



Parish Newsletter Pānui i te Pārihi

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Emergency Phone 027 224 2100

EASTER SUNDAY 5 April 2026



Important Dates



**PARISH
PRIEST**



Fr Simon Story

Easter celebrates that: Jesus Christ is a living Person to be encountered, who through his death and Resurrection has set us free, and sent us into the world to make present the kingdom. A kingdom that changes lives.

Pope Francis "I invite all Christians, every where, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter you. I ask all of you to do this unfailingly each day. No one should think that this invitation is not meant for him or her, since "no one is excluded from the joy brought by the Lord". ... With a tenderness which never disappoints, but is always capable of restoring our joy, he makes it possible for us to lift up our heads and to start anew. Let us not flee from the resurrection of Jesus, let us never give up, come what will. May nothing inspire more than his life, which impels us onwards!"

The most astonishing truth is this: God wants to be your best friend! Friendship with God is built on knowing we are loved by Jesus the Lord, who wants the fullness of life for each of us. Through this friendship we discover our identity and purpose. God's purpose for your life predates your conception. He planned it before you existed. You were born by his purpose and for his purpose. Your life is part of a much larger cosmic design that God has for the world. When Jesus said "I am the resurrection and the life" he included you into all the possibilities this holds. Each of us is sent out into the world to change people's lives empowered by the Holy Spirit. This is our mission. It is the mission of Jesus.

Congratulations to the 9 people baptised at the Easter Vigil and the 8 people who were received into our parish family. Also, to the families who will celebrate baptism for their children on Easter Sunday. Happy Easter everyone! May we all experience the resurrection and the life, now and in eternity. Fr Simon

Monday 6 April
School Holidays week 1.
There will be no Masses in the schools and colleges this week.
Refer to page 8

Divine Mercy Sunday Devotion:

Our Lady Help of Christians Church
Sunday 12 April at 2.30pm. There will be Rosary and Exposition followed by the Chaplet at 3.00pm

2026 Alpha Programme.

Thursday 23rd April 6.00pm in St Joseph's Church Hall, Devon Street

Registration for Sacramental Programmes

Older Children's Baptism and First Communion close early next term See page 6

Older Children's Baptism

Sunday May 24th 1.30pm
Reconciliation
Friday July 31st 5.30pm
at St Joseph's Church

First Holy Communion

-**Option one** – Sunday 23rd August 10.30am
Our Lady Help of Christians.

-**Option two** – Sunday 30th August 9am
St Joseph's Church.

Temporary Office New Timings

Office to remain closed after 12 pm on Thursdays from 09th April 2026



May the miracle of Easter bring you renewed hope, faith, love and joy.

Happy Easter!



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



GENERAL NOTICES

Apostoli Viae (AV) Easter Gospel Encounter

You are all warmly invited! Experience the joy of the Risen Christ, coming Wednesday in an authentic encounter with Jesus through praying, reading and reflecting with the following Sunday's Gospel **The Road to Emmaus Luke 24:13-35** in a friendly, relaxed setting. He longs to open our eyes and to let His Words burn within us!

WHEN: Wed 8 April 2026 @ 7:00pm to 8:15pm.

Doors open @ 6.45pm for welcome cuppa and chat

WHERE: Our Lady Help of Christians Church foyer, Clinton St, Fitzroy.

Subsequent meetings are held every 2nd and 4th Wednesdays of the month.

Questions? Contact Christina

jp2padua2020@gmail.com or Jaime jzle012@gmail.com



USHER & WELCOMERS MINISTRY

Our Ushers and Welcomers are the friendly face of our parish, helping everyone who walks through our doors feel welcomed, respected, and included.

We're looking for parishioners who enjoy greeting others and offering simple, practical hospitality. With enough volunteers, you'll be rostered every 4-6 weeks with one other person and arrive at church by 8.30am on your Sunday at St. Joseph's Church.

If you're interested in joining this ministry, please contact Cushla Coleman at Coleman63@xtra.co.nz for more information, or leave your details at the Parish Office and Cushla will be in touch.

Volunteer Chaplain Assistants Wanted



Hospital Chaplaincy Aotearoa is seeking compassionate individuals interested in becoming Volunteer Chaplain Assistants (VCAs). VCAs serve at New Plymouth Base Hospital and Hāwera Hospital, offering a listening ear, encouragement, and pastoral and spiritual support to patients, their families, and hospital staff. This service is available to all people in the community, regardless of faith or background, and is carried out with care, cultural sensitivity, and kindness. Training is provided for suitable applicants, with a new programme beginning in April.

