



Parish Newsletter

Pānui i te Pārihi

Catholic Parish of New Plymouth
22nd February 2026 First Sunday Of Lent



What is Lent?

What are your priorities in life right now?

Lent is an invitation to set your priorities in order – to focus on what matters most and leave behind what matters least.

Lent is the season where the Church prepares for Easter. Starting with Ash Wednesday Lent spans 40 days until Holy Thursday. In the fourth chapter of Matthew, Jesus spends 40 days in the desert, fasting, praying, and preparing for his mission. Lent is your opportunity for that same focus.

Lent is your invitation to take your spiritual life seriously.

Lent is the perfect time to form life-giving habits and abandon self-destructive habits.

Lent is your chance to discover the abundant life Jesus invites us to at Easter.

Take these 40 days to explore God's dream for your life & it will change you. Are you ready?

Would you consider?

The Caritas Lenten groups.

Stations of the Cross on Fridays.

Ignatian Prayer All as advertised in the newsletter.

Encounter with Jesus through the Gospels: Meetings every Wednesday, 7:00pm to 8:15pm, starting on the 25th of February @ our Lady Help of Christians Foyer. Doors open at 6:40pm for a short welcome coffee/tea & biscuits. Please bring your Bible or Bible Phone App. Please see the online newsletter for contact details for co-ordinators.

Can you help our parish? We are growing and people are needed to help with youth ministry, with young families ministry, with the social justice group. See the contacts on the back page of the newsletter, Susilo, Karen, etc. email addresses.

Would you help with Alpha beginning 23 April? Contact Fr Simon email back of newsletter.

Would you commit to helping St Vincent de Paul Society? Contact the parish office.

Our faith community needs your help – can you offer to serve the mission of our parish? "To change lives empowered by the Holy Spirit." Lent is a great time to take on something for your parish.

Online resources you may appreciate:

[Formed-Lent](#) Please use the Parish Subscription. Details

[Exodus40](#) An adaptation of the well-known App for men, Exodus90. This is a 40-day journey through the Book of Exodus, learning about the similarities we share with the ancient Israelites - and finding the path to freedom from the 'modern Pharaohs' holding us back from true union with God.

[Fiat40](#) An App for women. Whilst it could be done individually, the idea of the programme is that a group of women together journey through Lent using the resources provided. Everything you need - how to set it up, resources for the leader of the group, pdf's, etc. are all on the Christchurch diocesan website, at [Fiat 40](#).

[This Lent, Seek the Inner Room with Sr. Miriam James Heidland, SOLT](#) You could do worse than listen to Sr Miriam this week.



PARISH
PRIEST



Fr Simon Story



Important Dates

ADORATION

Thursday Evenings
St Joseph's Church
7.00pm

Tuesdays at OLHC
(after 9:10 am Mass)
9:35am to 10:35 am
Sunday 1st March
3:00pm-4:00pm

Shine Junior Youth Group

Sundays
4.00pm to 5.00pm

Caritas Lenten Reflection

Bell Block Catholic
Centre Wednesdays
during Lent

7.00pm to 8.00pm
St. Joseph's Parish Office
Monday 23 February
5:45pm to 6:45pm

St. Joseph's Lenten Seminar on Contemplative Prayer

Two sessions start
Wednesday 25 February
10.30am
Thursday 26 February
7.15 pm

Sacramental Preparation Parent Information Evening

St. Joseph's Church Hall
Wednesday 25 March
6.30pm to 8.00pm

Gospel Meetings

Wednesdays,
7:00pm to 8:00pm,
starting 25th February
Our Lady Help of
Christians Foyer

GENERAL NOTICES

ALPHA 2026 IS COMING!

ALPHA

coming soon

We're excited to commence

ALPHA 2026 at St Joseph's on Thursday evenings, 6:00–8:00pm, starting 23 April and running for 10 weeks, finishing 25 June.

