

# ST JOSEPH'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

*Serving the people of South Taranaki in Hawera, Normanby and Manaia*



*24th Sunday Ordinary Time Year A*

*12 September 2021*

## **HANG IN THERE!**

*Hello everyone! I am writing to you from the Mission Centre, after moving all my office stuff back from home earlier this week. It feels good to have some sense of the familiar again after three weeks of working out of my bedroom. Having said that, I am fortunate and still managed to get a lot done. Talking to various people it seems many people found this time of lockdown more challenging than last year, trying to juggle work and home commitments. Also, last year, there was a sense of novelty. This year, we knew what to expect and it was just plain, not easy. I noticed there were still plenty of cars flying around the streets and fewer people out walking. Also, we had the terrible tragedy in Auckland, the flooding in various parts of the country and the terrible humanitarian crisis in Afghanistan. This has not been an easy time for anyone. Now we are in Level II we are still restricted in what we can do regarding public Masses. As indicated in Cardinal John's letter earlier this week, the situation will be reviewed on 21 September.*

*As you know, we have not been able to celebrate Mass together and receive Communion and be together since the beginning of lockdown. Together with all the other public restrictions, this has been hard for people and is another reminder of the cost of working towards a greater good - that of keeping one another safe. As a priest, I feel very uncomfortable receiving Communion when I know others, looking on cannot. You will have noticed that on our Zoom Masses we have cut away during this part of Mass to a music reflection. We believe that our Lord is with us even when we cannot receive him sacramentally. Personally, I hope this restriction lifts soon and we can all receive the Body of Christ together.*

*Please continue to pray for one another during this challenging time and keep in mind our brothers and sisters in Auckland who are still in Level 4. If you are aware of a particular need, please do not hesitate to contact the parish. Fr Craig*

### **SOCIAL JUSTICE WEEK 12 – 18 September 2021**

Social Justice Week is scheduled by the NZ Catholic Bishops for next week. Each year there is a different theme.

This year the theme of Social Justice Week is *A Culture of Encounter: Be the Church*, focussing on encounter and community through the lens of Pope Francis' latest encyclical, *Fratelli Tutti* on fraternity and social friendship. Parish communities are encouraged to take the time to sit with the messages of the encyclical and feel inspired to foster a community of encounter.

Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand is the agency set up by the Bishops to resource parishes with material so each parish can focus on the Social Justice theme as each parish sees fit. Resources can be accessed on the Caritas website [caritas.org.nz](http://caritas.org.nz) Just feed in 'Social Justice Week' and that will give access to material available for parishes. There may be a Workshop for people who wish to lead parish groups. Caritas will advise each parish directly if that is to be the case. In view of Covid and the current Level 2 restrictions, your parish community may choose to focus on the Caritas material at some later time of year. That's fine. Social Justice isn't confined to a one week slot and is always a constitutive dimension of the preaching of the Gospel. Kevin Campbell JPD Coordinator

**SUNDAY MASS TIMETABLE** St Joseph's Hawera Zoom Mass at 9.30am. (You will need to download the zoom app on your device, and we must have your email address to send the link.

Shine Television Mass 2pm Freeview channel 25 Sky 201.

**PLANNED GIVING** The Parish Bank Account for giving to weekly planned giving, or making a donation to our Parish is St Josephs Parish 02 0630 0288010 03. Please give your name on the deposit and indicate if it is a donation or Planned Giving.

**PRAYER CIRCLE** If you have a special prayer request during Level 3 you may contact our Prayer Circle Coordinator Sue directly on 278 4635.

**PRAYERS FOR OUR LOVED ONES WHO HAVE DIED:** Please pray for all who are sick and all who care for them. Please pray also for all who have died recently, including Carroll Walsh & Maria Borkus and those in September over the last 5 years Margaret Landers, Joan Browning, Bruce Cudby, Dorothy Miers, Mary Mouat, Alan Linn, Viktor Cucek, Henrica Bruynel, Kearney O'Connor. May they rest in peace.

