



Diocese of
Palmerston North

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Parish

Palmerston North (1951)

Te Parihā o te mātou Wahine o Ruata

Rev Fr Vaughan Leslie
Administrator
Presbytery: 06 358 3667
Cell: 027 385 9615
frvjplleslie@yahoo.com

LOL MASSES
5:30pm Vigil (Sat)
8:00am & 10:00am
Mon—Sat 10:00am
RECONCILIATION
Sat 10:30am—11:00am or on request

EUCHARIST ADORATION
Fri: 10:30am—Noon & 7:00pm—9:00pm

RONGOTEĀ MASSES
9:30am: 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays



First Sunday of Advent

3rd December 2017; Year B / Weekdays Year 2

Psalm Response: Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved
Prayers of the Faithful Response: Whakarongo mai ra kia matou.

ANointing MASS—SENIORS CHRISTMAS LUNCH—Tuesday 5th December 11:00am.

Sign up forms to attend and also sign up sheets to help are on the table in the foyer today.

READERS TRAINING SESSION and afternoon tea, today Sunday 3rd December 3:30pm-5:00pm in the Church. *This is for all current and 'interested in joining' readers.* There will be a guest expert in reading and speaking in public spaces in attendance. Please bring a plate of finger food for afternoon tea. Ph Patria (06) 354 4571/021 023 69113.

LOL GUILD Christmas Dinner THURSDAY December 7th. Meeting at 5:30pm and Dinner at 6:00pm. BYO savoury dish. \$5.00 exchange Christmas Gift. All welcome.

LOL GUILD Christmas Raffle. Tickets will go on sale after all Masses this weekend 2nd/3rd, December. Proceeds from the raffle go to supporting the Marist Missions in the Pacific.

LOL PRAYER CHAIN: Ph Eileen O'Connor 329 1801/021 671 755 or the Parish Office.

ON SALE NZ Catholic \$4; Tui Motu \$7; Columban Calendar \$12; SVDP Christmas Cards \$2.50 pack. Religious goods/cards cabinets are available Sundays after 10:00am Mass.

MARIAN EUCHARISTIC COMMUNITY
Kerala Catholic Prayer Community prayer meeting, every Monday 4:15pm-7:00pm LOL.

THANK YOU for your generous weekly donations to the food basket & your support of the 'Vinnies' shop on Rangitikei St. Donations of furniture and basic food supplies are greatly appreciated.

Christmas Raffle tickets for sale – come into the store to buy your tickets. If you are having a clean out of children's toys, books, bric a brac, jewellery, summer clothing etc., Vinnies would appreciate your donations – anything to help families trying to make Christmas and this time of year more affordable.

YOUNG CATHOLIC LEADERS PROGRAMME
2017 Dec 11th-15th for year 12 students going into year 13 who wish to develop their leadership skills from a Catholic values base. Contact Kathleen kfield@pndioocese.org.nz; 021 509 436 .

CATHOLIC RADIO Sundays 9am
Access Radio Manawatu 999HzAM.



RCIA Wednesday 6th December
Our Lady of Lourdes
7:30pm-9:00pm

THE ANNUAL SICK AND RETIRED PRIESTS SPECIAL COLLECTION

Today—Sunday 3rd December 2017
On behalf of the Bishop, the Clergy Trust Fund provides for the well-being and care of priests in the Diocese. This includes stipends, food, travel home for overseas priests, retreats, and all costs relating to healthcare. The Clergy Trust Fund is struggling to meet growing medical costs. Hence, your giving to this special collection is most appreciated especially by our elderly priests who then benefit from your generosity. Your support is a great way of showing your gratitude to your priests. Many thanks and blessings to all who contribute to this special collection. Every contribution helps.
Mons Brian Walsh, Vicar General

MASS FOR LIFE You are invited to a special Mass for Life at St. Anne's Catholic Parish, Emmett St, Wellington, Friday 8th December 7:30pm celebrated by Monsignor Burns. Come and pray on this feast of the Immaculate Conception for the unborn, pregnant mothers and for a new culture of respect for life from conception to natural death. We also pray for the success of the National March for Life the following day. Ph Clare 04 237 8343 or Michael 021 825 955 for information on both events.

MARCH FOR LIFE December 9th, 2:00pm from the Civic Square, Wellington, Kiwis will March for Life to Parliament in the spirit of love and support for our hurting community. We say "Life is worth it, you are not alone, we care!" Join us. This celebration of Life is fully endorsed by the NZ Catholic Bishops' Conference. We are a people of hope! We are a people of love. *'Truly I tell you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me.'* Matt 25:40 www.marchforlifenz.org.nz

'CAROLS IN THE CATHEDRAL' presented by **UNITY SINGERS**, Broadway Ave, PN, Tues 5th Dec 7:00pm. Admission: Non perishable food or a donation for the St Vincent de Paul Foodbank. **NB:** Food/donations may be left at the **Cathedral Parish office** or at **Vinnies** 252 Rangitikei St, PN. Poster on notice board.

