



16 August 2020 - 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A

**STAYING  
IN TOUCH**

Please register your details online at the [Cathedral of the Holy Spirit](#) or [Our Lady of Lourdes](#) websites. Please include your Surname, Christian name, Email address, Cell and Landline numbers, and Street address and which parish you belong to. Alternatively, you can email the above details to [info@lourdesparish.nz](mailto:info@lourdesparish.nz), “Registering my details with you”.

## Pastor’s Desk

The question of God has divided as many people as it has united. Too often God is used as an excuse or a rationalisation for evil, sectarianism and religious intolerance. God becomes the reason for one person’s violence against another, or one nation’s war against another. Quite rightly, many people have become tired of this sort of understanding of God. The weaponization of God, and of religious practice is not new and it is obvious today in so many places around the world, and within the Church.

Authoritarian powers often use the concept of “God” or “divine retribution” to make people afraid and compliant. They misuse the nature of the mystery of the divine to illicit fear. The mystery of the Divine, when we encounter it, is frightening, because we become aware that we are in the presence of the Living God.

There is a tendency these days to reduce Jesus to a nice bloke who was a gifted human being and to forget the “mystery” of his Divine-Human reality. It can be easy to free ourselves from his demands for compassion and love of others, including our enemies. We can objectify him and judge his commands using contemporary standards of acceptability.

For me, theology, and especially the Sacred Liturgy, are there to keep the mystery open. They keep the invitation to enter more fully into God’s Divine Life in front of me. The Sacred Liturgy keeps inviting me to contemplate the presence of God in the world, myself, and others. I am reminded in song and scriptures, gesture and posture, word, and ritual that the world we live in is, in the words of Gerard Manly Hopkins, “shot through with the grandeur of God”. Forgetting this leads me to a world that is mechanical, mercantile, and functional, reminding me of Gradgrind’s conversation with Bitzer in Dicken’s *Hard Times* concerning the fate of Sleary: ‘Bitzer,’ said Mr. Gradgrind, broken down, and miserably submissive to him, ‘have you a heart?’ ‘The circulation, sir,’ returned Bitzer, smiling at the oddity of the question, ‘couldn’t be carried on without one.’

Jesus was fully and entirely human and when we speak of him as “Son of God” we are speaking of him also as a demand God makes on us. The words of Jesus should confront us. They do have a demand. As Karl Rahner, the great German theologian wrote, Jesus is “God’s absolute self-communication”. God has communicated God’s-self in many ways but does it absolutely in Jesus. This is the mystery we stand in and can never fully know. In this great mystery, God also withdraws from us again and again so that we will learn to “see without seeing” and “know without knowing”. Thus, the mystery is not a “thing” we control with words and rituals – these are the tools we use to open the mystery, and they are ever-changing.

For people who are open to it, life is how we enter the mystery of the Divine. Within life one experiences the Great Mystery. Science can say a great deal about how a living being functions but what life *is*, that is something different that neither philosophy nor science can explore. Theologians can only point to the “being” of life because the “being” of life is not “out there”, external to one’s life, the being of life is the Divine Mystery dwelling within – God is not separated from us; God is the One ‘in whom we live, and move and have our being’.

People are ready for the “God-question” at different times and approach it through differing questions, events, or experiences of life. The mistake many religious people make is to think that catechesis is possible at any age. In life there are times for catechesis and there are times when we have to say: ‘wait, the Lord had not yet come.’

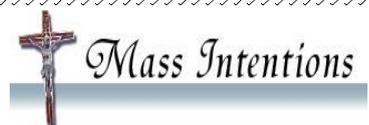
Fr Joe Grayland

## Prayer Intentions

**We Pray for Our Deceased: RIP:** Michael Fenton

**Mass intentions:** Donald Watts

**Special Prayers** for all those suffering with psychological illnesses and their families



**St Peters College:** The Board of Trustees are about to commence the process of appointing a replacement Principal for Kevin Shore, who will be leaving us in September. This is a time when prayer becomes a significant factor to their planning and decision making. Accordingly, we invite all parishioners to mindfully keep this process and the Board Members in your thoughts and prayers.





