

Welcome to St Joseph's Parish Hawera Newsletter



Easter Sunday
5 April 2026



PARISH INFORMATION

St Joseph's Church 38 Victoria St Hawera
PO Box 488 Hawera 4640

Relieving Priest Monsignor David Bell 021 257 6771

Parish Secretary Patrea Clement Parish Office 06 2785656

Parish Office – Located in the Mission Centre a combined
Parish & School Office behind the Church.

Office Hours 9-12noon weekdays

Email stjoshw@xtra.co.nz

Parish Website www.stjoshw.co.nz also on Facebook.

Parish App Church Apps- St Josephs Hawera

Our Mission Statement

We, the Catholic people of Hawera

We want to be a friendly, forgiving community, based on faith and prayer
and committed to joyful witness and service.

Weekend Mass Time

Saturday Vigil 5pm

Sunday Mass 9am

Weekday Mass Timetable

Tuesday	12noon Mass
Wednesday	9am Mass
Thursday	9am Mass
Friday	9am Mass

Reconciliation Saturdays 11th & 25th April at 4.30pm or by appointment please contact Mons Bell

Adoration & Benediction Tuesdays at 11.30 am

Hoani Papita May 3rd 11am

Congratulations to our RCIA Candidates Stacy September & Caroline Donoghue-Gedge who will receive Confirmation & Holy Eucharist at our Easter Vigil.

We thank Bryan Williams, Fr Vince, Mons David Bell, Eileen Malcolm & Patrea Clement, for their commitment in meeting with our candidates on a regular basis. We are very proud to welcome Caroline & Stacy into our Parish Family.



This Sunday begins the Octave of Easter, eight solemn days when we reflect on the reality of the resurrection. Essentially, on a grand narrative begins in heartbreak but ends in joy. A disconsolate Mary Magdalene goes to the tomb alone while it is still dark. We can almost feel the weight of her sadness. And sadness becomes confusion when she sees the stone rolled back. At her news, Peter and John run to the tomb, enter it, and see the linen headpiece rolled up. An insignificant detail you might think. But, in this narrative it is hugely significant. According to the customs for eating in the Ancient Near East, a linen napkin rolled up and left in its place was a way of telling those serving food that you would be returning again. John uses this little thing to proclaim the resurrection.

It is also noteworthy that none of the Gospels report someone witnessing the resurrection act as it happened. This explosion of God's eternal love into history is simply too great to be contained or confined by human words. It remains in the realm of mystery, in the realm of God. The effects of the resurrection make a real and decisive impact on the faith and hope of the disciples. If Jesus is resurrected, then they too will be resurrected, and so will we.

Indeed, our resurrection is happening here and now, but it is not yet complete until the second coming of Jesus. Are we living a resurrected life? Are we proclaiming by our everyday lives that we know and have come to believe that we share in this mystery of God's eternal love. God's Word Daily Reflections 2026©

A Note of Thanks A lot of love, time, and dedication go into preparing our Easter Masses, and we are truly blessed by the generosity of so many. We thank Monsignor David for his spiritual leadership and guidance, and all those who volunteered in ministry, choir, music, and floral arrangements. To everyone who helped to prepare the church, welcome parishioners and visitors, assist in liturgies, and contribute behind the scenes – your efforts have made our Easter celebrations truly beautiful and meaningful. May the joy of the Risen Christ fill your hearts, and may you be richly blessed for the gifts of your time, talent, and service.

Planned Giving : Thank you to every one who supports our Parish Finances. There are still a number of envelopes & Special collection envelopes to be picked up from the foyer. Receipts for 2025-26 year will be available at the end of April.

Helpers Required Annie Brydon Service Once a month on the 3rd Thursday of the Month St Josephs Hawera is rostered to take an Ecumenical Service at Annie Brydon. For us to be able to fulfill this commitment , we require some more people to volunteer to help with this service. We like to have at least 4 parishioners, and most months we are joined by a few students from the School. If this is a ministry you would be happy to help with please contact Patrea at the Parish Office 2785656 or Margaret Ingram 2786822.

