



Parish Newsletter Pānui i te Pārihi

106 Powderham St, PO Box 32, New Plymouth

Phone (06) 757 3682 | 9am to 4pm

office@catholicparishnp.nz

www.catholicparishnp.nz

Emergency Phone 027 224 2100



9th August 2026 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Braden's Visit to New Plymouth Parish

New Plymouth Parish was blessed to welcome Braden, who shared a powerful testimony on his journey to faith and with Jesus. Before beginning his talk, Braden took time to personally interact with parishioners and young people, creating a warm and welcoming atmosphere. His genuine interest in meeting members of the parish community helped build personal connections and set the tone for an inspiring evening.

As part of his visit to Taranaki, Braden also spent time at **Francis Douglas Memorial College** and **Sacred Heart Girls' College**, where he engaged with students and shared aspects of his faith journey. His message encouraged many young people to reflect on their relationship with God and the role of faith in their daily lives.

Throughout the programme at St. Joseph's Church, **The Mustard Seeds** beautifully accompanied the gathering with uplifting worship music, helping to prepare hearts for reflection and prayer. Braden's story of faith, challenges, and God's grace resonated deeply with those present, encouraging many to reflect on their own spiritual journeys.

The evening was further enriched by a time of **Eucharistic Adoration**, reverently led by **Fr. Sobin**. This provided an opportunity for parishioners to spend quiet time in prayer and encounter Christ in a special way. Together, Braden's testimony, the worship music, and Adoration made for a meaningful and faith-filled experience for all who attended. Braden's visit left a lasting impression on both the parish community and the young people he met, reminding everyone of the transformative power of faith, authentic witness, and prayer.



Braden seen here with the Ministry Team

Important Dates

Adoration

St Joseph's Church
Every Thursday
Adoration and
Reconciliation 7.00pm

9th August 2026

Prayer Ministry
after 9.00am Mass
at St Joseph's Church
and 10.30am OLHC
Mass

Sunday, 16th August

First Holy Communion
St. Pius X School Mass
St Joseph's Church
9.00am

Sunday, 16th August

Solemnity of the
Assumption of the
Blessed Virgin Mary
9.00am

(See date transfer
details on Pg 2)

Sunday, 16th August

Rosary at 10:30 after
9:00 am mass at St.
Joseph's church
followed by walk to
SHGC's Grotto

Friday, 21st August

Christian Life Program
St Joseph's Church Hall
6.30pm

Saturday, 22nd August

Anointing Mass
Bell Block Catholic
Centre 9.30am

Sunday, 23rd August

First Holy Communion
Our Lady Help
of Christians 10.30am

First Reconciliation Celebration at St. Joseph's Church

On 31 July, St. Joseph's Church celebrated the First Reconciliation of our young parishioners, an important milestone in their faith journey. Surrounded by family, catechists, and the parish community, the children received God's mercy, forgiveness, and love through the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time.

We warmly congratulate all the children who celebrated their First Reconciliation and pray that they will continue to grow in faith, hope, and love, deepening their friendship with Jesus each day. May they always trust in God's mercy and be guided by His grace throughout their lives.

Following a prayerful and grace-filled celebration, families and parishioners gathered in fellowship to share in the joy of the occasion. We congratulate all the children and pray that they continue to grow in faith and friendship with Jesus.

We extend our sincere thanks to Karen, our Young Families Minister, the catechists, hospitality team, and everyone who worked behind the scenes to make this special day a memorable and blessed celebration for our parish community.

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

JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP: The Justice and Peace group will be meeting in the Nagamotu Room Parish house from 5:45 until 6:45 on Monday evening, August 10th. Now that we have finished our reading of the Papal exhortation, Dilexi Te, one of our projects is to be sure that everyone who is eligible to vote is registered on the roll before the October 25th cut-off date. Come along and help us with this and our other projects aimed at living the Church's Social Justice teaching.



Am I eligible to vote in the New Zealand Government Elections?