FINANCIAL FREEDOM TRUST is looking for people to join its team of Financial Mentors as the demand for its services keeps growing. Register now for training course starting early 2018. Check www.fft.org.nz. Contact Indran 357 6122 (w) / 353 7805 (a/h) / 027 277 0999 or admin@fft.org.nz for further details.

BISHOP CHARLES is on holiday at the moment in India and Laos. If you would like to follow his travels and see some great photos then check out his facebook page: www.facebook.com/BishopCharlesDrennan

TERTIARY CHAPLAINCY 2018 Are you, or is someone you know, coming to study in Palmerston North in 2018? If so get the contact details to Nick Wilson - Catholic Tertiary Chaplain nwilson@pndioocese.org.nz or 021822814! We look forward to welcoming you!

WelCom Your free copy is available in the foyer today.

HOLY CROSS SEMINARY
www.holycross.org.nz



We Pray for the Sick: Michael Eades, Vinnie Carroll, Oleg Bogdanovas, Evie Feierabend, Kerrin McManus, Vanessa Farrelly, Joan Lambourne, Graeme Younger, Mary Jefferies, Kevin Patterson, Ian Sutherland, Ann Fairclough, Mikulas Oros, Louis Heynen, Braxton Prentice, Katherine Denby, Anne & Bill Bethune, Toshi Sekizaki, Marie Hubbard, Oliver Gillespie, Guiseppina Dujany, Trevor Wilson and Paul Hughes.

Died Recently
Peter Wedlock
Anniversaries
Andrew Godbaz

Requiescant in Pace

Pope Francis on the Mass

Wednesday, 8 November 2017

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Today we begin a new series of catechesis, which will direct our gaze toward the “heart” of the Church, namely, the Eucharist. It is fundamental that we Christians clearly understand the value and significance of the Holy Mass, in order to live ever more fully our relationship with God.

We cannot forget the great number of Christians who, throughout the world, in 2,000 years of history, have died defending the Eucharist; and how many, still today, risk their lives in order to participate in Sunday Mass. In the year 304, during the Diocletianic Persecution, a group of Christians from North Africa was surprised as they were celebrating Mass in a house, and were arrested. In the interrogation, the Roman Proconsul asked them why they had done so, knowing that it was absolutely prohibited. They responded: “Without Sunday we cannot live”, which meant: if we cannot celebrate the Eucharist, we cannot live; our Christian life would die. Indeed, Jesus said to his disciples: “unless you eat the flesh of the Son of man and drink his blood, you have no life in you; he who eats my flesh and drinks my blood has eternal life, and I will raise him up on the last day” (Jn 6:53-54).

Those Christians from North Africa were killed because they were celebrating the Eucharist. They gave witness that one can renounce earthly life for the Eucharist, because it gives us eternal life, making us participants in Christ’s victory over death. This witness challenges us all and calls for a response as to what it means for each of us to partake in the Sacrifice of Mass and approach the Lord’s Table. Are we searching for that wellspring that “gushes forth living water” for eternal life?; that makes of our life a spiritual sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving and makes of us one body in Christ? This is the most profound meaning of the Holy Eucharist, which means “thanksgiving”: thanksgiving to God the Father, Son and Holy Spirit, who engages us and transforms us in his communion of love.



In the forthcoming catechesis I would like to answer some important questions about the Eucharist and Mass, in order to rediscover, or discover, how God’s love shines through this mystery of faith.

The Second Vatican Council was deeply inspired by the desire to lead Christians to understand the greatness of faith and the beauty of the encounter with Christ. For this reason it was necessary first of all to implement, with the guidance of the Holy Spirit, an appropriate renewal of the Liturgy, because the Church continually lives of it and renews herself thanks to it.

A central theme that the Council Fathers emphasized was the liturgical formation of the faithful, indispensable for a true renewal. It is precisely this renewal as well as the purpose of this series of catechesis that we are beginning today: to grow in our understanding of the great gift that God has given us in the Eucharist.

