



Parish Newsletter Pānui i te Pārihi

Catholic Parish of New Plymouth
Te Parihi Katorika Ki Ngamotu



Sunday 10 August 2025 Nineteenth in Ordinary Time

THE FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION is the Patronal Feast of the Church in New Zealand and a Holy Day of Obligation. It is also a time when we recall the origins of the Catholic Church here in our country, when Bishop Pompallier, as he celebrated the first Mass on New Zealand soil, dedicated this mission to the Assumption of Mary. The first Mass in New Zealand was celebrated at Totara Point, Hokianga, 1838.

The Bishops of New Zealand will gather at the National Marian Shrine, the Shrine to Mary, in August to mark the country's patronal feast day – the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. St Mary of the Angels in central Wellington was dedicated as the Shrine to Mary, Assumed into Heaven on August 14, 2022. It followed the renewal of New Zealand's dedication to Mary, using that title in 2021, 183 years after the country's first bishop, Jean-Baptiste Pompallier, had done so.

There will be multiple Masses in New Plymouth for people to celebrate Mass on this day.

The Catholic Church in New Zealand has the Assumption of Mary as patron. The first missionary outreach to Oceania was through the Society of Mary (the Marists) so the choice is very appropriate. The first bishop to Aotearoa-New Zealand, Baptiste Pompallier, had a special devotion to Mary.

The Dogma of the Assumption was only proclaimed in 1950, but the belief had been part of Catholic tradition for many centuries and the belief is not confined to Roman Catholicism. The Byzantine liturgy (Eastern Orthodox) names 15 August, the Feast of the Dormition – indicating Mary 'falling asleep' in death and waking in the arms of her Son.



Pope Pius XII, in the 1950 document formally proclaiming this belief, wrote that Mary 'when the course of her earthly life was finished was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory, so that she might be more fully conformed to her Son, the Lord of Lords and conqueror of sin and death.' James Lyons, Priest of the Archdiocese of Wellington

HOLY DAYS OF OBLIGATION: Across the Catholic world there is wide variation as to the number of Holy Days of Obligation to be observed. Here in New Zealand we have two such days on which Catholics should strive to attend Mass: On Christmas Day; and on the Feast of The Assumption 15 August. Masses in the Catholic Parish of New Plymouth for the Feast of the Assumption are listed in full on page 4. We have two Masses at St Joseph's Church, two Masses at Our Lady Help of Christians, including an evening Mass at 5.30pm and Mass at St Pius X school.

OUR PARISH VISION

A COMMUNITY CALLED BY GOD FOR MISSIONAL DISCIPLESHIP
GATHERED AROUND JESUS CHRIST FED WITH THE EUCHARIST AND
SENT TO TRANSFORM LIVES EMPOWERED BY THE HOLY SPIRIT

Important Dates

Sunday 10 August

St Joseph's School Led
Mass at St Joseph's
Church 9.00am

Sunday 10 August

Junior Youth Mass 5.30pm
at St Joseph's Church

Thursday 14 August and every Thursday

St Joseph's Church
Adoration with
Reconciliation 7.00pm

Friday 15 August Feast of the Assumption Holy Day of Obligation

See page 4 for Mass times
at St Joseph's and Our
Lady Help of Christians.

Friday 15 August

Quite Your Heart
Music with Kadisha
Our Lady Help of Chris-
tians 10.30am
Note later time after Mass

Saturday 16 August Catholic Women's League BINGO

in St Joseph's Hall
1.30pm

Tuesday 19 August

Hidden Disabilities
Sunflower Scheme
Stratford
5.30pm to 8.00pm

Wednesday 20 August

St Vincent de Paul AGM
6.00pm at the Parish
Office

Sunday 24 August

Māori Education Special
Collection at Mass after
Communion

GENERAL NOTICES

JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP:

In the last chapter of Laudato Si, Pope Francis calls us to action:

In an ecological conversion, we return to the great example of St. Francis.