You're eligible to enrol and vote if you are 18 years or older, a New Zealand citizen or resident for electoral purposes, and you've lived in New Zealand continuously for 12 months or more at some time in your life.

You're a resident for electoral purposes if you're living in New Zealand lawfully and you're not required to leave within a specified time.

If you are 17 years old you can fill out the enrolment form now.

Are you enrolled to vote? How can you find out if you are on the roll?

Go to <https://vote.nz/enrolling/enrol-or-update/enrol-or-update-online> or phone 0800 36 76 56



Common Grace Aotearoa

Common Grace Aotearoa is a movement of individuals, Churches and communities pursuing Jesus and justice together for the nourishing of all people and all creation.

Justice and Peace are offering the second of three Common Grace Aotearoa sessions about "Thriving in this land." The topics covered this session on The Treaty: Exploring the Christian legacy of the Clapham Sect and the connections that led to the formation of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Detailing the journey of the Crown-Māori relationship since the establishment of the Waitangi Tribunal and reflecting on where the relationship is at now.

Join us to learn more about this important topic Saint Joseph's supper Room **12:30 Sunday August 16th.**



Would you like prayer? for yourself, family, or someone else?

PRAYER MINISTRY

will be available after Mass on
SUNDAY 9TH AUGUST

ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH
after 9:00am Sunday Mass
after 5:30pm Sunday Mass



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS CHURCH
after 10:30am Sunday Mass

AV GOSPEL ENCOUNTER

Every alternate Wednesdays, Jaime and Christina warmly welcome you to an authentic encounter with Jesus Christ through prayerful reflection on the Sunday Gospel reading. Not a Bible study but a time away from the busyness of life, allowing space for the Holy Spirit to teach, to speak Truth, breathe Life and nourish our hearts through the Word. No prep needed!

Next Gospel Encounter:

Wed 12 Aug 2026

Our Lady Help of Christians church foyer.

23 Clinton St, Fitzroy.

7.00pm to 8.15pm

(Doors open for welcome cuppa & cookie @6.45pm)



FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY:

This year, the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, a Holy Day, falls on Saturday 15 August. In New Zealand, the bishops have transferred this celebration to Sunday 16 August. Parishes will not be celebrating the Feast day on Saturday morning or holding a Vigil Mass on Friday evening. This means the usual 8.30am Saturday morning Mass at St Joseph's Church that day will be for Saturday of the 19th Week in Ordinary Time. The readings for the Saturday Vigil Masses 15 August and the Sunday Masses 16 August will be those for the Solemnity of The Assumption.

ROADWORKS: We have been advised that the closure of Devon Street and Robe Street will continue until the end of August. Robe Street will not be accessible from Powderham Street. This will affect parking, and access to parking in those areas for those attending Mass at St Joseph's.

ANOINTING MASS @ BELL BLOCK CATHOLIC CENTRE, 22nd August will be celebrated at 9.30am followed by morning tea. Everyone is welcome. Fr. Sobin will anoint rest home residents after morning tea.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES: We start to use our new planned giving envelopes Sunday 16 August. They are purple this year. If you haven't collected your envelopes, they will be in your church foyer. The special collection envelopes for those who give by automatic payment are also in the church foyers awaiting collection. Please contact the Parish Office if you cannot locate your envelopes.



YOUTH FOR CHRIST CAR WASH AND BAKE SALE:

Our parish Youth For Christ group (YFC) are holding a car wash and bake sale at St Joseph's Church, Saturday, 8 August, 9.00am to 12 noon, to raise funds to attend the YFC North Island Conference in Ngaruawahia. Your support will make it possible for more young people to participate in this life changing event of faith, fellowship and leadership formation. And you will have a lovely clean car.

NEW PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP: The new Family Group had a second gathering, this time at the home of Liz and Andy. A great time was had by families getting to know each other, with the children getting together quickly. A house with new toys is always fun. The August meeting is planned for this Sunday where the group is going to come up with a group name and plan activities for the next 6 months.