If you feel called to this meaningful volunteer role, we would love to hear from you.

Contact: 06 753 6139 ext. 7968 and ask to speak with Raymond McKie or Teresa Walton or email:

Louisa.Parker@tdhb.org.nz

DONATIONS AT THE END OF THE TAX YEAR: The tax year ended 31 March 2026 and tax receipts for parish donations will be issued during April with emailed and paper copy receipts available. If we have a current email address for donors, receipts will be emailed. If we do not have a current email address, paper copy tax receipts will be left in the appropriate church foyer. If you would rather have a paper copy tax receipt than an emailed receipt, please advise the Parish Office.



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.

BISHOPS' LENTEN APPEAL: The New Zealand Bishops are encouraging the Catholic community to prayerfully consider how they can contribute to the annual Lenten Appeal. The appeal supports the work of Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand, which through its global network serves some of our world's most vulnerable and needy communities. The Bishops explain that acts of Christian charity can change the lives of those who benefit from that charity, but also can transform those who give with generosity – according to their own circumstances. Find out more at www.caritas.org.nz/lent

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET is a devotion that was revealed by God to St Faustina in Cracow, Poland in the 1930s. During the pontificate of Pope John Paul II, St Faustina's countryman, the devotion was given a special place in the life of the church when he designated the Second Sunday of Easter as Divine Mercy Sunday. A novena leads up to this celebration.

Brochures for the novena, which is a private novena, beginning Good Friday, are available in the church foyers.

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY DEVOTION: The Divine Mercy devotion will be held at Our Lady Help of Christians church Sunday 12 April at 2.30pm. There will be Rosary and Exposition followed by the Chaplet at 3.00pm. The Veneration of the Image will follow, finishing at approx. 3.15pm. If a priest is available, Reconciliation will be celebrated during this time. Please come and learn about this devotion. Everyone is most welcome.

CWL HOME APPEAL FOR ALZHEIMERS:

The Catholic Women's League is having a stall after the 9.00am Mass at St Joseph's on Sunday 12th April.

Selling - knitted garments, baking, produce and preserves.

Please bring cash. Money raised to go to the National CWL At Home Appeal for Alzheimers.



**HOLY PLACES SPECIAL COLLECTION:
Good Friday Collection – 3 April 2026**

Each year, the Holy Father invites Catholics around the world to support the Good Friday Collection – a humble yet powerful gesture of solidarity with the Christian communities who continue to walk faithfully in the very places where Jesus lived, preached, died, and rose again.

Here in Aotearoa New Zealand, our contribution supports the upkeep of the Shrine Church in Cana, Galilee, as well as twenty university scholarships for students at Bethlehem University. Since 1342, the Apostolic See has entrusted the Franciscans as the guardians of the Holy Land, and funds from every nation is forwarded to the Franciscan Custody to assist with their essential pastoral, educational, and humanitarian work.

I hope that the collection of the coming Good Friday 2026 will be a concrete sign of solidarity from our local Church with the Church in the Holy Land, which today suffers more than ever because of the ongoing war in the Middle East. Your generosity helps sustain Christian families who are living through profound hardship and uncertainty, and it witnesses to our shared hope in Christ's peace.

Please give generously to this important collection in support of our brothers and sisters living in the land where our Lord ministered. Thank you in advance for your kindness and generosity again this year – it is deeply appreciated.

Specially marked donation envelopes are attached to the newsletter today. **Alternatively, donations may be made by direct credit to The Catholic Parish of New Plymouth, bank account 02 0630 0288002 03. Please include your name as the payee and use "Holy Places" as the reference and your planned giving number if you have one.** Bishop John Adams

Easter Sunday Dues – Special Collection, 5 April 2026

Many thanks to all parishioners who, in past years, have contributed to the Easter Dues / Offerings Special Collection. This collection supports the work of the Clergy Trust Fund, which assists our priests with the various costs associated with their ministry and personal well-being. The Fund is responsible for every aspect of caring for our priests, and they are deeply grateful for the generosity and ongoing support they receive from parish communities.

