

# Kotahi Ano (Together as One)

23 February 2020

7<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A



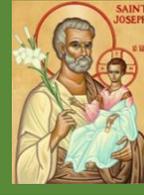
**Our Lady of Lourdes**  
96 Shamrock Str  
Palmerston North  
4412



**Sacred Heart**  
6 Mersey Street  
Rongotea 4476



**St. Mary's**  
Johnston Street  
Foxton 4814



**St. Joseph's**  
Cnr Grey & Vogel  
Street  
Shannon 4821

## Pastor's Desk

From Fr Joe Grayland

The “law of retaliation” comes from the books of Exodus, Leviticus and Deuteronomy. Its purpose was to keep revenge within check and to stop people being “unreasonably” vengeful! The “law of retaliation” had three key elements: 1) to take responsibility for personal actions; 2) the equality of people before the law; and 3) the just proportion between the crime and the punishment.

These are still valued in many contemporary justice systems, but of course, not in all.

In Jesus' admonition to offer the right cheek of the face (your public visage and interaction with the world) he is doing several things.

1) he has moved beyond civil law and judicial principles to ethical judgements;

2). He calls us NOT to resist the “evildoer” (ponēros);

3) The person doing evil is not the devil; 4) he sets this injunction in a small, social setting – it is a personal saying and not a general command to the church;

5) in specifying the right cheek Jesus indicates that the evil one is giving the other a backhanded blow! Thus, the blow is an insult not a violent attack. Having been insulted (not attacked) the disciple simply turns away. This injunction requires considered thought.

“If anyone wants your shirt, give him your coat too” is fascinating. The shirt was a long garment worn next to the skin, like a long tee-shirt. The coat or cloak was the outer garment. Matthew is focusing on the shirt because he is reminding his listeners of Exodus 22:26-27: “If ever you take your neighbour's shirt (chitōn) in pledge (for work or money or service), you shall restore it to him before the sun goes down; for that is his only covering” and without it he'd freeze during the night. Exacting a pledge, and ripping people off with unethical repayment demands,

are not the same thing. In all instances those who are owed something have the obligation to treat their debtor with humanity.

The soldier pressing the civilian into service is the basis of the “walk two miles with him”. Simon of Cyrene was pressed into service on Good Friday on this basis and became famous. Instead of resisting this, Jesus urges us to double the service; in this way we become the master of injustice and not its slave. Injustice can destroy us because it builds resentment. If we approach injustice without resentment, we break the violence of injustice and redeem it, because we have not allowed it to have mastery over us.

Many great saints, like Dietrich Bonhoeffer during the Third Reich, showed us how to bring justice to injustice and change violence into mercy through love. Jesus is the great example. In the violence of the cross we see that God's love and goodness will never be defeated by human violence.

“If any asks to borrow, give it to him” changes debt into friendship. It is better to be taken advantage of for trying to do good than to be robbed because one is too miserable to share! Lending without concern, and giving without hope of return, confound the commercial model of human existence. A commercialised view of human existence means I view my neighbor as my greatest threat, or enemy, and not as myself! If the motto is “get her before she gets you” are we any better than the animal kingdom? Perhaps we are worse when we do violence with calculation, rationality and intention, rather than instinct? Christ is always breaking through the limitations that calculation, rationality and intention impose on love

### Children's Reflection:

**Starting Lent** – Ash Wednesday begins with the marking of a cross of ashes on the forehead. This is a sign of mortality. It comes from the book of Genesis; we came from dust and will return to it.

### What is Lent?

Lent is a time to express sorrow over sin and remember that Jesus brings freedom from sin. The following 40 days are an opportunity to prepare for Easter. For some, Lent is a 40-day period of giving up things, for others it's a time of doing more. Traditionally, it's seen as a time in which to reflect upon the life and death of Jesus. The story of Lent is marked by Ash Wednesday, the colour purple and pancakes on Shrove Tuesday, the day before Ash Wednesday. Traditionally a day of preparation before the season of Lent begins. The 40 days of Lent represent the 40 days that Jesus spent in the wilderness at the start of his ministry. Jesus fasted during his time in the wilderness, and so Christians identify with his suffering by abstaining from particular foods during this time.

