

Parish Newsletter Pānui i te Pārihi

Catholic Parish of New Plymouth Te Parihi Katorika Ki Ngamotu

Sunday 5 October 2025

27th Sunday in Ordinary time



#### Dear Parishioners,

In 2018 I went to Christchurch for the 5 yearly national gathering of priests in New Zealand. It is a tremendous event for reconnection and revolves around some inspirational speakers. It was at this gathering that Fr James Mallon spoke about the changes that had happened in his parish in Halifax, Canada. I found it an uplifting example of how a parish can come alive by fully embracing its missional identity. Around the Western world parishes are struggling, and though I cannot speak for them, are probably in the same space I was in...what can be done? Fr James Mallon began Divine Renovation Ministry, an organisation that accompanies priests and lay leaders who desire to see their parish come to new life by providing them with the tools and coaching they need to lead their parish from maintenance to mission.

Four years ago, a group of us went to the Divine Renovation Conference in Sydney. We came back to New Plymouth realising that there is so much potential for new life in a parish when the primary focus is - *living a culture of mission and evangelisation*. There was already a stirring for more in the parish, and since the Sydney conference, the Holy Spirit has done things through us: launched a parish vision, teams of people are leading areas of parish life, an evangelisation structure - Alpha is thriving, and amazingly, the fragrance of the Holy Spirit is in the air when we gather on Sunday.

Instead of managing decline and maintaining the methods and practices that were best suited for a time in the Church's life that has since passed, parishes can live a culture of mission and evangelization. If you wish to learn more about Divine Renovation Ministry their website can be found at: <a href="https://divinerenovation.org">https://divinerenovation.org</a>. Please pray every day that our parish will be led by the Holy Spirit using the Prayer to the Holy Spirit cards in the church foyers.

I write ahead, to let you know that 24 of us are heading to the Hope and Renewal Summit in Palmerston North. 25 people from Waitara and Inglewood parishes are also attending. What will develop from this conference is an exciting prospect. Fr James Mallon will again be at this conference. Along with most of the bishops from New Zealand. The Holy Spirit is very real, and the mission of Jesus is as relevant as ever. I fully intend that our parish be won over to the dream of Pope Francis: "I dream of a missionary option ... that is, a missionary impulse capable of transforming everything, so that the Church's customs, ways of doing things, times and schedules, language and structures can be suitably channeled for the evangelisation of today's world rather than for her self-preservation." Pope Francis, Evangelii Gaudium. God bless, Fr Simon.

#### **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

#### **School Holidays**

have nearly finished Please check the weekday timetable for Monday 6 October onwards Page 4.

#### Saturday 4 October

Anointing Mass St Josephs Church 10.30am

#### **Sunday 5 October**

Celebration Sunday Remembering the life and works of Venerable Meri Hōhepa Suzanne Aubert

#### **Sunday 5 October**

Adoration Our Lady Help of Christians 3.00pm

#### Monday 6 October

Quiz Night to support Youth Group At The Good Home Ariki Street 7.00pm

#### **Tuesday 7 October**

Consultation meeting St Patrick's Okato Cognet Cottage 7.00pm

#### Sunday 12 October

Special Youth Mass
Feast Day of St Carlo Acutis
Patron Saint of
Illumini Youth Group
St Joseph's Church 5.30pm
St Carlo Acutis Video at
5.20pm prior to Mass

#### Sunday 19 October

Mission Sunday Special Collection After Communion

#### Sunday 19 October

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

#### **GENERAL NOTICES**

St Patrick's Church Okato

**Consultation Meeting with Parishioners** 

**Agenda** 

Subdivision of church land surrounding the church building

Tuesday 7 October 2025 7.00pm

**Cognet Cottage Okato** 



All Welcome



THE ROSARY: During October, the month of the Holy Rosary, our Syro Malabar Community is hosting each night, the praying the rosary around the Mother Mary Statue in various homes. Members of the Syro Malabar Community will join together each





night
in one of the 28 rostered homes. The only
days Rosary will not be
prayed in the home of a
member is Monday 6
October, when Rosary
will be prayed in the
church prior to the Syro

Malabar Mass and 27 October when The Celebration of the Rosary will be held at Mass. On Wednesday Fr Simon blessed the Mother Mary Statue, with Joby and Ebin our Syro Malabar Trustees, and Anu. Look too, for the Rosary lit up in the foyer of St Joseph's church.