Specially marked donation envelopes are attached to the newsletter today. **Alternatively, donations may be made by direct credit to The Catholic Parish of New Plymouth, bank account 02 0630 0288002 03, using your name as the payee and "Dues" as the reference. Your support and kindness are always very much appreciated.**

Monsignor Brian Walsh, Chairman, Clergy Trust Fund

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUTH GROUP

**JOIN US FOR
GOOD FRIDAY –
VENERATION OF
THE CROSS
THROUGH MUSIC
AND SCRIPTURES
ON FRIDAY
3 APRIL (AFTER THE
PASSION OF THE
LORD'S SERVICE)
FROM 4:30 PM
TO 5:30 PM
AT ST. JOSEPH'S
CHURCH.**

**BY HIS
STRIPES
WE ARE
HEALED**
ISAIAH 53:5

**GOOD
FRIDAY**
VENERATION OF THE
CROSS
THROUGH MUSIC, MEDITATION,
REFLECTION, AND PRAYER

FRIDAY, 3 APRIL 2026
4:30PM - 5:30PM
ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH

SCHOOL HOLIDAYS TERM I

WE ARE ON BREAK

SEE YOU IN TERM 2

SHINE

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

Contact KAREN
youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz

ILLUMIN8

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

Contact SUSILO
youth@catholicparishnp.nz

Catholic Parish of New Plymouth

QUIZ NIGHT

**Illumin8 youth group
Teams of 6-8 people**

Monday 20 April @ 7pm | Doors open at 6pm | GoodHome bar Ariki Street

\$\$-RAFFLE TICKETS FOR SALE- BRING CASH-\$\$

\$10/PERSON

REGISTER YOUR TEAM

che@fdmc.school.nz

WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Dennis Walsh, Judy Scott, Fr. Don Campbell, Norma Charteris, Adam Adamski, Micheal Mruzeki, Felicity Woodfield, Ngarie McDonald, Brian Ford, and Margaret O'Connell



Explore Life Faith Meaning

**THIS IS YOUR
INVITATION.**

Alpha starts on
Thursday, 23 April 2026
6 pm to 8 pm
St Joseph's Church Hall

WHAT IS ALPHA?

Alpha is a 10-week programme that creates a space where people of all ages, backgrounds, and cultures. Come together to discuss life, faith, and Jesus.

- Connect with new people in our parish**
- Enjoy a meal and a meaningful conversation**
- Watch an episode on topic of faith**
- Ask questions and share your thoughts**

SCAN HERE



SIGN UP →

EVERYONE IS WELCOME!

alphateam@catholicparishnp.nz

www.catholicparishnp.nz/alpha/

The Catholic Parish of New Plymouth is excited to announce the launch of the 2026 Alpha Programme. Starting Thursday 23rd April 6.00pm in St Joseph's Church Hall Devon Street, the Alpha Programme will run for 10 weeks, offering an opportunity for individuals to explore the big questions of life, faith, & meaning in a welcoming and non-judgmental setting.

Alpha is an worldwide Christian series where participants explore topics like "Who is Jesus?" and "How can we have faith?" in a relaxed and friendly environment. Whether you're new to the Christian faith or have had a lifelong belief, Alpha provides an opportunity to ask questions, share thoughts, and engage in open discussion. Each session is designed to encourage community, and everyone is welcome, regardless of where they are on their faith journey. There is a simple format to the Alpha night. We start with a meal which the parish provides, followed by the Alpha video, then discussion about the video, and anything else that arises, in small groups - the same group each week. The evening finishes at 8.00pm.

The Alpha Programme offers an accessible way to invite people into a deeper relationship with God and with one another. We invite everyone to join us for this exciting journey of discovery, transformation, and renewal. Scan the QR code above or visit <https://www.catholicparishnp.nz/alpha/>




ALPHA IS FOR EVERYONE

PLEASE PRAY ASKING THE HOLY SPIRIT WHO YOU COULD INVITE TO
ALPHA



SHGC GROTTTO MOVIE FUNDRAISER

Sacred Heart College is raising funds to help return the historic Mission Sisters' Grotto back to the college. Built in 1907 on the grounds of the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions Convent, the Grotto still stands in its original location but has recently been gifted back to the College. Our school community is now working to raise the funds needed to return this treasured piece of our heritage back home.