The **Alpha Retreat Weekend** is planned for **5–6 June** (final times to be confirmed).

To make Alpha happen, we need a committed team of volunteers – and we'd love for you to be part of it! As a volunteer, the weekly time commitment is **5:30–8:15pm** on Thursdays, plus the retreat weekend.

Alpha isn't hard work – it's uplifting, relational, and genuinely enjoyable. We work together, support one another, and share a meal before the session begins.

Ways you can help:

- Hospitality (e.g., helping with dishes)
- Childcare
- Small-group discussions
- Setting up for the evening
- Welcoming and socialising with guests

It's just **2.5 hours a week**. You get to be part of a friendly, supportive team. Come at 5:30pm, share the Alpha meal at 6:00pm. Stay to be part of the Alpha experience until 8:00pm. For details; contact Parish Office

SAVE THE DATE: - Wednesday 25 March 6.30–8:00pm

Sacramental Preparation Parent Information Evening

If you wish this year for; your child over 7 years to be baptised or

Your child to receive the sacraments of Reconciliation and First Communion or

Your child (Years 11 to 13) to be Confirmed

Then you will need to be at our parent information evening. As our programmes of Older Children's Baptism and Reconciliation and First Communion are family based, we need all involved to see firsthand the process for preparation for these sacraments, and how it works in our parish!

Wednesday 25 March 6.30–8:00pm. For children and families to be part of the sacramental programmes, it will be very important for a parent or care giver to be at this meeting.

Contact Us

For Older Children's Baptism, First Holy Communion, and Reconciliation inquiries, contact **KAREN** at **young-familyminister@catholicparishnp.nz**

For Confirmation inquiries, contact **SUSILO** at **youth@catholicparishnp.nz**

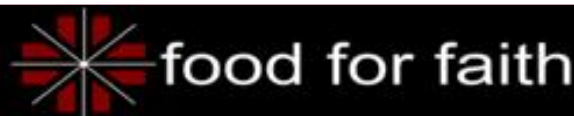


PRINT ISSUE IT OUT NOW!
Get your copy from the parish foyer



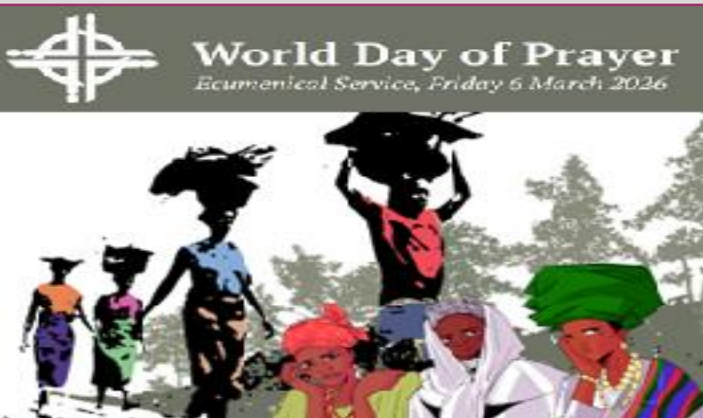
STATIONS OF THE CROSS: Each Friday during Lent beginning 20th February, at 5:30 pm at Our Lady Help of Christians Church Fitzroy.

Also, the Syro-Malabar Community will begin the Stations of the Cross on 20th February, every Friday during Lent at St. Joseph's Church at 7:00 pm in Malayalam language.



FOOD FOR FAITH LENT: For daily readings, podcasts, prayer requests and Lent encouragements go to Food For Faith. Sign up at www.foodforfaith.org.nz to prepare for Easter by receiving daily email encouragements with Fr John O'Connor.

FOOD FOR FAITH CAFÉ: You are welcome to the gathering at Stumble Inn, 200 Mangorei Road Merilands at 10am on Wednesday 25th February. All Welcome. For more information contact Joan 021 1100775.