This is the sixth Family Group in our Parish. The Passionist Family Group aims to build Christian community through the development of small groups where individuals and families join together in monthly gatherings. Enjoying the companionship of others, gradually strong, supportive relationships are developed as an extended family.

Most of the other five Family Groups have existed for over 30 years. If you would like to join a Family Group or find out more, please contact Linda 027 354 6171 or email paulandlinda.d@gmail.com or phone the Parish Office.



The new Family Group July Gathering

Grotto Rosary & Relocation Update

We are pleased to share that plans for the grotto relocation to Sacred Heart Girls' College is progressing well, and we have now secured all the funds needed for the project to. As we begin developing a manageable timeline for the relocation, we would like to gather as a parish community to give thanks and pray together before the work begins. You are all warmly invited to join us for the **Rosary in the church on Sunday, 16 August, at 10.30am, following the 9.00am Mass.** Weather permitting, the Rosary will be followed by a short two minute walk to the grotto, where we will gather for a final blessing before the relocation takes place. We look forward to sharing this special moment with you as we honour the many years of prayer and devotion associated with our beloved grotto.

Wendy Mulligan DRS - Sacred Heart Girls' College.



The tallest statue of the Virgin Mary in Europe is scheduled to be blessed in the village of Konotopie in Poland on August 15.

At 55 metres high, the concrete and steel figure will become the second-tallest Marian statue in the world behind the 98.15-metre Mother of All Asia in the Philippines. Construction of the statue is nearing completion, with people already flocking to the site.

[Tallest Virgin Mary statue in Europe nearing completion - CathNews New Zealand](#)



ILLUMIN8 YOUTH GROUP

Shining Bright Together



Every Sunday · After 5:30pm
Mass



Community



Faith



Growth



Fun



JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP
Years 4-8

- Faith
- Fun
- Chocolates



SENIOR YOUTH
Years 9-13

- Deep-dive Bible study
- Leadership development
- Service projects & outreach
- Real-talk life sessions

St. Joseph's Church Hall · 106 Powderham Street

Come as you are – everyone is welcome!

2026

First Holy Communion

16 AUGUST	First Holy Communion St Joseph's Church 9:00 AM
23 AUGUST	First Holy Communion Our Lady Help of Christians 10:30 AM
30 AUGUST	First Holy Communion St Joseph's Church 9:00 AM
6 SEPTEMBER	First Holy Communion Bell Block Catholic Center 10:30 AM

A special day. A special grace.



WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Tillie Fleming, Bernard Leuthard, Robert Pitcairn, Mavis Mace, Jessie Williams, Neda Sherwood, Richard Jackson, Isobel Taylor, John Bernard, Sid Holmes, David Armstrong, Fr. Lou Leuthard, Judy Scott, Andrea Dravitzki, Elsie Irene Harrington, and Edwin Russell Harrington.

**AUG
10
MON**

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

TO 16th AUGUST THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

8:00am St Joseph's Church

**11
TUE**

8:00am St Joseph's Church
9:10am Our Lady Help of Christians
12:05pm St Joseph's Church

**12
WED**

8:00am St Joseph's Church
9:10am Our Lady Help of Christians

**13
THU**

8:00am St Joseph's Church
10:00am Sacred Hearts Girls College
2:20pm Francis Douglas Memorial College

**14
FRI**

8:00am St Joseph's Church
12:05pm St Joseph's Church

**15
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)

**16
SUN**

9:00am St Joseph's Church
10:30am Our Lady Help of Christians
10:30am Bell Block Catholic Centre (Liturgy of the Word with Communion)
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 7.00pm Adoration at St Joseph's Church. 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 and Tuesday at 7.40am and Saturday 8.10am in the Parish Office Mary McKillop Room. Please 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 St John Bosco School Library.

