



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



11th October 2026 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time



**PARISH
PRIEST**



Fr Simon Story

Dear Parishioners,

The mission of the Church, the mission of Jesus is your mission. We are disciples of Jesus who help people to encounter Jesus Christ, to be followers of him. Transformed lives lead to a transformed world. Our world needs what Jesus offers and mission needs to be resourced. It takes your donations to hold our events, to pay our staff, to maintain our buildings, to form community. It is good for you to give because it is your mission. When your money goes into Jesus' mission, then it is happening because of your contribution - you are personally invested. You share in the work and in the outcomes of our parish - our portion of this universal work of God's. Please join planned giving and please make a sacrifice for the mission here in New Plymouth. Information pamphlets are on your seats and in the foyer.

Thank you. Fr Simon

Important Dates

Adoration

Thursday Evenings
St Joseph's Church
7.00pm

Tuesdays at OLHC
(after 9:10am Mass)
9:35am to 10:30am

Wednesday, 7th October

AV Gospel Encounter
Our Lady Help Of
Christians
7.00pm-8.15pm

Sunday, 11 October

Feast of St. Carlos Acutis
Youth Mass
St Joseph's Church
5:30pm

Sunday 11th October

Prayer Ministry after
9.00am and 5:30pm
Masses at St Joseph's
Church and 10.30am
OLHC Mass

Wednesday, 14th October

Unlocking the
Mystery of the Bible
Our Lady
Help of Christians
7.00pm-8.15pm

Fri-Sat 23rd-25th October 2026

St Joseph's School New
Plymouth Centenary

Saturday 24th October

Justice and Peace Group
Come with us to Parihaka
in the afternoon
(Details on Pg 2)

Mission Sunday

Every year, Mission Sunday is celebrated on the penultimate Sunday in October. This year, it falls on 18 October, and we mark the 100th anniversary of Mission Sunday being established as a celebration for the whole Church. For this important occasion, Pope Leo XIV chose the theme, "One in Christ, United in Mission."



We in New Zealand have been blessed with a rich missionary heritage. Our priests, religious and lay people have served in many corners of the world, often quietly and sacrificially. Their witness continues today through missionaries who bring education, healthcare, dignity and the love of Christ to communities in great need.

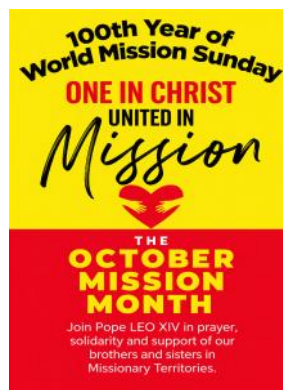
Your prayer, your generosity and your solidarity make a real difference. Every contribution – large or small – helps build churches, train catechists, support the formation of indigenous priests, support children's education and their healthcare, and strengthen communities of faith around the world that rely on us. Even if someone is unable to support the Pope's missionary efforts financially, they can still pray and motivate others to do the same, helping all people to embrace a missionary spirit just like St Thérèse of Lisieux, the patroness saint of the Mission, did within the confines of her monastery.

We encourage you to support the initiatives and promotions in the coming weeks organised by Fr Michael Pui, the national director of The Pontifical Mission Societies (TPMS). That will help to embed a missionary outlook in every Catholic this Mission Sunday and beyond.

Let us be One in Christ, United in Mission. May God bless you for your support and leadership.

In Christ,

- ◆ Stephen Lowe, Bishop of Auckland
- ◆ Michael Dooley, Bishop of Dunedin
- ◆ Paul Martin SM, Archbishop of Wellington
- ◆ Michael Gielen, Bishop of Christchurch
- ◆ John Adams, Bishop of Palmerston North
- ◆ Richard Laurenson, Bishop of Hamilton