World Day of Prayer Ecumenical Service "I Will Give You Rest: Come"

You are invited to join in worship and fellowship at St. Joseph's Church on 6th March, Friday at 10am.

A TIME TO GIVE: CARITAS LENTEN APPEAL 2026 – Summary

This Lent, Caritas invites us to join their mission of "Restoring Hope: Your Compassion in Action / Kia puāwai te Tūmanako."

Almsgiving helps us draw closer to God by supporting those in greatest need. The NZ Catholic Bishops encourage us to contribute to the Caritas Lenten Appeal, which provides vital development work and emergency relief for vulnerable communities locally and globally. Every donation—large or small—makes a meaningful difference.

How to Give:

- Donate online via the Caritas website
- Make a direct bank deposit

Use the cash envelopes available in the church foyer and place them in the collection plate

More details: caritas.org.nz



RITE OF CHRISTIAN OF INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA)



The Rite of Election and **the Call to Continuing Conversion** mark significant milestones for those preparing to be baptised (Catechumens) and those preparing to be received into full communion (Candidates) in the Catholic Church. During **the Rite of Election**, those seeking Baptism write their names in the Book of the Elect, which lists those who have been chosen for the sacraments of initiation. Meanwhile, those already baptised, who seek full communion in the Church, participate in **the Rite of the Call to Continuing Conversion**, renewing their baptismal commitment to Christ and His Church. In the coming weekend masses, 16 Catechumens and Candidates in our parish will be participating in **the Rite of Election** and **the Call to Continuing Conversion**. Please keep them in your prayer as they continue their Catechesis and Conversion for a long-life relationship with Jesus as part of our Catholic family.

CARITAS LENTEN REFLECTION EVENINGS:

The Lenten season provides an opportunity each year to deepen our understanding of our faith reflecting the Gospels. The Lenten Reflection series can offer this, through the psalms, Gospel readings, discussion, reflection and quiet time. Offered at:
Bell Block Catholic Centre, 138 Parklands Ave, Bell Block 7.00pm to 8.00pm, each Wednesday during Lent.
St Joseph's Parish Office, Ngamotu Room, 5.45pm to 6.45pm Mondays during Lent starting Monday 23 February.



SHINE Junior Youth Group is designed for children aged 8 to 12 years.

We gather every Sunday during the school term at St. Joseph Church Hall from 4:00 pm to 5:00 pm.

WELCOMING SUNDAY

Next Sunday is the first of what we hope to become a special annual celebration when we open our hearts and doors to everyone – those who already call our parish home, those who are new to New Plymouth, and anyone who feels drawn to grow in faith and community. It is a joyful opportunity for our Catholic parish to warmly welcome newcomers, help them feel at home, and invite them to become more involved in the life and mission of our parish family. The priests will talk about this more at all Masses next weekend and there will be a team of parishioners at each Mass ready to welcome those newcomers and talk about some ways to help you connect with our parish community.



WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Mary Nallon, Diane Healion, Dave Brophy, Duncan Allison, Colin McComb and Andrea Dravizki.

February Edition

2026

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUTH GROUP

YOUTH GROUP SUN, 22 FEB

God often asks us to wait for good things. During this time, embrace patience and stay open to God's work in our lives.

Join us for a time of fun and a spirit-filled evening! Tag your friends to come along.



JOIN US

**YOUTH MASS
SUNDAY
22 FEBRUARY 2026**



NEXT YOUTH GROUP SUN 1 MAR

Hope is easy to talk about when everything is going well, but what happens in those difficult moments that challenge our hope? Come to learn how to embrace hope in moments of darkness and suffering.

DARKEST BEFORE DAWN

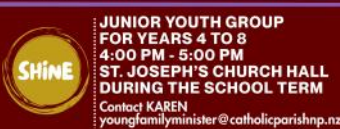
A LIFE NIGHT ON HOPE IN DARKNESS AND SUFFERING



REGISTRATION IS NOW OPEN!
Have you registered?