**We pray for:** Andre Griffin, Audrey Murphy, Bettie Beech, Barbara & Graeme Younger, Bernadette Conlon, Chris Kleinsman, Diane Stubbs, Fiona Hurly, Evie Feierabend, Ian Sutherland, Josie Conlon, John Pepperell, June MacMillan, Janice Williams, Kathleen Butturini, Kia Reyes, Malia Mavaega, Marian Carey, Maureen Murphy, Maureen Watts, Maria Pascoe, Fr Michael Lloyd, Mike Manson, Mikulas Oros, Melva Widdowson, Michael Quirk, Pat Kauri, Nicola Burmeister, Paul McRae, Peter Morrison-Story, Raymond Jones, Romuald Rudzki, Rebecca Lauvi, Romeo Plamio, Rose Waldvogel, Steve Horgan, Tony Murphy, Tony Winchcombe, Vinnie Carroll, William Lemmon, Tyler, Allan and Wayne.

## Special Notices

Please Note: **Memorial Acclamation said during Masses in August:** So parishioners can respond in unison each month we will alternate these responses starting this month of August with:

*"When we eat this Bread & drink this cup, we proclaim your own death, O Lord, until you come again!"*

**Maori Education Collection – Sunday 23<sup>rd</sup> August** – This annual collection has growing support. A contribution to something that works well rightfully brings a sense of inner satisfaction to our hearts. Successful educational outcomes for young Maori is good for all New Zealanders. Your donation is an investment for a vibrant, working, diverse, faithfilled NZ. It is timely also to thank the many people who support a number of families struggling to pay school attendance dues. Often this includes grandparents or retired parishioners who do their bit to help.



**ABOUT OUR NEWSLETTER:** - We will be retaining the online newsletter.

If you know of anyone who cannot access the emails or the internet or who does not have a printer please print out a copy of the newsletter and pass it onto them. Alternatively, ask them to register with the parish office for a printed newsletter – thank you! Please view the overhead presentation before and after Mass.

## Reflection – 20<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Isaiah 56.1, 6-7, **2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Romans 11.13-15, 29-32

**Gospel Reading:** Matthew 15.21-28

**Responsorial Psalm:** O God, let all the nations praise you!

Tēnā tātou - we are living in historic times. Today's first reading has the phrase - 'You shall be holy, for the Lord your God am holy' - in today's Gospel Matthew has Jesus teaching his disciples and as usual, there are some pretty challenging tenets. Jesus issues a challenge for us to grow in faith and righteousness. In reflecting on today's scriptures, I will draw on 'Strive' the first of our St James' Catholic School SAINTS Gospel Values.

To 'Strive' is to courageously accept life 100% and live life to the full. At St James' we think of holy as 'whole'. 'You shall be holy, for the Lord your God am holy' is about a life's journey to wholeness. We endeavour to coach our learners that it is not unusual to be 'blessed and broken'. Each day has its ups and downs, and we want to strive to make courageous choices. To learn from our experiences.

In these extraordinary times, we are encouraging our learners to maintain and grow in courage and help others to keep the 'courage to be'. Courage affirms who we are. It is not the absence of fear but the triumph over it. The courageous learner is not the one who never feels afraid, but the one who conquers that fear. Take some risks. Make some mistakes. Use your tools, make good choices, seek help, do not give up - strive. It is an individual and a group effort. Courage, compassion, and collaborative action create a hopeful tomorrow.

As Christians, we draw strength from the teaching and action of Jesus of Nazareth. Jesus points the way to a God who is always a lover who is more than we dared hope for. Jesus encourages us to live whole lives as connected, confident, lifelong learners as we strive to do our best every day.

Kia pai tō rā Tom Sheehan

## Health and Wellbeing

Your health and wellbeing is extremely important, and practising good health is critical to maintaining headspace during this time. Remember to eat well, exercise when possible, connect with family and friends over the phone or internet, and drink alcohol in moderation.

