



Parish Newsletter Pānui i te Pārihi

Catholic Parish of New Plymouth
Te Parihi Katorika Ki Ngamotu

Sunday 7 September 2025 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time



PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL



Standing from left to right: Rachel Ammundsen, Kevin Kerr, Danny Hall, Albert Chow, Cushla Coleman, Christopher Francis, Fr. Sobin Sebastian.

Kneeling from left to right: Ronie Asi, Charina Cabrera, Catherine Grogan, Fr. Simon Story, Mary Elizabeth Hagenson, Giniya George.

We have a new Parish Pastoral Council! A big thank you to the people who have made themselves available to serve our parish in this capacity!

The Parish Council works with the mission plan, or you could call it a pastoral plan that identifies the priorities for actioning and strategies on how to develop those goals. The council is a sounding board for new initiatives. They look to model and inspire a healthy culture in the parish. They are teammates who share the vision and help lead the parish out of a team with the parish priest. They are missionary disciples who bring a balance of gifts, charisms, experience, and expertise together to help make the decisions needed to support the various aspects of parish life.

This week, we lift up in prayer all those who serve in leadership in our parishes — priests, pastoral workers, lay leaders, volunteers, and parish staff. Their faithfulness helps sustain the day-to-day life of our Church. May they be strengthened, encouraged, and guided by the Holy Spirit.

Let us pray: Jesus, bless our priests, staff, volunteers, and lay leaders. Grant them strength, clarity, and joy in their service. St Gregory the Great, wise and humble servant, pray for our leaders. Holy Spirit, guide them to lead from a posture of love, trust, and hope. Amen.



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

Friday 5th September

Adoration Bell Block
Mass Centre 4.00pm

Saturday 6th September

Anointing Mass
St Joseph's Church
10.30am

Sunday 7 September to 13 September

Social Justice Week

Sunday 7th September

Prayer Ministry after
9.00am and 10.30am
Masses

Sunday 7th September

Adoration
Our Lady Help of Christians
3.00pm

Saturday 13th September

Passionist Family Group
Formation Programme
St Joseph's Hall 2.00pm

Sunday 14th September

Fundraising concert
for St Pius X school
at the school
in Philomena Hall
2.00pm

School Holidays 20 September to 5 October

There will be no school or
College weekday Masses
during the holiday time.
Please check the timetable
on page 4 each week.

Saturday 21 September

Our Lady Help of Christians
5.30pm Mass

Sunday 22 September

St Joseph's 9.00am Mass
and 5.30pm Mass
Our Lady Help of Christians
10.30am Mass
Bishop Peter Cullinane will
be speaking at these
Masses

GENERAL NOTICES

MARIAN MOTHERS meet Thursday 2 October. at Our Lady Help of Christians Church 7.00pm to 8.30pm. There is no September meeting.



PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUPS

How we can (re)connect with the vibrancy of the early Church by 'being for others' and building a place of welcome and belonging in our local parish communities.

Paul Traynor, National Co-ordinator for Passionist Family Groups will be exploring this under the topics of:

***Why does community matter?** and

***Belonging**

Saturday September 13th in the St Joseph's Hall Supper room from 2.00pm until 5.00pm

Come, listen, learn and share fellowship and afternoon tea with your fellow parishioners

ALL WELCOME: This afternoon is for everyone



HOPE AND RENEWAL SUMMIT: We have 22 parishioners registered to attend the Hope & Renewal Summit Friday October 3 and Saturday October 4. Most of our new parish council are going and many others who are interested to see and discover what a missional parish is about. This is primarily a work of the Holy Spirit in our parish and diocese and so good to be a part of. We are greatly looking forward to this event. To learn more or support the Hope and Renewal Summit, visit hoperenewalsummit.com or email hoperenewal@pndiocese.org.nz.

JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP: SOCIAL JUSTICE WEEK 7-13 September



The overarching theme for Social Justice Week 2025 is: 'Imagine Peace For All / Pohewatia te Rangimārie mō te Katoa'

Social Justice Week serves as an ongoing commitment in the Catholic calendar to consider, reflect on, and act on, a particular current social justice issue through the lens of Catholic social teaching. The focus for 2025 is: 'Let's build peace together! / Kōwhiria te murunga hara, kia mōhio ki te rangimārie'

This year's theme - Let's build peace together! - reminds us that peacebuilding is not a task for others; it is not something to be left to governments or leaders. It is the vocation of every Christian. Our world needs people who are willing to engage in dialogue, act with compassion, and build relationships grounded in dignity and love. As Pope Francis has reminded us, peace is crafted not with weapons, but with open hearts and outstretched hands. Excerpt from the Bishops' statement for Social Justice week: For resources and more information visit:

www.caritas.org.nz/parishes/social-justice-week

MĀORI WARDS: Looking at the upcoming Māori Ward referendum in Local Body Elections, from a Gospel and Catholic Perspective. We are asked to vote in a referendum that will decide the future of Māori Wards in our district. Everyone in New Plymouth has the opportunity to vote on whether to keep or remove the Māori Ward. Bishop Peter Cullinane has been invited to speak to us, on this topic. We need to make this vote in the context of, and remembering that, we are disciples of Our Lord Jesus.

Bishop Peter will be with us at the Vigil Mass (5.30pm) Saturday 20 September and Sunday Masses 21 September at Our Lady Help of Christians and St Joseph's.

CLIMATE CHANGE: TECHNOLOGY AND ATTENTIVENESS: *Living with Hope in an Age of Anxiety.* Monday 22nd September Te Whare Hononga Taranaki Cathedral. 7.00pm. See the poster in the foyer or the online newsletter, for further details.

SUNDAY PRAYER MINISTRY: Sunday 7 September after the Sunday Masses, we will have people available in the church for prayer ministry. This is the 9.00am and 5.30pm Masses at St Joseph's & the 10.30am Mass at Our Lady Help of Christians. Members of the Prayer Ministry Team, in pairs, will be there, to pray with you and for you, as an individual, or a couple or a family. If you would like to take this opportunity, please just stay after Mass.

CATHOLIC CHARITIES FOUNDATION:

NOVEMBER 2025 FUNDING ROUND: Parish groups, agencies & church organisations that provide a helping hand by supporting Families & Social Services are invited to apply for funding from the Catholic Charities Foundation of Palmerston & the Tindall Foundation through the Diocesan Allocations group. Applications are now open & are due by 30/09/2025. Go to <https://pndiocese.org.nz/who-we-are/application-for-funding-catholic-charities-allocations> or contact reception@pndiocese.org.nz

**BLESS THOSE
WHO LEAD
YOUR
CHURCH DAY
BY DAY**

JESUS, BLESS OUR PRIESTS, STAFF,
VOLUNTEERS, AND LAY LEADERS.
GRANT THEM STRENGTH, CLARITY,
AND JOY IN THEIR SERVICE.
ST GREGORY THE GREAT, WISE AND
HUMBLE SERVANT, PRAY FOR OUR
LEADERS. HOLY SPIRIT, GUIDE THEM
TO LEAD FROM A POSTURE OF LOVE,
TRUST, AND HOPE.
AMEN.

St Gregory the Great (3 September)

HOPE & RENEWAL
summit



ST VINCENT DE PAUL OP SHOP FITZROY needs donations of clothing and household items. Items can be dropped at the shop between 9.00am and 3.00pm Monday-Friday. The shop is at 573 Devon St East, in the little arcade behind Piccolo Morso at the Fitzroy lights, or accessed from Clemow Road which is also off the lights. Ph: 06 758 6740. St Vincent de Paul can offer collection of large house clearances. Help St Vincent de Paul to help others.



