



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



18th October 2026 29th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Illumin8 Formal – “A Wedding in Cana”

Sunday night was one to remember as 80 teenagers came together for our Illumin8 Youth Group Formal!

This was our second Illumin8 Formal, filled with dancing and celebration! It was a wonderful opportunity for young people to dress up, connect with friends, make new memories, and enjoy a special night together.



The formal was a fantastic success and a reflection of the friendships, connection, and community that make youth group so special. Whether posing for photos, enjoying the food, showing off their dance moves, or celebrating one another through awards during the night, everyone had the chance to be part of something memorable. Even the parents and Fr. Simon and Fr. Sobin got out on the dance floor!

A huge thank you and congratulations to our teenagers on the Formal Committee, who poured their hearts and souls into the night, and made it feel so magical. And to all the parents and youth council who supported us in making the Illumin8 Formal a success!



PAR-
ISH



Fr Simon

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

Sunday 18th October
Mission Sunday
Collection All Masses

Sunday 18th October
Market Day
Sacred Heart's College
Event Centre
12.00pm-3.00pm
(Details on Pg3)

**Fri-Sat 23rd-25th
October**
St Joseph's School New
Plymouth Centenary

Sunday 25th October
St. Joseph's School
Centenary Mass
St. Joseph's School
Grounds Calvert Rd
10.30am

Tuesday 27th October
Assisi Prayer for
World Peace
St Joseph's Church
7:00pm

Friday 30th October
Sunflower Hidden
Disabilities Scheme
Nga Motu Room
Parish office
6.00pm

Saturday 14th November
Bereavement Liturgy
St Joseph's Church
10.00am

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

AV GOSPEL ENCOUNTER GROUP

AV Gospel Encounter (Connect) group Come and See. Come and Grow.

You are warmly invited to experience the freedom and power in the living Jesus speaking within and amongst us through opening our hearts to the upcoming Sunday's Gospel. Come, be renewed, refreshed and surprised by the Holy Spirit. Not a Bible study. No prep needed. Just turn up!

Next Gospel Encounter:

Oct 21 | Wed 7 -8.15 pm | Our Lady Help of Christians Catholic church, Fitzroy

Doors open 6.45pm for welcome cuppa and cookie.

Dates in 2026:

Nov 4th, Nov 18th, Dec 2nd, Dec 9th



Fr. Simon, Fr. Tom, and Fr. Sobin will be at the Clergy Retreat this week. Consequently, Liturgy of the Word with Communion will be celebrated rather than Mass at St. Joseph's from Tuesday midday to Friday morning. Please continue to ring the Parish Office with all enquiries.

BEREAVEMENT LITURGY

On Saturday 14 November at 10.00am, at St Joseph's Church, we will remember our loved ones who passed away during 2025 at our annual bereavement liturgy.

If you had any family members or friends, who died during 2025, whose funeral records we may not have and you wish to remember them in this liturgy, please contact the Parish Office, and they will be prayed for. Please feel welcome to bring a photo of your loved one and a flower or flowers from your garden. All family members and friends of the deceased and all parishioners are most welcome to join us. Please phone or visit us at the Parish Office if you have any queries.

"Prayer is our hope"

We as a parish continue to support Vincel and Savusavu as they begin the appeal process with Immigration New Zealand, fighting for the right for their 7 year old daughter Diana to remain with her family in New Zealand. Parishioners have been signing the letter of support. This letter is still in St Joseph's church foyer if you still wish to sign this weekend. When I asked Vincel how the parish can help, he said "Prayer. Prayer is our hope". Let us reach out to Diana praying that her family will be successful in their bid for her to remain in New Zealand.

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

JUSTICE AND PEACE GROUP

Sunflower Hidden Disabilities Scheme – Making the invisible visible



Help us to foster a disability-friendly culture in our parish. The green sunflower lanyard, bracelet, or badge lets us know that the wearer has a disability that we can't see. They may need us to allow a bit of extra time, or maybe some help or understanding.

The Catholic Parish of New Plymouth Hidden Disabilities Sunflower Scheme group are meeting with the Leader and Advisor of Inclusiveness for the Diocese of Palmerston North, David Loving-Molloy in the **Nga Motu Room** of the Parish office at **6pm on Friday October 30th**.



Anyone who is interested in knowing more or being part of promoting this important means of making everyone welcome in our parish is very welcome to join us.

