

Parish Newsletter

Pānui i te Pārihi

Sunday 20 July 2025 Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time





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

Important Dates

Sunday 20 July

St Pius X School Led Mass St Joseph's Church 9.00am

Sunday 27 July

World Day for Grandparents and the elderly

Monday 21 July

Justice and Peace Group Week 4 looking at Laudato Si Chp 4 "Integral Ecology" Parish Office 5.45pm

Thursday 24 July and every Thursday

St Joseph's Church Adoration with Reconciliation 7.00pm

Thursday 24 July

STILL LYFE Online via Zoom 7.30pm to 8.30pm

Sunday 27 July

Youth Mass 5.30pm at St Joseph's Church

Thursday 31 July

RCIA Information Session Our Lady Help of Christians Church 6.30pm

Friday 1 August

Christian Life Programme St Joseph's Hall 7.00pm

Sunday 3 August

St John Bosco School Led Mass 10.30am Our Lady Help of Christians

Saturday 16 August

Catholic Women's League BINGO 1.30pm in St Joseph's Hall

GENERAL NOTICES

JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP: In Laudato Si. Chapter 3. Pope Francis reflects on the human roots of the ecological crisis.

A certain way of understanding human life and activity has gone awry, to the serious detriment of the world around us." (LS 101)



We are the beneficiaries of two centuries of enormous waves of technological change.

How can we not feel gratitude and appreciation for this progress, especially in the field of medicine, engineering and communications? How could we not acknowledge the work of many scientists and engineers who have provided alternatives to make development sustainable? But our immense technological development has not been accompanied by a development in human responsibility, values and conscience.

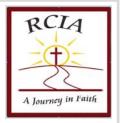
Let's reflect on our every day choices. How do they affect the human dignity and the health of our planet?

Join us Monday at 5:45pm in the Ngamotu Room in the Parish Office (please come to the back door of the office) as we look at Chapter 4. "Integral Ecology". Contact us at justiceandpeace@catholicparishnp.nz for further details.

Reading material is provided, but you can also access the encyclical here: LAUDATO SI' www.vatican.va

Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA)

RCIA is a process that involves a journey of faith and conversion, where individuals explore, learn, and grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church.



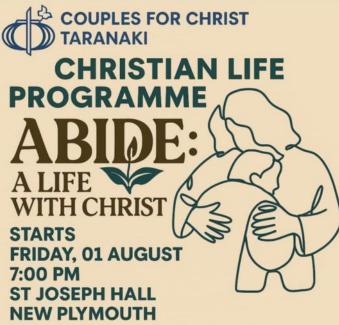
We are planning to commence RCIA August 2025. If you, or someone you know, is interested in RCIA, please come to a RCIA information session at Our Lady Help of Christians Church Clinton Street Fitzroy 6.30-7.45pm, Thursday, 31 July 2025 Please note the change of date.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES: The new sets of white giving envelopes begin Sunday 27 July. Please pick up your set from the church foyer, but let the office know if you can not see your envelopes. They will be able to help.



Some of the Mustard Seeds practising for Youth Mass 27 July

JOIN US FOR A LIFE-CHANGING JOURNEY OF FAITH AND FELLOWSHIP



"I am the vine; you are the branches. Whoever abides in Me and Lin him, he it is that bears much fruit, for apart from Me you can do nothing." John 15:5

CONTACT CESAR / IONE: 0212676913



SCAN GR CODE



LYFE Group: Growing Deeper. Living Fuller. Thursdays | 7:30-8:30pm | Starting 17th July | Online via Zoom

We warmly welcome all who have recently completed Alpha and parishioners to join our LYFE Group, a relaxed and beginner-friendly Bible study online via zoom.

This is a space to explore a deeper, more meaningful life with God in a way that's simple, practical, and grounded in everyday life. No prior knowledge needed – just come as you are.

Our first series will be STILL LYFE, where we will reflect on the value of prayer, silence, listening, and slowing down to help us recognise God's presence in our daily lives.

This series is transformative in helping us slow down in our busy lives, full of distraction, and find the stillness of God.