 23 April  6.30pm  Events Cinema

Tickets are available and are priced @ \$15/- for Students and \$20/- for Adults from the school office (06 758 5023 or by emailing:

Wendy Mulligan – wmu@shgenp.school.nz

Amelia Luke – alu@shgenp.school.nz

About the film:

'Holy Days' is a warm, gently humorous Kiwi road-trip story about a grieving boy who travels with three unconventional nuns, exploring themes of faith, loss, and belonging.

★ Age rating: Family-friendly (generally suitable for ages 8–10+).

Defibrillator Installed: We are pleased to inform parishioners that a **new defibrillator** has been installed in the kitchenette **at St Joseph's Church** foyer. This was made possible from generous donors. If your heart stops; we can help!!!




Prayer Retreat for Women

1 days, 2 nights

"At the root of prayer is a relationship of love."
St Teresa of Avila


Fri 15 May 6pm - Sun 17 May 3pm
Magnificat Retreat Centre | Featherston

Limited Spaces | Bookings essential
Earlybird \$275pp | Standard \$320pp
includes accommodation & meals

For more information and to register
<https://www.trybooking.com/nz/BBMC>



TAKE COURAGE! I HAVE OVERCOME THE WORLD
JOHN 16:33


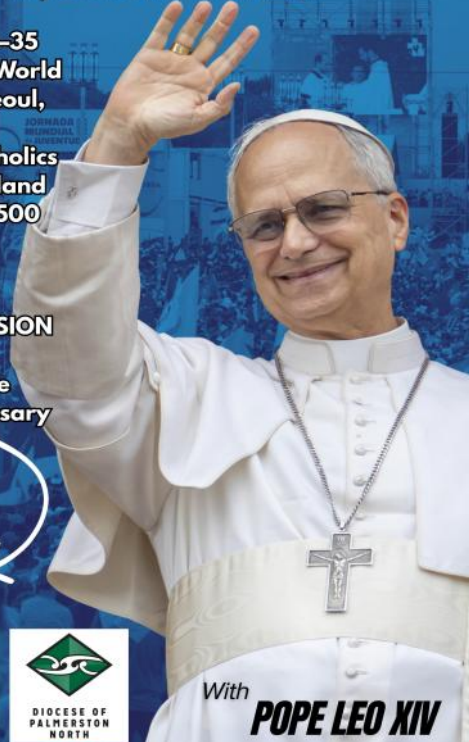


WORLD YOUTH DAY


3 - 8 AUGUST 2027 SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

Young adults aged 18–35 are invited to attend World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul, South Korea, where millions of young Catholics will gather. New Zealand bishops aim to bring 500 young people.

Scan the QR code to complete the **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST** form, allowing us to provide you with all the necessary information.

With **POPE LEO XIV**




CPNP AND ILLUMIN8 

EASTER EGG HUNT

CHILDREN AGED 4 - 8

JOIN US FOR A DELIGHTFUL EASTER EGG HUNT FILLED WITH FUN!
PLEASE NOTE THAT CHILDREN MUST BE ACCOMPANIED BY THEIR PARENTS.

SUNDAY, 5 APRIL AFTER 9AM MASS

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH



Sacramental Preparation Parent Information Evening

Last week we held an information evening for parents where Karen, our Young Family's Minister and Susilo, our Youth Minister explained how preparation works in our parish for Older Children's Baptism, Reconciliation and First Communion and Confirmation. Our main messages from the evening were that we feel that as parents you are your child's first teachers of faith and the absolute best people to make sure your children are prepared physically, mentally and spiritually to receive the sacraments. And our team here at the parish are here to support you along the way in several ways.



Key dates to keep in mind and were discussed with the parents

Older Children's Baptism
Sunday May 24th 1.30pm
Reconciliation
Friday July 31st 5.30pm at
St Joseph's Church

First Holy Communion
-Option one – Sunday 23rd August 10.30am
Our Lady Help of Christians.
-Option two – Sunday 30th August 9am
St Joseph's Church

Older Children's Baptism
Older Children Baptism
REGISTER HERE

Sacramental Programme 2026
 "Christ is in the Father by reason of his divine nature, we are in him by reason of his human birth, and he is in us through the mystery of the sacraments."
 St. Hilary, bishop
 youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz
 www.catholicparishnp.nz

1st Reconciliation
1st Holy Communion,
REGISTER HERE

Reconciliation First Holy Communion

At the parent evening, Fr. Simon invited parents to the Alpha programme.

