



Catholic Parish of Whanganui

Twenty Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time

21 September 2025



NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

Monday 22 September

9.00am C/s Holy Family

Tuesday 23 September

9.30am C/S Holy Family

12.05pm Mass St Marys

Wednesday 24 September

12.05pm Mass St Mary's

Thursday 25 September

12.05pm Mass St Marys

Friday 26 September

11.20am Rite I St Mary's

12.05pm Mass St Mary's

Saturday 27 September

9.00am Rite I St Mary's

9.30am Mass St Mary's

5.30pm Sun Vigil Mass
Holy Family

Sunday 28 September

9.30am Mass St Mary's

12.00pm Mass Ranana

5.30pm Mass St Mary's

PARISH CONTACT DETAILS

Parish Office

Jo Boulton 06 345 3872

admin@cpow.co.nz

Parish Priest

Fr Craig Butler 021 272 4401

Assistant Priest

Fr John Roberts 027 634 6877

Hospital Chaplain

Norma O'Connor 027 233 4557

Youth Minister

Rain Shore 021 256 0608

You shall love your neighbour as yourself

On Wednesday evening a number of us gathered to learn how to use our new defibrillator (defib). The training was well done and we all came away from the session ready and prepared for an emergency.

There are some things we all need to consider.

In the event of such an emergency anyone asked to help should do so immediately. It might be a simple request to get the defib and take it to the person in charge; or to get the sheets and blankets to provide privacy for the sick person.

I am aware of the "rubber necking" that happens at accident sites. It will not help. So we all have a specific and important role: to pray quietly for those helping and the person, and, if asked to undertake a task requested promptly with without question.

I suspect some may find these instructions "bossy".

My experience with St John indicates that quiet efficiency is the best. It is also the greatest way you and I can help our neighbour as did the Good Samaritan help the injured traveller.

Thank you for your co-operation, Father John.

When I wrote the above, I hoped I would think of something else to write about. Sunday's readings give us much to ponder. Amos invites us to wonder whether we are seeing similar reactions by the rich and powerful in our country in our day. If it is so we may wish to consider how we can help break down the barriers between those in need and those with plenty. It is a hard task. Every little you and I do to help others is important. It tells people that there is another, better way to live.

The steward who was not living up to his master's commands suddenly realised that he no longer held his master's respect. It can be so with Christians. When we realise that this is so for "me" it is a moment of great privilege. God our Father has realised "I" am mature enough to hear the voice of the Holy Spirit who tells us of the Father's longing that we change. Our task then is to implement the changes needed and to enjoy the healing mercy of the Sacrament of Penance. We should never be afraid of the Sacrament, rather approach it as a dearly beloved daughter or son knowing we are loved and will be forgiven. Father John.

Wise Words from St Augustine

May we be accompanied by the heartfelt appeal of Saint Augustine, who said: "Love this Church, be ye in this holy Church, be ye this Church; love the Good Shepherd, the Spouse so fair, who deceiveth no-one, who desireth no one to perish. Pray too for the scattered sheep; that they too may come, that they too may acknowledge Him, that they too may love Him; that there may be One Flock and One Shepherd" [Sermon 138, 10].

HOPE AND RENEWAL SUMMIT The date for Early bird registrations has been extended by one more week. Parish renewal isn't just for one person it's a shared mission. Come as a parish. Be renewed. Palmerston North 3-4 October 2025. Register today and save: www.hoperenewalsummit.com

Hope and Renewal Summit – Pray for Healing and Renewal

This week, we pray for healing of our hearts, minds, bodies, and communities. As we continue our journey toward the Summit, we ask the Lord to bring deep renewal to His Church. May the Holy Spirit move in power and may all who attend the Summit experience the peace, freedom, and restoration that only Christ can give.

Let us pray:

God of mercy, bring healing to hearts, minds, and bodies.

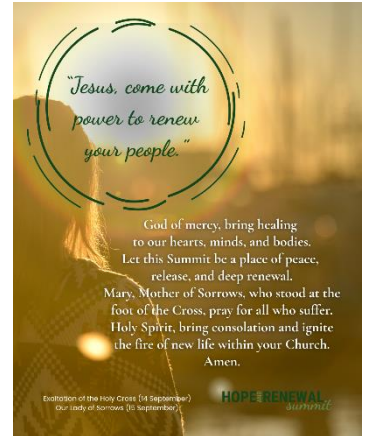
Let this Summit be a place of peace, release, and deep renewal.

Mary, Mother of Sorrows, who stood at the foot of the Cross, pray for all who suffer.

Holy Spirit, bring consolation and ignite the fire of new life within your Church.

Amen.

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



Stay Informed on National Safeguarding efforts

The National Office for Professional Standards (NOPS) is now publishing a quarterly newsletter with updates, resources, and information about the Church's safeguarding efforts. Read the latest issue at [https://mailchi.mp/nops/an-update-on-safeguarding-across-aotearoa-new-zealand?e=\[UNIQID\]](https://mailchi.mp/nops/an-update-on-safeguarding-across-aotearoa-new-zealand?e=[UNIQID])

Religious Education Advisor | Job Vacancy

The Catholic Education Office in Palmerston North is seeking a passionate and faith-filled educator to join the team as a Religious Education Advisor, starting in January 2026 (or by negotiation).

This role is ideal for someone committed to nurturing faith and supporting Catholic Special Character in our schools. It involves working collaboratively with principals, DRs, and teachers across the Diocese to strengthen Catholic identity, provide professional learning, and support the RE curriculum from Years 1–13.

The position is part-time (0.6), job-sharing with another RE Advisor, and offers flexibility around location for the right candidate.

Applications close Monday 6 October 2025. For more details or to apply, please contact tedwards@pndiocese.org.nz.

November 2025 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.

Applications are now open and are due by Tuesday 30 September 2025. Application forms and more information can be found here: <https://pndiocese.org.nz/who-we-are/application-for-funding-catholic-charities-allocations> or please contact reception@pndiocese.org.nz

LEGION OF MARY- are looking for new members. We meet at Holy Family Church on a Tuesday at 10.30am. 0210488635 (Secretary)

OCTOBER ROSARY for the month of October will be prayed before Masses/Communion Services each day from Monday to Saturday morning. All urged to attend.

PARKING- When parking in the church carpark please take care not to block others in. (This has happened twice in recent weeks). **ALSO....** Please ensure you arrive early for mass- don't walk into Church in the middle of the reading.

HOMELESS HUB OUTREACH-The SOUP roster for next week is the Juliet Kojis' Team. Further information contact Maureen 027 491 2168 or Pat 027 491 9637

JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP – If you are year 5-8. Come along at 4-5.30pm on a Sunday at Saint Mary's Church Hall.

SENIOR YOUTH GROUP – If you're year 9-13 come along on a Sunday night 6.30-8.30pm Saint Mary's Church Hall.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP Our meetings are on Thursdays 7-9pm.



RECENTLY DECEASED: Marie Greenwell, Jennifer Falconer, Bruce Isted

SEPTEMBER ANNIVERSARIES: Purificacion Ajoc, Gordon Smith, Paddy O'Hara, Patricia Kavanagh, Patricia Moriarty, Muriel Fleming, Kirsty Campbell, Gordon Harrison, Marie Harrison, David McEwen, Gordon Harrison, Marie Harrison

TODAY'S READINGS First: Amos 8.4-7 Second: 1 Timothy 2. 1-7 Gospel: Luke 16.1-13

NEXT SUNDAY 28 September First: Amos 6.1a, 4-7 Second: 1 Timothy 6. 11-16 Gospel: Luke 16.19-31