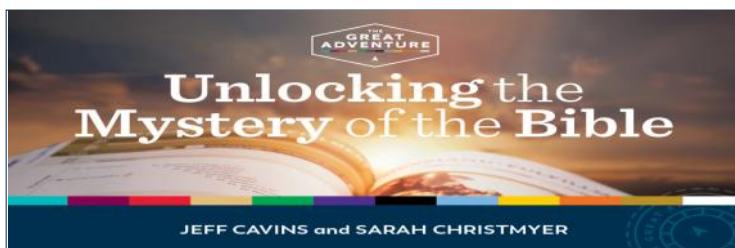
OUR PARISH VISION

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



Connect Groups

I have met people ready to join a weekday gathering as a connect group and grow in their discipleship of Jesus Christ. Groups already exist and are doing this. Would you like to be part of a connect group? It has been found that people who meet together to learn, converse and be challenged by the witness of faith in another, do grow in faith and understanding of discipleship. If you would like to be part of a connect group, please put your name and contact on the clip board in the foyer. I would love to see connect groups growing in our parish. God bless, Fr. Simon



In Session 4 of the Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible, we cover the 3rd and 4th time periods, Egypt & Exodus and Desert Wanderings. At the end of the Patriarchs period, Joseph brought Jacob's family to Egypt during the famine. Over 350 years, the Israelites became slaves. God then used Moses to deliver them from slavery and lead them out of Egypt. They are then led into the desert where God teaches them to trust him, which takes them another 40 years. A new generation has to learn to walk in faith.

Come along and discover how God was not only freeing Israel from slavery, but also teaching them to trust Him, depend on Him, and walk by faith. In the same way, God continues to teach and shape us throughout our own journey of faith.

Wednesday, 14th October, 7-8:30pm, Our Lady's Help of Christian church, Fitzroy

Everyone is welcome! If you have any questions or need more information, feel free to email Albert: ahjchow@gmail.com

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

PRAYER MINISTRY

will be available after Mass on
SUNDAY 11TH OCTOBER

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



JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP:

Pope Leo and Catholics around the world will be gathering to pray for peace in the world on Tuesday October 27th.



On this date forty years ago, in 1986, Pope St. John Paul 11 gathered religious leaders from all around the world to pray for World Peace in Assisi

The Justice and Peace group will be meeting at **5:45 on Monday October 12th** in the Nga Motu room in the Parish Office. Please come along and help us prepare our Catholic Parish of New Plymouth Prayers for Peace service that we will be holding in **St Joseph's Church at 7pm on October 27th**.



Last chance to add you name to the list of parishioners going to Parihaka on the afternoon of Saturday October 24th



If you want to come with us, please email Justiceandpeace@catholicparishnp.nz Or phone the Parish Office (06) 757 3682 or phone or text Joan 211100775

CWL AGM MEETING: Thursday 15th October
At 12 midday in the Supper Room.
Bring a small plate for a shared lunch.
Bring a baby photo for a "funtime" guessing game.



MISSION SUNDAY SPECIAL COLLECTION

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



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



Copies of Missionz Newsletter is available in the Foyer.

To donate direct to Missionz Special envelopes are in the foyer, or bank account numbers.



Youth Mass – Feast of St. Carlos Acutis

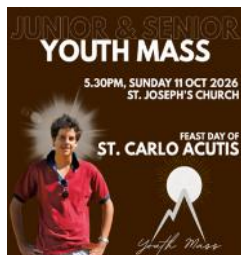
Join us for a special Junior & Senior Youth Mass as we celebrate the Feast Day of St Carlo Acutis, a modern-day saint who inspires young people to live their faith with courage and joy.

We warmly invite all junior youth, senior youth, and their families to come together for this celebration of faith, fellowship, and community.

Date: Sunday, 11 October 2026

Time: 5:30 PM

Venue: St Joseph's Church



The sunflower is a simple tool for you to share that you have a non-visible disability, condition or chronic illness. Simply by wearing the Sunflower, you're just letting everyone know that you might need extra help, understanding, or just more time.

If you see someone wearing a sunflower badge or wrist band or lanyard you will know that they need you to consider that they have a disability that you can't see.



100th Year of World Mission Sunday

ONE IN CHRIST
UNITED IN
Mission

OCTOBER MISSION MONTH

Join Pope LEO XIV in prayer, solidarity and support of our brothers and sisters in Missionary Territories.

