

# ST JOSEPH'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

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



**2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday Ordinary Time Year C**  
**16 January 2022**

A re run of the letter from Cardinal John Dew, written before Christmas, with regard to Priest changes in the Diocese.

Dear Parishioners DIOCESAN UPDATE - PRIESTLY APPOINTMENTS 2022 Over the past few months, I have met with the Diocesan Consultors (whose responsibility is to advise the diocesan bishop) to decide how to staff parishes in the diocese next year. The situation we face is complex. This year, Fr Freddie Barte returned home to the Philippines, and Monsignor Brian Walsh retired from full-time ministry. Early next year, another priest will return home to the Philippines and another priest will retire. We expect another international priest to return home during the year and, at this time, a senior priest is on leave. As you can imagine, we have had some difficult choices to make. Because the diocese is awaiting the appointment of a new bishop, we have limited clergy changes to a minimum.

As of January 2022: Fr Adonis Rancho will return home to the Philippines  
Fr Bernard O'Donnell will retire from Ohakune-Taihape parish  
Fr Robin Kurian IC will be appointed Parish Priest of St Mary's in Palmerston North  
Fr Peter Brockhill will serve Marton, Ohakune, Taihape parishes and Waiouru military base

**Fr Joseph Saw Tha Khu will be based in Stratford and will serve collaboratively with Fr Craig Butler (Hawera) across the South Taranaki region, including Stratford, Kaponga, Eltham, Hawera, Patea and Waverley , Fr Craig will continue his other role as Local Administrator of the diocese until a bishop is appointed.**

You will notice that all our priests care for multiple parishes and church communities and some have a lot of ground to cover. I hope this gives everyone the bigger picture. Changes will need to be made when it comes to local planning and sharing resources (including priests). We cannot provide all the Masses and pastoral care as we have known it. These changes will impact all our parishes. I know you will be understanding when it comes to change, and I encourage you to support your priests as they care for you. None of this is easy, and I cannot see it getting any easier in the immediate future. Now, we are preparing to celebrate the birth of our saviour Jesus Christ at Christmas. As we wait in hope and expectation for Christ to come again, I encourage you to be hopeful and courageous in the face of uncertainty. May our good God bless you and your families and your priests this Christmas.

Cardinal John A Dew  
Apostolic Administrator  
Diocese of Palmerston North 22 December 2021

**RESPONSE** Our parish leadership have met briefly and will meet with the leaders from each parishes in Central and South Taranaki late January, to work out how we can respond in such a way that is both realistic and sustainable. Please pray for this process.

**MASS SCHEDULE** Fr Craig is currently on annual leave and will return to work on the 26<sup>th</sup> January. Fr Joseph is currently saying the two Weekend Masses in Hawera this weekend and there will be a Communion Service in Patea.

Next weekend Vigil 22<sup>nd</sup> January Hawera 5pm (Vaccination Certificate Required).

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January Hawera 9.30am Communion Service (Vaccination Certificate Required)

Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> January Hawera **11.15am** Please note time allowing Fr Joseph to get back from Mass in Waverley. ((Open Mass limit to 50 people - )

**The First Reading:** the prophet's words set the stage for our journey during Ordinary Time. These words give us confidence that the Lord delights in his people and that he will accompany us on our faith journey, as a bridegroom rejoices in his bride.

**The Second Reading:** God is one and the same, and from him comes a range of diverse gifts and works. The same Spirit – the Spirit of the Lord-produces these gifts of wisdom, healing, prophecy, discernment of spirits, and interpretation of tongues. These gifts come from the spirit. The Corinthians struggled to maintain unity within their community and they wanted to prioritize the gifts in order of importance, which set people against each other. This would only serve to divide the one God, the Lord and Spirit.

**The Gospel:** In the Gospel from John, Jesus turns water into wine as the first of the signs that reveal his glory. The signs help us see Jesus as the fulfilment of the restoration of Jerusalem. We know from the beginning of his ministry that the one who will call his disciples and us to follow him fulfils God's covenant to Israel.

**Rosary** – Parishioners are invited to join in The Saying of the Rosary First Monday of each Month beginning February 7<sup>th</sup> at 1.30pm at the Church.



The theme of World Peace and Devotion to Mary.

**“Great things have happened with small beginnings, we can do this.”**

**Rosters** for February will be out soon. Please consider joining a new ministry. If you are away during this time please let us know.

#### **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, especially Cynthia Collins and those in January Elaine Reed, Robin Sutherland, Bart Harrington, Joan Brennan, Eileen O'Keefe, Shirley McLoughlin, June Cox, Charlie Chamberlain & Colleen Bulman. May they rest in peace.

#### **Role vacancy: Manager**

#### **New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference**

Applications are invited for the position of Manager for the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference (NZCBC). The NZCBC coordinates the national activities and ministries of the Catholic Church of which the Manager will be a key leadership role. The main functions of the position are coordinating people, projects, and agencies; leading or supporting a broad range of ad-hoc initiatives and events; and supporting strategic planning. We offer a supportive, family-friendly, and flexible workplace. The successful applicant will have excellent project and people skills and a professional background. This is a permanent role, based at the Catholic Centre in Wellington, and can be part or full-time negotiable.

Details: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/nzcbc-manager-apply/>

**Synod the Listening Stage-** the timeline to complete the questions has been extended until 31<sup>st</sup> March 2022.

For others there is still time to complete an online response at

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/AotearoaSynod1>, or by email to [synod@pndiocese.org.nz](mailto:synod@pndiocese.org.nz). Copies of the Participation Document and questions are still available from the Parish Office.



#### **PARISH INFORMATION**

St Joseph's Church 38 Victoria St Hawera  
Sacred Heart Church 43 Ngatai St Manaia  
Mission Centre 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 06 278 5656

Parish Priest Fr Craig Butler 021 272 4401

Assistant Priest Fr Joseph Tha Khu 027 232 7532

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

#### **SUNDAY MASS TIMETABLE**

Saturday Vigil Mass 5.00pm (Vaccinated Congregation)

Sunday 9.30am (Vaccinated Congregation)

Sunday 11.00am (Open Congregation) Note next weekend this

Will be at 11.15am.

#### **WEEKDAY MASS TIMETABLE**

Tuesday - Friday 9.00am. Mass