ENROLMENTS

St Joseph's School is currently reviewing enrolment numbers for the rest of the year to ensure classrooms and staffing are planned appropriately.

To support this planning, we need to know about any children who may be starting at the school during 2026 (and beyond). If you have a child turning five soon or know of a family intending to enrol at St Joseph's, please let them know.

Easter Sunday Dues – Special Collection, 5 April 2026

Many thanks to all parishioners who, in past years, have contributed to the Easter Dues / Offerings Special Collection. This collection supports the work of the Clergy Trust Fund, which assists our priests with the various costs associated with their ministry and personal wellbeing. The Fund is responsible for every aspect of caring for our priests, and they are deeply grateful for the generosity and ongoing support they receive from parish communities.

Specially marked envelopes are available in the church foyer. Alternatively, donations may be made by direct credit to St Josephs Parish (**02 0630 0288010 03**), using your name as the payee and "Dues" as the reference. Your support and kindness are always very much appreciated.
Monsignor Brian Walsh, Chairman, Clergy Trust Fund

Baptism Preparation: The next baptism preparation will be held on Saturday 11th April at 10 o'clock in the Church. Please register with the office first. Please note, there are no baptisms during lent.

PRAYER CIRCLE | If you wish for prayers for a special intention call or text Sue our Prayer Circle Co-ordinator 021 265 3542

ANOINTING Please call Mons David 021 257 6771
COMMUNION TO THE SICK If you are housebound or require Communion to the Sick, and are not on our regular list, please contact Dorothea Henry ph 2784895

For those who have Died: We remember those who have died recently, especially Mary Doyle and in last 5 years in April Alison Douglas & June Woodhead.

Eternal Rest grant to them O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.
Mass has been requested for **Osita Dy-Liacco Saba 30days & Rachel Torremoro (Philippines)**
Mass has been requested by **SVDP for Janice Hurley & Mary Doyle. Helen Wright (Ann) Tony Malone (Ann)**

Good Friday Collection – 3 April 2026

Each year, the Holy Father invites Catholics around the world to support the Good Friday Collection – a humble yet powerful gesture of solidarity with the Christian communities who continue to walk faithfully in the very places where Jesus lived, preached, died, and rose again.

Here in Aotearoa New Zealand, our contribution supports the upkeep of the Shrine Church in Cana, Galilee, as well as twenty university scholarships for students at Bethlehem University. Since 1342, the Apostolic See has entrusted the Franciscans as the guardians of the Holy Land, and funds from every nation are forwarded to the Franciscan Custody to assist with their essential pastoral, educational, and humanitarian work.

Specially marked envelopes are available in the foyer. Alternatively, you may give by direct credit to the parish bank account - (St Josephs Parish **02 0630 0288010 03**). Please include your name as the payee and use "Holy Places" as the reference.
Bishop John Adams

PRAYER · FORMATION · CONVERSATION



Join us for Diocesan Hubs

Diocesan Hubs are regional gatherings that bring together neighbouring parish communities across the Diocese of Palmerston North. We come together to pray, receive formation, and encourage one another in mission. All are welcome.

"In order not to let its prophesy fade... it will be important to get to know it again closely, not through hearing, but by rereading its documents and reflecting on their content." — Pope Leo XIII, General Audience, 7 Jan 2025

In 2026, we will prayerfully explore the three central Constitutions of the Second Vatican Council:
Sacrosanctum Concilium | On the Sacred Liturgy
Lumen Gentium | On the Church
Gaudium et Spes | On the Church in the Modern World

Gather with your region – or step into a Hub elsewhere in the Diocese.

MARCH 2026	MAY 2026
Sat 7 Mar Palmerston North Sun 8 Mar Hastings	Sat 30 May Manawatu-Whanganui Sun 31 May Stratford

AUGUST 2026

Sat 15 Aug Palmerston North Sun 16 Aug Hawke's Bay	Each Hub is free to attend 12:30pm - 4:30pm Lunch is provided. Please register to attend.
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Scan to Register

For more information visit <https://huanako.pndiocese.org.nz/diocesan-hubs/>
Diocesan Hub Contact - Emily Sit est@pndiocese.org.nz