2026 Election scorecard

How do the parties measure up on climate, economic and Te Tiriti justice?

We asked each main party questions on key policies to respond to our changing climate, address the cost of living (focusing on housing and incomes) and honour Te Tiriti o Waitangi.

These score cards are put on the notice board, please have a look at them and copies to take home. They are also available online at <https://www.commongrace.nz/scorecard>



You are invited to join us for the

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSISI PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE

Organised by Pope John Paul II, the first Prayer for World Peace took place in Assisi on 27 October 1986, inspired by the witness of St. Francis of Assisi, universally revered as a sign of peace, reconciliation and fraternity. This event recognizes the unique value of interreligious prayer for peace.

27 October, 7pm at St Joseph Church
106, powderham st, New Plymouth

Today, we join together to promote peace and understanding among all nations and people. Let us work towards a world where conflict is resolved through dialogue and cooperation.

For more information, please contact
Helene - justiceandpeace@catholicparishnp.nz



TŪMANAKO
United in Hope - I te Tūmanako o te Kotahitanga

Sacred Heart Girls' College
New Plymouth

Hosted by **PTFA** *from the heart*

MARKET DAY

COME ALONG & SUPPORT OUR STUDENT ENTREPRENEURS!

Shop • Eat • Drink • Support Local Talent

WHAT WILL YOU FIND?

Handmade jewellery, Crochet creations, Handmade cards, Home baking, Pre-loved goods, Lollies & sweet treats, Cookbooks, Body butter, Protein pancake mix, Coffee, Sausage sizzle, Planner for your next chapter, Handmade gift or something a little different

COME FOR THE STUDENTS – STAY FOR THE TREATS!

SUNDAY 18 OCTOBER | **12PM-3PM** | **EVENT CENTRE SHGC**
9 Pukaka Street, Strandon, New Plymouth

♥ Come shop. Come eat. Come support our student entrepreneurs! ♥

MISSION SUNDAY SPECIAL COLLECTION

SUNDAY 18 OCTOBER: We celebrate Mission Sunday 18 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. If you would like a tax receipt, please add your name and address to these envelopes. 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.

To donate direct to Missionz Special envelopes are in the foyer.

Copies of Missionz Newsletter is available in the Foyer.

October Edition 2026

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUTH GROUP

Team Player
A Night on Community
6.30-8.30pm
Sunday 18 October
St Joseph's Church Hall

THIS SUNDAY YOUTH GROUP SUN, 18 OCT

A NIGHT ON THE IMPORTANCE OF COMMUNITY, AND CARE FOR OTHERS

WORSHIP
WED, 28 OCT
7.30PM - 8.30PM
ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH
NEW PLYMOUTH
ALL ARE WELCOME

NEXT SUNDAY SUN, 25 OCT

NO YOUTH GROUP FOR THE LONG WEEKEND.

Saints & Angels
Dress as your favourite Saint or Angel and celebrate All Saints Day with us!
Sun 1 Nov, 6.30-8.30pm, St Joseph's Church Hall

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

Older Children's BAPTISM

Important Dates

COMING UP IN NOVEMBER IS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR CHILDREN SEVEN YEARS AND OLDER (AND THEIR YOUNGER SIBLINGS) TO BE BAPTISED.

8TH NOVEMBER — 4.15PM AT ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH
PREPARATION & PRACTICE, FOLLOWED BY 5.30PM MASS WHERE CHILDREN WILL BE ANOINTED.

15TH NOVEMBER — 2.00PM BAPTISM CELEBRATION AT ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, FOLLOWED BY AFTERNOON TEA.
PLEASE GET IN TOUCH TO REGISTER.

IF YOU KNOW OF FAMILIES WHO MAY BE INTERESTED, PLEASE LET THEM KNOW TO GET IN TOUCH.

To Register
Contact Karen at
youngfamilyminister@catholicparishnp.nz
Registrations close 1st November

WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED FAMILY AND FRIENDS: Maree Keegan, Kitty and Howard Scott, Ursula Schafer, Francis and Susanna Chamany, Marie Hickey, Lorraine Murray, Joan Loader and Michael Burke.

