet the darkness of our times. See pages 12 and 13 of the Welcom newspaper for more Caritas information.

FROM POPE FRANCIS

Each year, the Holy Father asks for our prayers for a specific intention each month.

In the month of February, we pray that parishes, placing communion at the center, may increasingly become communities of faith, fraternity and welcome towards those most in need.



GENERAL NOTICES

SHINE AND ILLUMINATE YOUTH GROUPS – Start Date 19 February 2023:

Our junior youth group, Shine, is for those from Year 4 to 8. This runs from 4.00pm – 5.00pm in the St Joseph's Church Hall. This junior youth group gives this age of young people in our parish a chance to form connections. A lot of our Shine regulars head to Sunday Mass at 5.30pm afterwards.



Our senior youth group, Illuminate, is for those from Year 9 and up. Illuminate runs from 6.30pm-8.30pm in the St Joseph's Church Hall. Many of our Illuminate regulars come to 5.30pm Mass first before heading along to Illuminate.



If you would like to know anything else about Shine or Illuminate, please contact me via email. Karen Maclean youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz

CHILDRENS LITURGY 9.00am MASS ST JOSEPH'S
We are looking for people to run Children's Liturgy at our 9.00am Mass at St Joseph's.

We are looking for a team of people who are willing to go on a roster to get this up and running again. Guidance and support will be given if you choose to offer your service to the young children in our parish in this way.

If you enjoy working with young children and feel like this is a way you could contribute to our parish community, then please contact the Parish Office!

PALMS FOR ASHES FOR ASH WEDNESDAY: We are collecting the 2022 palms for burning for the ashes for Ash Wednesday. If you want to bring your palms in they can be left at the Parish Office or in the baskets in the church foyers.

ROSTERS: We are beginning to make the rosters for the next period, March/April/May. If you have any special requests please contact the roster co-ordinator or the Parish Office for St Joseph's, or at Our Lady Help of Christians, Helen Chitty helen4sun@hotmail.com at Our Lady Help of Christians.

WELCOM: The February issue is available in the church foyers today. Full of good reading, especially, page 8 "Bell Block Catholic Centre anniversary celebrated." This article outlines the celebration of the 41st anniversary of the Catholic Centre at Bell Block in November and the launch of the book "The Bell Block Catholic Centre, written by Barbara McCracken. This book which details the birth of the Catholic Centre and in conjunction the development of the housing for the elderly in Wynyard Street is on sale in the Parish Office \$20. And we have effpos now!

THE TOTAL ABSTINENCE ASSOCIATION OF THE SACRED HEART (The Pioneers) suggest as Lent is coming, please consider alcohol abstinence during the Lenten season, starting Ash Wednesday 22 February. Phone Maree Novak 753 9847 for all enquiries.



LITTLE ANGELS PRESCHOOL MUSIC & PLAY GROUP:

This group is on every Monday during term time starting 13 February 9am – 10.30am in the foyer at Our Lady Help of Christians Church. Arrive anytime with music starting 9.30am.



Come join us for a time of fun, music, play and delicious morning tea. There is no cost to join this group.

If you keen to join this group or give it a try out call or text Tess Bowling 027 583 7732 or chat to Amelia, Music Co-ordinator at the Parish Office.

ARTWORK – PAINTED BY GLENDA KERR: When Fr Simon came to me he asked for a piece of art which would represent the Parish and Taranaki. His one request was he wanted a mountain in it.



The mountain being the focal point of the picture represents the church which is central to the parish. The three white fronds are snow and represents the Holy Trinity (Father, Son and Holy Spirit). The repeated green pattern represents the land and the blue pattern the sea. The Pohutukawa tree is a New Zealand icon and is an important symbol for all New Zealanders and therefore the people of Taranaki too. The frond means new life, growth and strength.

SOAP FOR HOPE: Fundraising for Gabby's Starlit HOPE in New Plymouth. Handmade soaps at \$5.00 each. Cash only sales.



THE PARISH OFFICE HAS EFTPOS NOW: At 9.00am Sunday Mass – on the 5 and 12 February, Office Staff will have calendars and missals for sale in the foyer with Eftpos available. Soap for Hope will also be available with cash only.