**PROLIFE FACTS:** The long struggle to protect preborn babies met major obstacles last year, with a majority of MPs voting for abortion on demand in March 2020. But there are signs of hope, as young pro-lifers from around New Zealand attended the ACTIV8 week-long pro-life training retreat held in Auckland this year. For more pro-life information, visit [voiceforlife.org.nz](http://voiceforlife.org.nz)

**The October 2021 Funding Round for the Diocese of Palmerston North Allocations Group is now open**

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. We are charged with the funding support of groups committed to social, pastoral, charitable and educational needs in the diocese. Applications are judged based on need, resource availability and the fulfilment of set criteria. Applications are now open and are due on 30 September 2021. Application forms and more information can be found here:

<https://pndiocese.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/Catholic-Charities-Application-form-2020.pdf> or please contact Wendy Silver at [wsilver@pndiocese.org.nz](mailto:wsilver@pndiocese.org.nz) or ph (06) 354 1780 ext 833.

#### **WelCom**

WelCom is titled *NauMai* this month in support of Māori Language Week, 13–19 Mahuru |September 2021.

The usual printed copies, due this Sunday, will not be distributed until we return to Covid-19 Level 2, but you can view an online link to NauMai | WelCom

[https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/adw\\_welcom/welcom-naumai-september-2021/](https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/adw_welcom/welcom-naumai-september-2021/)

#### **LIVE ONLINE 5-DAY RETREAT—12-17 Sep**

During this time when we are unable to gather in our churches, Fr Vaughan Leslie is offering a 5-day preached retreat with prayer and reflections on St Theresa of Lisieux and St John of the Cross: 7am & 5pm Live, commencing Sunday at 5:00pm and ending Friday at 7am. This will occur on the Whanganui Parish YouTube Channel: Whanganui Catholic [www.youtube.com/channel/UCOhvW87NsoEFVUzPfy8nu2w](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCOhvW87NsoEFVUzPfy8nu2w)

**NZ Catholic** has published a special online Lockdown Edition. The continuing Level 4 restrictions in Auckland mean the paper edition can't be printed at present, and the Level 3 everywhere south of Auckland means it can't be distributed through parishes. Click here to read a PDF

copy: [www.catholic.org.nz/assets/Uploads/NZ-Catholic-Special-Digital-Issue-Sept.1.pdf](https://www.catholic.org.nz/assets/Uploads/NZ-Catholic-Special-Digital-Issue-Sept.1.pdf)

#### **Notices from *Titipounamu Study & Joy* Online Sessions (Evening):**

**The Gospel of Luke - Introduction** with Kieran Fenn fms.

Monday, 06 September, 7-8.30pm. Free. ZOOM.

**The Gospel of Luke – The Gospel of the New Church Year** with Kieran Fenn fms.

Mondays, 13 September -11 October, 7-8.30pm. Free. ZOOM.

Series of 5 parts. All sessions are connected but also stand alone.

\$25/session or \$90/series of 5 sessions.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/the-gospel-of-luke/>

For more information and registration: [info@studyjoy.nz](mailto:info@studyjoy.nz)

**Muffin Talk Radio Programme recordings and video clips on religion, interfaith and community available at** <https://www.studyjoy.nz/category/resources/muffin-talk/>

#### **PARISH INFORMATION**

St Joseph's Church 38 Victoria St Hawera

Sacred Heart Church 43 Ngatai St Manaia

Mission Centre (parish/school) office

Postal Address Box 488 Hawera 4640

Email [stjoshw@xtra.co.nz](mailto:stjoshw@xtra.co.nz)

Website [www.stjoshw.co.nz](http://www.stjoshw.co.nz)

Parish Secretary Patrea Clement 06 2785656

Parish Priest Fr Craig Butler 06 2785656

Fr Joseph Tha Khu 027 232 7532

a/h mobile 021 272 4401 24hrs

(Office Hours Mon – Fri 9.00am – 12.00noon)

Jesus said to Peter, who do you say that I am?

Hello everyone,

Peace be with you!

I have saved my comment for the front page of this week's newsletter.

If you know someone who would like to receive a copy of this but does not have a computer/tablet to read this, and you are in a position to do so, please print them a copy and drop it off to them.

Also, if you know someone in need, please let us know. Now we are in Level II we are in a much better position to be able to help.

Lastly, if you know someone who would like to join us for Sunday Mass by Zoom please let me know their email address and I will add it to the list and send them the link tomorrow.

With every good wish and blessing,

Craig