Some people may be affected differently to others during lock down. If you are feeling stressed, anxious, or you are not coping, please consider using any of the resources below for advice and guidance on maintaining your mental health and wellbeing.



## IF YOU NEED HELP NOW

- Freecall or text **1737**, 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, for support from trained counsellors. [1737.org.nz](http://1737.org.nz)
- Current advice on the Ministry of Health's website [here](#)
- Contact your GP

## General advice on mental health and wellbeing

### Mental Health Foundation

<https://www.mentalhealth.org.nz/>

### Depression:

P: 0800 111757

free text 4202

[www.depression.org.nz](http://www.depression.org.nz)

### Suicide Crisis Helpline:

P: 0508 828 865

[www.lifeline.org.nz](http://www.lifeline.org.nz)

### Youthline

P: 0800 376 633

Free text 234

[www.youthline.co.nz](http://www.youthline.co.nz)

### Youth services:

#### The Lowdown

P: 0800 111 757 / Free text 5626

[www.thelowdown.co.nz](http://www.thelowdown.co.nz)

### Family violence:

P: 0800 456 450

[www.areyouok.org.nz](http://www.areyouok.org.nz)

### Alcohol Drug Helpline:

P: 0800 787 797

Free text 8681

[www.alcoholdrughelpline.org.nz](http://www.alcoholdrughelpline.org.nz)

### Women's Refuge:

P: 0800 733 843

[www.womensrefuge.org.nz](http://www.womensrefuge.org.nz)

## CHURCH NOTICES

### Cathedral of the Holy Spirit:

The following events are an open invitation to the Palmerston North Catholic Community – all welcome.

Every Sunday	2:00pm	<b>Life in the Spirit Programme:</b> Talk in the Diocesan Hall
18 August		<b>Women's Movie Afternoon – CANCELLED</b> 😞
20 August	9:30am	<b>Shining Stars</b> – an invitation to all our little people to come and share some song, dance, and morning tea – an invitation to all parents and caregivers from all parishes. We look forward to seeing you all in the Cathedral Lounge. 
15 August	3:00pm	The Cathedral will be hosting a section of the <b>Coast to Coast Rosary for Life and Faith</b> – for more information please contact Rastem Eugenio <a href="mailto:rastem@me.com">rastem@me.com</a> & see the noticeboard.
17 August	12:30pm	<b>Hibernian Catholic Benefit Society – St Patrick's Branch 400</b> Second Quarterly Meeting and AGM: Cathedral of the Holy Spirit – Gathering Area. <b>Finger lunch served at 12.30pm</b> – please advise if attending for catering purposes to Kevin Frost, Secretary, tel (06) 3577844 or email <a href="mailto:kfassociates@xtra.co.nz">kfassociates@xtra.co.nz</a>
7 September	6:00pm	<b>Cathedral Café recommences</b> on Monday 7 September. Please book on 357 2891, between 9.00 and 1.00pm Monday to Friday, if you wish to join us.
Attention everyone: <b>More Welcomers are needed</b> for the Roster at the Cathedral, especially for the 6:00pm Mass. Please contact the parish office if you are interested in becoming a Welcomer 357 2891 or <a href="mailto:office@pncathedral.org.nz">office@pncathedral.org.nz</a>		

### Our Lady of Lourdes:

Every Friday	10:30am	<b>Reconciliation</b> available on Fridays 10:30-11am after Mass. <b>Adoration</b> available on Friday after Mass from 10:30am to 12pm. No reconciliation on Saturdays. Reconciliation available by appointment with Fr Joe
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### St Mary's Foxton/Shannon:

<b>Reconciliation</b> is available by appointment with Fr. Joe		
17 Aug	10:00am	<b>St Mary's School Foxton</b> – invites you to come with them for a fun play day at Levin Park in honour of celebrating St. Mary's Feast day (15 August). School leaves at 10am on Monday the 17 <sup>th</sup> .