World Mission Sunday 18 October 2026

2026 marks the centenary year when Catholics are united worldwide in prayer, solidarity, and support for the Pope's missionary effort. Globally, a collection is taken up at Sunday Mass on **World Mission Sunday** for **The Pontifical Mission Societies (TPMS)**.

Projects supported across the world by the Pontifical Mission Societies



DID YOU KNOW THAT?

New Zealand's Office of **TPMS** is part of an international network of over 120 countries at the service of the Pope to support the mission and the young Churches with prayer and charity.

SUPPORT POPE LEO'S MISSIONARY ENDEAVOURS by:

1. Praying...

Pray for TPMS' efforts, and pray that "all members of the Church be **united in mission**, docile to the Holy Spirit, courageous in bearing witness to the Gospel, proclaiming and daily embodying your faithful love for all creatures". (Pope Leo XIV).



To donate using
Credit-Card scan
the Code

Mission's accounts for each Diocese:

BNZ 02-0506-0022477-066 (Auckland)
BNZ 02-0506-0022477-065 (Christchurch)
BNZ 02-0506-0022477-082 (Dunedin)
BNZ 02-0506-0022477-068 (Hamilton)
BNZ 02-0506-0022477-069 (Palmerston North)
BNZ 02-0506-0022477-070 (Wellington)

Account Name: PONTIFICAL MISSION AID SOCIETIES
(If you are Mission AID/TPMS account, the AID/TPMS Mission AID Society)



2. Doing...

Participate in the mission individually or as a community, including raising the awareness of the need to support NZ's two charities, **MISSIONZ** and **MISSIO AOTEAROA**, which serve as vehicles for TPMS.

3. Giving...

- Parishioners:** consider giving a little on World Mission Sunday, or regularly, or leave a bequest.
- Parents of schoolchildren:** support your child's effort with the Mission box, fundraising projects, or the **MISSIO-Centenary** challenge to raise the equivalent of **one gold coin** per student.

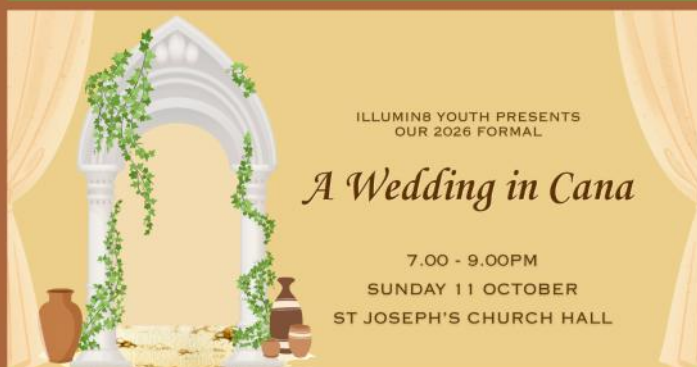
www.mission.nz E: info@mission.nz T: 021-1737992

October Edition

2026

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUTH GROUP

THIS SUNDAY WE CELEBRATE THE FEAST DAY OF ST. CARLO ACUTIS



JUNIOR & SENIOR YOUTH MASS

5.30PM, SUNDAY 11 OCT 2026
ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH



NEXT SUNDAY YOUTH GROUP
A NIGHT ON THE IMPORTANCE OF
CARING FOR OUR COMMUNITY



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



YOUTH GROUP
FOR YEARS 9 TO 13
6:30PM - 8:30PM
ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH HALL
DURING THE SCHOOL TERM
Contact LOUISE
youth@catholicparishnp.nz



WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Alistar Simmers, Maree Keegan, Jullie Mullin, John Leuthard, Patrica Thorn, Judy Scott, Steve Chamany, John and Helena Mulligan, John and Joan Bell, Leo and Mary Buchanan.

