

Kotahi Ano (Together as One)

8 March 2020

2nd Sunday of Lent – 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 human condition is fragile, and mortality surrounds us. Fragility and mortality are received by people in different ways. Some embrace them, others demand answers, some recoil from them and others are fearful of them, yet some learn to love them. A Franciscan might call them Sister Fragility and Brother Mortality and welcome them as true friends into their lives, allowing them to become the wisdom that enables every relationship and guides every decision.

Lent enables us to move towards the interiorization of fragility and mortality and away from fear of them, through the steps of reconciliation, meditation and contemplation. These are the deep prayer experiences beyond the noise of prayer-words or a litany of naughty acts and pious mistakes. Reconciliation, meditation and contemplation lead us to be humble before God and they teach us to listen to the message of Christ: "Do not be afraid I am with you!" Once we have begun to listen, they will teach us through silence to reflect on the great spiritual truth: "You do not live on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God." However, in order to hear the Word of God one must be silent and listen: "Do not babble as the pagans do".

When we let silence in, God enables us to listen. When we listen, we hear that we (and those around us) are the unrepeatable moment of divine love. We are created in God and through God. Our humanity is graced with the spark of the Divine and we are invited ever deeper into the divine life that God shares with us, in Christ. God invites you to see yourself as God sees you; to see that God is alive in you. Most people find this difficult because they live in fear of themselves.

Reconciliation, meditation and contemplation invite us beyond the mere ritualization of worship. The experience of them brings to our lips the

phrase: "Lord it is good for us to be here". But, sadly, the human drive to divide and take control of the divine is articulated with the words: "Let us build three tabernacles, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah". With God in the first, the leader in the second and the prophet in the third we're now safe from their influence and we can reverence them in their containers, keep their boxes holy and not let them out for fear that they will change the world, change religion and change me. The perfect "holy foil" to reconciliation, meditation and contemplation is the construction of containers that keep God boxed-in and me, safe on the outside, controlling the divine. But it doesn't work; God will out!

God responds: "What building could you make for me? The Heavens are my seat and the earth my footstool?" God challenges our self-delusion of self-imposed holiness. God calls us to a much richer experience of freedom than the false self and false holiness offer; God calls us to a deep, personal, communal freedom that does not live in fear of fragility and mortality. We can only live this freedom in communion with God – the communion of the Creator, Redeemer and Sanctifier, the Father, Son and Spirit. A living communion with others is the result of living in communion with God.

Living in communion with God unmasks the fear that manipulates our hearts and creates false religiosity. Communion draws me into being-with-others and being-for-others; it frees me to be free. When I am free, I can live in and luxuriate in my fragility and savor my mortality as realities that make me fully human and cradle me in the embrace of God. It is then that I begin to live a life of faith, hope and love, allowing each to nurture me and nourish my welcome of God who is with us; the God upon whose word we suckle.

Children's Reflection:

Lent Rituals and Symbols: Symbols can be a wonderful entry point to the season and meaning of Lent. The cross reminds us of how Jesus loves us so much that he gave up His life.

- † The bible reminds us to share God's story of love and hope together during Lent.
- † Water reminds us of our baptism. Lent is a time when we remember our commitment to follow Jesus. How will we show we are followers of Jesus this lent?
- † Bread reminds us that Jesus is the bread of life and that Jesus asks us to remember him whenever we eat & drink. Can we find ways to help feed those who have less than us?
- † The candle reminds us that Jesus is the light of the world. How will we shine his light this Lent? Light your Lenten candle every night as you pray together.

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

We pray for the members of our Parish families who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occurs at this time:

We pray for the sick & those who care for them, especially:

Tony Murphy, Mikulas Oros, Barbara & Graeme Younger, Betsy Franssen, Chris Kleinsman, Evie Feierabend, Kararina Te Ira, Margaret Kersel, Steve Horgan, Vinnie Carroll, William Lemmon

For your diary Notices & Info

Lenten Reflection Groups available at the Cathedral

Tuesday 2.15 pm St James' School - lead by Basia McIntosh

Tuesday 7.00 pm Cathedral Lounge - lead initially by Julie Randall then Mary Nash

Tuesday 7.30 pm Youth Rm - Diocesan Offices - lead Nick Wilson

Wednesday 7.00 pm

lead by Sue Ryan @ 4 Jensen Str

Friday 1.30 pm Cathedral lounge - lead by June Hurly

Lenten Reflection Groups available in the Community of Kotahi Ano

Monday 7:00pm Sacred Heart R'tea

Tuesday 2:15pm OLOL Church Hall

Thursday 11:00am St. Mary's Foxton

March 2020

15th, 7:30pm, Memorial of the Christchurch Massacre, Cathedral

17th, 7:00pm, Joshua Men's Group, St. Mary's PN - see next column

21st, 8:00am, KPF Mission Ministries, Annual Lenten Retreat. see next column

April 2020

1st, 10:00am, Anointing Mass, OLOL

2nd, 1:30pm, Anointing Mass, Cathedral

6th, 6:00pm, Mass of the Oils, Cathedral

18th, 11:00am, Trung's Ordination, Cathedral

Welcome & NZ Catholic (\$4) is available in the foyer.