### Cathedral Parish - 11 October – First Communion Start Date

It has taken some time to sort out what and how to do 1<sup>st</sup> Communion this year with many of our usual patterns thrown into disarray. So finally let us get started in the new 4<sup>th</sup> term – enjoying the life and energy of the new season.



This year we will be conducting our preparation in four weekly sessions for parents/caregivers and children together! With no separate times for parents! This means that we will need to be more savvy than usual in our organisation of logistics for the "Breakfast" Morning Tea Celebration after Mass in the Diocesan Centre on 8 November. It is imperative that you attend Mass with your children before each session, as the Mass is formative by its nature.

**Parish Catechist: Kate Bell** – [k.bell@pncathedral.org.nz](mailto:k.bell@pncathedral.org.nz) and 0276544004. Mark your calendars and diaries!

<b>All sessions commence with Mass at 9.30am followed by morning tea and session in Diocesan Rooms</b>			
Date	Topic	Date	Topic
11 Oct	We Gather to Celebrate	18 Oct	We Listen to God's Word
25 Oct	One Bread, One Cup, One Body	1 Nov	Belonging and Serving
4 Nov	5pm in the Cathedral – soup and sausages followed by a walkthrough of the ceremony	8 Nov	9.00am 1 <sup>st</sup> Holy Communion Celebration followed by breakfast in the Diocese Rooms

## General Notices:

See **Noticeboard** for more information and details on certain events mentioned below.

† **Palmerston North Young Family Ministry Facebook** page – <https://www.facebook.com/PNYoungFamilyMinistry/>  
Contact: Basia McIntosh at [BMcintosh@pndiocese.org.nz](mailto:BMcintosh@pndiocese.org.nz) phone: 021 082 03750.

† Kia ora all year 6 to 9 students and your Whanau! This is your official invite to join our **Junior Youth Group!** Youth group runs from 5:30-7:00pm every Friday night at the **Diocesan centre** on Amesbury street. Come along for a night of fun, food, and good times! Stay blessed, Bridget Kelly [bkelly@pndiocese.org.nz](mailto:bkelly@pndiocese.org.nz)



† **Catholic Charities Foundation of Palmerston North & the Tindall Foundation** – The October 2020 funding round for the Diocese of Palmerston North Allocation groups is now open. For more information see parish noticeboard or [click this link](#)



† **Safeguarding Officer Vacancy at the Diocese of Palmerston North** – 20 hours a week – see noticeboard or [click this link](#)

† **Vote for Life** – [www.righttolife.org.nz](http://www.righttolife.org.nz) see website or church noticeboard for more information.

† **Flashes of Insight** - Conversations on Worship after Liturgical Lockdown with Professor Thomas O'Loughlin of Nottingham University, England. Thursday 20 August. This is an **online ZOOM conversation**. Please **book here**: <https://cathnews.co.nz/letstalkliturgy/> - Bookings close at 5:00pm Wednesday evening New Zealand time! You can view the interview held on the 6<sup>th</sup> of August here: [You Tube Video](#)

† **Mary, the Mother of God** – with Br Kieren Fenn fms, Monday's on Zoom 24 Aug to 28 Sep - \$25 per session – see church noticeboard

† **An Ignatian Retreat for Our Times** - A retreat inspired by the words of Pope Francis, **Mondays on Zoom, 10 August, 17 August 2020**. Mornings 11am-noon, or evenings 7pm-8pm. If you are interested, contact Nicola McCarthy or Murray Adams from the Diocesan Retreats Team. Nicola McCarthy [n.mccarthy@xtra.co.nz](mailto:n.mccarthy@xtra.co.nz) / 021 2922342 or Murray Adams [m.c.adamsfam@xtra.co.nz](mailto:m.c.adamsfam@xtra.co.nz) / 027 3574302 – see church noticeboard.

† **Ignatian Spirituality NZ** is offering a 6 day **Residential Silent Individually Guided Retreat –25 October, 10am to 30 October 4pm**. St. Francis Retreat Centre, 50 Hillsborough Rd, Auckland.

† **St James School** – Taking Enrolments now for 2021. Contact School office 06 357 9719 to request an enrolment pack.