“Christians need an ecological conversion, whereby the effects of their encounter with Jesus Christ becomes evident in their relationship with the world around them. Living our vocation to **be protectors of God’s handiwork** is essential to a life of virtue; it is not an optional or a **secondary aspect of our Christian experience.**” (LS, 217)

We will not find peace in consumerism. Instead, we must renew and deepen our relationship with God. Not all people are called to the same civic engagement, e.g. politics, but **each of us are called to some sort of action in the broad civic sphere.**

“these community actions, when they express self-giving love, can also become intense spiritual experiences.” (LS, 232)

The monthly meeting of the Justice and Peace Group is Monday, 11 August. Join us to put our faith into action and prepare for Season of Creation and for Social Justice Week in September. Meeting 11 August 5.45pm in the Ngamotu Room in the Parish Office. Come to the office back door.

Contact us at justiceandpeace@catholicparishnp.nz



ANNUAL PARISH GET TOGETHER

Date: Thursday, 4th September 2025

Time: 6:00 PM

Venue: St Joseph's Church Hall

Potluck Dinner

Please bring your favourite dish to share!

Event Highlights Include

- Updates on **Parish pastoral and financial matters**
- **Exclusive first public showing** of the much-anticipated **Fundraising Video!**
- A look into the future of the **Parish Centre plans** presented as a **3D Virtual Fly Through.**
- The **Parish Mission 2025/26**

Join us for an evening of **fellowship and friendship** at our much enjoyed annual gathering. Remember last year. The **Parish Council** warmly invites all parishioners to be part of this special evening.

PLEASE SAVE THE DATE TO COME AND ENJOY THIS EVENING



ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY AGM will take place, 20 August at 6.00 pm in the Ngamotu Room in the Parish Office. Please enter by back door. All interested in the work of St Vincent de Paul are welcome.



ROSTERS: We are beginning to make the rosters for the next period, September, October, November. If you have any special requests for these rosters, please contact your roster co-ordinator or the Parish Office for St Joseph's, or Helen Chitty helen4sun@hotmail.com for Our Lady Help of Christians.

HIDDEN DIDABILITIES SUNFLOWER SCHEME (HDSS)

David Loving-Molloy and Nick Wilson from the Diocesan Centre invite those in the parish who are interested in learning about the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Scheme (HDSS), to come to a workshop on the scheme. The workshop will be held on:

Tuesday 19th August, at the Parish Centre, 90 Miranda Street, Stratford, from 5.30pm – 8.00pm.

If you experience disability or support someone who does experience disability, you are welcome to come. This is an initiative which will be rolled out in our parishes, schools, and faith communities. If you would like more information about this, please email David at catholic.deaf@pndiocese.org.nz



Please come to the workshop and support this wonderful scheme. The Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Scheme is an international programme which began in Gatwick Airport in 2016, and it enables people with non-visible disabilities a discrete way to indicate to staff at participating organisations that they have a hidden disability and may need a little extra support, guidance, understanding, or time. A report on the use of the Sunflower scheme at WITT was reported in the Daily News 30 July 2025.

Number 26
Pick and
mix

Number 66
Clickety
Click,

Number 67
Made in
Heaven.

Number 71
Bang on
the drum

Number 55
Snakes
alive

Number 11
Legs
Eleven
BINGO

Hope is Alive Because Christ is Alive: Young People Celebrate the Jubilee of Youth."

On 2 August, over 90 young people from the Diocese gathered at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit in Palmerston North for the first-ever Jubilee Youth Festival, joining a vibrant global celebration of the Jubilee of Youth.

The day included Mass, pizza, games, workshops, worship, adoration, and reconciliation. Participants enjoyed a mix of faith, fun, and connection, leaving them inspired and eager for more.

Around 90 teenagers attended, including 18 from Illumin8 Youth Group and Youth For Christ in New Plymouth. They heard from keynote speakers about the importance of hope. They learned how to lean on Jesus as their anchor of hope and how to be a source of hope in their schools, homes, and communities.

The Young Church Ministers who organised the event were happy with the turnout, and they plan to make it an annual festival. *Susilo Youth Minister*



YOUTH GROUP

WE GATHER ON SUNDAYS DURING THE SCHOOL TERM AT ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH HALL.