St Vincent de Paul PN - Foodbank requests jam, rice, 500g packs of sugar, pasta, baked beans, spaghetti, small packs of tea.

Dear Everyone in the Diocese of Palmerston North: We have received the very sad news that **Tony Murphy, our Diocesan Manager** since 2002, has been diagnosed with cancer. Tony will soon be receiving palliative care. Please keep Tony in your prayers as well as his wife Denise and family members. As you all know, Tony is so diligent in his work for the Diocese, but also for the National Catholic Church, presently serving on many National Committees. We are so grateful for his ongoing service to our Diocese and Church.

Monsignor Brian Walsh, Local Administrator, Diocese of Palmerston North

Our Lady of Lourdes Notices:

- If you are missing a **Pounamu**, please contact the Parish office.
- Fr. Joe is unavailable this week but if you need a priest urgently **please contact the Cathedral (06) 357 2891**
- **Lenten Reflections** Tuesday @ 2:15pm Church Hall
- **Anointing Mass** - 1st of April @ 10:00am

St. Mary's Foxton/Shannon Notices:

- **Fr. Michael Lloyd** would like to thank everyone for the beautiful gathering and the great hospitality shown to him on Sunday at **Mass in the Middle**. **From the Parish office;** we would like to thank everyone for having made this day special.
- **Children's Bible Challenge** is on hold until next term.
- **Lenten Reflections** after 10.30am Mass/liturgy every Thursday.
- **Sacramental Program** after 10.30am Mass at St Mary's Foxton.

Sacred Heart Rongotea Notices:

- **Caritas Lenten Reflection Programme - Session 2 - Monday 9 March 7pm** at the church. All very welcome.
- **Stations of the Cross** will be held every Friday during Lent - 7pm at the church.

Stations of the Cross is also held at St. Mary's PN every Friday during lent at 5:30pm

Sunday, 15 March, 10.30 to 3pm, **Islamic Centre, 81 Cook Street: Islam Open Day**, on open invitation from **Br. Riaz Rehman and the Manawatu Muslim Association** to anyone who wishes to come into the mosque and spend some time with our Muslim brothers and sisters on this **special day of remembrance**.

Sunday, 15 March, 7:30pm, **The Cathedral of the Holy Spirit. Multi-faith Vigil in Memory of the Victims of the Christchurch Terrorist Attack.** See noticeboard in foyer for more info.

Joshua Men's Group next meeting Tuesday 17th March, 7pm St Mary's church foyer. Speaker Trung. Supper to follow. All welcome. For info contact John 027 6887750 www.joshua.org.nz

Saturday, 21 March, 8am to 5pm. **KPF Mission Ministries cordially invite you to its Annual Lenten Retreat** at the Diocese Room. Speakers include Trung Nguyen, Mons Dave Bell and Fr. Nathaniel Tat Brazil. Food will be served. RSVP Mylene Sunga by the 14th on 021 209 1204

Whakapūmautanga-Confirmation Manawatū 2020 - for more info see the noticeboard in the foyer or contact Taus tmclutchie@pndiocese.org.nz or 021 509 439

Live-in Carer and Companion sought (hrs about 25-30 hours a week) - for more information see the noticeboard in the foyer or email alpacas.westridge@inspire.net.nz

Marist St Pats RFC - 50TH Jubilee -see website for more details: www.msprugby.co.nz

See the Church Noticeboard for more detailed descriptions of upcoming events.

Priests: Fr Joe Grayland & Fr Kevin Neal
priest@lourdesparish.nz

OLOL Parish Secretary: Kate McNamara
06 358 3667 office@lourdesparish.nz

OLOL Office Hours:
Tuesday to Friday 9:00am - 1:00pm

St Mary's Foxton/Shannon
Parish Coordinator: Eleanor Jacobs
foxtoncoordinator@lourdesparish.nz
0210644584 - Office Open:
Thurs & Fri: 9:00am - 1:00pm

Online Communications Coordinator:
Claire Jacobs: info@lourdesparish.nz

Youth Corner:

- Anyone year 10 and older **who wants to be confirmed** this year - Contact Taus
- Confirmation Programme: Leaders training session/whanau evening-
Monday 30th March 6pm-8pm.
1st Session - **Sunday 5th April 4pm-6pm. *No sessions during the holidays**
- 2nd Session- Tuesday 28th April (because of ANZAC Day) 5pm-7pm
- **Combined National Catholic Youth and Marriage Educators Conference** 24-26th April 2020. See www.takirua2020.nz to register.
- **Heaven Come Young Adult Weekend** 22-23 March. Contact Nick
- Contact for Nick nwilson@pndiocese.org.nz or Taus 021 509 439.
- **Palmerston North Young Family Ministry** has a Facebook page. www.facebook.com/PNYoungFamilyMinistry. This is aimed at anyone interested in what's on for families within the Palmerston North area.