† **The Family First** election guide is available here on this link. It gives Information as the voting records of politicians on significant social or ethical issues: [ValueYourVote](#)

† **CathNews** reports news about and of interest to the Catholic Church. This Catholic News has focus on New Zealand and the South Pacific – read online [CathNews New Zealand](#)

**NZCatholic** For sale in the church foyer.

**The Op shop is asking for material suitable for making face masks** we have volunteers ready to sew. Toys of all kinds.

The Society is also seeking a 4-door car 1.3-1.5 litres in good running condition for a family of 4 in need. Please phone Mike Keenan 021 185 8969 if you can help.

Remember all requests for help to the Shop 06 357 6779 252 Rangitikei Street.



Cathedral of the Holy Spirit	Kotahi Ano (Together as One)
<p>197 Broadway Ave, Palmerston North</p> <p>Phone 06 357-2891</p> <p>Email <a href="mailto:office@pncathedral.org.nz">office@pncathedral.org.nz</a></p> <p>Website <a href="http://www.pncathedral.org.nz">www.pncathedral.org.nz</a></p> <p>Parish Priest (Acting) Fr Joe Grayland</p> <p>Cell 027 777 8096</p> <p>Email <a href="mailto:priest@lourdesparish.nz">priest@lourdesparish.nz</a></p> <p>Parish Manager Steph Grantham 027-4408544</p> <p>Catechist Kate Bell 027-6544004</p> <p>Music Ministry Julie Randall &amp; Rastem Eugenio</p> <p>In residence</p> <p><b>Monsignor Brian Walsh VG</b></p> <p>Monsignor David Bell 021 2576771</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:monsdbell@gmail.com">monsdbell@gmail.com</a></p> <p>Fr. Vijay Dung Dung <a href="mailto:vijayhgn@yahoo.in">vijayhgn@yahoo.in</a></p>	<p><b>Our Lady of Lourdes Parish &amp; Sacred Heart Rongotea</b></p> <p>Pastoral Coordinator Kate McNamara</p> <p>Phone: 06 358 3667</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:office@lourdesparish.nz">office@lourdesparish.nz</a></p> <p>Website: <a href="http://www.lourdesparish.nz">www.lourdesparish.nz</a></p> <p>Priest: Fr. Joe Grayland</p> <p>Cell 027 777 8096</p> <p>Email: <a href="mailto:priest@lourdesparish.nz">priest@lourdesparish.nz</a></p> <p><b>St. Mary's Foxton/Shannon</b></p> <p>Parish Coordinator Eleanor Jacobs</p> <p>Cell 021 064 4584</p> <p>Email <a href="mailto:foxtoncoordinator@lourdesparish.nz">foxtoncoordinator@lourdesparish.nz</a></p> <p><b>Newsletter Notices for all Parishes contact:</b></p> <p>Claire Jacobs <a href="mailto:info@lourdesparish.nz">info@lourdesparish.nz</a></p> <p>Hospital Chaplain: Kathleen Field – 021 509 436 <a href="mailto:kathleen.field@midcentraldhb.govt.nz">kathleen.field@midcentraldhb.govt.nz</a></p>
Schools:	
<p><b>St. James Primary School</b> (06) 357 9719 <a href="mailto:office@stjamescatholic.school.nz">office@stjamescatholic.school.nz</a> Principal: Tom Sheehan</p> <p><b>St. Peter's College:</b> (06) 354 4198 <a href="mailto:office@stpeterspn.school.nz">office@stpeterspn.school.nz</a> Principal: Kevin Shore</p>	<p><b>Our Lady of Lourdes School</b> (06) 358 9727 <a href="mailto:office@lol.school.nz">office@lol.school.nz</a> Principal: Caroline Deazley-Gilligan</p> <p><b>St Mary's Primary School Foxton</b> (06) 363 8177 <a href="mailto:info@stmarysfoxton.school.nz">info@stmarysfoxton.school.nz</a> Principal: Mary Kleinsman-Powell</p>