OCT
19
MON

WEEKLY MASS SCHEDULE

TO 25TH OCTOBER FOURTH SUNDAY OF THE MONTH

8:00am St Joseph's Church

20
TUE

8:00am St Joseph's Church
9:10am Our Lady Help of Christians
12:05pm St Joseph's Church (Liturgy of the Word with Communion)

21
WED

8:00am St Joseph's Church (Liturgy of the Word with Communion)
9:10am Our Lady Help of Christians

22
THU

8:00am St Joseph's Church (Liturgy of the Word with Communion)
10:00am Sacred Hearts Girls College (Mary's Chapel)
No Mass at Francis Douglas Memorial College

23
FRI

8:00am St Joseph's Church (Liturgy of the Word with Communion)
12:05pm St Joseph's Church

24
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)

25
SUN

9:00am St Joseph's Church
10:30am Our Lady Help of Christians
10:30am St. Joseph's School Centenary Mass (Outdoors)
(Celebrated at St. Joseph's School Grounds Calvert Rd)
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:

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

Our Lady Help of Christians: Each Sunday at 10:30am in the St John Bosco School Library.



LITTLE ANGELS MUSIC AND PLAY GROUP FOR PRESCHOOLERS

Little Angels Music and Play Group for pre-schoolers restarts 19th Oct. For more details contact Amelia at musiccoordinator@catholicparishnp.nz



SUNDAY READINGS FOR NEXT SUNDAY

30th Sunday in Ordinary Time 25 October

1ST READING: Exodus 22.21-27

PSALM: 18

2ND READING: 1 Thessalonians 1.5c-10

GOSPEL: Matthew 22.34-40

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



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:

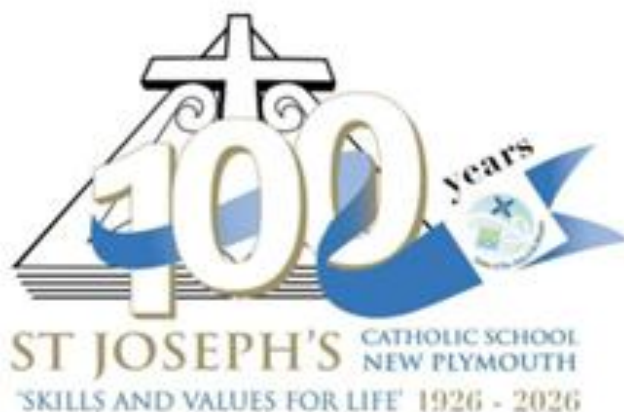
11 am Morning Tea Scones; Tour and Photos

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...>



WEEKLY DIOCESAN UPDATES

for the Twenty - Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time
12 - 18 October 2026

International Day of Peace – 27 October

Join people of many faith traditions for an Inter-Religious Prayer for Peace on Tuesday 27 October, 7pm at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Palmerston North.

Marking the 40th anniversary of the Assisi Prayer for World Peace, the gathering is an opportunity to pray together for peace, understanding and reconciliation in our world.

For more information, contact maeastham23@gmail.com

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

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 stpatstpatea@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 stpatstpatea@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.



TE KUPENGA CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Enrolment for 2027

Opens September 21, 2026

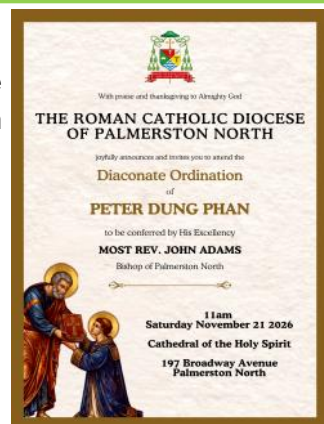
On-Campus Study | Online Study
Study Full-time or Part-time

- Bachelor of Divinity
- Graduate Diploma in Theology
- NZ Certificate in Christian Studies (Religious Education & Christian Ministry) - more online courses available in 2027
- Management of Church Organisations (Online Introductory)

ctc.ac.nz

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.



