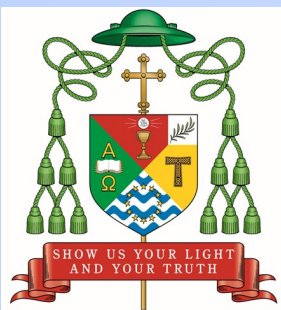


Catholic Parish of Whanganui

Te Pārihi Katorika ki Whanganui (2015)
Diocese of Palmerston North, New Zealand



ST MARY'S CHURCH
1 Campbell Street

ST ANNE'S CHURCH
47 Raine Street

NGAKAU TAPU (Sacred Heart)
4491 Whanganui River Road
Rānana (London)

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH
22 Tawhero Street

TE RONGO O TE POI
(Beat of the Poi to the Gospel)
584 Kaiwhaiki Road
Kaiwhaiki Marae

HĀTO HŌHEPA (St Joseph's)
600 Whanganui River Road
Hiruhārama (Jerusalem)

Fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

28th January 2024; Year B / Weekdays Year 2

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Monday 29th January

9.00am C/S St Marys

Tuesday 30th January

9.30am Mass Holy Family
12.05pm Mass St Mary's

Wednesday 31st January

12.05pm Mass St Mary's

Thursday 1st February

9.30am Mass St Annes
12.05pm Mass St Mary's

Friday 2nd February

11.20am Rite 1 St Mary's
12.05pm Mass St Mary's

Saturday 3rd February

9.00am Rite 1 St Anne's
9.30am Mass St Anne's
5.30pm Mass Vigil Mass
Holy Family

Sunday 4th February

9.30am Mass St Mary's
11.00am Mass Kaiwhaiki
5.30pm Mass St Anne's

UPCOMING EVENTS

Ash Wednesday 14 Feb

Sunday Readings: Deut: 18.15-20; 1 Cor: 7.17,32-35; Mk: 1.21-28

Next Week: Job: 7.1-4, 6-7; 1 Cor: 9.16-19, 22-23; Mk: 1.29-39



JESUS TAUGHT WITH AUTHORITY

Jesus taught "with authority," that is, *he was the author* of what he said. Jesus didn't quote other authors, as the scribes used to do. His message had its own inherent authority. What he said went straight to the hearts of those who were open to what he had to say. The only literary device we know he used, was the parable. A parable is not an interpretation of a text, it is a fresh way of looking at ordinary experience. His parables were drawn from the world of agriculture, viticulture, horticulture - in other words, their world. Showing people that their ordinary experience can be an open path to God was a totally new concept to the people of Jesus' time. They realised that Jesus was a teacher who understood and respected them, unlike the scribes who used big words and complex ideas to talk about God. The people were astonished, because his approach was so down to earth.

Jesus' teaching had authority in another sense. What he said, made things happen. When Jesus told demons to get out, they left. Jesus words and actions set people free. When Jesus spoke, the blind received their sight, the lame were able to walk, lepers were cleansed, the deaf were able to hear, the dead were raised and the poor had good news brought to them. (Luke 7:22). In short, by his actions, Jesus showed that he was indeed the long-awaited Messiah. Jesus used the scriptures for their intended purpose, to set people free, not to tie them up as the scribes had done for so long.

Last Sunday was the Word of God Sunday and I spoke about the critical importance of better understanding our sacred scriptures. The following quote from St Jerome highlights this. *"To be ignorant of the Scriptures is to be ignorant of Christ,"*. The reverse of this is equally true: to be ignorant of Christ is to be ignorant of the Scriptures. If we do not read them in the spirit of Christ we are in danger of mis-using them. *"If the Son makes you free, you will be free indeed"* (John 8:36) Fr Craig and the Irish Jesuits

Fr Craig's Corner. It only feels like yesterday that we were celebrating Christmas but in reality, we are almost at the end of January. I had hoped to do some catch up work post-Christmas but my time has been filled with funerals and weddings and helping mum move into a retirement facility. As a consequence, I'm really not much further ahead. I only say this because I changed my mind and I'm going to take a week off in February - NOT this week, but next!

To complicate matters, Lent begins very early this year with Ash Wednesday in a little over two weeks and First Reconciliation Preparation the week after that. With everyone stepping up we will be ok. One thing we do need is our new Paschal (Easter) Candle painted. If you know an artist who would be willing to undertake this and is ok about submitting an idea, please talk to Jo in the office.

(Continued over page)

Died Recently

Kenneth Fitzgerald, Lynair Burling, Laurance Daignault, Monsignor Charles Cooper, Valarie Bradley, Billie Watson

Anniversaries

Mary Gudsell, Bob Smith, Ian Campbell, Colleen Adlam, Bernice Robson, Sr Veronica Witton, Henry Gallagher, Joan Triplow, Anne Wham

Eternal Rest Grant to them O Lord

(continued)

As I indicated at last year's Parish AGM, one of my first priorities this year is the establishment of a Parish Council and a Liturgy Committee. I have already begun this process and inviting the help of a specialist in formation for PC's.