Alpha is a relaxed, welcoming series of sessions in which people explore the big questions of life and faith together. Each session includes food, a short video, and an open conversation where everyone can share their thoughts in a friendly, pressure-free environment.

Alpha is especially helpful for parents who may not be Catholic, who feel unsure about their own faith, or who

simply want to understand better what their children are learning. It creates a space where you can ask questions, rediscover faith, and connect with other parents who may be on a similar journey.

Many parents find that Alpha helps them grow in confidence, deepen their understanding of Christianity, and feel more equipped to support their children's sacramental journey. If you missed the parent evening and want to know more about these Sacraments for your children, then please get in touch as registrations close early next term.



Creating a Culture



of Safeguarding

What is Safeguarding?

Safeguarding means creating a safe environment where everyone feels valued and respected. Pope Francis has highlighted that the Catholic Church must take steps to protect children, youth, and vulnerable adults, addressing their needs with care and fairness.

Why Everyone Should Participate in the Safeguarding Course?

Attending safeguarding workshops is **mandatory** for all those who work with children, young people, and vulnerable adults, whether as a volunteer or a worker in any parish or ethnic community, as mandated by the National

Office for Professional Standards. We encourage everyone involved with children, youth, and vulnerable adults to participate in these safeguarding workshops. Here are some roles that should attend:

- Altar Server Trainers
 - Children's Liturgy of the Word Leaders
 - Choir Leaders (including both; children's and general choirs)
 - Ministers of Holy Communion to the sick and housebound
 - Pastoral Visitors
 - Parent Helpers/Chaperones for youth groups and camps
 - Parish visitors
 - RCIA Catechists
 - Sacramental Preparation Catechists/Leaders/Coordinators
 - Sacristans
 - Sunday School Teachers
 - Youth Ministry Leaders
- Others involved in pastoral work with children, youth, or vulnerable adults



When is the Course?

The Catholic Parish of New Plymouth will hold a Safeguarding Course on Thursday, 16 April 2026, from 7:00 pm to 8:30pm at St Joseph's Church Hall followed by tea and biscuits.

How to Confirm Your Attendance?

Please confirm your attendance by emailing us at office@catholicparishnp.nz or communicationslead@catholicparishnp.nz. You can also call us during office hours at 06 757 3682.

We look forward to seeing you there and working together to keep our parish family safe. Thank you for your cooperation and commitment to safeguarding!



Easter Message

Dear Parishioners,
Christ is risen! Alleluia!

As we celebrate Easter, we do so in the midst of real and pressing challenges – rising costs of living, loneliness among many, uncertainty about the future, and a deep longing for peace in our world. In such times, the resurrection of Jesus Christ is not just a past event, but a living source of hope. It reminds us that no darkness is permanent and no struggle is without meaning when God is with us.

As a parish community, we are called not only to rejoice in the resurrection but also to become true disciples who share this Good News with others. Like the first disciples who ran from the empty tomb to proclaim what they had seen, we too are sent out – to our families, friends, and all those we encounter – to spread the hope and joy of the risen Lord. Our words, our actions, and our way of life should reflect the living presence of Christ within us.

Let us hold on to the words of the angel: *“But the angel said to the women, ‘Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus Christ who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay (Mt 28:5-6).* May this promise strengthen our faith and inspire us to live as joyful witnesses of the resurrection.

Wishing you and your loved ones a blessed and joyful Easter!

God Bless

Fr Sobin Sebastian

APR	WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE SECOND SUNDAY OF THE MONTH	
6 MON	8.30am	St Joseph's Church
7 TUE	8.00am	St Joseph's Church
	9.10am	Our Lady Help of Christians
8 WED	8.00am	St Joseph's Church
	9.10am	Our Lady Help of Christians
9 THU	8.00am	St Joseph's Church
	9.10am	Our Lady Help of Christians
10 FRI	8.00am	St Joseph's Church
	12.05pm	St Joseph's Church
11 SAT	8.30am	St Joseph's Church
	5.30pm	Our Lady Help of Christians (Vigil Mass)
	6.00pm	St Patrick's Okato
12 SUN	9.00am	St Joseph's Church
	10.30am	Our Lady Help of Christians Church
	10.30 am	Nga Pekanga (Cnr Bayly St and Princess St Waitara)
	5.30pm	St Joseph's Church