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

LITTLE ANGELS MUSIC AND PLAY GROUP FOR PRESCHOOLERS WILL



Lady Help of Christians. Music, play and morning tea from 9.00am during the school term. For more details contact Amelia at musiccoordinator@catholicparishnp.nz

SUNDAY READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary
16 August 2026 (Transferred from 15th Aug)

1ST READING: 1 Chronicles 15.3-4, 15-16, 16.1-2 (Vigil Mass)
Revelation 11.9a; 12.1-6a; 10ab (Sunday)

PSALM: 132 (Vigil Mass) and 45 (Sunday)
2ND READING: 1 Corinthians 15.54-57 (Vigil Mass)
1 Corinthians 15.20-26 (Sunday)

GOSPEL: Luke 11.27-28 (Vigil Mass)
Luke 1.39-56 (Sunday)

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 – 02

PRIESTS:

Fr. Simon Story simon@catholicparishnp.nz
Tom Lawn tom@catholicparishnp.nz
Fr. Sobin sobin@catholicparishnp.nz
Fr. 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 Richard

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

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



16
AUGUST

First Holy Communion
St Joseph's Church

9:00 AM



23
AUGUST

First Holy Communion
Our Lady Help of Christians

10:30 AM



30
AUGUST

First Holy Communion
St Joseph's Church

9:00 AM



6
SEPTEMBER

First Holy Communion
Bell Block Catholic Center

10:30 AM



A special day. A special grace.

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.

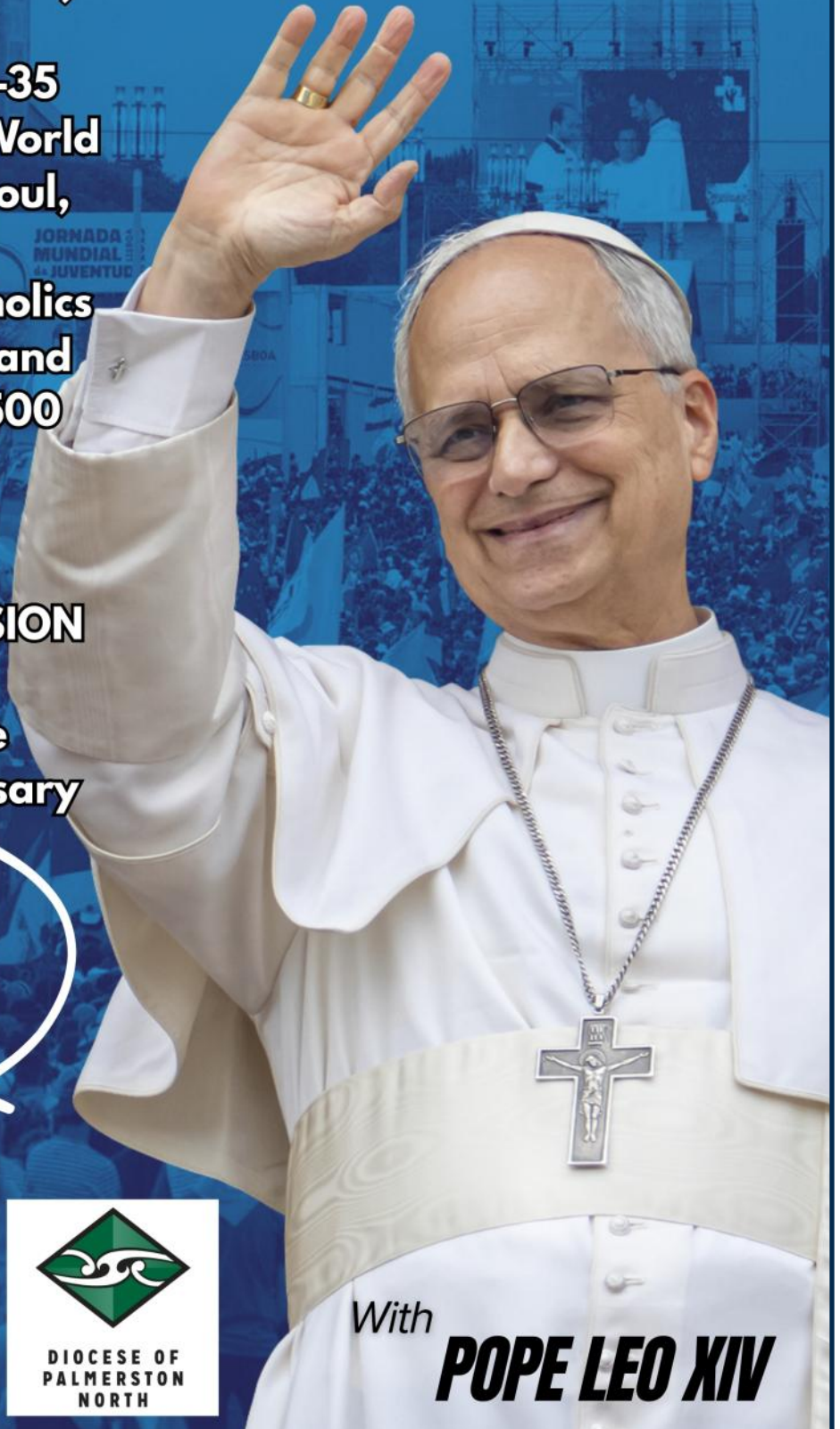
Scan the QR code to complete the **EXPRESSION OF INTEREST** form, allowing us to provide you with all the necessary information.

