



Parish Newsletter Pānui i te Pārihi

Catholic Parish of New Plymouth
Te Parihi Katorika Ki Ngamotu

Sunday 11 January 2026 The Baptism of the Lord



Nativity scene at St. Joseph's—Celebrating the humble Birth of Christ

The parish joyfully celebrated Christmas in our churches at St. Patrick's Okato, Bell Block Catholic Center, Our Lady Help of Christians and St. Joseph's with St. Joseph's hosting a reverent and uplifting Midnight Mass. The youth ministry, together with the "Mustard Seeds", the Youth band, set a warm and festive tone through heartfelt carols before the Mass, drawing the congregation into the spirit of the Nativity. With grace and devotion, the youth guided the procession and tenderly placed the Infant Jesus in the crib—a moment both profound and moving.

As midnight approached, the church embraced a serene stillness. Dimmed lights and gentle hymns that created a reflective hush, while the Mass unfolded in a beautiful harmony of solemnity and celebration. Readings traced the story of Christ's birth, hymns were sung with full hearts, and the homily centered on hope, renewal, and the quiet miracle of the night. When the bells rang out at midnight, the moment felt deeply communal—filled with peace, unity, and joy.

The parish gathered again on New Year's Eve for another prayerful Midnight Mass, welcoming the year ahead in faith. Amid the night's celebrations, the Mass offered a sacred pause for gratitude and guidance. St. Anthony of Padua Choir enriched the celebration with soothing music and hymns that echoed softly through the candlelit sanctuary. The Mass closed the year with thanksgiving and opened the new year with renewed hope and faith.

Both celebrations were marked by devotion, unity, and joy—affirming the enduring faith and vibrant spirit of the St. Joseph's community. These moments remind us that together, in prayer and fellowship, we continue to grow as a family rooted in hope and love, called by God to be missional disciples.

Important Dates

JANUARY HOLIDAY WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

St. Joseph's Church

From Thursday
26th December to
Saturday 24th Jan 2026.
weekday Mass will be
celebrated at St. Joseph's
Church only, at **8.30am**
There will be no 12:05pm
Mass.

Our Lady Help of Christians

No weekday Mass will be
held at Our Lady Help of
Christians during the holiday
period 26th December 2025
to 24th January 2026.

The usual timetable for both
churches will resume the
week beginning Monday
26th January 2026.

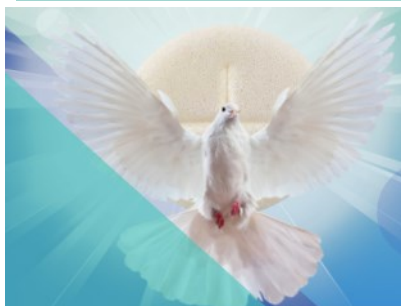
PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The Office will be closed
from 400pm Wednesday
24 December until 9.00am
Monday 19 January. Please
continue to call the office
phone number 06 757 3682
during this time for all que-
ries and follow the voice
prompts

Preference interviews will
begin Thursday 22nd
January. Appointments are
necessary and can be made
by phoning the Parish Office
(06) 757 3682 from Monday
19th January onwards.

OUR 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



JAN 12 MON			WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH	
13 TUES			8.30am	St Joseph's Church
14 WED			8.30am	St Joseph's Church
15 THU			8.30am	St Joseph's Church
16 FRI			8.30am	St Joseph's Church
17 SAT			8.30am 5.30pm 6.00pm	St Joseph's Church Our Lady Help of Christians Church (Vigil Mass) St Patrick's Church Okato (Vigil Mass)
18 SUN			9.00am 10.30am 10.30am 5.30pm	St Joseph's Church Our Lady Help of Christians Church Bell Block Catholic Centre (Liturgy of the Word with Communion) St Joseph's Church

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 11.30am to 12 noon at St Joseph's Church OR 4.45pm to 5.15pm at OLHC prior to the 5.30pm Vigil Mass. Reconciliation is also available by appointment with the priests, by initially phoning the Parish Office (06) 757 3682.

MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: Before morning Mass on Monday, Tuesday and Friday & Saturday 8.10am in the Parish Office. Come to the back door of the office building.

KINGDOM KIDZ CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Our Lady Help of Christians Church:

Each Sunday at 10.30am Mass Children's Liturgy in the St John Bosco School Breakout Space.



St Joseph's Church Children's Liturgy will resume in the new school term 2026.

LITTLE ANGELS MUSIC AND PLAY GROUP FOR PRESCHOOLERS at

Our Lady Help of Christians will resume in the 2026 school term. For more details please contact Amelia at musiccoordinator@catholicparishnp.nz



QUIET YOUR HEART ~ Music with Kadisha will resume in 2026.

SUNDAY READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

18 January 2026 2nd Sunday in Ordinary Time

1ST READING: Isaiah 49.3. 5-6

PSALM: 40

2ND READING: 1 Corinthians 1. 1-3

GOSPEL: John 1. 29-34

CONTACT US

Parish Office, 106 Powderham St,
PO Box 32, New Plymouth
(06) 757 3682
www.catholicparishnp.nz
Email – office@catholicparishnp.nz
The office is closed until Monday 19 January.
Emergency Phone – 027 224 2100

PRIESTS:

Simon Story simon@catholicparishnp.nz
Tom Lawn tom@catholicparishnp.nz
Sobin Sebastian sobin@catholicparishnp.nz
Sobin Sebastian Phone 027 255 8097



For updates on parish, diocese, and national events.