Holy Week 2026 Liturgy Times

HOLY THURSDAY 2 APRIL 2026

Morning Prayer St Joseph's Church 8.30am
(There are no morning Masses on this day)

MASS OF THE LAST SUPPER

St Joseph's Church 7.00pm
We follow in procession from Mass to the hall where we have Adoration until Night Prayer at 9.00pm

GOOD FRIDAY: 3 APRIL 2026

Morning Prayer St Joseph's Church 8.30am

PASSION OF THE LORD

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH 3.00pm
OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS 3.00pm
BELL BLOCK CATHOLIC CENTRE 3.00pm
ST. PATRICK'S CHURCH OKATO 2.00pm

HOLY SATURDAY 4 APRIL 2026

Morning Prayer St Joseph's Church 8.30am

EASTER VIGIL MASS 4 APRIL 2026

St Joseph's Church 7.00pm

EASTER SUNDAY 5 APRIL 2026

St Joseph's Church 9.00am

Our Lady Help of Christians 10.30am

Bell Block Catholic Centre 10.30am

There is no VIGIL MASS at St Patrick's Okato Saturday 4 April or at Our Lady Help of Christians Saturday 4 April and No 5.30pm evening Mass at St Joseph's Sunday 5 April

MORNING PRAYER during the Tridium 8.30am

Thursday, Friday and Saturday at St Josephs Church.
8.10am Easter Monday but every other Monday and Tuesday its 7.40am as usual.

NIGHT PRAYER 9.00pm in the hall Holy Thursday 2nd April.

SUNDAY READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

Second Sunday of Easter 12 April 2026

1ST READING: Acts 2.42-47

PSALM: 118

2ND READING: 1 Peter 1.3-9

GOSPEL: John 20.29



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

**PLEASE NOTE THE OFFICE WILL BE CLOSED ON
GOOD FRIDAY AND EASTER MONDAY**

PRIESTS:

Fr. Simon Story simon@catholicparishnp.nz

Tom Lawn tom@catholicparishnp.nz

Fr. Sobin sobin@catholicparishnp.nz

Fr. Sobin Sebastian Phone 027 255 8097

STRATEGIC LEADER Giniya

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OFFICE ADMINISTRATION Ireen

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COMMUNICATIONS LEAD Russell

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YOUNG FAMILIES MINISTER Karen

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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



For updates on parish, diocese,
and national events.



Catholic Parish of New Plymouth



HOLY WEEK & EASTER LITURGIES

Catholic Parish of New Plymouth



Holy Thursday - 2nd April

Morning Prayer at St. Joseph's Church	8.30am
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MASS OF THE LAST SUPPER

St Joseph's Church	7.00pm
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Adoration at the Altar of Repose with Night Prayer 9:00pm

Good Friday - 3rd April

Morning Prayer at St. Joseph's Church	8.30am
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THE LORD'S PASSION

St Joseph's Church	3.00pm
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Veneration of the Cross with Music and Reflection for young people	4:30pm to 5:30pm
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Our Lady Help Christians	3.00pm
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Bell Block Catholic Centre	3.00pm
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St Patrick's Okato	2.00pm
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Holy Saturday - 4th April

St Joseph's Church

Morning Prayer	8.30am
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EASTER VIGIL MASS @ St. Joseph's Church	7.00pm
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Only Mass on this Day

EASTER SUNDAY - 5th April

St Joseph's Church	9.00am
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Our Lady Help of Christians Fitzroy	10.30am
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Bell Block Catholic Centre	10.30am
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WEEKLY DIOCESAN UPDATES

for Palm Sunday
30 March – 5 April 2026

Mission Hub – The Holy Spirit at the Heart of Mission

We are excited to welcome Bishop John Adams as our first guest speaker at Mission Hub this April. In this special session, Bishop John will reflect on “The Holy Spirit at the Heart of Mission,” inviting us to rediscover how the Holy Spirit continues to guide, inspire, and empower the Church in her mission today. Together, we will explore how we can grow in openness to the Spirit’s movement in our own lives and be renewed in our call to share the Gospel.

Mission Hub is a monthly online gathering that brings people together from across the country to learn, pray, reflect, and be encouraged in mission. It’s a wonderful opportunity to deepen your faith and be inspired by others seeking to follow Christ.