Scan the QR code to register, and check the updated schedules on our parish's website, as they differ from the previous programme.



**JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP
FOR YEARS 4 TO 8
4:00 PM - 5:00 PM
ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH HALL
DURING THE SCHOOL TERM**
Contact KAREN
youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz



**YOUTH GROUP
FOR YEARS 9 TO 13
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM
ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH HALL
DURING THE SCHOOL TERM**
Contact SUSILO
youth@catholicparishnp.nz

BE STILL & KNOW THAT I AM GOD

A LENTEN SEMINAR ON CONTEMPLATIVE PRAYER

An Ignatian Spirituality Conducted by Fr Alan Roberts

Do you want Lent to a time of renewal, a time of discovery, a time to develop your relationship with God. A time to make a difference to your spiritual life.

Over the first four weeks of Lent, Fr Alan Roberts, newly retired to North Taranaki, is presenting four sessions on contemplative prayer. The sessions cover topics such as managing silence in prayer, praying with scripture and an introduction to Ignatian Spirituality.

There will be a morning session starting at 10.30am at St Joseph's church Wednesday 25 February, and continuing 4,11,18 March.

There will be a evening sessions starting 7.15pm at St Joseph's Parish Office Nga Motu Room Thursday 26 February and continuing 5,12,19 March. Note change of location.

If you would like to read some of Fr Alan Roberts writings on contemplative prayer, view on www.pukekaraka.com

Please contact the Parish Office 06 757 3682 for more information and to let us know you plan to be there.

FEB		WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE	
23 MON		FIRST SUNDAY OF THE MONTH	
24 TUE	8.00am	St Joseph's Church	
	9.10am	Our Lady Help of Christians	
	12.05pm	St Joseph's Church	
25 WED	8.00am	St Joseph's Church	
	9.10am	Our Lady Help of Christians	
26 THU	8.00am	St Joseph's Church	
	10.00am	Sacred Heart's College (St. Mary's Chapel)	
	2.20pm	Francis Douglas Memorial College	
27 FRI	8.00am	St Joseph's Church	
	12.05pm	St Joseph's Church	
28 SAT	8.30am	St Joseph's Church	
	5.30pm	Our Lady Help of Christians (Vigil Mass)	
	6.00pm	St Patrick's Church Okato (Vigil Mass)	
MAR 1 SUN	9.00am	St Joseph's Church	
	10.30am	Our Lady Help of Christians Church	
	10:30 am	Bell Block Catholic Centre	
	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. And during Thursday Adoration at St Joseph's Church 7.00pm. Reconciliation is also available by appointment with the priests, by initially phoning the Parish Office 757 3682.

MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: Before morning Mass on Monday, Tuesday at 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 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.

LITTLE ANGELS MUSIC AND PLAY GROUP FOR PRESCHOOLERS

At Our Lady Help of Christians at 9.00am in the church foyer. For more details please contact Amelia at musiccoordinator@catholicparishnp.nz



QUIET YOUR HEART: Music with Kadisha.

Each Monday at St Joseph's Church - 11.00am to 11.30am.



SUNDAY READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Second Sunday of Lent 1st March

1ST READING: Gen 12.1-4

PSALM: 33

2ND READING: 2 Tim 1.8b-10

GOSPEL: Luke 9.35

CONTACT US

Parish Office, 106 Powderham St,
PO Box 32, New Plymouth (06) 757 3682
www.catholicparishnp.nz
Email - office@catholicparishnp.nz
Office Hours – 9.00am to 4.00pm weekdays
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



OUR LADY 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

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

COMMUNICATIONS LEAD Russell

communicationslead@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

From Our Justice and Peace Group

This Lent, the **Laudato Si' Movement** invites you to walk a **shared journey of prayer, contemplation, and ecological conversion** – one that is simple, deep, and rooted in faith.



Rather than many disconnected activities, our Lenten journey follows **gentle, repeatable rhythms of prayer** that can be lived personally, in families, parishes, and communities across the world.

