



# Parish Newsletter

# Pānui i te Pārihi

Catholic Parish of New Plymouth  
Te Parihi Katorika Ki Ngamotu

18 January 2025 Third Sunday in Ordinary Time



## Life Teen Summer Camp at Keswick Christian Camp, Rotorua

From the 10th of January until the 14th of January 2026, 16 of our teenagers attended Life Teen Summer Camp at Keswick Christian Camp, Rotorua.

At camp, our teenagers learned how to discover enduring hope in Christ through the example of Mary. Across several sessions—Hope in Surrender, Obedience, Darkness, and Love—it combined games, worship, teaching, Scripture, and small-group reflection to show how trust in God transforms fear, suffering, and uncertainty into hope. Mary is presented as a relatable model whose faith, obedience, and love anchor hope even in hardship, especially at the Cross. I pray that our teenagers become the bearers of radiant hope in their daily lives.

I thank Wendy Cartledge and Cooper Grainger for chaperoning our group.  
Here are some photos taken at camp.

In Christ,  
Susilo - Youth Minister.



## 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 4.00pm Wednesday  
24 December until 9.00am  
Monday 19 January. Please  
continue to call the office  
phone number 06 757 3682

#### OUR PARISH VISION

**A COMMUNITY CALLED BY GOD FOR MISSIONAL DISCIPLESHP  
GATHERED AROUND JESUS CHRIST FED WITH THE EUCHARIST AND  
SENT TO TRANSFORM LIVES EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT**



## LITURGICAL POSTURE:

The Catholic Diocese of Palmerston North is embarking on a discussion about liturgical posture, with a focus on the Eucharistic Prayer at Mass. We know that as Catholics we pray with our bodies. If we are standing or kneeling, sitting or bowing, seeing, hearing or touching, all of these actions have significance in our prayer, particularly at Mass.

Bishop John is inviting every parish to take part in a diocesan-wide process of reflection on the significance of our bodily posture during the liturgy – particularly during the Eucharistic Prayer. The Council of Priests of the diocese has asked Bishop John to decide how we, as a diocese, might adopt a common posture, and our participation in these discussions is an important part of that discernment.

Bishop John's presentation on this topic can be watched on You Tube using this link (press control also if necessary)  
<https://cathnewsnz.com/2025/12/09/palmerston-north-diocese-to-discuss-liturgical-posture/>

The transcript of the You Tube video is on the following page of this newsletter.

Hard copies of the transcript are available in the church foyer.

See also CathNews 9th December 2025

As outlined in the message, Bishop John is inviting every parish and every parishioner, to take part in a diocesan-wide process of reflection on the significance of our bodily posture during the liturgy.

Following these discussions, Bishop John is asking for feedback from individuals or parish groups to assist him in reaching a well-informed and pastorally sensitive final decision for the diocese.

Feedback can be sent to [bishop-pa@pndiocese.org.nz](mailto:bishop-pa@pndiocese.org.nz), or in writing to Bishop's Office, P O Box 5279, Terrace End, Palmerston North 4441, by Wednesday, 18 February 2026.

## BE STILL & KNOW THAT I AM GOD LENTEN SEMINAR ON CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER & Ignatian Spirituality.

Conducted by Fr Alan Roberts.

During the season of Lent, a four week seminar on contemplative prayer will be held each **Wednesday at 10.30 a.m. and Thursday at 7.15 p.m.**, conducted by Fr Alan Roberts. The seminar covers topics such as managing silence in prayer & praying with scripture. It will also include an introduction to Ignatian Spirituality. You choose just one of the sessions. At the conclusion of the seminar the offer will be made of working through the Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius in daily life.

Fr Roberts is now resident in New Plymouth. He has been involved in Ignatian Spirituality and encouraging deeper forms of prayer since 1977. He spent 5 years as spiritual director (2012-17) at our national seminary. Some of his writings on contemplative prayer can be found on [www.pukekaraka.com](http://www.pukekaraka.com)

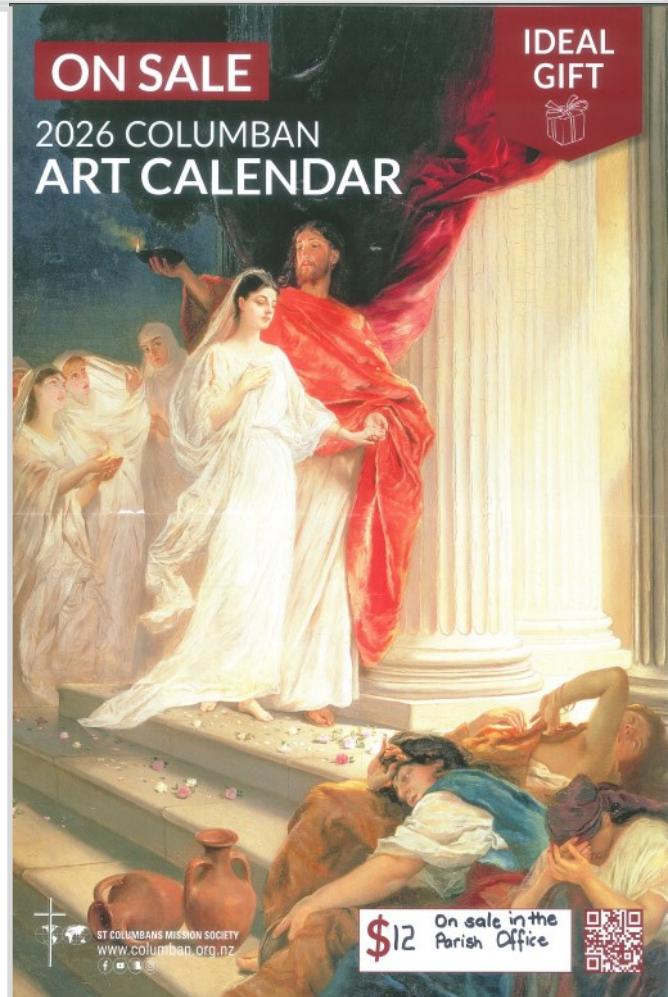
The programme will be as follows:

**Wednesday:** February 25 and March 4, 11, 18 at 10.30 a.m.

**Thursday:** February 26 and March 5, 12, 18 at 7.15 p.m.

Please register if attending: [office@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto:office@catholicparishnp.nz) or ph: (06) 757 3682 and indicate preferred session.

**Venue:** St Joseph's Church: Powderham St.



For sale in the Parish Office, and possibly in the church foyers at some weekend Masses, Columban calendars. It has been a long time tradition in Catholic homes, to have a Columban calendar. Wonderful art calendars, featuring religious masterpieces. See at a glance, Lent, Easter, the dates



## STATEMENT FROM THE BISHOP OF PALMERSTON NORTH

The Diocese of Palmerston North has recently been made aware of information concerning the past involvement of an individual, Callun Fieldes (also known as Callun Leo Andrew Signal), with youth activities in the Catholic Parish of New Plymouth during the period 2014–2015.

It is now publicly known that this individual has since been convicted and sentenced by the courts for serious sexual offences against children. Those matters have been addressed through the criminal justice system.

At the time of Mr Fieldes reported involvement with parish activities, Safeguarding requirements and procedures were not as advanced as they are today. There is no record of any complaint or disclosure made to the Diocese or the parish in relation to his conduct during that period.

The Diocese is treating this information with care and seriousness. While no specific allegation relating to parish activities has been received, it is important that anyone who may have relevant information, concerns, or who has been affected in any way feels supported to come forward.

Any person who wishes to raise a concern, seek support, or make a disclosure relating to Callun Fieldes is encouraged to contact:

Safeguarding Office  
Catholic Diocese of Palmerston North  
Email: [mbalm@pndiocese.org.nz](mailto:mbalm@pndiocese.org.nz)  
Phone: 06 354 1780 (ask for the Safeguarding Officer)

Concerns may also be raised directly with Police at any time.

All information shared will be treated respectfully and in confidence, in accordance with Safeguarding and legal obligations.

The Diocese remains committed to ensuring safe environments for all and to responding appropriately to any concerns brought to our attention.



JAN

19

MON

20

TUES

21

WED

22

THU

23

FRI

24

SAT

25

SUN

## WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

### FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

8.30am St Joseph's Church

8.30am St Joseph's Church  
5.30pm Our Lady Help of Christians Church (Vigil)  
6.00pm St Patrick's Church Okato (Vigil Mass)

9.00am St Joseph's Church  
10.30am Our Lady Help of Christians Church  
5.30pm 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](mailto:musiccoordinator@catholicparishnp.nz)



#### QUIET YOUR HEART ~

Music with Kadisha will resume in 2026.



### SUNDAY READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time 25 January

**1ST READING:** Isaiah 9.1-4

**PSALM:** 27

**2ND READING:** 1 Corinthians 1. 10-13, 17-18

**GOSPEL:** Mathew 4. 12-23



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



EUCARISTIC  
ADORATION

### CONTACT US

Parish Office, 106 Powderham St,  
PO Box 32, New Plymouth  
(06) 757 3682  
[www.catholicparishnp.nz](http://www.catholicparishnp.nz)  
Email – [office@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto:office@catholicparishnp.nz)  
Office Hours – 9.00am to 4.00pm weekdays  
**Emergency Phone – 027 224 2100**

### PRIESTS:

Simon Story [simon@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto:simon@catholicparishnp.nz)  
Tom Lawn [tom@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto:tom@catholicparishnp.nz)  
Sobin Sebastian [sobin@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto:sobin@catholicparishnp.nz)  
Sobin Sebastian Phone 027 255 8097



For updates on parish, diocese,  
and national events.



Catholic Parish of New Plymouth

**STRATEGIC LEADER** Giniya  
[sl@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto:sl@catholicparishnp.nz)

**FINANCE OFFICER** Cynthia  
[accounts@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto:accounts@catholicparishnp.nz)

**OFFICE ADMINISTRATION** Ireen  
[office@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto:office@catholicparishnp.nz)

**YOUNG FAMILIES MINISTER** Karen  
[youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto:youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz)

**YOUTH MINISTER** Susilo  
[youth@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto:youth@catholicparishnp.nz)

**MUSIC COORDINATOR** Amelia  
[musiccoordinator@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto:musiccoordinator@catholicparishnp.nz)

### PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

[ParishLeadershipTeam@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto:ParishLeadershipTeam@catholicparishnp.nz)

### JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP

[justiceandpeace@catholicparishnp.nz](mailto: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