Keen to join us? We'd love to hear from you. Contact us for the Zoom link: Roly & Sarah Devine

Phone 021 925 911 Email sarahdevine43@gmail.com

CATHOLIC WOMENS LEAGUE will be selling raffle tickets after Mass 2/3 and 9/10 August and after the 8.30am Mass on Saturday.



ALPHA 2025 was....a meal, a video, discussion











ALPHA 2025 was...... The Retreat.













RELIGIOUS THIRD ORDERS IN OUR SECULAR WORLD

In the English language, the word <u>secular</u> is used to distinguish something that is not specifically religious in nature. It has no religious connection. New Zealand is considered to be a secular society where religion has less and less influence in the daily lives of the majority of members. But secular is also another word for a layman in a religious context.

For ordained of professed members of religious orders, (priests, brother and sisters), the rule of their community or their vows make it very clear how they will live their lives in a secular world. But the church also allows those who live a secular life, (a layman's life) to have a formulated and regulated association with religious orders. This is defined by Canon Law (the legal rule of the Catholic Church) as Third Orders. Third Orders are religious associations whose members while living a secular life, strive after Christian perfection by observing an approved rule under the direction and spirit of a religious order. 3rd Order members live in the world, not religious communities and are actively engaged in secular life.

Some orders that have Third Orders include Benedictines, Carmelites, Dominicans, Marists, Franciscans. We have three parishioners in the Catholic Parish of New Plymouth who belong to Third Orders of the Franciscans, Carmelites and Tyburns.

Secular Franciscans 3rd Order

The Secular Franciscans have been around for just over 800 years.

I am Paul Cleary, a professed Secular Franciscan. Minister (Guardian) St Juliana Fraternity Palmerston North and Vice Minister for the National Fraternity of Aotearoa New Zealand.

Being a Catholic Secular Franciscan is special because it combines a deep spiritual calling with the reality of everyday life. Secular Franciscans are called to live out the Gospel in the world, in the spirit of St. Francis of Assisi, without leaving behind their family, work, or other responsibilities. This vocation has a unique character and purpose, and here's what makes it special:

While many people associate the Franciscans with priests and religious brothers, the Secular Franciscans (OFS) embody the same Franciscan ideals but as lay people. This allows

them to live the Gospel in a way that is fully integrated into the secular world. They are not "escaping" from their everyday lives but instead are called to bring the values of St. Francis into the places where they live, work, and interact with others.

One of the most special aspects of being a Secular Franciscan is the call to simplicity. This doesn't mean poverty in the sense of living without basic needs, but it does mean detachment from materialism and a deep appreciation for the blessings of God's creation. Secular Franciscans seek to live with just what they need, sharing what they have with others and avoiding excessive consumption. This lifestyle reflects the humility of St. Francis and his commitment to living with and for others.

Secular Franciscans take seriously their call to serve others. Service isn't just about doing good works; it's about seeing Christ in every person, particularly the poor, marginalized, and suffering. This is a distinctive part of Franciscan spirituality. Being a Secular Franciscan means actively seeking out ways to serve — whether through volunteer work, advocacy, or small acts of kindness. The commitment to service is one of the most important ways they embody the Franciscan way of life.

Secular Franciscans form fraternities where they support and encourage each other in their spiritual journey. The

sense of community is central to their vocation. Although they live in the world, they are not isolated. They come together regularly for prayer, reflection, and mutual support. The fraternity helps them stay accountable to their vocation and reminds them that they are not alone in their efforts to live the Franciscan way.

For the last couple of years the whole Franciscan family have been celebrating different Centenaries: The year1223 the first Nativity scene in a cave near Gubbio: The year 1224 St Francis receiving the Stigmata; the year 1225 the Canticle of the Creatures; the year 1226 St Francis meeting sister death his Transitus to his heavenly home.

St Juliana Fraternity meets 2nd Wednesday of each month in Palmerston North at the Diocesan Centre.

View the OFS website http://www.secularfranciscans.nz/

Or contact Paul (pictured left) Email: clearys@xtra.co.nz

Phone 0273324879

Rangimarie me te pai Paul Cleary ofs.