SHINE

LIFE TEEN NEW PLYMOUTH

JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP FOR YEARS 4 TO 8
4:00 pm - 5:00 pm

SENIOR YOUTH GROUP FOR YEARS 9-13
6:30 pm - 8:30 pm

YOUTH GROUP

THIS SUNDAY, 10 AUG 2025

YOUTH GROUP

NEXT SUNDAY, 10 AUG 2025

SO LO
Sunday, 10 August 2025
6:30 am - 8:30 pm
St. Joseph's Church Hall

FEED BACK
SUN, 17 AUG 2025
St. Joseph Church Hall 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm

Salt and LIGHT

YOU ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH & LIGHT OF THE WORLD - MATT 5:13-14

BIBLE STUDY GROUP

If you're in Year 12, Year 13, or just tossed your graduation cap in New Plymouth, get ready for an epic announcement: a **BRAND NEW BIBLE STUDY GROUP** is coming your way!

Every other month, we huddle up on the second and fourth Thursdays for a fun-filled 75-minute adventure! Our mission? To dive deep into the Sunday Gospel reading together!

LAUNCHING SOON

Initial Meeting Details

- Date: Thursday, 28 August 2025
- Time: 5:00 PM - 6:15 PM
- Venue: St Joseph's Church Foyer

Don't forget to pack your Bible, your journal, flash that smile, and bring a thirst for knowledge!

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

RITE OF CHRISTIAN INITIATION FOR ADULTS (RCIA)

RCIA is a process that involves a journey of faith and conversion, where individuals explore, learn, and grow in their relationship with Jesus Christ and the Catholic Church. RCIA begins 17 August 2025 Our Lady Help of Christians. Please contact the Parish Office for more details.

MĀORI EDUCATION COLLECTION SUNDAY 24 AUGUST 2025

Māori Education is an investment in a vibrant, working, diverse, and faith-filled Aotearoa New Zealand – and your donation is an investment too.

Successful educational outcomes for young Māori benefit all New Zealanders. We are blessed to host the nation's two Catholic Māori Boarding Schools right here in our Diocese: **Hato Pāora College** and **St Joseph's Māori Girls' College**. These schools, through the dedication of their staff, are achieving outstanding results in nurturing, teaching, and shaping their students.

We also take this opportunity to thank the generous individuals, including grandparents & retired parishioners who support families struggling to pay school attendance dues. Your quiet contributions make a big difference. Thank you.

Your generosity this year is deeply appreciated.

Specially marked envelopes will be available with the newsletter 17 August. 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 **'Māori Ed'** as the reference. And of course putting cash in the plate contributes as well.

We pray for our deceased family and friends:

Andrea Dravitzki, Marie Carter, Mary Quin, Eileen Watt, Cajetan Dias, Clotilda Dias, Anthony Jerry Dias, Francis Castellino, Assumption Lobo, Carol Coulton Tony Carman, Marie Hickey, Tillie Fleming and Noeline Goodin.

Aug 11 MON	WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE Third SUNDAY OF THE MONTH	
12 TUES	8.00am	St Joseph's Church
13 WED	8.00am	St Joseph's Church
14 THU	9.10am	Our Lady Help of Christians Church
15 FRI	12.05pm	St Joseph's Church
16 SAT	8.00am	St Joseph's Church
17 SUN	9.10am	Our Lady Help of Christians Church
	12.05pm	St Joseph's Church
	8.00am	St Joseph's Church
	9.10am	Our Lady Help of Christians Church
	8.00am	St Joseph's Church
	9.50am	Sacred Heart Girls College (Mary's Chapel)
	2.20pm	Francis Douglas Memorial College Chapel
	FEAST OF THE ASSUMPTION (Holy Day of Obligation)	
	8.00am	St Joseph's Church
	9.00am	St Pius X (In Philomena Hall)
	9.10am	Our Lady Help of Christians
	12.05pm	St Joseph's Church
	5.30pm	Our Lady Help of Christians
	8.30am	St Joseph's Church
	5.30pm	Our Lady Help of Christians Church
	6.00pm	St Patrick's Okato
	9.00am	St Joseph's Church (St Pius X School Led Mass)
	10.30am	Our Lady Help of Christians Church
	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 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.