For those who would like to make the Rosary part of their family life in October, we have in the Parish Office, rosary beads for sale (starting at \$2.00) and leaflets on how the pray the Rosary.

LAWNS AT ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH. For a number of year the lawns at St Joseph's church have been looked after by Lindsay, a generous volunteer. Lindsay is retiring from this service and we are looking for another volunteer who can help. We need someone to mow the lawns when necessary, and this is dictated by the growing season. This is the lawn in the middle of the carpark and the lawn in front of the office at St Joseph's.

We have a reliable lawn mower and a weed eater. We pay for the petrol and provide a green waste bin. If anyone would like to help in this way please contact the Parish Office, (06) 757 3682.

EMAIL SCAMS ARE ABOUT AGAIN: Please be on the

look out for email scams. Always check the sender's address carefully and never reply to suspicious emails. Do remember that our priests, parish and Diocesan staff will never text or email, you asking for more



will never text or email, you asking for money, iTunes cards, gift cards or the like. If you are ever in doubt about an email, don't respond to the email, but contact the person directly (eg by phone) to verify their identity, or contact the Parish Office. All email addresses for the clergy and staff are on the back page of the newsletter if you want to check. Report any spam messages if you can.

#### MISSION SUNDAY SPECIAL COLLECTION

**SUNDAY 19 OCTOBER:** We celebrate Mission Sunday on the 19 October when Catholics unite worldwide in prayer, solidarity, and support for the Church's missionary effort. Globally, a collection is taken up at Sunday Mass for the Pontifical Mission Societies to support Pope Leo's missionary endeavours.

Specially marked envelopes will be available with the newsletter 12 October. Those who donate by planned giving will have a white special collection envelope with their new envelopes. Alternatively, you can donate via online banking to The Catholic Parish of New Plymouth bank account 02 0630 0288002 03. Please include your name as the payee and use 'Missionz' as the reference and your planned giving number if you have one. And of course putting cash in the plate contributes as well.

Enter into the missionary spirit of Pope Francis, and now Pope Leo XIV:





- + Pray that we may be missionaries of hope among all people
- +Do what we can to help each other be missionaries of hope,
- +Give to the Pope's missionary endeavours through a donation.

#### FROM POPE LEO: THE OCTOBER INTENTION

For collaboration between different religious traditions.

Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice and human fraternity.

# Pope Leo urges Catholics to pray daily in October, the Rosary for

**Peace.** Catholics across the globe will unite to pray the Rosary for peace in war-torn lands, especially during the month of October, the month the Church dedicates to the



Last week 24 members of our Youth For Christ Group, from this parish travelled to Auckland for their annual National Conference at Camp Adair. With the theme "Anchored" (Matthew 28:8–10), and over 500 YFC participants from all around the country, the weekend was filled with faith, fellowship, and renewal. Each YFC region/area was encouraged to make a presentation and our YFC Taranaki had practiced well for their chorale, dance and spoken word performances, in praise of the Lord. Pictured above is our YFC Group and supporters.

#### **VENERABLE MERI HÖHEPA SUZANNE AUBERT:**

Suzanne Aubert, the foundress of the Daughters of Our Lady of Compassion has always been held in high esteem by the people of New Zealand, regardless of race or creed. Suzanne Aubert died 1 October 1926.



Celebration Sunday (this year 5 October) was established to commemorate and celebrate the life, spirituality and good works of Venerable Meri Hōhepa Suzanne Aubert. She lives on in the hearts and minds of New Zealanders and people throughout the world, as the process continues for the Catholic Church to recognise her as a holy person or saint. The campaign for the official recognition of Meri Hōhepa as a New Zealand saint goes on.

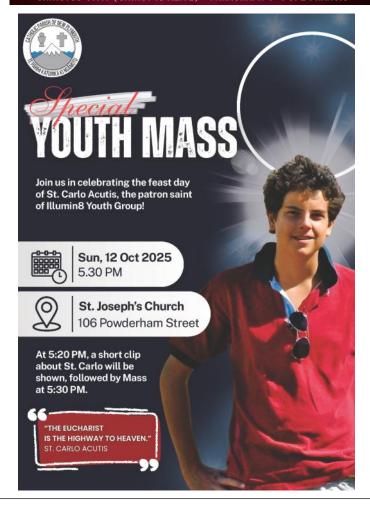
PRAYER FOR THE BEATIFICATION OF SUZANNE AUBERT Lord Jesus Christ, You taught us that as often as we show compassion to the least of our brothers and sisters, we show it to you. Hear our prayer that Venerable Meri Hōhepa Suzanne Aubert, who came to Aotearoa New Zealand to be with Māori, and dedicated her life to caring for those in poverty and in need, may soon be recognised by the Church as a saint. Amen

**FOODBANK:** In the newspaper this week we read of the dire need for extra food stocks at our local Foodbanks. We can help. Each Sunday the Foodbank collection baskets are in the church foyers, A simple donation, like a cake of soap will make a difference in someone's life.



