

1 November 2020 – All Saints

Pastor's Desk

All Saints and All Souls mark the beginning of November.

All Saints Day is celebrated this Sunday. This year there is a special celebration for Our Lady of Lourdes' Parish as we commemorate 125 years of the Church in Rongotea. This Mass is at 11.30am at Sacred Heart Church.

Rongotea dates from the Crown's sale of the Carnarvon block in the late 1860s, with the Sandon block next to it. The name Rongotea—which means good news—was changed in 1887 from its original name of Campbelltown, at the suggestion of the Rev Thomas Hammond. During the 1870s and 1880s Rongotea was a centre of religious revival and a large number of churches were built in the town, but no pubs! The Catholic Church was built in 1895 and has been part of various parishes over the years, most recently, Bulls, Feilding and Our Lady of Lourdes.

The Solemnity of All Saints takes precedence this Sunday. We remember all those who are part of the Church in Heaven; believers who enjoy God's eternal presence. On this day we recall that all are called to holiness, that is to be saints. Clearly, sainthood is not a "one-size-fits-all" experience or type. There are many different types of saints and many diverse people who fit that profile.

Traditionally, the martyrs are the first ranked because they have given their lives for Christ. Their self-giving is a testament to their faith in Christ. Originally, the word "saint" was synonymous with "martyr". Martyrs were buried in tombs accessible to believers who would celebrate Mass at the tomb each year "in memory of those athletes who have gone before, and to train and make ready those who are to come hereafter" (Mart. Pol., 2nd cent).

On Monday, November 2nd, we have the Commemoration of All the Faithful Departed or All Souls Day with Masses at the Cathedral, Lourdes and St Mary's Foxton. There are also Masses in Feilding and at St Mary's Ruahine Street. The practice, where possible is to pray for the deceased members of our families, our friends and all those who have died. This feast has been celebrated since the 11th

century. This feast spread throughout Europe from the 11th to 13th centuries when it was finally adopted in Rome.

The practice of remembering the dead goes back to the earliest days of Christianity. In the third century Tertullian, in North Africa, wrote of a "place" where the dead rest before the final judgment—there are two "judgments" first for the individual and secondly for the whole of creation. Tertullian's writing marks the origin of our thinking about purgatory. In the Eastern Church this waiting is seen as a time of growth before meeting God, while in the Roman church, it became more of a penal state before being released into heaven.

All Saints and All Souls have created for us in modern times the civic feast of Halloween with its ghosts and such. This fictionisation of the presence of the dead and eternal life is now surrounded by the cheap United States' practice of "trick or treat"—another example of how religion and belief are commercialised and commodified. This approach reduces the mystery of human death, and the desire for meaning, to the level of nonsense. Freed of this approach we could remember the mystery of human existence as an *evening of hope and a day of resurrection*.

November is traditionally the month for remembering our beloved dead. This year, we could all gather at Lourdes Church to celebrate the Bereavement Mass on Wednesday November 4th at 7pm. This Mass is an opportunity to mourn those who have died during this year—to remember them as a community of faith. It is a Mass closely linked to the hope that each one we have given over into the hands of God will rest in the peace of Christ. We pray for those who have died in Christ and those whose faith God alone has known! We gather to support each other—a community of believers—in the experience of loss and grief and we do this in HOPE, not like people who have no perspective, but as people who share a common faith in that in death, life has changed, not ended! **Fr Joe Grayland**

Special Notices

Please Note: **Memorial Acclamation said during Masses in November:**

So parishioners can respond in unison each month we will alternate these responses starting with:
"When we eat this bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your death, O Lord, until you come again!"

Masses for All Souls Day – 2nd November 2020

Cathedral of the Holy Spirit – 7:30am and 12.05pm, Our Lady of Lourdes – 10:00am, St. Mary's Foxton – 10:30am
 St. Mary's Palmerston North – 9:00am

For those who wish to write down the names of their deceased a box is available in the foyer of the church.