Catholic Parish of New Plymouth



ADORATION IN ALL OUR MASS CENTRES WILL RESUME IN FEBRUARY.

Watch the newsletters for exact dates.

HOLY HOUR

God dwells in our midst in the Blessed Sacrament of the altar
St. Maximilian Kolbe

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION

STRATEGIC LEADER Giniya
sl@catholicparishnp.nz

FINANCE OFFICER Cynthia
accounts@catholicparishnp.nz

OFFICE ADMINISTRATION Ireen
office@catholicparishnp.nz

YOUNG FAMILIES MINISTER Karen
youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz

YOUTH MINISTER Susilo
youth@catholicparishnp.nz

MUSIC COORDINATOR Amelia
musiccoordinator@catholicparishnp.nz

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM
ParishLeadershipTeam@catholicparishnp.nz

JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP
justiceandpeace@catholicparishnp.nz

ST JOSEPH'S
106 Powderham St
New Plymouth



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS
24 Clinton St, Fitzroy

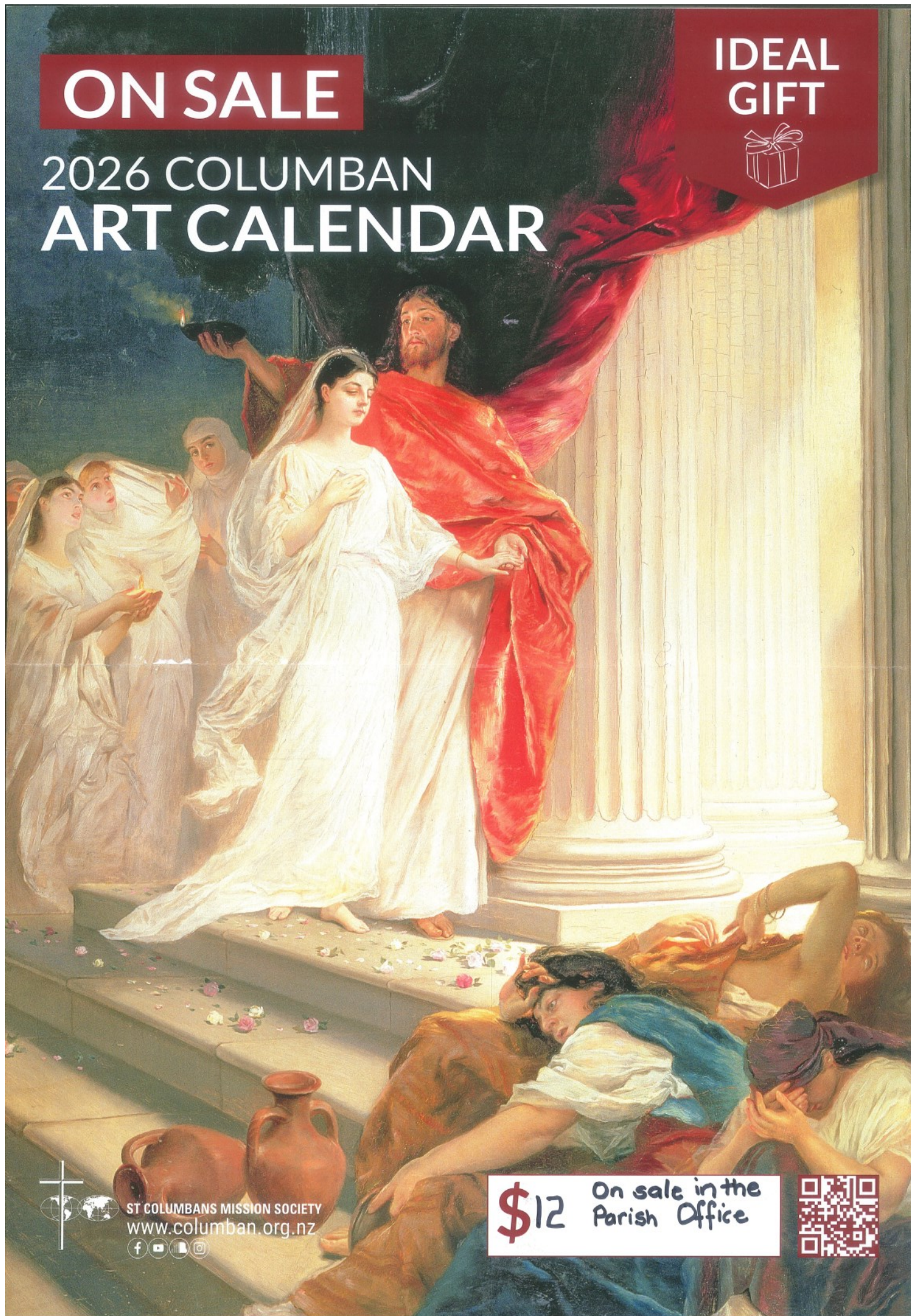
BELL BLOCK CATHOLIC CENTRE
138 Parklands Ave
Bell Block

ST PATRICK'S OKATO
36 Cumming St
Okato

ON SALE

2026 COLUMBAN ART CALENDAR

IDEAL
GIFT



ST COLUMBANS MISSION SOCIETY
www.columban.org.nz
f y i g

\$12

On sale in the
Parish Office