**26 Feb  
Ash Wednesday**

**Mass Times:**

7:30am Cathedral  
10:00am OLOL  
10:30am St Mary's Fxt  
12:05pm Cathedral  
7:00pm OLOL

**Liturgy Times:**

7:30pm St. Mary's Fxt

**OUR LADY OF  
LOURDES**

**Saturday Vigil Mass**

5:30pm

**Sunday Mass**

9:30am

**Monday & Thursday**

**Liturgy of the Word**

10:00am

**Tue, Wed, Fri, Sat Mass**

10:00am

*Reconciliation after  
Saturday 10am Mass*

**SACRED HEART  
RONGOTEA**

*1st and 3rd Sundays of  
each month*

**Mass 9:00am**

*2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays  
of each month*

**Liturgy of Word 9:00am**

**ST MARY'S FOXTON**

**Sunday Mass 10:30am**

**Thursday Mass 10:30am**

**Liturgy of Word TBA**

*Reconciliation by  
appointment*

**ST JOSEPH'S  
SHANNON**

*1st and 3rd Sundays of  
each month*

**Mass 9:00am**

*2nd, 4th and 5th Sundays  
of each month*

**Liturgy of Word 9:00am**

**Are you thinking of  
becoming a Catholic or  
interested in knowing more?**  
Please get in touch with  
either the OLOL School or  
OLOL Parish office

## For your diary

### February 2020

**Today, 23<sup>rd</sup>, 3-4:30pm, Eucharistic Ministers Workshop**  
At St. Joseph's Shannon  
Please bring a plate, thank you.

**27<sup>th</sup>, Massey Open Day**  
Vinnies will have a Market day and Ball and need Ball and Tea dresses please.

### March 2020

**1<sup>st</sup>, 10:00am, Mass in the Middle**  
Moutoa Hall, Foxton/Shannon

**5<sup>th</sup>, 6:00pm, Manawatu Moko Snr Youth Group.** Yrs. 10-13, Contact Taus

**6<sup>th</sup>, 10:00am & 7:00pm, World Day of Prayer,**  
See noticeboard for more info

**15<sup>th</sup>, 7:30pm, Memorial of the Christchurch Massacre,** Cathedral

**April 2020**  
**2<sup>nd</sup>, 1:30pm, Anointing Mass,** Cathedral

**6<sup>th</sup>, 6:00pm, Mass of the Oils,** Cathedral

**18<sup>th</sup>, 11:00am, Trung's Ordination,** Cathedral

*We pray for the members of our Parish families who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occurs at this time, especially:*  
Teresa Watson (RIP)

*We pray for the sick & those who care for them, especially:*  
Barbara & Graeme Younger,  
Betsy Franssen, Chris Kleinsman,  
Evie Feierabend, Kararaina Te Ira,  
Margaret Kersel, Steve Horgan,  
Vinnie Carroll, William Lemmon

## Notices & Info

### Our Lady of Lourdes Notices:

- You are invited to our **Lenten Reflection Group** in the Church Hall, starts the 3<sup>rd</sup> of March at 2:15pm, finish at 3:00pm. Contact the parish office at [office@lourdesparish.nz](mailto:office@lourdesparish.nz) or 358 3667 for more information.
- On Friday 6 March at 4:00pm we will be presenting our hour in the **"24 Hours for the Lord"**, could we have a volunteer to coordinate this hour for us.
- Our Lady of Lourdes Guild:** Meeting 4<sup>th</sup> March at 1.30. p.m. A housie afternoon, usual flower comps, a jar of jam, pickle or relish made with this season's produce. Sales table. See you there. P.S Raffle this month - June

### St. Mary's Foxton/Shannon Notices:

- We congratulate** Izzy, Sorren & Ambros who were welcomed on their **Faith Journey** at Mass on Thursday 20 February.
- No Mass or Liturgy Service** on Thursday 27<sup>th</sup> of February at St. Mary's Foxton
- A Special Collection** will be made for Fr Lloyd and we **will have a farewell for Fr Lloyd at Mass in the Middle for his service to Foxton and Shannon.** There **be NO Mass** at either St Mary's or St Joseph's on 1<sup>st</sup> March 2020. Instead there will be a **Mass in the Middle** at **Moutoa Hall** at 10.00am. Please bring a plate. Thank you.