SCAN ME



DIOCESE OF
PALMERSTON
NORTH

With
POPE LEO XIV



Areté



CENTRE FOR MISSIONARY LEADERSHIP

FOUNDATIONS OF MISSIONARY LEADERSHIP



The **Areté Centre for Missionary Leadership** is dedicated to forming and equipping lay people for effective leadership and mission within the Catholic Church. Through its flagship *Foundations of Missionary Leadership* program, the Centre offers a unique blend of theological, spiritual, personal, and practical formation, combining online learning with immersive retreats. Grounded in the principles of **Encounter, Formation, and Mission**, Arété empowers participants to deepen their relationship with Christ, develop their gifts, and confidently serve the Church and wider community as missionary disciples and leaders. For Further Details please visit <https://www.aretecentre.org/>

WEEKLY DIOCESAN UPDATES

for the Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time
3 – 9 August 2026

Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

This year, the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary falls on Saturday 15 August. In New Zealand, the bishops have transferred the celebration to Sunday 16 August, as indicated in the 2026 national liturgical calendar.

The readings for the Assumption are to be used on Sunday, 16 August. Saturday evening Masses on 15 August are the Vigil of the Assumption and use the proper Vigil readings. Parishes will not be celebrating the Solemnity on Saturday morning or holding a Vigil Mass on Friday evening. The Saturday morning Mass remains that of Saturday of the 19th Week in Ordinary Time.

The Assumption is the patronal feast day of Aotearoa New Zealand, and a Holy Day of Obligation.

Our next Diocesan Hub is coming up!

Join us as we explore *Gaudium et Spes*, Vatican II's beautiful document on the Church in the Modern World and reflect together on what it means to live our faith and mission in the world today. The afternoon will include prayer, formation, small-group conversation and time to be encouraged alongside others from across the Diocese.

Saturday 15 August 12:30pm – 4:30pm (lunch provided)

Diocesan Centre, 33 Amesbury Street

Sunday 16 August 12:30pm – 4:30pm (lunch provided)

St Mary's School Hall, 901 Frederick Street

The Diocesan Hubs are free and open to everyone, but please register so we know you are coming:

<https://forms.cloud.microsoft/r/si6GpNKWz9>

Mission Hub: Alpha – A Tool for Parish Renewal

Discover how Alpha can be a catalyst for parish renewal. Join us for this month's Mission Hub, a collaboration between Mission Hub and the Catholic Enquiry Centre, as we explore how Alpha can transcend the "course" model and become a practical, powerful engine for parish transformation with Clare Bell, the new Alpha Catholic Engagement Manager.

Ideal for parish leaders, ministry teams, and anyone passionate about parish renewal.