Discalced Carmelites 3rd Order

Parishioner, Terry Williams is a secular member of the order of Discalced Carmelites which is an integrated part of the Carmelite family, an order with monasteries around the word today. There are two Carmelite monasteries in New Zealand, Auckland and Christchurch and three 3rd Order Groups which meet regularly in Auckland, Wellington and Christchurch.

Terry writes, "The Carmelite order is an order of contemplation and prayer through the Virgin Mary, interceding through her Son for peace and love and hope for all. We of the 3rd Order are truly Carmelites, as are the priests and religious of the Order, sharing with them a common vocation of prayer and pursuit of holiness.

As members of the same Carmelite family, we have a special claim on the rest of the Order for spiritual help and guidance. We pray the "Daily Prayer" of the Church, the Rosary and solitary meditation together with the spiritual exercises recommended by St Teresa of Jesus, (also known as St Teresa of Avila), foundress of the Discalced Carmelites).

We are to bear witness to the importance of Contemplative Prayer. The members of the Secular Order are the spiritual children of St Teresa who are called to holiness to live in deep friendship with Jesus. Our vocation is truly Marian, and like Mary we are called daily to ponder Jesus in our hearts. We strive to live faithfully and lovingly in the presence of God and to serve his Church.

Secular Carmelites are lay people living our faith and Carmelite vocation in the secular world, in the midst of our situation, be it married, widowed or living a single life. As prayerful people we bring God's presence to others, whatever their situation.





St. Thérèse of Lisieux, who was a French Catholic Discalced Carmelite religious, now widely venerated in modern times.

Perpetual Adoration at the chapel at Tyburn Ngakuru Rotorua. Perpetual Adoration is ongoing adoration for 24 hours

Benedictine 3rd Order

Parishioner Maria Bushell made an Oblation (becoming an Obate) 8 February 2025 at Tyburn Ngakuru Monastery near Rotorua. As a Tyburn Oblate Maria is part of the Congregation of the Adorers of the Sacred Heart of Jesus in Montmartre Order of St Benedict which is familiarly known as the Tyburn Nuns. Tyburn Oblates are men and women who wish to be affiliated to Tyburn as Benedictine Oblates animated by the teaching of the Rule of Benedict and the spirit of the Tyburn Benedictine Congregation.

Oblates undertake a three month trial, followed by a formal interview by the Prioress and the community and at least one year of Noviciate. If they preserve in their desire to live by the Spirit of the Rule, they are permitted to make their Oblation. Oblates are under the spiritual guidance of the Monastery to which they are affiliated, so Maria is under the guidance of Tyburn Ngakuru.

Being an Oblate of Tyburn Monastery, O.S.B. comes with certain obligations:

To live in the spirit of the Rule of St Benedict.

To participate in Holy Mass whenever possible.

To say the Morning Offering of Mother Foundress daily.

To say at least Lauds and Compline from the Liturgy of the Hours (Divine Office). If prevented, to say the Rosary.

To make 15 minutes personal prayer daily (when convenient, before the Blessed Sacrament).

Each month to make half an hour's personal prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

To attend the 3 monthly meeting at the monastery

To renew the Oblation annually on the Solemnity of the Sacred Heart, and notify the Director of Oblates that this has been done.

Maria follows this in her daily life and also visits the monastery monthly for Perpetual Adoration.



Maria on the day of her Novitiate Acceptance day (2 March 2024) celebrating with members of the Tyburn Ngakuru community.

Alpha 2025 was..... The final night



















ALPHA was

The college helpers: The Francis Douglas boys who came each afternoon to set up and returned again at 8.00pm to vacuum and pack up. The Sacred Heart team who helped Heather (pictured) to look after the children while parents participated in Alpha. Some, but certainly not all of the team members were are pictured left.





SUNDAY PRAYER MINISTRY: Sunday 27 July after the morning Masses, we will have people available in the church for prayer ministry. This is the 9.00am Mass at St Joseph's and the 10.30am Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians. Members of the Prayer Ministry Team, in pairs, will be there, to pray with you and for you, as an individual, or a couple or a family. If you would like to take this opportunity, please just stay after Mass.

