



Priest Ministers

Fr Joe Grayland (Pastor)

Fr Kevin Neal

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OLOL MASSES

5:30pm Vigil (Saturday)

9.30am Sunday

Mon & Thurs Liturgy of Word & Communion

Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat 10:00am

SACRED HEART RONGOTEA

9:00am: 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month

ST MARY'S FOXTON MASSES

10:30am Sun

10:30am Thurs

ST JOSEPH'S SHANNON MASSES

9:00am 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month

RECONCILIATION—OLOL

Sat 10:30am—11:00am

and on request



2nd Sunday of Easter Sunday —28th April 2019 Year C / Weekdays Year 1

From the Pastor's Desk

This Easter, we celebrated baptisms, confirmations, reception into the church and holy communions. These are many wonderful signs that nurture our community as we gathered around Christ the Altar and Christ the Word.

The photos on our Facebook Page tell the story. Here is the community of faith doing its work and sharing its message. All of this is wonderful. All a sign of God's present amongst us. Congratulations to all those who received baptism, confirmation, eucharist and reception into the church! Thanks to all those who prepared them for these sacraments. The journey has just begun, because now the children will prepare for First Communion at Pentecost, June 9th. Thereafter, the newly baptised will begin their ministry and service to the world and the Church.

Yet, amidst the beauty there is sin and violence at play amongst us. While we celebrated, our sisters and brothers in Sri Lanka were attacked at their prayers, an action that leaves us confused and bereft. We work for peace, justice and mercy and still there are people who work for violence, hatred and repression. We seek to help families and countries rise out of poverty and dysfunction, and yet they so easily slip back into them. Why? Because, there is a fundamental issue that often isn't addressed – the sin that keeps us from freedom; the self-centredness that refuses to participate in the life of the world, that seeks to isolate us from others.

Today, with courage, we continue to celebrate the revelation of Easter until the festival of Pentecost. Along the way we will meet key people in the life of faith. Today we meet the early church in Jerusalem, the community of faith who is given Christ's peace, and Spirit, and sent to forgive and reconcile. Amongst them Peter, the healer and Thomas, the doubter.

On this journey of faith, the Church's tradition invites us to mediate on the outcome of faith: a faith that heals and nurtures those who are in need; and an adult faith that embraces the experience of doubt. A person seeking an adult faith needs to engage with their questions of faith and their unbelief, otherwise their faith remains fearful and shallow. The story of Thomas shows us the courage of this. He doesn't hide behind prayers and saccharin concepts of God, neither is he seeking comfort in rote prayers or formulaic worship. Thomas is seeking the truth. His words challenge the believers. His request is reasonable. He needs to know with the knowledge of experience that the promise is real, true. This is not a knowledge of the head or the intellect, this is a knowledge of the body. It is the deepest type of learning.

The experience of faith is often linked to a bodily experience: water pouring over you, eating and drinking communion, oil on your head, grief wracking your body, tears for joy or sadness, a person's arm around you, a psalm or song that stays in your memory, all this is the stuff of faith.

The body's memory enables faith to build and, sadly to diminish: the unwanted touch of abuse, the social rejection divorce and homosexuality, the shunning of people with psychological illness, the ignoring of those with physical, affective or intellectual disability, all this, in a community of Christ, is a denial of truth, and destructive of community.

Thomas' words of challenge are met with Christ's presence and his greeting "peace be with you". This happened on the eighth day- the octave of Easter which we celebrate today. Christ doesn't tell Thomas off, neither does he demand a penance! Instead he invites Thomas to touch him and to know, through this physical experience, the truth of the Resurrection. Thomas' reply is well known; it is one of the first Christological statements of the Church: "My Lord and my God"!

The admonition: "You believe because you have seen. Blessed are those who have not seen and still believe" is the blessing of the Apostolic Age and the reason for the Gospels themselves. It signals the end of the Apostolic Age and the need for an assured public revelation of our Christian belief, which is given to us in the New Testament writings.

The Council of Trent declared the gospels to be the 'source of all saving truth and rule of conduct'. The truth of public revelation is assured, because it is the revelation of God, utterly centred on Christ. This revelation is essentially sacramental because, like the sacraments, God's saving actions are revealed in words, deeds and events associated with Christ.

Whereas public revelation is binding on all Christians, private revelation is binding only on those who receive it, because it does not belong to the Deposit of Faith. With the end of the Apostolic Age we have the end of public revelation.

The Gospels contain the information we need for salvation. The signs are recorded, writes John, 'so that *you* may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing this you may have life through his name.'

We now step into the time of revelation that seeks the truth through seeking Jesus, the Christ.

Joe Grayland

Today, April 28th, is the Feast of St Peter Chanel

St Peter Chanel was officially declared a martyr and beatified in 1889. He was declared a saint by Pope Pius XII in 1954 and, because of his connection with NZ, St Peter Chanel is honoured here with a feast day.

Welcome to Ashley Nomsa who is being baptised this weekend at Our Lady of Lourdes.

Our Lady of Lourdes Guild Come and join us for our **62nd birthday** celebration at **Café in the Esplanade at 11:45am Wednesday 1st May** for lunch and a stroll round the newly developed area. RSVP to June 354 7686 or Rose 357 5429.

Men's breakfast. Come and be feed spiritually and bodily. The perfect way to start your day. **Next breakfast Friday 3rd May, 6.45am to 8.00am, Our Lady of Lourdes meeting room.** Cereal, toast etc supplied. All welcome. Info John Hammond 0276887750.

First Eucharist sessions begin for children and parents on May 5th after 9:30am Mass. First Communion will be celebrated on 9th June, Pentecost Sunday at 9:30am Mass.