OCT

12
MON

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

TO 18TH OCTOBER THIRD SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

8:00am St Joseph's Church

13
TUE8:00am St Joseph's Church
9:10am Our Lady Help of Christians
12:05pm St Joseph's Church14
WED8:00am St Joseph's Church
9:10am Our Lady Help of Christians (Liturgy of the Word with Communion)15
THU8:00am St Joseph's Church (Liturgy of the Word with Communion)
No Mass at Sacred Hearts Girls College
and Francis Douglas Memorial College Chapel16
FRI8:00am St Joseph's Church
9:00am St. Pius X School (Philomena Hall)
12:05pm St Joseph's Church17
SAT8:30am St Joseph's Church
5:30pm Our Lady Help of Christians (Vigil Mass)
6:00pm St Patrick's Church Okato (Vigil Mass)18
SUN9:00am St Joseph's Church
10:30am Our Lady Help of Christians
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:

Each Sunday at 10:30am in the St John Bosco School Library. No Children's Liturgy on 4th October; (First Sunday of the school holidays) but will resume on 11 October.

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

LITTLE ANGELS MUSIC AND PLAY GROUP FOR PRESCHOOLERS



There will be no Little Angels Music and Play Group for pre-schoolers during the school and on 12th Oct. It restarts 19th Oct. For more details contact Amelia at musiccoordinator@catholicparishnp.nz

SUNDAY READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time 18 October

1ST READING: Isiah 45.1, 4-6

PSALM: 96

2ND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1.1-5ab

GOSPEL: Mathew 22.1-14 or 22.1-10

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

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
Tuesday
9.35am to 10.30am
(after 9.10am Mass)

First Sunday of the month
3.00pm - 4.00pm

BELL BLOCK CATHOLIC CENTRE
First Saturday of the month
9.30am to 10.30am

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 Louise

youth@catholicparishnp.nz

MUSIC COORDINATOR Amelia

musiccoordinator@catholicparishnp.nz

PARISH LEADERSHIP TEAM

parishleadershipteam@catholicparishnp.nz

JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP

justiceandpeace@catholicparishnp.nz

ST JOSEPH'S

106
Powderham
St,
New Plymouth



OUR LADY HELP OF CHRISTIANS

24 Clinton St, Fitzroy

BELL BLOCK CATHOLIC CENTRE

138 Parklands Ave,
Bell Block

ST PATRICK'S OKATO

36 Cumming St,
Okato

WEEKLY DIOCESAN UPDATES

for the Twenty - Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time
5 - 11 October 2026

Annual Mass to celebrate Jubilees of Ordination

Everyone is invited to the annual Mass to celebrate the priestly Jubilees of Ordination, which will be held at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Palmerston North, on Thursday 15 October at 12.05 pm. The presider will be Bishop John Adams.

Congratulations and blessings to all our jubilarians this year:

- ◆ Bishop Peter Cullinane (65 years)
- ◆ Fr. Tom Sherry (60 years)
- ◆ Fr David Gledhill SM (60 years)
- ◆ Fr Marcus Francis (25 years)
- ◆ Fr Ambrose Maliakkal IC (20 years)
- ◆ Fr Vijay Dung Dung (20 years).

Could you be a St Carlo Missionary?

On October 12, we celebrate the feast of St Carlo Acutis.

Perhaps over these past few weeks something has stayed with you. A love for St Carlo, a desire to help others know Jesus, or simply a sense that this invitation might be for you.

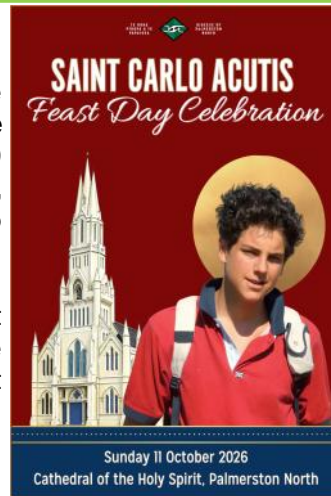
You do not need to have it all worked out. We would simply love to hear from you, pray with you, and discern together what being part of this mission might look like.

Diocesan Celebration of the Feast of St Carlo Acutis

All are warmly invited to join the Diocesan celebration of the Feast of St Carlo Acutis on **Sunday, 11 October 2026**, at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit. The day will begin with Mass at 7:30 am and continue with opportunities for Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, prayer, and veneration of the relic of St Carlo Acutis.