CONNECT PARISH SMALL GROUPS: Sunday Gospel Reflection. You are welcome to share and have "conversations" around God's Word in the Sunday Gospel readings. Please come and join us:

The St Josephs Group will meet this week only, (because of Waitangi day)Tuesday 7 February 9.45am, the Ngamotu Room in the Parish Office. 13 February we revert to our usual Monday meeting time. For more information contact Lorraine 06 7510-985.

The Our Lady Help of Christians Group will recommence for the year on Tuesday, 7 February in the foyer of Our Lady Help of Christians from 10.15am to 11.30am.

MUSIC MATTERS: February is the month our Parish music groups start up again rehearsing, playing and singing for Masses.

The Mustard Seeds have started already, providing music for the year 7 Welcome Mass held at St Joseph's on Tuesday 31 January. Their music for this combined Sacred Heart Girls' College/Francis Douglas Memorial College service was excellent, a wonderful inspiration for any younger budding musician listening! This year at St Joseph's, not only will they continue playing at Youth Mass, last Sunday of the month, but also now on the second Sunday of the month at the 9am Mass. At some stage during the year, we hope to have them play at both Our Lady Help Christians and Bell Block Parishes.

The Seedlings are resuming again too this month, and this year can be heard on the 5 Sunday of the month, (April, July, October) at the 9am service at St Joseph's, with plans to sing at some 5.30pm Masses during the year too.

School Masses are also starting this month. At St Joseph's Church we have **St Pius X** first Mass on 19 February, **St Joseph's** on 5 March and **St John Bosco's** also on 5 March at Our Lady Help of Christians. Please support the school communities in their Masses this year.

Watch this space for Youth involvement in music throughout the year! Our Youth put a lot of time into regularly preparing and rehearsing music. We look forward to seeing you at their Masses and hearing you join in with their song! Please contact Amelia – Parish Music Co-Ordinator for more information: musiccoordinator@catholicparishnp.nz

WORLD DAY OF THE SICK – Saturday 11th February:

The World Day of the Sick was established by Pope John Paul in 1992. It is a day when we pray for those who are ill and suffering. It is also a day when we pray for those who care for them; doctors, nurses, health care assistants, orderlies and last but not least chaplains and their assistants. Tony Tooman, Catholic Chaplain at Taranaki Base Hospital.



SACRED HEART GIRLS COLLEGE | FRANCIS DOUGLAS MEMMORIAL COLLEGE YEAR 7 MASS:

Last week the Year 7 students from Sacred Heart Girls College and Francis Douglas College joined together to celebrate the beginning of the school year as they start their intermediate education in a Catholic College environment.



We pray for our deceased family and friends: Joe Hignett, Catherine Mulcahy, Peter Desker, Joseph and Beatrice Desker, Don Hopkirk, John Kavanagh, Eroll Taylor, John Wisnewski, Jack Scott, Judy Scott, Edward Rebello, Laura Eadie, Selwyn Knuckey and Jack Parker.

WEEKLY MASSES: 6 February to 12 February 2023 (Second Sunday of the month)

	MON 6 February	TUES 7 February	WED 8 February	THURS 9 February	FRI 10 February	SAT 11 February	SUN 12 February
St Joseph's Church	8.30am Waitangi Day	8.00am 12.05pm	8.00am	8.00am C/S	8.00am 12.05pm	8.30am	9.00am 5.30pm
Our Lady Help of Christians		9.10am	9.10am C/S	9.10am		5.30pm Vigil Mass	10.30am Communion Service
St Martin's Pungarehu							10.30am
Nga Pekanga							10.30am

(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

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

WEEKLY:

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

MORNING PRAYER – Before Mass Monday this week 8.10am, 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.

SCHOOL WEEKDAY MASSES have not yet resumed.

FR ARTHUR TOOTHILL SM: Will be helping in the Parish this week as Fr Simon and some of the team are at the Divine Renovation Conference.

FITZROY SUNDAY COMMUNION SERVICE: Sunday 12 February there will be a Communion Service not a Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians Church.

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 Mass is live streamed.

MINISTRY TEAM:

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

simon@catholicparishnp.nz

vui@catholicparishnp.nz

tom@catholicparishnp.nz

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

reception@catholicparishnp.nz

office@catholicparishnp.nz

Accounts Administrator *Teresa*
accounts@catholicparishnp.nz

Music Coordinator *Amelia*
musiccoordinator@catholicparishnp.nz

Young Families Minister *Karen*
youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz

Leadership Team leadershipteam@catholicparishnp.nz

Youth Leader Position open at present