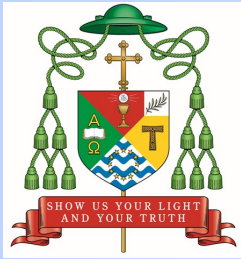


Catholic Parish of Whanganui

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



ST MARY'S CHURCH
1 Campbell Street

HOLY FAMILY CHURCH
22 Tawhero Street

ST ANNE'S CHURCH
47 Raine Street

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

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

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



Second Sunday of Easter

7th April 2024; Year B / Weekdays Year 2

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Monday 8th April March

9.00am C/S Holy Family

Tuesday 9th April

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

Wednesday 10th April

12.05pm Mass St Mary's

Thursday 11th April

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

Friday 12th April

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

Saturday 13th April

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

Sunday 14h April

9.30am Mass St Mary's
5.30pm Mass St Annes

Upcoming Events

25th April
Anzac Day

6th May
Confirmation Session 1

Sunday Readings: Act: 4.32-35; 1 Jn: 5.1-6; Jn: 20.19-31

Next Week: Act: 3.13-15, 17-19; 1 Jn: 2.1-65 Jk: 24.35-48

DOUBT NO LONGER BUT BELIEVE



disciples' he commissions them to bring about the reconciliation of all people with God - with their brothers and sisters and with the whole of creation. This is no small ask. In practice, it involves a lot more than just saying words of forgiveness. It involves much more than 'going to confession' and being absolved by a priest. It involves working concretely to create a society based on right relationships. This, is the making of the Kingdom of God. And, of course, this is our mission too. The words of Jesus spoken to them are also spoken to us. As we think about the unresolved and violent crisis in both Gaza and Ukraine we are challenged to be people of peace in our own small way trusting that God can magnify our actions and influence what is happening on the other side of the world.

There is a second part to this gospel account. On that first Easter, there was one apostle missing – Thomas. When he was told that his companions had seen the Lord, he stated that he would not believe unless he saw with his own eyes Christ's wounds. A week later, those same disciples, including Thomas, gathered together in the room. Although the doors were locked, Jesus was suddenly

Two days after the death of Jesus. The disciples are inside the house with the doors firmly locked, scared that, as companions of Jesus, they too will be arrested and killed. The next moment, Jesus is standing in their midst. The very fact that he can be present in spite of the locked doors indicates that Jesus is somehow different - that he's present in a new way. His greeting is the normal Jewish greeting of Shalom, but, coming from Jesus – the Prince of Peace – to this group of frightened people, it has special meaning. Where Jesus is truly present to us, there is peace. He shows them his hands and side. He is not just a disembodied ghost, but the same Jesus who died on the cross – and yet there are differences. The disciples' fear is gradually transformed into an indescribable joy at Jesus' return. He repeats his greeting of peace, and then gives them their mission to be agents of reconciliation and peace. He breathes on them and gives them his Holy Spirit. With this gift, the

there among them. After greeting them with peace, he invited Thomas not just to look, but to touch the wounds saying: Do not doubt but believe. Thomas yields completely to the experience saying, My Lord and my God! This statement is one of the most powerful acknowledgements of Jesus' real identity in the whole Gospel and the only time anyone directly calls him God - it is a powerful act of faith. Thomas could not see directly that Jesus was God. No one can see God directly. But the experience convinced Thomas that he was in the presence of God himself. (cont)

Died Recently

Blair Campbell

Anniversaries

Susan Frykberg, Noel Boyle, Yvonne Maniapoto,
Steve Morahan, Timothy Morahan

(Cont)

Lastly, Jesus' words are meant to encourage us: Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe. For our part, we need to be always open to those experiences where God's unmistakable presence can be recognised. Finally, we are reminded that everything that is in the Gospel is to help us to come to that stage of faith by which we believe: that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing [we] may have life in his name. Untold numbers of people have tried this and found that it is altogether true. They have found in following Christ, a meaning, a direction and a very special quality to their lives which cannot be found anywhere else. May that be your experience too. May that be our experience!