No children's liturgy if it is a school led Mass. St Joseph's School Led Mass 10th August.

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

LITTLE ANGELS MUSIC AND PLAY GROUP

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



QUIET YOUR HEART ~ Music with Kadisha

St Joseph's Monday 11.00am to 11.30am
Our Lady Help of Christians Friday 15th August after the 9.10am Mass at 10.30am

SUNDAY READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

17 August 2025 Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

1ST READING: Jeremiah 38.4-6, 8-10

PSALM: 40

2ND READING: Hebrews 12.1-4

GOSPEL: Luke 12.49-53

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

CONTACT US

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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

Important Notice: Scam Texts Claiming to Be from Bishop John Adams

Dear Parishioners,

It has come to our attention that fraudulent text messages are being sent out, falsely claiming to be from Bishop John Adams and requesting the purchase of vouchers.

Please be assured that Bishop John would never request vouchers or financial assistance via text or email. These messages are a scam.

If you receive such a message:

- **Do not respond.**
- **Do not purchase any vouchers.**

Report the message if possible, through your mobile provider or relevant authorities.

If you are ever in doubt about a communication claiming to be from the Bishop, please contact the Bishop's office directly for clarification.

Thank you for your vigilance and care in helping protect our community.

With every blessing,
Bishop's Office



For years 12, 13 and Young Adults

Salt LIGHT

YOU ARE THE SALT OF THE EARTH & LIGHT OF THE WORLD - MATT 5:13-14

BIBLE STUDY

Every
2nd & 4th
Thursday

1st meeting
Thurs
28 Aug 2025

St Joseph's
Church
Meet at the foyer

5pm - 6.15pm

Bring your BIBLE and JOURNAL

WEEKLY DIOCESAN UPDATES

for the Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Prayer for the Summit: “Who is God asking me to invite?”

This week, we pray intentionally for a friend or fellow parishioner, asking God to open their heart to an invitation—whether to the Summit, to deeper faith, or to a renewed encounter with Jesus.

To learn more or support the Hope and Renewal Summit, visit: hoperenewalsummit.com or email hoperenewal@pndiocese.org.nz.

Upcoming webinar: Parish Ministry in Aotearoa New Zealand

Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College is offering a webinar on “Parish Ministry in Aotearoa New Zealand” with Emily Sit, the director for mission and evangelisation for Palmerston North. This webinar is on Wednesday, 20 August 5:00-6:00pm via Zoom. To register, go to www.tekupenga.ac.nz/webinar2025

Feast of the Assumption | National Mass

The Bishops of New Zealand invite you to join them at the National Marian Shrine on August 15, the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. The celebration of our national feast day is part of the Bishops’ second of two national pilgrimages during the Jubilee Year. Mass will be celebrated at 6pm on Friday, August 15 at St Mary of the Angels Church, Boulcott St, Wellington. All are welcome.

David Wells | Hope Worth Sharing: Finding Meaning in the Message

International speaker David Wells is giving a brief talk on August 26, focusing on the joys and sorrows of presenting the Christian message to a busy world. 7 – 8:15pm at the Diocesan Centre, 33 Amesbury Street, Palmerston North. Entry by koha. A light supper will be provided. All welcome.

Pilgrimage to Hiruhārama | Expressions of Interest

We are now taking expressions of interest for our second pilgrimage to Hiruhārama.

PLEASE NOTE: due to renovations at Hiruhārama, this will no longer be on Sept 13 as previously advertised. A postponement date is yet to be confirmed. If interested, email bishop-pa@pndiocese.org.nz with your name, parish and phone number.

Who is God asking me to invite?

Lord, I name this person before you now...
Whether a friend, a fellow parishioner, or a fellow leader
open their heart to your invitation.
As Peter, James, and John witnessed your glory on the mountain,
may this person be drawn into that same light and hope.
Holy Spirit, give us boldness to invite others into your transforming love.
Amen.