MINISTER TO THE SICK AT JEAN SANDEL: We need another parishioner who would be happy to visit Jean Sandel once a month, after 9.00am Sunday Mass taking Communion to residents in the hospital wing. If you are interested in this ministry please contact or Naomi at 027 292 7051 or nome 43@hotmail.com or the Parish Office.



TŪMANAKO The newsletter for the diocese of Palmerston North: Issue 5 July 2025 has been issued. For those who wish to have a printed copy, they are available in the Church foyers today, but to view the newsletter online go to either **tumanako.pndiocese.org.nz** or **cathnewsnz.com**. Or you can join up to receive monthly an emailed copy of Tūmanako at **www.pndiocese.org.nz**.



St Joseph's Parish & School Hawera are *Celebrating 150 years* this coming Labour Weekend 24th-26th October.

If you are a past/present member of the Hawera Parish or School you

are invited to celebrate the Jubilee 1875-2025 years. Registrations are now open

Registration Forms available from the website http://www.stjoeshawera150celebration.co.nz or Email:stjosephshawerajubilee@gmail.com



Saturday, 27th September from 8am – 11am at St Andrews Hall, Liardet St, New Plymouth.

We would love any contributions

of plants for this sale, so if you are potting up plants please keep us in mind.

The drop off will be from 3.00pm onwards on Friday 26 September at St Andrew's Church Hall. All queries to Louisa 7536 139 ext 7968 Mondays 8:30am to 1:30pm.



The very first words, then, that I would like to say to every young Christian are these: Christ is alive and he wants you to be alive!

CHRISTUS VIVIT (CHRIST IS ALIVE) - PARAGRAPH 1- POPE FRANCIS

BINGC





We pray for our deceased family and friends: Maria Gesterkamp, Kath Goodin, Deceased members of the Lobo family, the Miranda family, the Fernandes family, the Dias family, Anthony Dias and Michael Juffermans.

July 21		WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH
MON	8.00am	St Joseph's Church
22 TUES	8.00am 9.10am 12.05pm	St Joseph's Church Our Lady Help of Christians Church St Joseph's Church
23 WED	8.00am 9.10am	St Joseph's Church Our Lady Help of Christians Church
24 THU	8.00am 9.50am 2.20pm	St Joseph's Church Sacred Heart Girls College (Mary's Chapel) Francis Douglas College:
25 FRI	8.00am 12.05pm	St Joseph's Church St Joseph's Church
26 SAT	8.30am 5.30pm 6.00pm	St Joseph's Church Our Lady Help of Christians Church St Patrick's Okato
27 SUN	9.00am 10.30am 5.30pm	St Joseph's Church Our Lady Help of Christians Church St Joseph's Church (Youth Mass)

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. And during Thursday Adoration at St Joseph's Church 7.00pm. Reconciliation is also available by appointment with the priests, by initially phoning the Office 757 3682.

MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: Before Mass on Monday, Tuesday and Friday 7.40am and 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. A special Children's Liturgy in the St John Bosco School Breakout Space.



St Joseph's Church: Each Sunday at 9.00am Mass in the church foyer.

No children's liturgy if it is a school led Mass.

GROUP FOR PRESCHOOLERS: Music, play and morning tea. Our Lady Help of Christians Please contact Tess 027 583 7732.

QUIET YOUR HEART ~ Music with Kadisha
St Joseph's Monday 11.00am to 11.30am
Our Lady Help of Christians Friday 9.30am to
10.00am Listen to Kadisha's new release STAY

SUNDAY READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

27 July 2025 Seventeenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1ST READING: Genesis 18,20-32

PSALM: 138

2ND READING: Colossians 2.12-14

GOSPEL: Luke 10.25-37

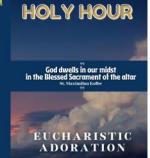
OUR LADV HELP OF CHRISTIANS CHURCH
Tuesday
9:35am to 10:30am
(after 9:10am Mass)
First Sunday of the month
3:00pm - 4:00pm

BELL BLOCK CATHOLIC CENTRE

First Friday of the month

4.00pm - 5.00pm

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH Every Thursday 7:00pm - 8:00pm



STRATEGIC LEADER Giniya

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FINANCE OFFICER

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



BELL BLOCK CATHOLIC CENTRE

138 Parklands Ave Bell Block

ST PATRICK'S OKATO

36 Cumming St Okato

CONTACT US

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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.