St. Pius X School
New Plymouth

FAITH-FILLED Fundraiser

14 SEPTEMBER 2025
ST. PIUS X @ 2 PM

FEATURING

- ✓ Kadisha Mara
- ✓ St. Pius X Alumni

Scan the QR codes & Listen to Kadisha Mara Music on Spotify + Youtube

LIVE PERFORMANCES, SAUSAGE SIZZLE, MERCH

TICKETS

ADULTS	\$20
5-12 YRS	\$5
0-5 YRS	FREE

AVAILABLE AT ST. PIUS X OFFICE & PARISH OFFICE (ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH)

FAMILIES HELPING FAMILIES

Open Home Foundation are seeking Christian families to provide weekend respite and short-term foster care in the Taranaki region. If you've had an interest in foster care or been wondering how YOU could make a difference in our community ... please get in touch, all questions, and enquiries welcome. Teena Bennett 027467327 or teena.bennett@ohf.org or visit OHF.ORG.NZ

FOODBANK collection baskets are in the foyer each Sunday. Every donation, a non perishable supermarket item makes a difference in the life of a family in need.



We pray for our deceased family and friends: Liz Koorey, Sharon Dallas, John Jordan, Joy Kendrick, Anthony Salvador Dias, Cajetan Dias, Clotilda Dias, Anthony Jerry Dias, Giles Lobo, Anthony Mendis, Alex Dias, Mick Ross, Al Offord, Jean Turner, Rev Bill Walsh, Colleen Leuthard, Thelma Manton, Alice Fleming, Helena Leuthard, Ken Kennedy, Judy Scott, Kate Healion, Catherine Healion and Daniel Healion.

YOUTH GROUP

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

SHINE

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

ILLUMINO

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

YOUTH GROUP THIS SUNDAY, 7 SEPT 2025

HAPPY FATHER'S DAY

NO YOUTH GROUP

SUNDAY, 7 SEPTEMBER 2025

YOUTH GROUP NEXT SUNDAY, 14 SEPT 2025

READY FOR A SOCIAL NIGHT?

Chill

Join us for a time filled with laughter, relaxation, and the joy of each other's company as we come together.

St Joseph's Church Hall
// 6:30 pm - 8:30 pm //
Sunday, 14 September 2025

RETREAT

FRIDAY 28 NOV 25 TO SUNDAY 30 NOV 25

GROWING YOUNG

Mark your Calendar

INTRODUCING ST. CARLO ACUTIS THE PATRON SAINT OF ILLUMIN8 YOUTH GROUP

CANONISED ON SUNDAY 7 SEPTEMBER 2025

"The Eucharist is my highway to heaven." Saint Carlo Acutis

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

QUIZ NIGHT

A fundraiser to support Illumin8 Catholic Youth Group \$10/person- Prizes!!!

MON 6TH OCT
QUIZ STARTS AT 7PM
THE GOOD HOME- 21 ARIKI ST.

RSVP TO BOOK A TABLE
Christina Hermanns
che@fdmc.school.nz

Sept

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE SECOND OF THE MONTH

8
MON

8.00am St Joseph's Church

9
TUES

8.00am St Joseph's Church
9.10am Our Lady Help of Christians Church
12.05pm St Joseph's Church

10
WED

8.00am St Joseph's Church
9.10am Our Lady Help of Christians Church

11
THU

8.00am St Joseph's Church
9.50am Sacred Heart Girls College (Mary's Chapel)
No Thursday Mass at Francis Douglas College until Term 4

12
FRI

8.00am St Joseph's Church
9.00am St Pius X School Philomena Hall
12.05pm St Joseph's Church

13
SAT

8.30am St Joseph's Church
5.30pm Our Lady Help of Christians Church (Vigil Mass)
6.00pm St Patrick's Okato (Vigil Mass)

14
SUN

9.00am St Joseph's Church
10.30am Our Lady Help of Christians Church
10.30am Nga Pekanga Cnr Bayley Rd and Princess St Waitara
5.30pm St Joseph's Church (Junior Youth Mass)

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.



