



Catholic Parish of Whanganui

The Dedication of the Lateran Basilica

9 November 2025



THE LIVING TEMPLE

Today the church celebrates the consecration of St John Lateran Basilica in Rome. This church is the oldest of the four great basilicas in Rome, also including St Peter's, Mary Major and St Paul outside the Walls. The Basilica of St John Lateran is the Cathedral of the diocese of Rome making it the home of the bishop of Rome - the pope. It is also known as the mother church and head of all churches in Rome and the world. This may come as a surprise to many Catholics who think St Peter's is.

Churches and temples are important in every religion - they give honour and glory to God and give people a place to pray and worship God. In the Old Testament, the temple was seen as a source of life. The prophet Ezekial uses a beautiful image of fresh water flowing out from the Temple in Jerusalem, bringing new life to wherever it flows.

Wherever the river goes, every living creature that swarms will live, and there will be very many fish once these waters reach there. It will become fresh, and everything will live where the river goes. On the banks, on both sides of the river, there will grow all kinds of trees for food. Their leaves will not wither nor their fruit fail. Ezekial 47.9



Ezekial uses this image of the temple as a source of life for all people. In the New Covenant of Jesus, the temple is primarily a living thing, made up of the Christian community, which is the Risen Body of Christ and the life comes from the Holy Spirit dwelling within. Jesus says: "Whoever sees you, sees me." In other words, it is the people who use it, who give it its significance, and not the other way round.

Today's celebration reminds us that as important as this church is, it is not the building which is the source of life, but the community (filled with God's Holy Spirit) which gathers together there. We are the Temple of Christ's Body for the world. We are the visible presence of Christ in our world. Fr Craig



NEXT WEEK'S CALENDAR

Monday 10 November

9.00am C/s Holy Family

Tuesday 11 November

9.30am Mass Holy Family

12.05pm Mass St Mary's

Wednesday 12 November

12.05pm Mass St Mary's

Thursday 13 November

12.05pm Mass St Mary's

Friday 14 November

10.00am Mass St Joseph's
Cullinane

11.20am Rite I St Mary's

12.05pm Mass St Mary's

Saturday 16 November

9.00am Rite I St Mary's

9.30am Mass St Mary's

5.30pm Sun Vigil Mass
Holy Family

Sunday 16 November

9.30am Mass St Mary's

5.30pm Mass St Mary's

Upcoming Events

Sunday 16 November

11.30am Fr Johns 80th Birthday

Sunday 7 December

11am Parish AGM

Wednesday 10 December

2pm Anointing Mass

Thursday 11 December

7pm Rite II Reconciliation

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

PARISH SURVEY - As part of our ongoing commitment to serve this faith community, we invite you to participate in this preliminary survey. Your feedback will help us paint a picture of what our parish looks like right now and help us plan for the future in a way that reflects the expressed needs and hopes of our parish community. When answering the open questions, please just use key words or phrases. Thank you for your time and responses. This is the first of these surveys. Please note - All responses are confidential. Survey link: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/BMNPL3L> or alternatively you can fill out a form in the Church foyer and put in the Survey box. The Survey will close on the 19th November

The Parish Council

CONGRATULATIONS to Azariah Barnes and his family. Azariah was baptised last Sunday the 2nd November

TE KUPENGA Online Webinar: Reflections on Jubilee 2025 - Pilgrims of Hope

As we draw near the end of the Jubilee Year in January 2026, Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College is offering its last webinar for the year "Reflections on Jubilee 2025-Pilgrims of Hope" with Fadi Yalda, Lecturer in Biblical Studies. This webinar is on Wednesday, 26 November 5:00-6:00pm via Zoom. Fee is \$20. To register, go to www.tekupenga.ac.nz/webinar2025

THANK YOU: We appreciated the prayers of the Parish family for our Sisters of St Joseph 30th Chapter, which have been held at regular intervals over the last 160 years. We were honoured to be part of the 77 Sisters attending and benefitted from the retreat, the administration sessions and the election of our Congregational Leadership Team, who will work from Sydney over the next five years. We were conscious of the presence of the Holy Spirit in the harmonious and constructive atmosphere which contributed to a very positive experience for us all. We are aware that you contributed to this through your remembrance of us and your prayers. Sr Colleen Woodcock, Sr Lee Tan, Sr Liz Hickey and Sr Marie Skidmore.

MISSION HUB – Prayer that Fuels Renewal You are warmly invited to the very first Mission Hub online gathering, a monthly space for prayer, encouragement, and mission-focused conversation. Monday 10 November | 7:00–8:15pm on Zoom. To register, email missionhubnz@gmail.com. Together, we will spend time in prayer, be inspired, and gather in small groups to share and encourage one another. Whether you attended the Hope and Renewal Summit or are simply hungry to see renewal in your parish and community, you are most welcome. Let's fan the flame of renewal and mission - together.



MARIST AGM-Tuesday 9 December 7pm at the Marist Clubrooms. All are most welcome.

HELPING THE HOMELESS: As part of the Exploring Faith Group Homeless Hub Outreach, a Cake and Christmas sale will be held **TODAY** Sunday 9th November after the 9.30 am Mass to raise funds to help the homeless.

FOODBANK Please help those who are struggling financially, by donating much needed grocery items.

FR JOHN ROBERT'S 80th BIRTHDAY LUNCH Join us in celebrating Fr John Roberts' 80th birthday and show your appreciation for his long and dedicated service to our communities. Sunday 16 November, St Mary's Church Hall, 1 Campbell St Whanganui. Gather 11am, celebration begins 11:30am. RSVP to gaktlynch@gmail.com by 6 November.

COLUMBAN CALENDARS 2026 are available at the office. \$15 each

HOMELESS HUB OUTREACH - The SUMMER roster for next week is Jo Smilie's Team. Further information contact Maureen 027 491 2168 or Pat 027 491 9637

Finance update October 2025	
Parish Income	\$ 29,583.62
Parish Expenditure	\$ 50,137.63
Total	\$ 79,721.25
Profit or Loss Y.TD:	\$ -20,554.01
Parish Debt	
Diocese P/N	\$130,374
Waverley Parish	\$200,000

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.
6.30-8.30pm Saint Mary's Church Hall.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP Our meetings are on Thursdays 7-9pm.
8 Glasgow Street Whanganui



RECENTLY DECEASED: Neville Hirni, Vincent Keating, Janet Fawcett

NOVEMBER ANNIVERSARIES: Victor Silveira, Bob Wilson, John Wicky, Blair Gleeson, Andy Mora, Pat Smith, Leo White, Charles Phillips

TODAY'S READINGS First: Ezekiel 47.1-2,8-9, 12 Second: 1 Corinthians 3.9b-11, 16-17 Gospel: John 2.13-22

NEXT SUNDAY 16 November First: Malachi 4.1-2 Second: 2 Thessalonians 3.7-12 Gospel: Luke 21.5-19