The Eucharistic Miracles Exhibition will be on display throughout the day, with tea and coffee available in the Cathedral Lounge during the afternoon. The celebration will conclude with Mass at 6:00 pm, followed by relic veneration.

"The Eucharist is my highway to heaven." – St Carlo Acutis



SAINT CARLO ACUTIS
Feast Day Celebration

Sunday 11 October 2026
Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Palmerston North

PROGRAMME

7:30am	Mass, followed by Relic Veneration
10am	Mass, followed by Relic Veneration
1pm	Eucharistic Adoration (available until 5pm) Reconciliation (available until 5pm) Relic Veneration
3pm	Divine Mercy
4pm	Rosary
5pm	Solemn Benediction Preparation for Evening Mass
6pm	Mass, followed by Relic Veneration

All are warmly invited to join us throughout the day.
Tea and coffee will be available in the Cathedral lounge in the afternoon,
and the St Carlo exhibition will be on display in the gathering area.

"The Eucharist is my highway to heaven." - St Carlo Acutis

October Mission Hub: Worship: More Than Music

Celebrating One Year of Mission Hub!

Join us for a special one-year celebration as we explore what it really means to worship God – not only through music, but with our whole lives.

Pippa Fletcher and Joe Wells from One Hope Project will lead us in exploring how prayer, the Mass, and our everyday response to God can shape us into people who worship Him more deeply.

Ideal for parish leaders, ministry teams, and anyone passionate about growing in their relationship with Jesus and encouraging a missionary culture in their community.

Monday 12 October 2026 – Bonus Praise and Worship from 6.45pm before we start the session at 7.00pm–8.30pm (NZT).

Register at <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/5wUxZvGWR4yzvyNrBd94Rg> - /registration

MISSION HUB NZ

WORSHIP: MORE THAN MUSIC

Celebrating One Year of Mission Hub



PIPPA FLETCHER & JOE WELLS
ONE HOPE PROJECT

MONDAY 12 OCTOBER
7.00PM - 8.30PM

BONUS!
Join us from
6.45pm for praise
and worship!

www.missionhubnz.com

MISSION HUB
NEW ZEALAND

Hearts Aflame Catholic Summer School Scholarship

The Catholic Enquiry Centre is delighted to be offering a scholarship to one young adult to attend Hearts Aflame 2027.

Young adults aged 18 – 35 who wish to attend Hearts Aflame in 2027 are eligible to apply. Priority will be given to those exploring the Catholic faith, preparing to become Catholic, or who have been recently welcomed into the Church.

The scholarship covers the full registration fee and deposit (travel and personal expenses are not included).

Applications close 8pm Friday 30 October. Apply at <https://forms.gle/o3D37NWtbEzHTEB59>

WHY THIS SCHOLARSHIP?

The Catholic Enquiry Centre is offering one young adult the chance to attend Hearts Aflame 2027 – to deepen their faith, grow closer to Christ, and experience Catholic community and formation.

WHO CAN APPLY?

Young adults aged 18–35 who wish to attend. Priority will be given to those exploring the Catholic faith, preparing to become Catholic, or recently welcomed into the Church.



NZ Catholic Bishops Release 2026 Election Statement

The New Zealand Catholic bishops have published a statement ahead of the November 7 General Election.

The full statement can be found at <https://bit.ly/NZCBCElection26>

St Mary's Whanganui 50th Jubilee Celebration

The Catholic Parish of Whanganui warmly invites parishioners and friends to celebrate the 50th Jubilee of St Mary's Church on **Sunday, 1 November 2026**. The celebrations will begin with a Jubilee Mass at 9.30am, followed by church and marae tours, a potluck lunch, speeches, and musical entertainment.