With praise and thanksgiving to Almighty God

THE ROMAN CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF PALMERSTON NORTH

joyfully announces and invites you to attend the

Diaconate Ordination

of

PETER DUNG PHAN

to be conferred by His Excellency

MOST REV. JOHN ADAMS
Bishop of Palmerston North

11am
Saturday November 21 2026
Cathedral of the Holy Spirit
197 Broadway Avenue
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/>



Divine Intimacy in Marriage

A CATHOLIC MARRIAGE RETREAT

Divine Intimacy

in Marriage

Ascend into Oneness

An unforgettable weekend of encounter, renewal, and deeper union — with God and with each other.

led by
Dan & Stephanie Burke

Friday 22nd 8am - Sunday 24 January 12pm 2027
Capthorne Hotel, Palmerston North

For more info and to register:
divineintimacy2027.netlify.app

Early Bird \$60 per couple - Register by 30 October 2026 (Standard \$80 per couple)

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://bit.ly/MissionSundayNZ2026>

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.

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



You are invited to join us for the

40TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE ASSISI PRAYER FOR WORLD PEACE

Organised by Pope John Paul II, the first Prayer for World Peace took place in Assisi on 27 October 1986, inspired by the witness of St. Francis of Assisi, universally revered as a sign of peace, reconciliation and fraternity. This event recognizes the unique value of interreligious prayer for peace.

27 October, 7pm at St Joseph Church
106, powderham st, New Plymouth

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For more information, please contact
Helene - justiceandpeace@catholicparishnp.nz



Sacred Heart Girls' College
New Plymouth

Hosted by
PTFA 
from the heart

MARKET DAY

COME ALONG & SUPPORT OUR
STUDENT ENTREPRENEURS!

♥ Shop • Eat • Drink • Support Local Talent ♥

WHAT WILL YOU FIND?



Handmade
jewellery



Crochet
creations



Handmade
cards



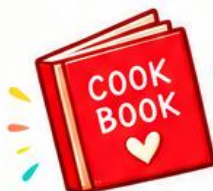
Home
baking



Pre-loved
goods



Lollies &
sweet treats



Cookbooks



Body
butter



Protein
pancake mix



Coffee



Sausage
sizzle



Planner for
your next chapter



Handmade gift
or something
a little different

♥ COME FOR THE STUDENTS –
STAY FOR THE TREATS! ♥



SUNDAY
18 OCTOBER



12PM–3PM



EVENT CENTRE
SHGC
9 Pukaka Street,
Strandon, New Plymouth

♥ Come shop. Come eat. Come support our student entrepreneurs! ♥

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.

"IT IS NO LONGER I WHO LIVE, BUT CHRIST LIVES IN ME. SO I LIVE IN THIS EARTHLY BODY BY TRUSTING IN THE SON OF GOD, WHO LOVED ME AND GAVE HIMSELF FOR ME."

- GALATIANS 2:20



OUR LIVES ARE YOURS

Night of
WORSHIP
ADORATION AND RECONCILIATION

WED, 28 OCT
7:30PM - 8.30PM
ST. JOSEPH'S CHURCH
NEW PLYMOUTH
ALL ARE WELCOME

**St. James Church, Okato Cooperating Parish with
Rōpū Hoa Wairua o Taranaki (Taranaki Spiritual
Companions Group)**

**A Sacred Quiet Morning at St. James Church,
Oakura**

Listening to God in Advent



Saturday 28th November 2026 9.30am -1.00pm

³A voice of one calling:

"In the wilderness prepare the way for the Lord³;
make straight in the desert a highway for our God.

⁴ Every valley shall be raised up, every mountain and hill made low;
the rough ground shall become level, the rugged places a plain.

⁵ And the glory of the Lord will be revealed, and all people will see it together.

Isaiah 40 3-5

A quiet time of silence for prayer and reflection with music, scripture, and
prayerful stitching.

Bring your Bible, writing materials, your journal. Refreshments are provided. Koha
is welcomed in assisting to meet costs. A variety of resources will be available.

Please register your attendance by Friday 20th November 2026 with Heather
Lofthouse Text (021617894) or email heather1349@gmail.com



Election 2026 scorecard

1

How do the parties measure up on climate, economic and Te Tiriti justice?