The Eucharist is a wondrous event in which Jesus Christ, our life, makes himself present. Participating in the Mass “is truly living again the redemptive passion and death of Our Lord. It is a visible manifestation: the Lord makes himself present on the altar to be offered to the Father for the salvation of the world” (Homily at the Domus Sanctae Marthae, 10 February 2014). The Lord is there with us, present. So often do we go there, look at things, talk amongst ourselves while the priest is celebrating the Eucharist ... and we do not celebrate close to Him. But it is the Lord! If today the President of the Republic were to come, or some very important world personage, it is certain that we would all be close to him, that we would want to greet him. But think: when you go to Mass, the Lord is there! And you get distracted. It is the Lord! We have to think about this. “Father, it’s that the Masses are dull” — “But what are you saying, that the Lord is dull?” — “No, no. Not the Mass, the priests” — “Ah, may the priests convert, but it is the Lord who is there!” Do you understand? Do not forget it. “Participating in Mass is living again the redemptive passion and death of Our Lord”.

Now let us try asking ourselves a few simple questions. For example, why do we make the sign of the Cross and perform the Penitential Rite at the begin-

ning of Mass? And here I would like to add another side note. Have you seen how children make the sign of the Cross? You do not know what they are doing, whether it is the sign of the Cross or an outline. They do this [gesturing]. Children must be taught how to make the sign of the Cross properly. This is how the Mass begins; this is how life begins; this is how the day begins. This means that we are redeemed by the Lord’s Cross. Watch the children and teach them how to make the sign of the Cross properly. And those Readings, during Mass, why are they there? Why are there three Readings on Sunday and two on the other days? Why are they read? What do the Readings at Mass mean? Why are they read and what is their purpose? Or, why does the priest presiding at the celebration say at a certain point: “Lift up our hearts”? He does not say: “Lift up your cell phones to take a photo!”. No, that’s bad! I tell you, it makes me sad when I am celebrating here in Saint Peter’s Square or in the Basilica to see many cell phones lifted up, not only by the faithful but also by some priests and even bishops! But please! Mass is not a spectacle: it is going to encounter the Passion and Resurrection of the Lord. This is why the priest says: “Lift up our hearts”. What does this mean? Remember: no cell phones.

It is really important to return to the basics, to rediscover what is essential, through what we touch and see in the celebration of the Sacraments. The question of the Apostle Saint Thomas (cf. Jn 20:25), seeking to see and touch the nail wounds in Jesus’ body, and the desire to be able in some way to “touch” God in order to believe in him. What Saint Thomas asks of the Lord is what we all need: to see him, to touch him so that we may be able to know him. The Sacraments meet this human need. The Sacraments, the Eucharistic celebration in a particular way, are signs of God’s love, the privileged ways for us to encounter him.

Thus, through this catechesis that we are beginning today, I would like to rediscover with you the beauty that is hidden in the Eucharistic celebration and that, once revealed, gives full meaning to each person’s life. May Our Lady accompany us on this new stretch of road? Thank you.

http://w2.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/audiences/2017/documents/papa-francesco_20171108_udienza-generale.html

PARISH OFFICE

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ololpn@xtra.co.nz
www.lourdesparish.nz
Secretary: Catherine McNamara

Parish Pastoral Council

Chair: Leigh Basile



Our Lady of Lourdes School

Principal: Jacinta Cousins
06 358 9727
www.ololschool.nz



St Peter's College

Principal: David Olivier
06 354 4198
www.stpeterspn.school.nz

NEXT WEEK

Readings Dec 10th: Is 40:1-5, 9-11; 2 Pet 3:8-14; Mk 1:1-8.

ROSTERS: December

Church Cleaning: (Dec 4th) Eileen O'Connor and Mary O'Connor.

Counting: (5th) Leigh Basile.

Flowers: Advent season—no flowers, everyone available for Christmas please.

Greeters: Vigil 5:30pm Suneal and Beverly Singh

8am Vince and Leigh Basile **10am** Kapatiran Group.

Readers: Vigil 5:30pm Fina Ta'ala and Kerry Hocquard **8am** Moya Booth and Leigh Basile **10am** Barney or Isobelle O'Connor and Jeanette Iwikau.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Vigil 5:30pm John Werder, Martin Wall, Monica Hammond, Lorraine & Dave Marriott **8am** Colin Keegan, Judy Nixon, Kieran McCormack **10.00am** Maria Amey, Collette O'Connor, Sharon van der Plas, Joseph Joseph, Mary Murrow.

Altar Servers: 10am Tessa Amey and Marc Codeniera.

Children's Liturgy: Lorraine Wilson.

Hospitality: 10am Kapatiran Group.

Religious Goods/Library: Anne O'Hara.

Linen: (Dec) Catherine Kearins. **Brass** (Advent) Maureen Watts.

Lawns: (Dec 9th) Kevin Long.