For catering purposes, please RSVP by 20 October 2026 to the Catholic Parish of Whanganui at admin@cpow.co.nz

LET'S CELEBRATE

St Mary's 50th Jubilee

SUNDAY THE 1ST OF NOVEMBER, 2026

PLEASE JOIN US FOR A CELEBRATORY MASS AT 9.30AM, FOLLOWED BY CHURCH AND MARAE TOURS, A POTLUCK LUNCH, SPEECHES AND MUSICAL ENTERTAINMENT!

RSVP by the 20th of October to the Catholic Parish of Whanganui (admin@cpow.co.nz) Any queries please contact Kate Lynch (kate@cpow.co.nz or 027 2430 430)



Principal / Tumuaki Vacancy - Sacred Heart College Napier

The Board of Trustees of Sacred Heart College Napier invites applications for the position of Principal / Tumuaki, commencing Term 1, 2027. The College is seeking an outstanding Catholic faith and educational leader committed to strengthening the school's special character and fostering excellence in learning, leadership, and wellbeing.

Application packs available from: 28 September 2026

Applications close: 4.00pm, Thursday 22 October 2026

For confidential enquiries or to request an application pack, email: principalapplication@shcn.school.nz

Principal / Tumuaki Sacred Heart College Napier



Sacred Heart College Napier is a state-integrated Catholic Secondary School for girls in Years 9-13, located in the beautiful Hawke's Bay.

Founded by the Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions, the College is a nurturing faith community where our Catholic Special Character is at the centre of all we do. Guided by Gospel teachings, we foster young women of faith, courage, compassion, and integrity, committed to excellence and social justice.

Our students are empowered to develop a love of learning and approach life with confidence, resilience, and self-discipline. A strong spirit of sisterhood enhances opportunities across sport, the arts and cultural activities, service and leadership supporting students to grow and celebrate together.

Our HEART Gospel values—Hope, Equity, Aroha, Respect, and Tenacity—shape College life and guide students in faith, learning and leadership.

The School Board invite applications from exceptional Catholic leaders to continue to build on the strong foundations of the College. We are seeking a faith and education leader who will:

- Be a visible and authentic witness to the Catholic faith
- Lead and strengthen the Catholic special character and mission of the College
- Inspire excellence in teaching, learning, and student achievement
- Foster a culture of faith, belonging, wellbeing, and high expectations
- Champion Te Tiriti o Waitangi, Te Ao Māori, and cultural responsiveness
- Build strong relationships with students, whānau, parish, iwi, the Proprietor and the wider community
- Lead strategically while remaining visible, approachable, and connected to the College community

A willingness and ability to participate in religious instruction appropriate to the special character of the school is a condition of appointment.



For confidential enquiries or to request an application pack, please contact: principalapplication@shcn.school.nz

Application packs available from 28 September 2026

Applications close 4.00pm on Thursday 22 October 2026

Position commences Term 1 2027

Thanksgiving Mass for the Closure of St Joseph's School, Patea

All are welcome to attend the Thanksgiving Mass marking the closure of St Joseph's School, Patea, on Saturday 12 December 2026, 10.30am, at St Patrick's Church, 27 Egmont Street, Patea.

The Mass will be followed by a light lunch at St Joseph's School. For catering purposes, please RSVP with numbers attending to stpatspatea@xtra.co.nz by Thursday 1 December.



St Joseph's School, Patea
Taking Responsibility | Achieving Excellence | Having Respect | In it Together

Please join Bishop John Adams and the Diocese of Palmerston North at the

Thanksgiving Mass

for the closure of St Joseph's School, Patea.

Saturday 12th December 2026, 10:30am
at St Patrick's Church
27 Egmont Street, Patea, Taranaki

Followed by light lunch at St Joseph's School.
All are welcome.

RSVP to stpatspatea@xtra.co.nz by **Thursday 1 December** with numbers attending.

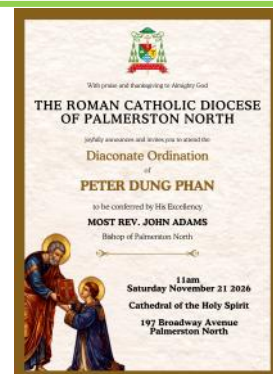
Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College Enrolment for 2027

Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College is now accepting enrolments for Semester One 2027. If you are a Catholic school teacher, preparing for ministry, seeking academic formation, or wanting to grow in understanding of the Catholic faith, CTC offers opportunities to learn and engage with Theology in a supportive environment. Go to www.ctc.ac.nz for more information.