Youth Group will begin for the year on the first Sunday of February. A special mention to our young people who attended Life Teen and Hearts flame earlier this month. I know these experiences can have a profound effect on the participants and we welcome their renewed enthusiasm and desire to share what they've experienced. Please continue to pray for Rain our Youth Minister and the adults working with her.

Please pray for our Waitangi Day celebrations, especially given the change in government and its thinking. More than any other time, we need unity and peace, not more division and hurt.

Our country celebrates marriage on the 13 February. If you would like us to celebrate marriage with a Mass or a service with the opportunity to renew vows or simply to pray for marriages in general (or your own in particular), please let me know and between us we can plan something to support and encourage marriages in our city.

Lastly, please pray for our teachers, many of whom have already begun work preparing for the new school year and the children who will begin classes this week. I wish you every blessing for the week ahead. Fr Craig



"FIRST OF ALL... DO I HAFTA ADMIT SOMETHING NOBODY CAN PROVE?"

SENIOR YOUTH GROUP YOUTH GROUP ON HOLIDAY



There will be no Youth Group in the summer holidays. Youth Group will be back on the 4th of February 2024.

For more info contact Rain on 0212560608 or email youth.cpow@gmail.com

STAY UP TO DATE WITH OUR YOUTH SPACE

Do you want to keep in touch with what's happening for young people in our parish??

Find us on social media:

Facebook - Life Teen Whanganui
Instagram - Lifeteen_Whanganui

ON SALE NZ Catholic \$4 **NZCatholic**

HOMELESS HUB OUTREACH—The summer roster for next week is Maureen Beard's Team. Further information contact Maureen 027 491 2168 or Pat 343 6313.

COLUMBAN CALENDARS—are still available at the office. \$15.00 each **AND....**

SUNDAY MISSALS— \$16.00 each

PALMS— If you have old palms to be burnt for ashes please bring these to the office.

NEED EXTRA PRAYER ??

The Prayer Vine is made up of a group of 14 Parishioners who will pray for you or your family, and or friends who need extra prayer. Any request is prayed for.

Christian names only are used, so it is confidential.

Please call either Maureen Ph 345 5480 or Barbara Ph 342 5812

THE PRAYER TREE

Details: contact Anne Smith text 021 0488635 with Christian name of person to be prayed for.

HOLY COMMUNION TO THE HOMEBOUND

When taking Holy Communion to the homebound and rest homes, it is important to know that Fr John Roberts coordinates all Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion who visit the sick and the list of those receiving the Sacrament. Please contact him directly on 027 634 6877 before taking Holy Communion to any new parishioners or if you have any questions .

SCRIPTURE REFLECTION—

Join us each Thursday morning (7-8am) for Scripture Reflection and lively discussion ☐ St Mary's church. All welcome. Coffee provided ☐. Contact Kate Lynch 027 2430430 or Helen Dougherty 027 4136273

RITE OF ELECTION AND ENROLMENT OF NAMES—

with Bishop John Adams Sunday 3pm 18th Feb at The Cathedral Palmerston North. RSVP Donna Brown pastoral@pncathedral.org.nz by 13th February.

ROSTERS— if you are able to help out with any of the mass duties on a Sunday we would really appreciate your help.— We desperately need extra data projectors for Holy Family. If you feel you could help out with reading/offertory/ collection/ greeting or data projector in all the Churches please let Jo know in the office by email or phone. Thank you.

THANK YOU to the person who handed the keys (that were lost last Sunday) into the police station. Feeling grateful :)

FIRST RECONCILIATION —The first session starts on Tuesday 20th February and First Reconciliation on Thursday 21st March.

If your child has been baptised you can register for this sacrament by emailing the office or picking up a registration form.

St Marcellin School

Principal: Belinda Backwell
7a Totara St, Wanganui
06 349 0023

stmarcelin@welearn.school.nz
www.stmarcellin.school.nz



St Mary's School

Principal: Mrs Jacqui Luxton
DRS: Mrs Cath Daignault
30 London St, Wanganui
06 343 1227

school@stmarys.ac.nz
www.stmarys.ac.nz



St Anne's School

Principal: Mrs Ann-Maree Manson-Petherick
DRS: Mrs Jo Gichard.
45 Raine St, Wanganui
06 343 8389

office@stannes.school.nz
www.stannes.school.nz



Cullinane College

Principal: Mr Tony McBride
DRS: Ms Helen Dougherty
15 Peat St, Wanganui
06 349 0105

office@cullinane.school.nz
www.cullinanecollege.school.nz



Parish Priest

Fr Craig Butler
021 272 4401
craigbutler@xtra.co.nz

Assistant Priest

Fr John Roberts
027 634 6877
jroberts@inspire.net.nz

Parish Secretary

Office hours: 8:30am-3pm
Jo Boulton
06 345 3872
admin@cpow.co.nz

Youth Minister

Rain Forest
0212560608
youth.cpow@gmail.com

RCIA Parish Catechist

Tony Hore
thecoot1944@gmail.com

Parish Care & Concern Network

Contact Parish Office

Hospital Chaplain

Norma O'Connor
027 233 4557

Prison Chaplain

Sean Ryan
06 349 6887