FEAST OF THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD
(6 AUGUST)



Donating to the RNDM Mission Appeal**Online Payments**Account Number: **06-0529-0413665-03**Account Name: **Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions**

Particulars: First Name Code: Surname

Ref: Phone number

Credit Card / Debit cardAccount number: **06 0529 -0413665-03**

Card Number _____

Name on Card _____

Expiry Date _____

Signature _____

Ph: **[+64] 04 939 1231 option 1****For further information**

please contact the Province Office

office@rndm.org.nz orPh: **[+64] 04 939 1231 option 1**

Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions

MA 2025

PO Box 30-575

Lower Hutt 5040

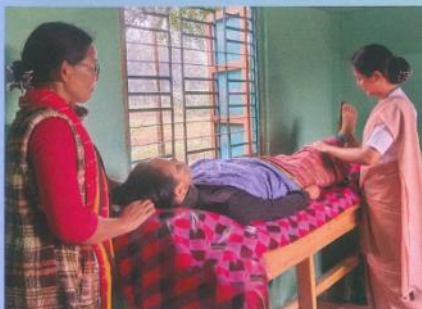
New Zealand

With grateful thanks for your kind donation.

Charity number: CC 20516

RNDM SISTERS

PROVIDING SAFE AND APPROPRIATE
ACCOMMODATION AND HEALTH
CARE FOR INDIGENOUS STUDENTS
IN REMOTE AREAS



PROVIDING ACCESS TO
HEALTH FOR FAMILIES
IN BANGLADESH



RNDM MISSION APPEAL 2025

**RNDM SISTERS**

PROVIDING THE OPPORTUNITY FOR
INDIGENOUS STUDENTS TO ACCESS
EDUCATION IN VIETNAM

**PARTNER WITH US
MAKE A DIFFERENCE**



BANGLADESH HEALTH CARE

A new and exciting mission in Mymensing, Bangladesh, provides urgent access to medical services for tribal and indigenous families. This bridges the gap for these families living in remote areas, without access to education or health care



Your generosity in partnering with the RNDM Sisters will make a difference in the lives of indigenous families in Bangladesh

**PARTNER WITH US - YOUR DONATION WILL
MAKE THE DIFFERENCE. THANK YOU!**

**PLEASE DONATE FOR MEDICAL
ACCESS IN BANGLADESH**

HOSTEL ACCOMMODATION FOR INDIGENOUS STUDENTS IN VIETNAM

**THE RNDM SISTERS HAVE ESTABLISHED
A NEW MISSION IN BAN NAM - VIETNAM**

Offering appropriate accommodation and nourishment to enable students to attend the local school. Their families live in very remote areas, with no education access for their children



**YOU CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE TO THE FUTURE
OF MANY INDIGENOUS STUDENTS IN VIETNAM**

**PLEASE DONATE FOR
EDUCATION IN VIETNAM**

THANK YOU FOR SUPPORTING THE SISTERS OF OUR LADY OF THE MISSIONS IN BANGLADESH AND VIETNAM

**David Loving-Molloy and Nick Wilson will be running a
Hidden Disability Sunflower Scheme (HDSS) Training Workshop
at the Immaculate Conception Church Parish Centre
90 Miranda Street, Stratford on Tuesday 19th August from 5.30pm
– 8pm**

**BYO Dinner. For more information, contact
David Loving-Molloy: catholic.deaf@pndiocese.org.nz**

Not every disability is visible – some are hidden

The Hidden Disabilities Sunflower will let us know that you may need some additional support

Living with a hidden disability can make daily life more demanding for many people, but it can be difficult for others to recognise, acknowledge or understand the challenges you face.

The Hidden Disabilities Sunflower makes you visible

It is a discreet sign to indicate to people around you including staff, colleagues and health professionals that you have a hidden disability and may need additional support, help or a little more time.

How can wearing the Sunflower benefit you?

- People around you may ask what they can do to assist you
- You or your carer can use your Sunflower to tell us about the additional help you may need

We are proud to support the Hidden Disabilities Sunflower. Our staff are trained to recognise the Sunflower and may ask what we can do to assist you.

For more information, please visit hdsunflower.com/au



Making the invisible visible

**HIDDEN
disabilities** 