Ordination to the Diaconate of Peter Dung (Zung) Manh Phan

Bishop John Adams and the Catholic Diocese of Palmerston North are pleased to announce the forthcoming Ordination to the Diaconate of Peter Dung (Zung) Manh Phan, 11am on Saturday 21 November 2026, at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Palmerston North.



Divine Intimacy in Marriage Retreat | 22-24 January 2027

Married couples are warmly invited to a special weekend retreat in Palmerston North with Dan and Stephanie Burke.

Come away for a time to pray, reconnect and grow together in Christ - a chance to step away from the busyness of everyday life and invest in your marriage.

22-24 January 2027, Palmerston North.

Registrations are now open! Find out more and register:

<https://divineintimacy2027.netlify.app/>



MISSION SUNDAY 100TH CELEBRATION

The Catholic Church around the world will mark the 100th Mission Sunday on October 18.

The day is set aside to pray for the Church's mission and to support those who carry the Gospel to places where hope is fragile, where faith is young and where believers often face hardship or persecution. That support can be financial and through prayer.

Find out more at: <https://missio.nz/>

The New Zealand Catholic Bishops have written a letter to Catholic Schools and Parishes – you can find it at <https://missio.nz/wp-content/uploads/NZCBC-Letter-Mission-Sunday-100-years-1.pdf>

A Priestly Renewal Convocation | 25-29 January 2027

In January, priests from across New Zealand are being invited to Palmerston North for five days of prayer, fraternity and renewal in their priesthood. As the lay faithful, we are invited to pray for our priests and encourage them to attend, helping make space for them to step away from the demands of parish life and be renewed in Christ.

Find out more: <https://priestlyrenewal2027.netlify.app/>

Atawhaingia ō tātau kāinga - Show mercy in all the places we dwell

Whānau Mercy Ministries has teamed up with Te Herenga Waka Victoria University of Wellington to co-host a 3-day symposium from December 13 – 15 2026. The symposium will explore the impact of religion across education, healthcare, and social services. Open to all, and ecumenical in scope, you won't want to miss this opportunity to hear several excellent speakers and engage in conversations to explore the theme with others.

Visit <https://whanaumercy.nz/catherine-mcauley-symposium/> to find out more and register.

November 2026 Funding Round | Catholic Charities Foundation

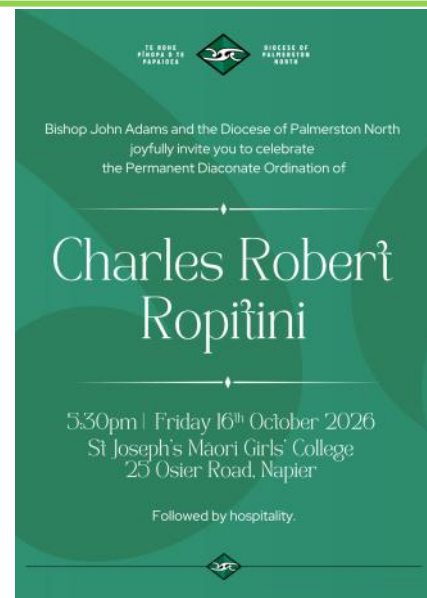
Parish groups, agencies and church organisations that provide a helping hand by supporting Families and Social Services are invited to apply for funding from the Catholic Charities Foundation of Palmerston and the Tindall Foundation through the Diocesan Allocations group.

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.

Permanent Diaconate Ordination of Charles Ropitini

You are warmly invited to attend the Permanent Diaconate Ordination of Charles Robert Ropitini on Friday 16 October 2026 at 5.30pm at St Joseph's Māori Girls' College, 25 Osier Road, Napier. Hospitality will follow. All are welcome.