Monday 17 August, 7.00pm–8.30pm (NZT). Online.

Register at <https://us06web.zoom.us/join/0tiySnJcSqq-8PUsrCjJ2g#/registration>

Māori Education Collection – Sunday, 23 August 2026

Māori Education is an investment in a vibrant, and faith-filled New Zealand. Your support is an investment in the future of our young people and our nation.

Successful educational outcomes for young Māori enrich our communities and benefit all New Zealanders. We are privileged to have the country's only two Catholic Māori boarding schools within our Diocese: Hato Pāora College and St Joseph's Māori Girls' College. Through the dedication and commitment of their staff, these schools continue to provide outstanding care, education, and faith formation for their students.

We also acknowledge with gratitude the many generous parishioners, grandparents, and benefactors who quietly assist families facing difficulties in meeting school attendance dues. Your kindness and support make a real difference and are deeply appreciated.

Thank you for your generosity and continued commitment to Catholic Māori education.

Specially marked envelopes are available in the church foyer. Alternatively, donations may be made by direct credit to the parish bank account 020 630 0288002 03 and the bank account name is The Catholic Parish of New Plymouth. Please include your name as the payee and use 'Māori Ed' as the reference.

Webinar on Witnessing: A Call for Young People to Evangelise

Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College is holding its 4th session for the WYD Seoul 2027 webinar series. Join us for this session, Witnessing: A Call for Young People to Evangelise with the Auckland Diocese NET Team. This will be on Tuesday, 1st of September 2026, 5:00-6:00pm on Zoom online platform. Register through www.tekupenga.ac.nz/webinars-2026 Fee discounts apply.

Dovecotes for Women NZ

Dove Catholic Fellowship for Women is delighted to announce the launch of Dovecotes for Women NZ, a new initiative designed to support women in parish communities throughout New Zealand.

Dovecotes are small parish-based groups where women from all walks of life can come together in friendship, prayer, and faith. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, these groups offer a welcoming space for women to bond, encourage one another, and grow more deeply in their relationship with God.

For more information contact dovenational.leader@gmail.com or visit www.dove.org.nz

November 2026 Funding Round | Catholic Charities Foundation

Parish groups, agencies and church organisations that provide a helping hand by supporting Families and Social Services are invited to apply for funding from the Catholic Charities Foundation of Palmerston and the Tindall Foundation through the Diocesan Allocations group.

The priority is to fund Catholic and community organisations who are working in areas identified as priorities by the Catholic Charities Foundation of Palmerston North and the Tindall Foundation, and aligned with the diocesan goals.

We are charged with the funding support of groups committed to social, pastoral, charitable and educational needs in the diocese. Applications are judged based on need, resource availability and the fulfilment of set criteria.

Applications are now open and are due by Wednesday 30 September 2026. Application forms and more information can be found here:

<https://pndiocese.org.nz/who-we-are/application-for-funding-catholic-charities-allocations/>

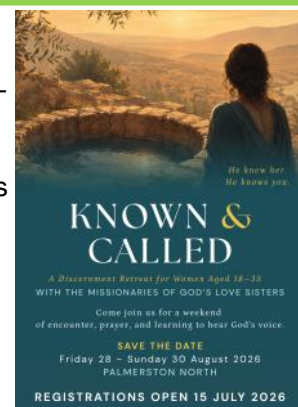
Known & Called: A Discernment Retreat for Women

Young women aged 18–35 are invited to join the Missionaries of God's Love Sisters for a week-end of encounter, prayer and learning to recognise God's voice.

Whether you are discerning a particular vocation or simply seeking greater clarity about God's call in your life, this retreat offers space to step away, pray and listen.

Friday 28 to Sunday 30 August 2026, Palmerston North.