JU:



SATURDAY, 2 AUGUST 2025 FROM 10:45 AM TO 8:30 PM CATHEDRAL OF THE HOLY SPIRIT - PALMY

The Diocese of Palmerston North is thrilled to unveil the Jubilee Youth Festival 2025, a vibrant day-long event designed for young people throughout the diocese, celebrating the global Church's Year of Jubilee.

What to Expect:

- Mass with Bishop John
- Motivational speakers and engaging workshops
- Fun games, activities, and a talent show
- Opportunities for worship, adoration, and reconciliation
- An energetic closing party

We will be staying overnight and returning to New Plymouth together after Sunday Mass at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit.

FOR FURTHER DETAILS OR IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO ATTEND, PLEASE REACH OUT TO ME AT YOUTH@CATHOLICPARISHN.NZ, AND I WILL PROVIDE YOU WITH THE REGISTRATION LINK.

Susilo

WEEKLY DIOCESAN UPDATES

for the Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time 14th - 20th July 2025

"Lord, strengthen our shepherds."

As we prepare for the Hope and Renewal Summit this October, we ask the Holy Spirit to strengthen and renew the hearts of our priests. Their leadership is vital to the mission of the Church, and our prayers can be a source of deep encouragement and grace.

This week, consider offering a Rosary, a Mass intention, or a personal note of encouragement to one of our priests. Let them know we are praying for them and walking with them.

Join us at the Summit: www.hoperenewalsummit.com

Jubilee Youth Festival | 2 August 2025

On August 2, 2025, the Palmerston North Diocese will celebrate the global Jubilee for Youth with the Jubilee Youth Festival at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit. This event is all about renewal, hope, and deepening faith through inspiring talks, worship, music, and activities.

Event Details: ` · Date: Saturday, August 2, 2025

• Time: 10:45 AM - 8:30 PM

· Location: Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Palmerston North

· Cost: \$10 per person

Young people from all diocesan groups are invited to come together for a day filled with Mass, fellowship, workshops, games, adoration, and a party! If you're coming from out of town, overnight accommodation is available at local church halls (bring your own bedding).

Registration: The person registering your group must do so using this link: https://forms.gle/R5Z4zzTZz9i7HgZdA

Deadline for Group Registrations Wednesday July 23.

Deadline for Individual Registrations Sunday July 27.

Deadline for Adult Leader Registrations Sunday July 27.

Get ready for an unforgettable day of faith and fun. Let's celebrate youth as Pilgrims of Hope!

For more details, contact Nick Wilson at nwilson@pndiocese.org.nz

Enrol at Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College

Study anywhere, at your own pace, with the support from qualified lecturers, with Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College online courses. Semester 2 starts July 21. To see courses offered in Semester 2, go to www.tekupenga.ac.nz/distance

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Saint Teresa's School Bluff | 125 Years

Join us in celebrating a remarkable milestone! Saint Teresa's School Bluff is proud to announce its 125th Jubilee, taking place on Saturday 25 and Sunday 26 October 2025. We warmly invite you to be part of this special occasion. Please spread the word to your friends and family. For enquiries, contact: Sonz125@hotmail.com

World Youth Day 2027 | Expressions of Interest

The diocese is taking expressions of interest for those young people who are thinking about attending World Youth Day (WYD) in Seoul, South Korea in 2027. The theme of this next WYD is "Take courage! I have overcome the world." Pope Leo will be there. Pilgrims for this WYD need to be older than 18 to travel with the NZ group. We anticipate an early August 2027 time frame, but we are still waiting to hear officially. This expression doesn't lock anyone in