100th Year of World Mission Sunday

ONE IN CHRIST
UNITED IN
Mission



and

OCTOBER MISSION MONTH

Join Pope LEO XIV in prayer, solidarity and support of our brothers and sisters in Missionary Territories.

World Mission Sunday 18 October 2026

2026 marks the centenary year when Catholics are united worldwide in prayer, solidarity, and support for the Pope's missionary effort. Globally, a collection is taken up at Sunday Mass on **World Mission Sunday** for **The Pontifical Mission Societies (TPMS)**.



DID YOU KNOW THAT?

New Zealand's Office of **TPMS** is part of an international network of over 120 countries at the service of the Pope to support the mission and the young Churches with prayer and charity.

SUPPORT POPE LEO'S MISSIONARY ENDEAVOURS by:

1. Praying...

Pray for TPMS' efforts, and pray that "all members of the Church be **united in mission**, docile to the Holy Spirit, courageous in bearing witness to the Gospel, proclaiming and daily embodying your faithful love for all creatures". (Pope Leo XIV).



To donate using
Credit-Card scan
the Code

Missio's accounts for each Diocese:

BNZ 02-0506-0022477-066 (Auckland)
BNZ 02-0506-0022477-065 (Christchurch)
BNZ 02-0506-0022477-082 (Dunedin)
BNZ 02-0506-0022477-068 (Hamilton)
BNZ 02-0506-0022477-069 (Palmerston North)
BNZ 02-0506-0022477-070 (Wellington)

Account Name: PONTIFICAL MISSION AID SOCIETIES
(If you use Missio's ANZ/Westpac account, the A/c Name: Missio Benevolent Society)

missionz
missio
TO GO TO A FUTURE WITH GOD

2. Doing...

Participate in the mission individually or as a community, including raising the awareness of the need to support NZ's two charities, **MISSIONZ** and **MISSIO AOTEAROA**, which serve as vehicles for TPMS.

3. Giving...

- **Parishioners**: consider giving a little on World Mission Sunday, or regularly, or leave a bequest.
- **Parents of schoolchildren**: support your child's effort with the Mission box, fundraising projects, or the MISSIO-Centenary challenge to raise the equivalent of **one gold coin** per student.



St Joseph's School New Plymouth Centenary - Register online 23rd-25th October 2026



**Celebrating 100 years of Catholic Education
a special milestone in the life of**

St Joseph's Catholic School New Plymouth.

Join us in this joyful celebration of this Mission Sisters', RNDM school

Friday 23 October:

9.15 am Mihi Whakatau;

9.50am Grandparents Day and **10.30 am** Morning Tea

6pm Supper, Tour and Photos

Saturday 24 October:

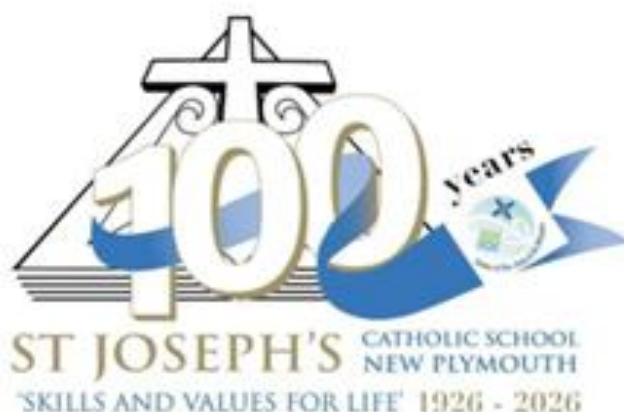
11 am Morning Tea Scones; Tour and Photos

6pm Gala Dinner at the Devon Hotel New Plymouth

Sunday 25 October.

10.30am Mass in the School Grounds

with Food Stalls, Raffles, Bouncy Castles etc. for Centenary Fun Day!



For further updates, the following is the official Centenary Facebook Page
<https://www.facebook.com/profile.php?id=61576850039718>

"Register Your Interest" form here:

<https://docs.google.com/.../1FAIpQLSeUuzs83RR.../viewform...>



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

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**