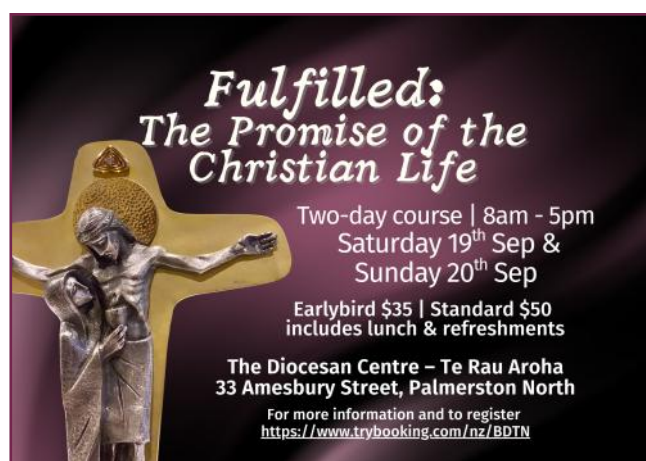
For more information and registration, visit: www.trybooking.com/nz/BEIS



Fulfilled: The Promise of the Christian Life

Discover more deeply the beauty of God's plan for the Christian life through Fulfilled, a two-day course being held on Saturday 19 and Sunday 20 September, from 8.00am to 5.00pm, at the Diocesan Centre, Te Rau Aroha, 33 Amesbury Street, Palmerston North. Facilitated by Maria Paris of Theology of the Body NZ.

The cost is \$35 early bird or \$50 standard, including course materials, lunch and refreshments. For further information and registration, visit www.trybooking.com/nz/BDTN

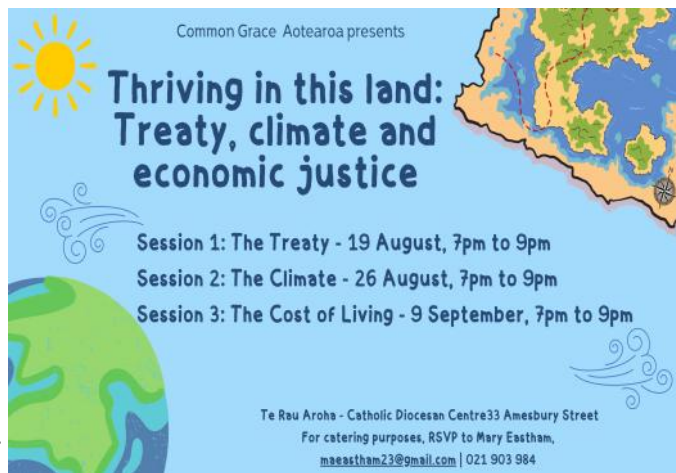


Thriving in this Land: Treaty, Climate and Economic Justice

Join this three-part workshop series from Common Grace Aotearoa, hosted by the Diocese of Palmerston North's Justice, Peace, Ecology and Development Commission. Together we'll explore how our faith calls us to respond to some of New Zealand's key challenges, including poverty and the cost of living, climate change, and honouring Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

The workshops will be held from 7–9pm at Te Rau Aroha, Catholic Diocesan Centre, 33 Amesbury Street, on 19 August, 26 August and 9 September.

RSVP: Mary Eastham – maeastham23@gmail.com (for catering purposes).



Common Grace Aotearoa presents

Thriving in this land: Treaty, climate and economic justice

Session 1: The Treaty - 19 August, 7pm to 9pm
Session 2: The Climate - 26 August, 7pm to 9pm
Session 3: The Cost of Living - 9 September, 7pm to 9pm

Te Rau Aroha - Catholic Diocesan Centre 33 Amesbury Street
For catering purposes, RSVP to Mary Eastham, maeastham23@gmail.com | 021 903 984

Alpha in a Catholic Context – Online Training

A series of online training sessions on *Alpha in a Catholic Context* will be offered via Zoom in the coming months. These sessions are open to parish priests, leadership teams, Alpha teams, and anyone interested in learning more about Alpha.