Bereavement Mass at Our Lady of Lourdes on 4th of November at 7:00pm

November – Holy Souls Month – Traditionally during the month of November **we pray for our faithful departed.**

Masses are offered for their intentions and we acknowledge their lives with prayerful thanksgiving.

Please place your list of beloved dead in the box on the table in the church foyer.

Our Lady of Lourdes wishes to Congratulate Mrs Freda Brown a Happy 96th Birthday celebrated on the 31st of October.

Cathedral of the Holy Spirit – First Holy Communion – 8 November 2020 – 9:30am – Everyone Welcome!

OLOL First Holy Communion and Reconciliation: Preparation has begun and today is the last day to enrol by completing a form, which is available in the gathering area. A copy of your child's Baptism Certificate is required with your enrolment. Sessions will be held on the 1st, 8th & 15th of November following 9.30am Mass.

1st **Reconciliation** will be held on November 4 at 5.00pm & **First Holy Communion** will be celebrated on 22 November at 9.30am Mass.

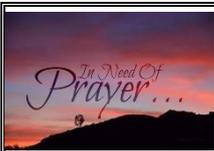
Prayer Intentions

We Pray for Our Deceased: RIP: John McDowell, Sr Mary Gordan

Mass intentions: Ivan Snook (A19/10), Margaret Carde (19/10) & Maurice Murray (A24/10).

Special Prayers: For those suffering with psychological illnesses and their families.





We pray for: Margaret Lambeth, Barbara & Graeme Younger, Bernadette Conlon, Chris Kleinsman, Bridget Beckett, David Maeguard, Diane Stubbs, Deborah Green, Fiona Hurly, Evie Feierabend, Fr Damian Caccioppoli SM, Ian Sutherland, Josie Conlon, Bernice OBeirne, John Pepperell, June MacMillan, Kathleen Butturini, Kia Reyes, Marian Carey, Maureen Murphy, Maria Pascoe, Mike Spring, Mikulas Oros, Melva Widdowson, Michael Quirk, Pat Kauri, Nicola Burmeister, Paul McRae, Peter Morrison-Story, Pippa Richards, Patrick Tobin, Raymond Jones, Rebecca Lauvi, Rose Waldvogel, Steve Horgan, Stephen Caccioppoli, Tony Murphy, Tony Winchcombe, Vinnie Carroll, William Lemmon, Anna & John Feldberg, Margaret & John Maskill, Tyler, Allan and Wayne.

Reflection – All Saints Day

1st Reading: Revelation 7.2-4, 9-14, **2nd Reading:** 1 John 3.1-3

Gospel Reading: Matthew 5.1-12a

Responsorial Psalm: *Lord, this is the people that longs to see your face.*

Today, we, who believe in the Communion of Saints, honour and remember the saints that have gone before us. Those saints of whom we know and have feast days can be models and an inspiration for us.

In our first reading from Revelation, the vision of John, we see 'standing before the throne and before the Lamb' those saints who were from the tribes of Israel; as well as 'a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, tribe, people and language'. They are unknown by us, but not by God.

Our Gospel reading is the beginning of the Sermon on the Mount and Jesus starts off this sermon with the Beatitudes (blessings). The eight Beatitudes are not commandments, (unlike those Moses was given on Mount Sinai). Last week, we heard Jesus giving the greatest

commandment, love – love of God, self and neighbour. This underpins the Beatitudes - if we love, then we will be blessed.

Jesus lived the Beatitudes - He was poor in spirit; He mourned; He was meek; He hungered and thirsted for righteousness; He was merciful and pure in heart; a peacemaker, and was persecuted, reviled and falsely accused. This is how the saints lived.

A Sunday School teacher asked her class what they thought a saint was. One child answered that it was a stained-glass window, because the different colours let in the light and every saint is a different colour of God. We all have the potential to be saints, called to be so by our baptism and Jesus' commandment to love. So how are we doing in letting the light of God shine through us, even though we do not have a halo?

From June Hurly.

NOTICES:

For more in-depth news see our [Online Newsletter](#) or the [Parishes Noticeboard](#).