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. 9.00am Our Lady Help of Christians, during the school term. Please contact Tess 027 583 7732.



QUIET YOUR HEART ~ Music with Kadisha

Cancelled this week at St Joseph's Monday 8 September as we have a funeral.
Our Lady Help of Christians Friday 9.30am to 10.00am.

SUNDAY READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

14 September 2025 The Exaltation of the Holy Cross

1ST READING: Numbers 21.4-9

PSALM: 78

2ND READING: Philippians 2.6-11

GOSPEL: John 3.13-17

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

Parish Office, 106 Powderham St,
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PRIESTS:

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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



Climate Change, Technology, and Attentiveness:

Living with Hope in an Age of Anxiety

A growing awareness of the significant ecological challenges the world faces is being accompanied by rising rates of mental illness, particularly amongst young people. For many, thinking about the future fills them with anxiety and despair. What are the conditions that have given rise to this? How might ancient practices from within the Christian tradition help us to live with hope in the face of ecological uncertainties?

Monday 22 Sept 2025

7pm - 9:30pm • Koha entry

Te Whare Hononga, Taranaki Cathedral

37 Vivian Street, Ngāmotu New Plymouth

Enquiries: dan@taranakicathedral.nz

Dr. Andrew Shepherd

Senior Lecturer in Theology and Public Issues
Theology Programme, University of Otago



This event is organised by: Taranaki Cathedral, Te Manu Hononga / Sir Paul Reeves Centre,
University of Otago Theology Programme & A Rocha Aotearoa New Zealand.

**TARANAKI
CATHEDRAL**



 **University
of Otago**
OTĀKOU WHAKAHIU WAKA

ECO CHURCH
A ROCHA AOTEAROA NZ



Taranaki Hospital Chaplaincy
Fundraiser

GIANT PLANT SALE

Saturday 27th September 2025

8am - 11am

**St Andrew's Hall, Liardet Street,
New Plymouth**



Taranaki Hospital Chaplaincy Plant Sale is taking place on **Saturday the 27th September at St Andrews Hall Liardet St, New Plymouth.** The sale will run from **8.00am – 11.00am** (Please note this change from previous years).

We welcome any donations of plants that you may have - of any kind. With the weather looking more promising of summer and bulbs starting to appear, any unwanted plants, trees, bulbs, shrubs, annuals, perennials, vegetables, indoor plants etc. we would greatly appreciate.

Drop off point is from **3pm at St Andrews Church Hall** on Friday 26th September. (The only access will be through the front doors).

Please contact me at the number below if you need any further information. I am in the office Mondays from 8:30 – 12 and Fridays 8:30am – 10am.

Kind blessings Louisa Parker
Administration Assistant Hospital Chaplaincy Team
7536139 ext 7968



Pilgrimage to

Hiruhārama Jerusalem

EXPRESSIONS OF INTEREST

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

PLEASE NOTE:

Due to renovations at Hiruhārama occurring later this year, this will now take place on Saturday 21 February 2026.

IF INTERESTED

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

MORE DETAILS TO FOLLOW

TE ROHE
PIHOPA O TE
PAPAIOEA



DIOCESE OF
PALMERSTON
NORTH

There will be parishioners from the Catholic Parish of New Plymouth joining the pilgrimage, travelling from New Plymouth and meeting the Palmerston North pilgrims in Whanganui before proceeding to Hiruhārama. If you are interested in being part of this group please contact the Parish Office Phone 06 757 3682



OPEN HOME
FOUNDATION

TE WHARE KAUPAPA ĀWHINA

Open Home Foundation are seeking Christian families to provide weekend and short-term care in the Taranaki region.

foster

If you've had an interest in foster care or been wondering how YOU could make a difference in our community ... please get in touch, all questions and enquiries welcome.

Contact Teena Bennett on (027) 4677327 or teena.bennett@ohf.org.nz for more information

WWW.OHF.ORG.NZ

A Christian Community