✓ Full yes | 🟡 Partial yes | ✗ No | --- No position found

Treaty

Treaty Policy Question	ACT	NZ First	National	Opportunity	Labour	Greens	Te Pāti Māori
Support Waitangi Tribunal's independence and mandate?	✗	✗	🟡	🟡	✓	✓	✓
Protect Te Tiriti through constitutional transformation?	✗	✗	✗	🟡	---	✓	✓
No weakening of Treaty clauses in legislation?	✗	✗	✗	🟡	✓	✓	✓
Supports co-governance?	✗	✗	✗	🟡	🟡	✓	✓
Repeal changes to Takutai Moana Act?	✗	✗	✗	✓	🟡	✓	✓
Restore council's ability to introduce Māori wards without referendum?	✗	✗	✗	🟡	🟡	✓	✓

Accurate at 07 Oct 2026. View the full scorecard questions and answers at commongrace.nz/scorecard

Incomes

2

Incomes Policy Question	ACT	NZ First	National	Opportunity	Labour	Greens	Te Pāti Māori
Legislate to measure poverty?			---		---		---
Increase benefits to liveable levels?					---		
Increase disability allowance?					---		---
Pay govt employees living wage?							
Review cash asset testing for accomodation supplement?	---		---		---		
Review cash asset testing for Special Needs grants?	---	---	---		---		
Increase benefit abatement threshold?	---				---		
Index Working For Families to Wage growth/CPI?	---				---		

Housing

3

Housing Policy Question	ACT	NZ First	National	Opportunity	Labour	Greens	Te Pāti Māori
How many new social houses?	---	---	1800-2250	---	4500	20,000	---
Increase social housing to 7% of housing stock?	✗	✓	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓
Increase funding for homelessness prevention?	---	✓	✗	---	✓	✓	✓
Reinstate 15% goal for accessible houses for Kainga Ora?	---	🟡	✗	---	✓	✓	---
Reduce barriers to Māori home ownership?	---	✓	🟡	✓	✓	✓	✓
Restart Progressive Home Ownership Fund?	✗	✓	✗	---	✓	✓	---
Rent-to-buy or low interest loans for first home buyers?	---	✓	🟡	---	✓	✓	---
Repeal move-on orders?	✗	✗	✗	---	🟡	✓	✓

Accurate at 07 Oct 2026. View the full scorecard questions and answers at commongrace.nz/scorecard

Climate

4

Climate Policy Question	ACT	NZ First	National	Opportunity	Labour	Greens	Te Pāti Māori
Minimum insurance cover for homes from extreme weather via NHC?	---	---	---		---	✓	---
Legislate for cross-party managed retreat funding framework?	✗	---	---	✓	---	✓	
Boost climate funding to climate vulnerable countries?	✗	✗	✗	---	---	✓	---
Meet 2030/2035 targets under Paris and Zero Carbon Act?	✗	✗	✗	✓		✓	✓
No new oil, coal and gas licenses, onshore and offshore?	✗	✗	✗			✓	✓
Price agricultural emissions?	✗	✗	✗		✗	✓	✓
Rapid phase out of free carbon credits to big polluters?	✗	✗	✗		---	✓	---
Electrification subsidies for low-income households?	✗	---	✗	✓		✓	✓
Ensure renters benefit from electrification upgrades?	✗	---	✗	---	---		
Long-term, low interest finance for solar + electrification?	✗	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓	✓