[Meditation video](#)

Prayer for every day.

God our Creator, thank you for the gift of creation. Draw us into contemplation, so that we may recognize your presence in the beauty that surrounds us.

Pause: Where did I hear and see creation's song today?

Christ, heart of creation, united with all that suffers, help us contemplate honestly our lives. Through discernment, show us where our choices have harmed the earth and the poor.

Pause: Where did I hear and see creation's cry today?

Spirit of renewal, send us forth into action. Teach us to live humbly within creation and to respond with love and justice.

Pause: What is creation calling me to do today in response to creation's song and cry?

Weekly Reflection Questions

Each week, visit the Interactive Heart on our website <https://laudatosimovement.org/lent/> And spend time with the weekly reflection. Then, return here to respond in prayer.

February 18. Ash Wednesday.

What has distracted my heart from what truly gives life, and how is God inviting me to return to the heart – His heart and my own?

[space for personal response]

Weekly gesture (prayer): Examine your ecological conscience and choose one simple practice to deepen your ecological spirituality. Each day, thank God for three natural resources you used today (water, food, air) and ask for the grace to care for them more responsibly.

WEEKLY DIOCESAN UPDATES

for the First Sunday of Lent
16 – 22 February 2026

FOR YOUR NEWSLETTERS

Tūmanako Print Edition Available Now!

The first print edition for 2026 of Tūmanako, the monthly diocesan newsletter, is available this weekend!

If you or someone you know would benefit from the print issue, please talk to your parish office.

All material in the printed edition is already available online, either at <https://tumanako.pndiocese.org.nz> or <https://cathnewsnz.com>

Chrism Mass | Save the Date

This year's Chrism Mass will be held on Tuesday 31 March, 12:05pm at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit. Everyone is welcome.

CathNews New Zealand

CathNews New Zealand shares the big news from the Catholic Church and stories of relevance to Catholics every Tuesday and Friday. Sign up for the free digital newsletter and read the latest stories at cathnewsnz.com

Diocesan Hub – March 7–8 | Register Now

Our first Diocesan Hub gatherings are fast approaching. These diocesan afternoons of prayer, reflection, and conversation are open to all.

In March, we will reflect on Sacrosanctum Concilium, the Second Vatican Council's Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, exploring how worship forms us as a baptised people sent on mission.

The same gathering will be offered in two locations and everyone from across the diocese are warmly encouraged to attend either location:

Saturday 7 March – Palmerston North

Sunday 8 March – Hastings

Lunch is provided. Please register to ensure we can cater and prepare well for all attending:

<https://forms.office.com/r/si6GpNKWz9>

We look forward to gathering as one diocesan community.

Te Kupenga Catholic Leadership Institute – Webinars for 2026

In preparation for World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul Korea, Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College invites young people and everyone to grow in their faith, hope and missionary discipleship, with this year's webinar series, "Take Courage! I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). More information at www.tekupenga.ac.nz/webinars-2026

Call for Small Group Facilitators – Diocesan Hubs

Would you consider offering your time and heart to help facilitate a small group at the Diocesan Hubs? The Diocese is seeking volunteers to help create welcoming spaces for conversation, prayer and reflection during these afternoons of formation. No special experience is required, just a willingness to listen and encourage others in faith. Training and support will be provided. If you would like to be part of this new initiative and help strengthen our diocesan community, please register your interest at: <https://bit.ly/diofacilitate>

Returning to teaching or starting a new teaching post? Leadership roles within your parish, church community or Chaplaincies within your diocese? Member or supportive role within your

ACROSS Social Work Referrals now open This is for Manawatu Area

ACROSS is a not-for-profit organisation here to walk alongside whānau through life's challenges. Whether it's offering a listening ear, advocating for families, or providing practical support, they are committed to strengthening their community. They are now open for social work referrals.

Who needs social workers?