### Sacred Heart Rongotea Notices:

- World Day of Prayer,** Friday 6 March will be hosted by Sacred Heart

### 40 Days for Life

From February 26 through April 5, join other Christians for 40 Days for Life – 40 days of prayer & fasting for an end to abortion. Six babies are known to have been saved at previous vigils in New Zealand. For more info, please contact: 021 231 7954 and [fli.org.nz/40daysforlife](http://fli.org.nz/40daysforlife).

**CHRISTIAN MISSION: SUPPORTING A DEEPER HUMANITY** with Fr Jamie Calder (10:00am – 12:00pm, 29 Feb 2020). *How can we truly be on mission and be fully ourselves? Join us for a presentation from Fr Jamie Calder SJ, a Catholic priest, theology lecturer, and practicing psychologist. Together we'll explore the place of mission in our lives as Christians and how it helps us to have life "to the full". This will be Fr Jamie's only public presentation while visiting our diocese, so you won't want to miss out! More info at [www.pndiocese.org.nz/christian-mission](http://www.pndiocese.org.nz/christian-mission).*

The Diocese of PN, in conjunction with the Catholic Charities Foundation of PN, the Tindall Foundation and Catholic Social Services, is seeking applications from parish groups, agencies and Church organisations. Applications sought that support families and social services in the areas of early years, youth development, budgeting, literacy, Maori/cross-cultural, housing, and community service and development. Forms and criteria for funding are available at the parish office or the Diocesan Office, PB 11012, PN – Att: Mrs Wendy Silver, 06 354 1780 ext 833, [wsilver@pndiocese.org.nz](mailto:wsilver@pndiocese.org.nz) or go to <https://pndiocese.org.nz/news-and-events/application-for-funding/>. Applications are to reach the Diocesan Office by 31 March 2020. Allocations will be made in May 2020.

### On the Noticeboards

- Updates from our **Young Catholic Team**
- Information on **Retreats, Tours, Pilgrimages** etc.
- PN Christian Leaders Association** upcoming events

**Priests:** Fr Joe Grayland & Fr Kevin Neal  
[priest@lourdesparish.nz](mailto:priest@lourdesparish.nz)

**LOLO Parish Secretary:** Kate McNamara  
06 358 3667 [office@lourdesparish.nz](mailto:office@lourdesparish.nz)

**LOLO Office Hours:**  
Tuesday to Friday 9:00am – 1:00pm

**St Mary's Foxton/Shannon**  
Parish Coordinator: Eleanor Jacobs  
[foxtoncoordinator@lourdesparish.nz](mailto:foxtoncoordinator@lourdesparish.nz)

**St Mary's Foxton Office Hours:**  
Thursday and Friday: 9:00am – 1:00pm

**Online Communications Coordinator:**  
Claire Jacobs: [info@lourdesparish.nz](mailto:info@lourdesparish.nz)

### Youth Corner:

- Anyone year 10 and older **who wants to be confirmed** this year - Contact Taus
- Combined National Catholic Youth and Marriage Educators Conference 24-26<sup>th</sup> April 2020. See [www.takirua2020.nz](http://www.takirua2020.nz) to register.
- Friends of Frankie Junior Youth Group.** For years 6 – 9 will meet 28<sup>th</sup> Feb, 5:30-7pm. Contact Taus.
- Manawatu Moko Senior Youth Group** For years 10-13. First meeting of the year 5<sup>th</sup> March. 6-8pm. Contact Taus.
- Heaven Come Young Adult Weekend** 22-23 March. Contact Nick
- Contact for Nick [nwilson@pndiocese.org.nz](mailto:nwilson@pndiocese.org.nz) or Taus 021 509 439.
- Palmerston North Young Family Ministry** has a Facebook page. [www.facebook.com/PNYoungFamilyMinistry](http://www.facebook.com/PNYoungFamilyMinistry). This is aimed at anyone interested in what's on for families within the Palmerston North area.