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



We pray for our deceased family and friends: Peter Patten, Diane Healion, Maree Keegan, Alistar Simmers, Julie Mullin, Joan Bell, Patricia Thorn and Judy Scott.

OCT	WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH	
6 MON	8.00am	St Joseph's Church
7 TUES	8.00am 9.10am 12.05pm	St Joseph's Church Our Lady Help of Christians Church St Joseph's Church
8 WED	8.00am 9.10am	St Joseph's Church Our Lady Help of Christians
<b>9</b> THU	8.00am 9.50am 2.20pm	St Joseph's Church Sacred Heart Girls College Mary's Chapel Francis Douglas Memorial College
10 FRI	8.00am 12.05pm	St Joseph's Church St Joseph's Church
<b>11</b> 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)
<b>12</b> SUN	9.00am 10.30am 10.30am 5.30pm	St Joseph's Church Our Lady Help of Christians Church Nga Pekanga Cnr Bayley St & Princess Waitara 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 (06) 757 3682.

MORNING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH: Before morning Mass on Monday, Tuesday and Friday 7.40am & 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, but no Children's Liturgy this Sunday 5 October,

St Joseph's Church: Each Sunday at 9.00am Mass in the church foyer. If your child is very young and/or needs support to transition back into Mass please come out to help them.

LITTLE ANGELS MUSIC AND PLAY GROUP FOR PRESCHOOLERS at Our Lady Help of Christians, is breaking until Monday 13 October. For more details please contact Amelia musiccoordinator@catholicparishnp.nz

**QUIET YOUR HEART ~ Music with Kadisha** St Joseph's 11.00am to 11.30am and Our Lady Help of Christians Friday 9.30am to 10.00am.

#### SUNDAY READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

12 October 2025 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time

1ST READING: 2 Kings 5.14-17

**PSALM:** 98

2ND READING: 2 Tim. 2.8-13

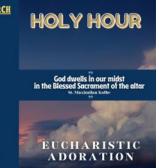
**GOSPEL:** Luke 17.11-19

Parish Office, 106 Powderham St,

#### **OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CHURCH** 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



#### **CONTACT US**

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.



#### STRATEGIC LEADER Giniva 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

#### WEEKLY DIOCESAN UPDATES

# for the Twenty-Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time 6 October to 11 October 2025

#### Support Life Sunday 2025: Pilgrims for Hope – Building a Culture of Love and Life

Each year, on the second Sunday of October, the Church in Aotearoa celebrates Support Life Sunday. As the New Zealand bishops reminded us in the 2023 document, Te Kahu o te Ora: "We do not need to look far to recognise that our world requires a lot of healing. All around us, we experience divisions that are the result of human behaviours and institutions."

Support Life Sunday 2025 provides an opportunity, within this year of Jubilee, to focus on how we can better support a culture of love and life through prayer and action. Find out more at https://catholic.org.nz/resource

#### Annual Mass to celebrate Jubilees of Priestly Ordination

Everyone is invited to the Mass which will be celebrated on Thursday, 23 October at 12.05pm in the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Palmerston North, with Bishop John Adams presiding.

Those celebrating Jubilees this year are:

- Fr Nathaniel Brazil (10years)
- Fr Brian Carmine (25 years)
- Fr Craig Butler (30 years)
- Fr Tom Lawn (50 years)
- Fr Bernard O'Donnell (50 years)
- Monsignor Brian Walsh (50 years)
- Fr John Dykes (60 years)

Congratulations and blessings to all our Jubilarians!

#### **Stay Informed on National Safeguarding efforts**

The National Office for Professional Standards (NOPS) is now publishing a quarterly newsletter with updates, resources, and information about the Church's safeguarding efforts. Read the latest issue at https://mailchi.mp/nops/an-update-on-safeguarding-across-aotearoa-new-zealand?e=[UNIQID]

#### Cardinal John Dew's Conclave Experience Sharing

The Conclave is one of the most secretive and sacred gatherings in the world. You are invited to join Cardinal John Dew – the only living New Zealander to have taken part in a Conclave – as he pulls back the curtain, speaking about his time at the Vatican earlier this year during the funeral of Pope Francis and then taking part in the Conclave that elected Pope Leo XIV.