Go and transform our world by your lives. Doubt no longer but believe!

THANK YOU to everyone who contributed to make our Easter celebrations such a wonderful experience of faith and life. There were many moments where I felt uplifted and delighted to be a Catholic Christian, commemorating the life and death of Jesus and then celebrating his resurrection. Alleluia! Following on from my request for nominations for a new Parish Council, we are making progress and I will keep you updated. One aspect of our parish life currently missing is a social life. If you would like to help us celebrate our work and worship please let me know by email. Lastly, we have a number of young adults who have expressed interest in becoming part of our faith community. Please keep them in prayer. Right now, I'm having difficulty focussing on my work with the trip to Rome coming together. I feel very blessed by this opportunity and I'm enjoying all the expectation and planning. I hope I enjoy the trip itself! Fr Craig

SYNOD ON SYNODALITY The next phase of the Synod on Synodality is set for October 2024. A letter has gone out encouraging all people of the Diocese of Palmerston North to engage with the content presented in the Synthesis Report – read the letter at <https://pndiocese.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/Synod-on-Synodality-Phase-Two-2024.pdf>. The Catholic Bishops have also put together a consultation document that focuses on the synodal question, "How can we be a synodal church in mission?" Find the document at <https://pndiocese.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/TOWARDS-OCTOBER-2024-NZCBC.pdf>.

JOSEPHITE RETREAT CENTRE

14 Hillside Tce, Whanganui, 06 345 5047, Ext 3
www.marymackillop.org.nz

Tui Motu Group

Where articles from the current Tui Motu magazine are explored and discussed. with Liz Hickey
rsj Wednesday 17 April, 4 – 5.15pm

Community Liturgy

Sunday 21 April, 4 – 5pm

DVD Evening – Full Time (subtitled)

After finally getting an interview for a job that will help her provide for her family, a woman must contend with a national transit strike.
Wednesday 24 April, 6.30pm
Enquires, please call Pam on 06 345 5047 ext 3
Or email pam.hopper@sosj.org.au



Divine Mercy Sunday Devotions St Mary's Church Sunday 7th April 3-4pm.

Devotions will consist of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament, Veneration of Image, Divine Mercy Chaplet, concluding with Benediction. Rite I Reconciliation will be available during Adoration.

SENIOR YOUTH GROUP

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

If you're year 9-13 (or you're a super keen year 8 I'll sneak you in) this is for you!!

What to expect: Games, challenges, prizes, chocolate, learning about faith, making new friends, it's honestly so much fun!! Please come along and check it out. For more info contact Rain on 0212560608 or email youth.cpow@gmail.com



REGISTRATION IS OPEN FOR OUR PARISH CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME 2024

Forms available -the Parish office, from Rain at Cullinane College, or email admin@cpow.co.nz to be sent a copy. Starts Mon 6th of May 7-8.30pm

HOMELESS HUB OUTREACH—The SOUP

roster for next week is Maureen Down's Team. Further information contact Maureen 027 491 2168 or Pat 027 491 9637

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES ARE READY FOR COLLECTION AT ST MARYS CHURCH FOYER.

FOODBANK—would like the following items please: crackers, biscuits, noodles, dishwashing liquid, tea bags, coffee, tuna, toothpaste and spreads.

DAYLIGHT SAVINGS ENDS—Sunday 7th April—don't forget to put your clocks forward an hour.

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.

MASS OFFERINGS

If you would like a Mass offered for your personal intentions, please drop off an envelope (intentions listed on the front) with your Mass stipend to parish office or place it in the Sunday collection basket. All recent deaths and anniversaries will be recorded on the newsletter, but the day the Mass is offered as the priest's private intention will occur when he has room in his Mass intention diary. NB: Mass may not be able to be offered on the specific date requested. Sunday Mass intentions are always for the community gathered.

St Marcellin School

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

St Mary's School

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

St Anne's School

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

Cullinane College

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

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