Upcoming topics:

- **19 August, 7pm:** Where Alpha fits in parish life
- **16 September, 7pm:** Taking Alpha from good to great

Each session can be attended individually, though all are recommended for a fuller understanding. Please register to receive the Zoom link for each session: <https://forms.office.com/r/kVmxvX9hFb>



Alpha in a Catholic Context

Training / Information Sessions to inspire and equip you to share Alpha in your parish.

All are welcome.

WHO IS THIS FOR?	WHY ALPHA?
✓ Parish Priest	17 th JUNE 7PM: Why Alpha. Why do Catholic Parishes need Alpha
✓ Parish Leadership teams	19 th AUGUST 7PM: Where does Alpha fit in the life of the Parish.
✓ Alpha teams	16 th SEPTEMBER 7PM: How to take your Alpha from good to great.
✓ Anyone interested in running Alpha	16 th SEPTEMBER 7PM: How to take your Alpha from good to great.
✓ Anyone who would like to know more about Alpha	

Just like at Alpha, all are welcome.

Let's bring the hope of the Gospel to more people.
You're invited. You belong.

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>



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>



St Joseph's School Ōpunakē Celebrates 125 Years

St Joseph's School Ōpunakē is preparing to celebrate its 125th Jubilee on Thursday 22 and Friday 23 October. Past pupils, staff, parishioners and friends of the school are warmly invited to take part in the celebrations. More information for the weekend can be found at <https://www.trybooking.com/nz/events/landing/20235?embed>. Register your interest at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1NaYZskvwQt6yzaSr4KExhfRtaNPCn5v-XKQRYX7JfAE/viewform?edit_requested=true#responses.

All are welcome to help celebrate this significant milestone in the life of St Joseph's School Ōpunakē.

St Joseph's School Ōpunakē

125th Jubilee

Thursday 22 + Friday 23 October 2026



The Schedule

Thursday 22 October 2026

JUBILEE MASS

9.30am @ Our Lady Star of the Sea Parish, Whitcombe Road, Ōpunakē



Friday 23 October 2026

AG DAY GALA

9.30am - 2pm @ St Joseph's School Ōpunakē, Whitcombe Road, Ōpunakē



JUBILEE DINNER

6.30pm @ Sinclair Events Centre, 156 Tasman Street, Ōpunakē



Buy dinner tickets at [trybooking.com](https://www.trybooking.com)



Register your interest at www.stjo.school.nz

Renewed & Sent: Parish Renewal Summit 2026

The **Renewed & Sent Parish Renewal Summit** is a national gathering for bishops, priests, deacons, parish teams, and lay leaders who are passionate about parish renewal and evangelisation. Hosted by **Divine Renovation** and the **Diocese of Wollongong**, the summit will take place from **1–3 October 2026** at **St Gregory's College, Campbelltown, NSW**. Participants will have the opportunity to hear inspiring stories of parish transformation, learn practical leadership and mission principles, pray and discern together, and connect with other parish leaders from across Australia.

The summit begins with a dedicated **Clergy Day** on 1 October, led by **Fr James Mallon** and **Matt Regitz**, offering formation, prayer, and conversation focused on the realities of parish renewal. Throughout the event, attendees will be encouraged to explore how their parishes can move from maintenance to mission and foster a renewed culture of discipleship.

Website: <https://renewedandsent.com.au>

Registration and information: <https://renewedandsent.com.au/register>



"AND I WILL PUT MY SPIRIT WITHIN YOU, AND YOU SHALL LIVE,
AND I WILL PLACE YOU IN YOUR OWN LAND."
(EZEKIEL 37:14)

Renewed & Sent: Parish Renewal Summit

Renewed & Sent gathers priests and parish leaders across Australia
who believe parish renewal is possible and want to discern what it
could look like in their parish

St Joseph's School New Plymouth Centenary | 23 -25 October 2026

St Joseph's Catholic School invites former students, staff, and families to attend this significant milestone. The event will take place Friday 23 – Sunday 25 October.

Those interested are asked to register at St Joseph's School New Plymouth Centenary Registration: Labour Weekend 2026

Follow the official Centenary Facebook page for more information and updates: <https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61576850039718>

