

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

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



28th Sunday Ordinary Time Year B

10 October 2021

Support Life Sunday 2021: SUPPORTING AND HONOURING HEALTH CARERS

Every day we witness the testimony of courage and sacrifice of healthcare workers.

Pope Francis: Message for International Nurses Day 2020

“Supporting and honouring health carers” is the theme of Support Life Sunday on 10 October. This year’s focus acknowledges the work of health carers, including family carers and health professionals, who are on the frontline in supporting and protecting life. The change of name and focus to Support Life Sunday recognises that we need to move beyond political debate or legal argument and extend to active, practical support for people facing a range of life challenges at the beginning of life, throughout life, and at the end of life. Health carers are currently under intense pressure because of the Covid-19 pandemic, as well as experiencing the impact of recent changes to New Zealand’s abortion and euthanasia legislation. Health carers are also witnesses to the ongoing impact on health and life of poverty, exclusion, attitudes towards disabilities, and addictions. Pope Francis has acknowledged and thanked health carers in many statements throughout the Covid-19 pandemic. This year’s Support Life Sunday resources share the stories of health carers who are examples of people who support life in their homes, jobs and careers. Each of our parishes and communities has many such examples. This is an opportunity to acknowledge and support those who support life. The Support Life Sunday resources have been prepared by the Catholic Bishops’ Nathaniel Centre for Bioethics and are online here: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/resources/support-life-sunday-2021>. The main part of Support Life Sunday this year is telling the stories of health carers. To read their stories, please view at the above link.

October the Month of the Rosary THE MYSTERY OF YOU

The mysteries of the rosary are rightly called ‘mysteries’ because we meet their meaning at a deeper level than the images and stories. They are truly ‘wonderful’ and nurturing. What they all have in common is that they depict God’s life transforming our lives. So, this October, let’s allow ourselves to get excited about life!



The life of each of us is not just a chance in the long history of the universe. It is a calling and has a purpose. No other person could have substituted for you. Each one of us needs to come alive to the miracle of our own life and our place in the universe. And it will be easier to navigate life’s troubled waters if we understand our life as a process of becoming.

There’s adventure in the idea that the world God made is a work in progress. If it had been perfected from the start, there would have been no time-gap to allow for those things that happen over time – no scope for the exercise of freedom and responsibility; no narrative; no future awaiting things that grow from what they are to what they aren’t yet; no chance for us to make a difference....

Because our life is part of the life of the planet, our activities, our loving, smiling, laughing, making music are all made from the fibres of the planet. In a real sense, the planet finds expression in us. Each of us contributes to what the planet becomes. The choices we make and the things we do matter that much!

And because all of this is a work in progress, there are going to be lots of instances of unfinished becoming. This doesn’t mean our life can’t be fulfilling. Pope Francis recently set two teenagers on the path to canonisation. Alexia Gonzales Barros and Carlo Acutis had each been diagnosed with terminal cancer; each rose above their set-back by choosing God’s will over their own; and each offered up their suffering to help others. In that way, they lived their lives to the full; they were not defeated by the setbacks of a truncated life.

Some setbacks are life-long. Again, remember we are all part of a creation that is still groaning in labour pains as it gradually becomes what it is not yet (Romans 8:22,23). That’s why there is no such thing as a right to satisfy every desire within our present lifetime. We can afford to accept that “life’s not fair” and not be defeated by that. Some even start life with some kind of set-back. But no condition we are born with or that later comes to us ever stands in the way of God’s

love, which is unconditional and the same for each and every one. We can't get more equal than that! Do you ever pause to wonder that you exist at all? When you were conceived, there were millions of sperm competing to fertilise a waiting ovum. One did so. Every other combination of sperm and ovum would have been a different person. The one moment in the whole history of the universe when any of them could have come into existence passed. They will never exist. And at the one moment when you could have come into existence, you did. You might well ask: "why me?" You really are one in a million.

Bishop Emeritus Peter Cullinane

Dear parishioners, you are very welcome to come to Mass on Sunday. Our church is set up for Alert Level II restrictions, which includes 2m spacing between people. The only thing you will need to do is wear a mask. Not everyone has access to a computer. Please pass this information on to everyone you know.

Change of Mass Venue for October: For the month of October our Saturday Vigil Mass will be in Hawera.

Mass at St Josephs in Hawera at 9am this Wednesday.

Thank You: Dear Parishioners, I would like to thank you all very much for the Love and Support, Prayers, Rosaries, Mass and Phone Calls and all the visits to Carroll during his illness, this was very much appreciated by us as a family. We would also like to thank the parishioners who brought Carroll Communion each week, as it was a great part of his life. With Gods Blessings we thank you as a family. Janice Walsh

Little Company of Mary: Up until recently our Parish had the Little Company of Mary who prayed weekly, which Carroll was the Coordinator for. A lovely card was sent to the Affiliates acknowledging Carroll's contributions. Although this group no longer exists in Hawera, the LCM Sisters would appreciate our daily prayer commitment, "the need is great in our troubled world of suffering."

Rosters for October: A basic roster for October has been produced and emailed. There are some hard copies in the foyer.

Prayer Circle: If you have a special prayer request during Level 2 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 all who have died recently, including Carroll Walsh & Maria Borkus and those in October over the last 5 years Margaret Crompton, Brian Hughes, Alf Kalin, Edna Dodunski, Tom Mills, Gesildo Martelletti, Terry Bigham & Rudi Milesi. May they rest in peace.



for

Synod 2021-2023

October 2021 - The Synod process will begin with an Opening Mass next Sunday 17th October 6pm at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit. Everyone is welcome. Each parish will mark the beginning of the Synod as we celebrate our Sunday Eucharist.

Pro Life Facts Voice for Life is calling for an "End of Life Prayer Day" in churches around NZ on Sunday, November 7th, and has prepared a list of eight prayer requests to be said by congregations seeking God's help. They can be downloaded from their website: www.voiceforlife.org.nz/pray For more pro-life information, visit voiceforlife.org.nz

Virtual Conference on Saturday the 16th of October from 7.30 pm - 9 pm

This event aims to be a taster for those new to Divine Renovation, but also offer value to those on the journey of adopting this model in their parishes with opportunities to ask questions and to connect with others across the country. We will have Bishop Michael Gielen speaking to us live, hosted by Kevin Bailey, Executive Director of Divine Renovation Australasia. Bishop Michael will be speaking about the effectiveness of Alpha, a key part of the DR model, from his personal experience as a parish priest. Fr James Mallon will also be appearing in an exclusive Q&A that we will be pre-recording due to the Canada/NZ time difference. People have the option to submit a question for this on our event page. Following the presentations (approximately 50mins), we will have the option of online discussion groups and people can pick which group they would like to be in, based on where they are in their journey with DR. People can register at events.cdh.nz or cdh.org.nz/divine-renovation We have made this event free, so please encourage those in your parishes, communities, diocese to register. We will have registrations open until Thursday 14th October.



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
 Website 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)

SUNDAY MASS TIMETABLE

Saturday	5.00pm	St Josephs Hawera
Sunday	9.30am	St Joseph's Hawera

WEEKDAY MASS TIMETABLE

Tuesday	9.00am	Mass
Wednesday	9.00am	Mass St Josephs
Thursday	9.00am	Mass
Friday	9.00am	Mass