Whānau under pressure | Whānau navigating complex systems | People facing housing or financial stress | Those experiencing trauma or major life changes | Anyone needing advocacy and support.

Why social workers matter:

They help prevent crisis before it happens | They strengthen whānau resilience | They support mental and emotional wellbeing | They connect people to the right services.

At ACROSS, social workers are here to support whānau every step of the way.

Contact: Freephone 0800 ACROSS (227 677) or email reception@across.org.nz

Enrol now at Te Kupenga, Catholic Theological College!

Returning to teaching or starting a new teaching post? Leadership roles within your parish, church community or Chaplaincies within your diocese? Member or supportive role within your youth group or interested in hospital and prison ministry? Would you like to do a Safeguarding course, learn more about Theology or study towards a Bachelor of Divinity?

ENROL NOW! for Semester 1 2026.

Visit our website: <https://www.tekupenga.ac.nz/catholic-theological-college/> and check out our programmes and course timetables in your region.

NZ Catholic Medical Association Retreat & Seminar

The New Zealand Catholic Medical Association provides community, support and chaplaincy for those involved in health care in Aotearoa. The association welcomes doctors, nurses, midwives, carers, pharmacists, physiotherapists, psychologists, dentists, health administrators, counsellors, social workers, chaplains, lawyers, and anyone in allied roles. The next nationwide event is a retreat and seminar at the St Francis Friary & Retreat Centre, Auckland on March 20 and 21. For more information or to register, visit <https://bit.ly/NZCMA2026> or email newzealandcatholicmedical@gmail.com

Lourdes to Lisieux Pilgrimage, 8 – 27 May 2026

Discover the sacred beauty of France on an inspiring 18-day pilgrimage. Visit Lourdes, Lisieux, Paray le Monial, Chartres, Normandy and Paris, and walk in the footsteps of beloved saints including St Thérèse of Lisieux, St Bernadette, St John Vianney, and St Vincent de Paul.

This journey offers daily Mass, expert guides, and the chance to deepen your faith in some of the most grace filled places in the Catholic world.

For details and bookings:

NZ Free Call: 0800 819 156 or visit www.harvestjourneys.com/pv2659

St Joseph's School CHB Centennial

St Joseph's School in Central Hawke's Bay is celebrating 100 years. The centennial theme, "Walking in Faith: A Century of Light. A Future of Hope," reflects both gratitude for the past and optimism for the decades ahead.

Beginning the evening of Friday 27 Feb and closing with 9:30am Mass on Sunday 1 March 2026.

Registrations are now open through the school website <https://stjosephschb.school.nz/reunion/>

E tū te mana o te ao: Building a climate of hope – Faith and Action Guide

Our faith communities teach us to reach beyond ourselves, towards others, and to the world around us. They help us to cross boundaries and care for each other and for the environment.

The Religious Diversity Centre's new publication *E tū te mana o te ao: Building a climate of hope — Faith and Action Guide* explores different faith communities' beliefs about our relationship with the natural world and provides inspiring examples about how we can all help reduce climate change and its impacts.

A free download is available at <https://rdc.org.nz/rdc-climate-action-group/>

LENTEN RESOURCES

Behold Lenten Companion | First Week of Lent

Behold – Standing Before Christ in Truth

In the wilderness, Jesus entrusts Himself fully to the Father. Freedom begins with trust.

The Behold Lenten Companion invites you this week to stand before Christ as you are and allow His Word to sustain you. Each day offers Scripture, a short reflection, prayer, and one simple action.

Journey daily.

Behold Christ in the desert.

Find this week's reflection at <https://tumanako.pndiocese.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2026/02/Behold-2026-First-Week-of-Lent.pdf>

FORTY DAYS & FORTY NIGHTS

Growing in maturity of Faith accompanied by Food For Faith through Lent with daily reflections at www.foodforfaith.org.nz

Ashes to Hope | Caritas Lent Webinar Series – Registrations now open

Journey through lent with New Zealand's Catholic Bishops and others of the faith as they guide us in prayer and reflection on each Sunday's Gospel. **Wednesdays in lent, 7:30pm to 8:30pm.**

Registrations are now open: visit <https://link.caritas.org.nz/lentweb1regiamong>

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.