The morning event takes place from 6:30am (with the presentation commencing at 7am) on Tuesday, 7 October at The Wellington Club (88 The Terrace, Wellington Central). There will be light breakfast nibbles, tea and coffee. Tickets are limited, and can be booked at <a href="https://www.trybooking.com/nz/YVJ">https://www.trybooking.com/nz/YVJ</a>

#### St Joseph's Parish and School Hawera | 150 Years

Registrations are still open for St Joseph's Parish & School Hawera 150 year Celebration which will be held 24 – 26 October 2025. Register at <a href="http://www.stjoeshawera150celebration.co.nz">http://www.stjoeshawera150celebration.co.nz</a> or by downloading the registration form and emailing to <a href="mailto:stjosephshawerajubilee@gmail.com">stjosephshawerajubilee@gmail.com</a>

#### Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College | Enrolment and Upcoming Webinar

Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College enrolment for Bachelor Degree and Graduate Diploma in Theology for Semester One 2026 will run from September 22 – November 21, 2025. Go to <a href="www.tekupenga.ac.nz/apply">www.tekupenga.ac.nz/apply</a> to enrol.

Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College invites everyone for the webinar on "Raising a Catholic family in the Third Millennium" with Cameron & Cheryl Surrey on Wednesday, October 8, 5 - 6pm on Zoom. To register, go to <a href="https://form.jotform.com/250418045698059">https://form.jotform.com/250418045698059</a>

#### Job Vacancy | Diocese of Christchurch

Holy Family Parish (Christchurch West) is hiring a <u>Director of Parish Life & Operations</u>

We are seeking a passionate <u>full-time leader</u> to help us lead, equip, and build a joyful, Christ-centred parish.

Do you have:

- Strong leadership & operational skills
- •A collaborative, coaching style
- Experience in multicultural or faith-based settings
   Deep alignment with Catholic mission & parish life

Enquire or apply with CV + cover letter: apply@holyfamily.nz

Applications close: 24 Oct 2025

#### **Diocesan Art Trail**

In this Year of Jubilee, and to celebrate the Jubilee of Artists that occurred in February, parishes across the Diocese of Palmerston North have been showcasing their sacred artwork for all to enjoy. Visit www.pndiocese.org.nz/ArtTrail to view the list of participating parishes and read some information on the various artworks you can admire around the diocese.

**LOCAL BODY ELECTIONS**: Voting in local body elections, including Māori Ward Referendums, opened 9 September 2025 and closes midday Saturday 11 October 2025. We have been asked to advise that if you have not received your voting papers in the mail by now contact the Council on (06) 759 6060. They will be able to help you.



## JOIN US FOR QUIZ NIGHT AND HELP TO FILL OUT HAMPERS TO SUPPORT OUR YOUTH!

At Quiz Night, we will also be hosting raffles, giving attendees the chance to win exciting prizes, including hampers.

Please help us by contributing various grocery items or making other donations.

You can bring your donations to <u>St Joseph's Church</u> this Sunday, 28 September, during Mass. Look for the designated box labelled "Illumin8 Youth Group" near the Youth Notice Board! On weekdays, please drop off grocery items at the Parish Office during office hours with Ireen, and refrain from leaving them in the Church to avoid items being stolen. Deadline: Tuesday, 29 September 2025 at 4:00 pm!!

In addition to grocery items, any donations towards this initiative would be greatly appreciated. Whether it's a box of chocolates, a coffee voucher, or even a trailer load of firewood, all contributions are welcome.

For any inquiries regarding the raffles, please reach out to **Michelle Schaare at mandschaare@gmail.com**.