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



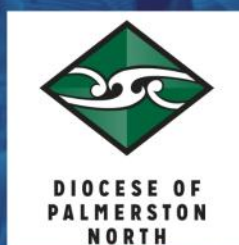
WORLD YOUTH DAY

3 - 8 AUGUST 2027
SEOUL, SOUTH KOREA

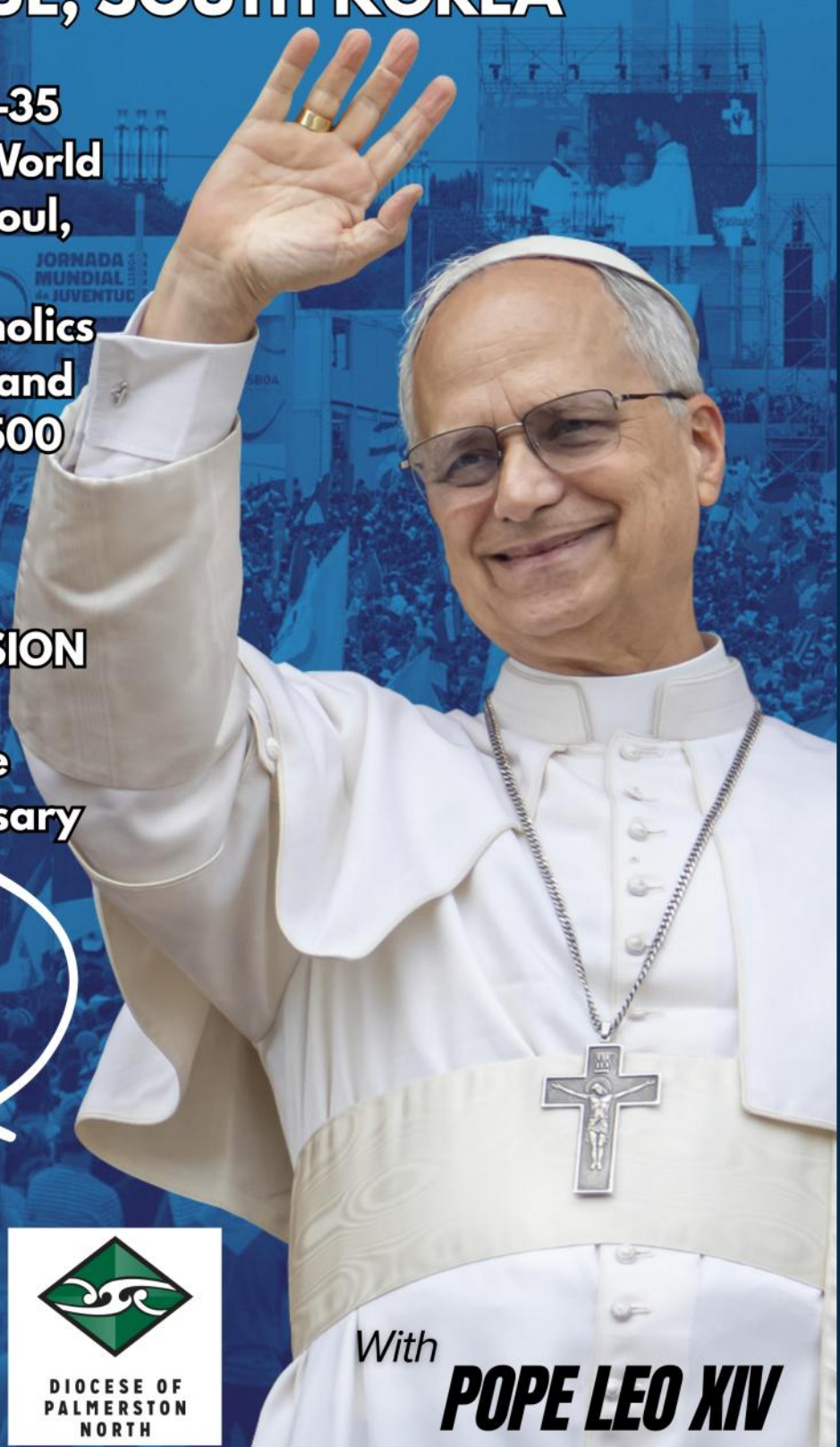
Young adults aged 18–35 are invited to attend World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul, South Korea, where millions of young Catholics will gather. New Zealand bishops aim to bring 500 young people.

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

SCAN ME



With **POPE LEO XIV**



You're invited to

HEAVENLY HOMES

A one day fundraising event celebrating the
magic and joy of Christmas

15 November 2026



St Pius X



Scan for tickets
and more info

Focus on Inglewood - Taranaki Heritage Month 2026



Date: Sat, 31 Oct

Time: 10:30am - 3pm NZDT

Location: St Andrew's Inglewood Church Hall

Inglewood, New Zealand

Inglewood was settled by Europeans from 1875. The town has an interesting history and many points of interest.

The Polish settlers arrived in the town in 1876 and Inglewood became the largest Polish settlement in New Zealand. Their hard work in clearing bush, road-building and bridge-building made a significant contribution to the development of the district and surroundings.

Hear Barbara Scrivens of Auckland speak of the Polish community experience as she talks about her recently published book. Following this there will be a break for lunch. There are several cafe possibilities.

Meet again at 1.00 pm at Fritz Reuter Place (main corner in Inglewood). We will then take a walk around Historical points of interest finishing back at St Andrew's Church.

Free, koha appreciated.

Registration and tickets not required - just turn up on the day.

This event is part of Taranaki Heritage Month 2026 (2 October to 6 November 2026). A full programme of events can be found on Heritage Taranaki's website at the following link:

<https://heritagetaranaki.com/heritage-month-2026-programme-of-events-registration/>