HELP PLEASE The friendly Hospitality team has sadly dwindled and we are in urgent need of more volunteers to serve tea and coffee after Sunday Mass each week. If you have a spare 45 minutes and would like to join us please contact Dianne Jordan at 356 9333 or the Parish Office 358 3667 ololpn@xtra.co.nz.

A member of the parish is spending the next 3 months discerning a vocation to the Religious Life. Masses on Wednesday and Friday will be prayed for this person and their discernment.

O'Shea Shield is being hosted this year by St Peters College on the weekend of 10th—12th May. O'Shea Shield is a public speaking Competition that is competed for each year by the 17 secondary Catholic Colleges in the Wellington and Palmerston North Dioceses. The College would appreciate donations of baking to help with the hospitality needs during the weekend.

Have you seen OLOL Facebook page yet? Like us on FB

Pregnancy Centre information night Tuesday May 7th 6pm
See notice board for full details.

ROSTERS: April 28th—May 5th

Church Cleaning: (April 29th) Alicia and Francisco Pabellon.

Counters: (April 30th) Leigh Basile.

Flowers: (May 4th/5th) Mary Dorn.

Greeters: Vigil 5:30pm Catherine and Tom Edwards
9:30am Ans Haakman.

Children's Liturgy: (5th) TBA

Readers: 5:30pm Rosalie Connors, Janey Bishop, Kath Rooney

9:30am Diane Baucke, Jeanette Iwikau, Maree O'Donoghue.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: 5:30pm Pat Curran, John Werder, Denise Bailey, Hannah Brown, Lesley Wright.

9:30am Colette O'Connor, Eileen O'Connor, Mary O'Connor, Julia Sissons, Wendy Derksen,

Altar Servers: 9:30am Alesha Alexander and Isla Hyde.

Hospitality: 9:30am Rose and Wally Semmens.

Linen: (May) Dorothy Crombie **Lawns:** (Apr 27th) Phillip Connors

Religious Goods Cabinet: Wally Semmens.

SVDP Basket: (April) John Lynch



You are invited to a fabulous opportunity to **deepen your knowledge about PFGs, belonging, and living Life more purposefully.** Come to Our Lady of Lourdes, Shamrock St for 9.30am Mass, followed by morning tea and interesting sessions in the OLOL hall on **Sunday 5th May – led by Fr Brian Traynor (from Australia).**

Activities and care will be provided for children of attendees.

Please bring a plate to share for lunch on 5th May. For all enquiries or to confirm your attendance, by 30th April, contact Jenny, 027 4187 906 or email doidgefamily@xtra.co.nz.

PASSIONIST YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS RETREATS 2019

Registrations are open for this year's Passionist Retreats!

Youth retreat: July 8th – 11th, Camp Rangi Woods, Palmerston North.

Young adult retreat: July 12th – 14th, Magnificat Retreat Centre, Featherston. Ages 18 – 30

Register online at www.passionistfamily.org.nz/retreats or pick up a registration form from the Gathering Area. For more info contact **Penelope 027 485-3269 (youth) or Nick 021 822 814 (young adult)**

OBERAMMERGAU PASSION PLAY. Tickets to the Passion play have been purchased and as we have obtained a couple of extra tickets there are vacancies for a few people to join my tour to the play and parts of Southern Germany, Hungary, and Northern Italy commencing June 5th 2020. The cost is approximately \$10,000.00, slightly more for single travel. Inquiries to mondbell@gmail.com or 021 257 6771.

A workshop on interfaith dialogue will be held at the Diocesan Centre 18th May, 10am to 1pm to launch the resource, Promoting Interfaith Dialogue in Aotearoa New Zealand. This workshop is for Catholics who want to gain greater insight, training and expertise in interfaith relations. RSVP for catering purposes to Mary Eastham, maeastham23@gmail.com, or Julie Randall, music@pncathedral.org.nz by 3 May.

Pastoral Coordinator, St Mary's Parish Foxton incorporating St Joseph's Shannon.

Expressions of Interest and applications are invited for the role of Pastoral Coordinator. The Pastoral Coordinator is the leader of the pastoral team and works in collaboration with the Priest Moderator, the Parish Council, the Finance and Liturgy Committees and the School Principal to identify and deliver key pastoral outcomes and manages the day to day running of the parish office. This is a leadership role, designed to grow our faith communities and bring focus to our pastoral outreach, through organising and enthusing parishioners and school families to become involved in the life of the parish.

Expressions of interest are invited for this role. Applications are welcome after April 30th 2019. Interviews will begin after this date and will be ongoing until the position is filled. Hours are negotiable, with a minimum of 15 hrs per week. For further information, expressions of interest and applications please contact Fr. Joe Grayland, OLOL Parish, ololpastor@xtra.co.nz

Readings 5th May

Acts 5:27-32, 40-41; Apoc 5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19.

We Pray for the Sick: Marie Edwards, Ron Gleeson, Ryan Marsden, Fr Joe O'Sullivan, Fr Tom O'Connor sm, Sheila Evans, Vinnie Carroll, Tony Keenan, Oliver Gillespie, Trevor Wilson, Michael Eades, Joan Lambourne, Barbara & Graeme Younger, Louis Heynen, Michael Quirk, Gary Meyer, Evie Feierabend, Mary Jefferies, Katherine Denby, Marie Hubbard, Mikulas Oros, Ann Fairclough, Toshi Sekizaki, Braxton Prentice, Anne & Bill Bethune.

Mass has been offered for

Xavier Joseph (A)