Monday 13 April

7.00–8.30pm (NZ time)

Online Everyone is welcome and invited to register here: <https://bit.ly/apr13zoom>

Job Vacancy – Parish Secretary/Coordinator (Part Time)

St Brigid’s Parish, Feilding has a vacancy for a secretary/coordinator – 16 hours per week. We are looking for a person who has had at least five years’ office related experience, along with good communication and office computer skills. Familiar with MS Office, Gmail and preferably some hands-on experience with accounting and payroll packages – ideally Xero and MYOB.

This role provides parish administration support to the clergy and parish and is based in Feilding. Experience in a similar small group position would be an advantage. For further information please email stbrigidsfeilding@gmail.com

Applications should include a Curriculum Vitae and be marked Private and Confidential, either email to the office or post to: Father Trung, St Brigid’s Parish, 4 Monmouth Street, FEILDING 4702. Applications close on 14 April 2026 at 4pm.

Pilgrimage to Rangiatea | 18 April 2026

Education for Ministry have organised a pilgrimage to Waikanae and Rangiatea on 18 April, guided by Matua Rangi Nicholson. Please register your interest with educationforministrynz@outlook.com by Wednesday 16 April.

Job Vacancy – Palmerston North Hospital Chaplain

The Diocese is looking for a new person to continue this critical ministry. Chaplains offer compassionate presence through bedside visits, prayer, communion, and arranging priest visits when requested. They also work with multidisciplinary teams to support holistic care for all people, regardless of background or belief.

Applicants with chaplaincy or pastoral care experience and relevant qualifications are preferred. Visit <https://www.seek.co.nz/job/90953924> for a detailed job description.

Joshua Catholic Men’s Fellowship – 40th Anniversary The Joshua Catholic Men’s Fellowship will hold its 40th anniversary celebration on 14–16 August. Further information and registration details are available at <https://menforchrist.wufoo.com/forms/joshua-40th-anniversary-celebration-rotorua>

Prophetic Intercession Training

Chevalier Cyril John from the CHARIS International Intercession Commission will be in Auckland to lead a two-day formation on Prophetic Intercession. Cyril John has spent many years teaching and forming intercessors around the world.

Intercession is urgently needed in our Church and communities, and all who feel called to this ministry are encouraged to attend. The training will be held 11–12 May 2026 at Christ the King Church, Mt Roskill. Registrations are now open: <https://prophetic-intercession-training-with-cyril-john.lilregie.com>

Pilgrimage to Rangiataea | 18 April 2026

Education for Ministry have organised a pilgrimage to Waikanae and Rangiataea on 18 April, guided by Matua Rangī Nicholson. Please register your interest with educationforministrynz@outlook.com by Wednesday 16 April.

VACANCY – CHIEF FINANCE OFFICER

The Diocese of Christchurch is seeking an experienced and forward-thinking Chief Finance Officer (CFO) to lead a passionate and committed team and contribute meaningfully to the strategic direction of the Catholic Diocese of Christchurch.

We invite applications from leaders who share the Diocese's sense of purpose, who value meaningful work, and who are energised by contributing to a mission driven organisation. For more information, or to apply, email applications@cdoc.nz. **Applications close at 9.00pm on Apr 12.**

Vatican II Deep Dive – Online Formation

After the first Diocesan Hubs in Palmerston North and Hastings, the conversation continues online through Vatican II Deep Dive.

In April we will reflect on selected passages from Sacrosanctum Concilium, the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, exploring how the Church's teaching on the liturgy shapes our understanding of worship and parish life.

Sessions: Wednesday 15 April, 7:00–8:45pm Wednesday 29 April, 7:00–8:45pm Join us online. To register: bit.ly/deepdiveapr26

Prayer Retreat for Women | Magnificat Retreat Centre, Featherston

All women are warmly invited to a Prayer Retreat for Women, a weekend to step away from daily life and grow in prayer. The retreat includes talks exploring the meaning of prayer, why we pray, and how to deepen our prayer through humility, along with time for personal prayer, Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, and spiritual direction.

The retreat begins with dinner at 6pm Friday 15 May and concludes 3pm Sunday 17 May after the final session and Rosary. To register: <https://www.trybooking.com/nz/BBMC>

Rebuild My Church | Dr Mary Healy

In June, internationally renowned Catholic theologian Dr Mary Healy will be in Hamilton for a three-day formation series, (June 9–11) exploring the power of God's Word, the life of the Holy Spirit, and our call to live our faith today.