† St Vincent de Paul: Some suggestions for our food store as some items are becoming depleted: small pasta & sauce, spaghetti & baked beans, tinned vegetables, instant coffee, noodles & muesli bars or similar for lunch boxes. Thank you for your continuing support.		
† St Vinnie's Shop: We still require Children's toys and children's clothes as both are popular items.		
† LOL: Encyclical Letter, FRATELLI TUTTI – Pope FRANCIS ON FRATERNITY & SOCIAL FRIENDSHIP reading & discussion group. Thursdays in November (5 th , 12 th , 19 th) 7pm to 8pm. Lead by Fr Joe Grayland. Purpose: to read & discuss the letter. Reading Material Online here . All welcome.		
† Let us get to know the bible. Come and join us over a cuppa and enjoying the Word and being encouraged at 540 Albert Street, 1:15pm each Tuesday till school pickup. Enquires: Basia McIntosh 02108203750 BMcintosh@pndiocese.org.nz		
† Young Catholic Leader is still taking registrations for the upcoming programme from December 14-18, 2020. For more information please contact Nick Wilson on 021822814 or nwilson@pndiocese.org.nz		
† Volunteer driver needed for Meals on Wheels – please contact Gil Escott 357 1617 or May Young 354 4677 / szm.young@xtra.co.nz .		
† Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy – Online Session (Evening): For more information and registration: info@studyjoy.nz See also: https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/the-gospel-of-mark-2/		
† 27 to 29 November 2020 – ADVENT RETREAT with Rex Begley & Fr. Donald Hornsey SSC. Magnificat Retreat Centre, Cross Creek Road, Featherston. Cost \$190.00. Please register. Contact: rexandtheresabegley@gmail.com Phone: 027 545 6808 or 027 967 2299		
† Cathedral – every Wednesday at 5:00pm – Praying the Rosary – Everyone Welcome		
† Cathedral – every Thursday during school term at 9:30am – Shining Stars – Everyone Welcome		
† Cathedral – every Friday after 12.05pm Mass – Hospitality – Everyone Welcome		
† St Mary's Foxton – every Friday at 1:00pm – Praying the Rosary – Everyone Welcome		
† Cathedral – every Friday at 1:30pm – Praying the Sunday Gospel – Everyone Welcome		
† Cathedral – every 3 rd Tuesday of the Month at 1:30pm – Ladies Movie Afternoon – Everyone Welcome		
† Cathedral – every 4 th Tuesday at 10:30am – Blokes Morning Tea – Everyone Welcome		
1 November	11:30am	Today Sacred Heart (Rongotea) is Celebrating their 125th Jubilee with a Mass – All Welcome! We congratulate the Rongotea Community and ask God's continued blessings on them all.
4 November	1:30pm	LOL – Our Lady of Lourdes Guild: Kate McNamara will talk on "Changing Roles in Parish life". Please bring your items for the Christmas Raffle. Usual flower competitions. See you there.
4 November	7:00pm	LOL – Bereavement Mass – Everyone Welcome to this City-Wide Mass when we pray for our deceased.
6 November	6:45am	LOL – Men's Breakfast – Come & be fed, mind, body & soul. The perfect way to start your day. Continental breakfast supplied. All welcome. Info John Hammond 027 688 7750.
6 November	6:00pm	LOL – City-wide Praise & Worship, and Adoration – For more information please contact City Wide Family Ministry Basia McIntosh 02108203750 bmcintosh@pndiocese.org.nz
12 November	4:00pm	Diocese of Palmerston North 2020 Update to be held at the Diocese Centre.
16 November	1:00pm	Cathedral Gathering Area – Hibernian Catholic Benefit Society – St Patrick's Branch 400 Third Quarterly Meeting
22 November	9:30am	LOL – First Holy Communion Celebration – Feast of Christ the King.

Notices for the Newsletter: Email info@lourdesparish.nz by 9am Thursdays. Newsletter Items that are received after 9am on Thursdays will be included the following week.