MAY 2026 • A NEW ZEALAND CATHOLIC PILGRIMAGE

18
DAYS

Lourdes to Lisieux

A Journey of Faith & Grace through the Shrines and Saints of France

COMMENCES FRIDAY 8 MAY 2026 • 18 DAYS / 16 NIGHTS

Lourdes (3 nights) • Rocamadour (1) • Paray-le-Monial (3) • Nouan-le-Fuzelier (1)
• Chartres (1) • Lisieux (2) • Caen (3) • Normandy • Paris (2)



Accompanied by
Bishop John Adams



"Dear Pilgrim, to travel is a beautiful activity, but to travel with the purpose of deepening our faith in Jesus Christ can be a profound experience indeed. This is what it is to be a pilgrim rather than a tourist, a participant rather than a spectator. Harvest Journeys is at the helm once again of another pilgrimage, this time with a wonderfully powerful French itinerary. Our journey will place us in the company of some of the great saints of the Church who continue to inspire and teach us about how accessible a life of holiness is. We will also encounter saints that influenced the beginning of the Church in New Zealand and perhaps learn from them more about the Church in this country. Right faith is a wonderful adventure - this pilgrimage promises to be a great opportunity for those able to join us." - Bishop John Adams



St Bernadette
Soubirous



St Margaret
Mary Alacoque



St Claude de la
Colombière



St John
Vianney



St Peter
Chanel



Sts Louis &
Zélie Martin



St Thérèse of
Lisieux



St Joan
of Arc



St Catherine
Labouré



St Vincent
De Paul

the genuine pilgrim experience

harvest
journeys



WHERE:

OUR LADY HELP OF
CHRISTIANS CHURCH FOYER,
CLINTON ST, FITZROY

WHEN:

WED 25TH FEB, 2026

AND EVERY 2ND AND 4TH WED
OF THE MONTH

*6.45PM: DOORS OPEN FOR
A WELCOME CUPPA

*7PM-8.15PM: GOSPEL
ENCOUNTER

ANY QUESTIONS?

NAME: Christina Chow
jp2padua2020@gmail.com

Jaime Cerda
jze012@gmail.com

THIS LENT, JOIN US FOR A GOSPEL ENCOUNTER

WHAT IT IS

A Gospel Encounter provides an opportunity for authentic encounter with Jesus through the Gospels and each other.

It fosters and encourages the habit of the ancient form of Christian prayer (lectio divina or daily mental prayer).

Please bring your Bible and check us out!



ST PIUS X



GALA DAY



15TH MARCH 11AM-2PM
120 BROOKLANDS RD

WHITE ELEPHANT, RAFFLE,
BOUNCY CASTLE, FACE PAINTING, FOOD STALLS,
CAKE STALL, DUNK THE SENIORS, ARTS & CRAFTS,
FUN GAMES, MYSTERY BOTTLE, ACTIVITIES, BOOKS,
BEAUTY CORNER, CANDY FLOSS & MUCH MORE!

EFTPOS AVAILABLE

150 Polish Celebration

An invitation to all Polish descendants to walk in the Taranaki Multi Ethnic Parade on Saturday March 7th down the Devon Street of New Plymouth on the Extravaganza Day.

In 1876, 150 years ago, the Ship Fritz Reuter arrived in New Zealand with families from Poland. You are invited to celebrate 150 years to honour your Polish ancestors.

There is a Polish Flag to carry and a placard to identify us as the descendants of the men and women from Poland who arrived 1876 to build the bridges for the road and railway line to Stratford, 150 years ago. These early Poles lived in Inglewood in punga huts and came with their love of God the Father and established the Catholic church in Inglewood. The men lived and worked in the bush cutting down the trees and clearing the land for the farms that we now have.