Known around the world for her engaging teaching on Scripture and the Holy Spirit, Dr Healy helps people hear God's voice more clearly and grow in confidence in the gifts He gives for the building up of the Church. Full details and registration are available at <https://www.eventzilla.net/e/rebuild-my-church--dr-mary-healy-2138676397>

World Youth Day 2027 | Seoul, South Korea

Young adults aged 18 – 35 are invited to attend WYD27, where millions of young Catholics will gather. The NZ bishops aim to bring 500 young people.

Fill out the expression of interest form at

https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScfUWcTPgzxxtwIH86NPEhHqvdt2scpc1nkj_4WjzGrbx4WKQ/viewform

Diamond Jubilee - The Catholic Parish of Wellington South

All former and current parishioners are invited to a celebration of several historical milestones on Sunday, 19 April 2026. The first Catholic church, St Francis de Sales Church, Island Bay, was built in 1906, 120 years ago, and the current church was blessed and opened on 17 April 1966, 60 years ago.

The weekend of celebration will also acknowledge 100 years since the opening of the St Madeleine Sophie primary school, the forerunner of the current primary school of St Francis de Sales. A special Mass of remembrance and thanks featuring past and present priests will be followed by a lunch at the Pines Cabaret, Houghton Bay.

Registrations of interest are welcomed by providing contact details at: office@wellingtonsouthcatholic.org

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.

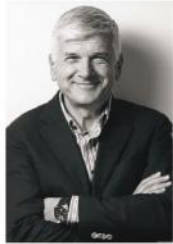
For details and bookings: NZ Free Call: 0800 819 156 or visit www.harvestjourneys.com/pv2659

JOSHUA 40

CATHOLIC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

CELEBRATION WEEKEND

14 - 16 AUGUST 2026
KESWICK CHRISTIAN CAMP
5 COOPER AVE, HOLDENS BAY, ROTORUA



KEYNOTE SPEAKER
ROBERT FALZON
LEADER OF AUSTRALIA'S menALIVE
AUTHOR 'Importance of a present dad'

ALL MEN WELCOME
FRIDAY PM TO SUNDAY MIDDAY
MEALS & ACCOMMODATION INCLUDED
Contact: Mike Lobo 021 280 9285
Greg Sullivan 021 437 747

SPACES ARE LIMITED
BOOK IN EARLY TO AVOID
DISAPPOINTMENT
SCAN THE QR CODE:



<https://menforchrist.wufoo.com/forms/joshua-40th-anniversary-celebration-rotorua>



PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SEMINARIANS



Sy Nguyen
Sy came to New Zealand from Vietnam in 2025 and is now in his second year at the seminary



Zecharia Mathew
Zecharia is from Auckland and joined our diocese this year



Hung Nguyen
Hung is from Vietnam and is in his first year at the seminary.



Dung (Zung) Phan
Dung is from Vietnam. He has been in New Zealand for about six years and is currently on his pastoral placement in Feilding, Taihape, and Ohakune



Rodney Rebecca
Rodney was a Trappist monk for 20 years and has spent several years at Kopua Monastery. He is now training to become a priest for our diocese

For enquiries or to support our seminarians, please contact:
Fr Trung Nguyen
Phone: 022 062 6726
Email: vocations@pndiocese.org.nz

DIocese OF PALMERSTON NORTH
2026

REGISTRATION IS OPEN

Chevalier Cyril John

CHARIS INTERNATIONAL INTERCESSION COMMISSION



CHARIS
NEW ZEALAND
Aotearoa

Cyril will be in NZ
for two days.

Teaching and Training on
Prophetic Intercession

Date 11th and 12th May 2026
Times Monday 11th: 6 pm to 9 pm
Tuesday 12th: 10 am to 9:30 pm

Venue Christ the King Church
Mt Roskill
Auckland

Amazing opportunity for all.



For enquiries contact Vanessa Nathan
021 143 3703 or email
maranatha.jvz@gmail.com

Registration \$20.00

MAY 2026 • A NEW ZEALAND CATHOLIC PILGRIMAGE

18
DAYS

Lourdes to Lisieux

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



Accompanied by
Bishop John Adams

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)



"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



The genuine pilgrim experience

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