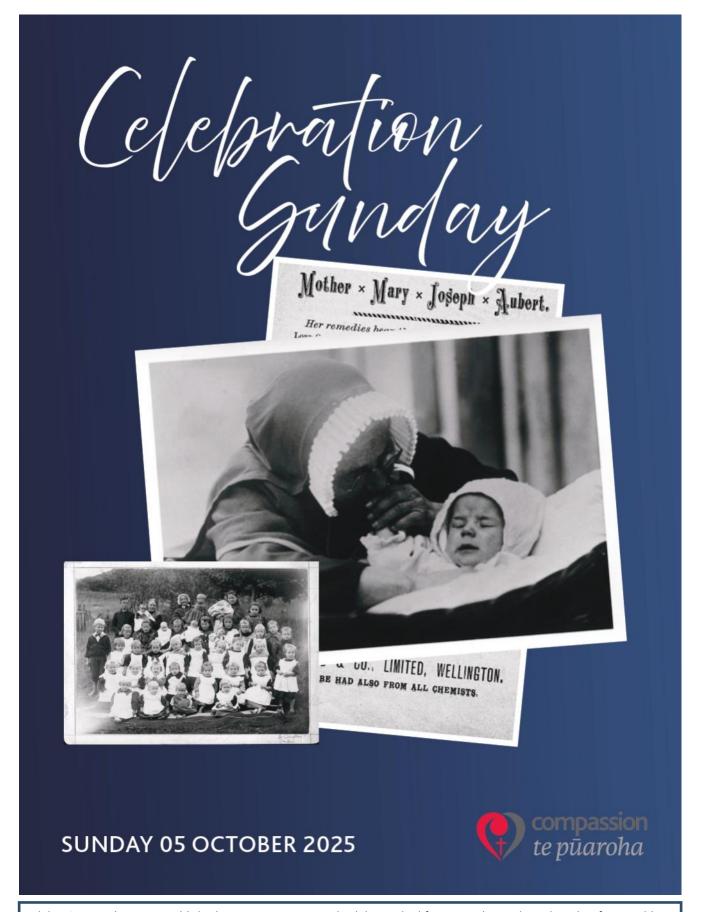
## Quiz Night!!!

- Day/date: Monday, 6 October 2025
- Time: Quiz starts at 7:00 PM
- Location: Good Home 21 Ariki Street
- Cost: \$10 per person
- The quiz team numbers are flexible and can range from 2 to 6 people. If you don't have a team, just come along! We will be making up teams on the night!

Reach out to Christina Hermanns at che@fdmc.school.nz to reserve your table.

# WILL YOU INVEST IN OUR YOUNG PEOPLE BY SUPPORTING THIS FUNDRAISING EVENT?

QUIZ NIGHT 6 OCTOBER 2025 7.00pm AT THE GOOD HOME ARIKI STREET NEW PLYMOUTH. COME ALONG AN SUPPORT OUR YOUTH



Celebration Sunday was established to commemorate and celebrate the life, spirituality and good works of Venerable Meri Hōhepa Suzanne Aubert who died 1 October 1926. The impact of Mother Aubert's kindness, wisdom and compassion is still felt across Aotearoa New Zealand, especially through the work of the Sisters of Compassion, and the wider Compassion Whanau, who strive to feed the hungry, give shelter to the poor, and take care of the vulnerable.

On this day, we are reminded of the legacy of this amazing woman and why we continue to pray for her beatification. We have a copy of "The Story of Suzanne Aubert" by Jessie Munro, if anyone would like to read more about Venerable Meri Hohepa Suzanne Aubert. Please contact the Parish Office

# BOOK FAIR

The Salvation Army New Plymouth 9, 10, 11 October 2025



EAST END SKATE RINK

Doors open 9am-6pm Thursday
9am-7pm Friday
9am-2pm Saturday

We will have eftpos and loads of bargains for everyone. Come along and support our work in the community. Phone **027 491 0012** for details.













# Sacred Heart Girls' College, New Plymouth

# **Alumni Association Event**

## 10am - 12pm Saturday 1 November

To celebrate the launch of the College's new Alumni Association, we are delighted to welcome former students and staff members on **Saturday 1 November** for a liturgy, tour of the school and Elizabeth House, morning tea plus the chance to learn more about the Alumni Association from its leaders.

When: 10am - midday, Saturday 1 November 2025 (All Saints' Day)

What: A liturgy will be held in the Mary Phelan Chapel, followed by school tours with current students and manaakitanga with a delicious morning tea provided by the PTFA. It will be a great chance to catch-up with former classmates and enjoy a special walk down-memory-lane!

How: RSVP at your earliest convenience please and by Wednesday 22 October at the latest.

- Simply email: <u>alumnishgc@gmail.com</u>
- · Attendance is \$20 per person with funds going to the SHGC PTFA
- Upon receipt of your RSVP, you will be sent bank account details for your payment.
   Thank you in advance.

Anyone who is a former student or staff from Sacred Heart Girls' College, Manawa Tapu, New Plymouth is very welcome to attend and are automatically Alumni. Please spread the word, and we look forward to seeing you there!