After the Parade please feel free to come to the race course to select the food you would like for lunch from the many stalls which will be preparing food from their different countries.

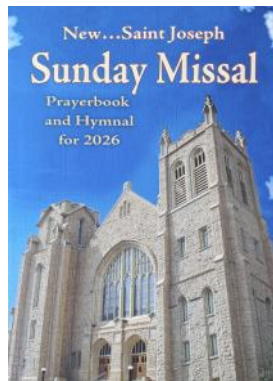
There are other stalls in the marquee where you will find the Polish stall.

For further information please contact, Martha, 7588802



SUNDAY MISSALS : We have for sale in the Parish Office the Year A Sunday Missal. This missal contains all the Sunday readings plus the Order of the Mass. This missal is very useful for those who take Communion to the sick or for lecturers (readers) in preparing for Mass because this Missal provides the full Order of the Mass allowing you to follow the liturgy closely and make responses even without the use of the screen. Just \$16. Come and have a look at a copy in the Parish Office.

We also have a limited supply of Columban Calendars left for sale in the Parish Office, so if you don't have your calendar yet, please contact the office. Just \$12.00



2026 DATE TO BE ADVISED

Unfortunately, we have had to postpone the February hikoi. We are working to secure a new date and will advise you as soon as one has been confirmed. However, we are still taking expressions of interest. Please see contact details below.

EMAIL:
BISHOP-PA@PNDIOCESE.ORG.NZ
WITH YOUR NAME, PARISH, AND
PHONE NUMBER.



Prayer Partner

This Lent, become a *40 Days for Life* **Prayer Partner** and spiritually unite with the global *40 Days for Life* movement to pray for an end to abortion and to bear witness to the dignity of every human person from conception - right where God has placed you. From Ash Wednesday (18 February) to Palm Sunday (29 March).

[For more information contact

Family Life International – 021 400 729 or simon@fli.org.nz]

Use the QR code to find the sign-up page:



CHRIS SKINNER



FUNDRAISING CONCERT

Proceeds to Forrestal Lodge

SUNDAY, APRIL 12TH • 2 P.M.

SACRED HEART CHURCH

STANDISH STREET, INGLEWOOD

Tickets available from Inglewood Hammer Hardware and Parish Office

Cost of ticket: **\$30**

Email: shparish@xtra.co.nz | Phone: 0274 519 112



GATHER FROM 1PM

at the bottom of Queen Street,
Te Komititanga Square

MARCH AT 2PM

up to Aotea Square.

**Did you know that New Zealand has one of the
most extreme abortion laws in the world?**

YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE!

You can march for life together with thousands of others, and speak up for those who cannot speak for themselves. March for life and show New Zealand that every life is precious. Enjoy a positive, family-friendly day with live music, inspiring speakers, and a community spirit.

VISIT [MARCHFORLIFE.NZ](https://marchforlife.nz)





NEW PLYMOUTH BUDGET ADVISORY SERVICE

FREE MANAGING YOUR MONEY COURSE



(Financial Literacy Course)

Free help is here, so you can take control of your money

TOPICS COVERED

- Managing debt
- Kiwisaver
- Weekly budgeting
- Living within your means
- Easy bank account systems
- Mortgages
- Insolvency
- Interest free loans
 - Nga Tangata Micro Finance
 - E funding and much more

THURSDAY 5th, 12th and 19th March 2026

At Community House, 32 Leach Street, New Plymouth

9.30am – 1.45pm

Cooking demonstration with recipes for morning tea and lunch (provided)

Go into the draw for a great food hamper if you attend all three sessions

Call Jos Merwood – Manager NP Budget Advice

Phone 0800 11 49 11 or 06 758 5996

or ph/text 027 31 94 358

or office@npbudget.co.nz.

Or private message on Facebook

[Check out our FB page](#)