

Kotahi Ano

(Together as One)

9 February 2020

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time – Year A



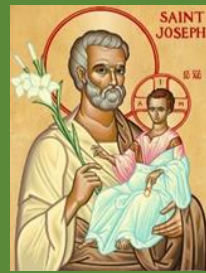
Our Lady of Lourdes
96 Shamrock Street
Palmerston North 4412



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

Matthew's Gospel guides us throughout this year. It offers a distinctively Jewish dimension, reflecting Palestine in the late first century of the Common Era (70 CE (AD)). The writer was probably a Palestinian whom we call Matthew. To create his Gospel, this evangelist used three main sources: 1) Mark's Gospel; 2) a source called Q (Quelle in German); and 3) a collection of sayings.

The Gospel comes to life after the destruction of the temple in CE 70. It reflects the inner turmoil and infighting within rabbinical Judaism as they face the future without a temple. Matthew offers his solution as a follower of The Way (later a Christian).

Matthew's Gospel is one Jewish response to the destruction of the temple. In this situation of extraordinary loss, the continuity of tradition between the Torah, Moses and Jesus is utterly critical. To emphasise continuity key parts will end with the phrase: "all this took place to fulfil the words spoken by the prophet..." Perhaps we'd describe this as living the Torah in difficult times or responding in faith to difficult times.

Written for a largely Jewish (Christian) community, the Gospel situates the communities of Jesus of Nazareth within the Jewish tradition and legitimates their vision for Judaism. It does this most consistently through appealing to the Hebrew Testaments. These are the proof-texts that underpin the validity of the Gospel.

The Gospel is set in five large blocks of speeches (chs 5–7, 10, 13, 18, 24–25), each ending with the phrase "when Jesus finished these words". The proclamation of Emmanuel begins the Gospel and the promise of Emmanuel ends it. Throughout, there is an alternating pattern of narrative and discourse:

1. Who and where of Jesus (1:1–2; 23)
2. The beginning of Jesus' activity (3:1–4;25)
3. The Sermon on the Mount (5:1–7;29)
4. The missionary discourse (10: 1–42)
5. The rejection of Jesus (11:1–12;50)
6. Parables of the kingdom (13:1–53)
7. Miracles, controversies and the cross (13:54–17;27)
8. Advice to a divided community (18:1–35)
9. Opposition to Jesus (19:1–23; 39)
10. The coming of the kingdom (24:1–25;46)
11. Jesus' death and resurrection (26:1–28;20)

Theologically, the Gospel locates Jesus within the Jewish tradition and names him using ancient titles, of which the most important is *Son of God*. Occasionally, the Greek title *Kyrios* is used as a flash of divinity. This is evidence of a growing Greek influence in scriptural and theological thinking.

Some suggest that Matthew's Gospel has an anti-Semitic tone. I would disagree, given what anti-Semitism means today. The Scribes and Pharisees (founders of modern Judaism) are caricatured and criticized because of their legalistic approach to religious practice. Matthew's main complaint against them is that they narrow the universal gift of salvation (given to all) and turn religious practice into badge of "authentic Jewishness". This criticism is better read as part of the infighting within rabbinical Judaism at that time.

A good example of this is Chapter 21:41. The Kingdom given to the Jewish nation (other rabbinic schools) will be taken from them and given to the new Matthean community: "will put those wretches (the leaders) to a miserable death and let out the vineyard (Israel) to other tenants (Christians) who will give him (God) the fruits in their season."

Matthew is more generous to the disciples than Mark! Matthew's disciples are the companions of Jesus and the model for Matthean Christians. Although they understand Jesus in limited ways their "little faith" (6:30) – though it fails – is still real. The disciples share in the power of the risen Lord and faithfully transmit his teachings.

Finally, what marks Matthew's Gospel as significant is the way it presents Jesus' teaching as authoritative. Jesus' teaching is authoritative because it interprets the Torah, thus Jesus' teaching is the criterion for judging the Torah, not the other way around!

Today we are **Celebrating the Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes at 9:30am at OLOL – Everyone is invited!! We will have a large morning tea after Mass. The pool will be open and there will be games. If everyone can bring a plate that would be great. Thank you!!**

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? If you're interested in this wonderful Sacrament, please get in touch with either the OLOL School or OLOL Parish office

For your diary | Notices & Info

February 2020

11th, 5:15pm, SVDP Meeting
Cathedral Lounge

Every 2nd & 4th Tuesday/Month

16th, SVDP Meeting
after 10:30am Mass
St. Mary's Foxton

23rd, 3-4:30pm, Workshop
St. Joseph's Shannon
Eucharistic Ministers involved in
assisting at liturgy and taking
Holy Communion to the sick.

27th, Massey Open Day
Vinnies will have a Market day
and Ball and need Ball and Tea
dresses please.

March 2020

**1st, 10:00am, Mass in the
Middle**

Moutoa Hall, Foxton/Shannon
More information to follow.

For More information on **Retreats,
Tours, Pilgrimages** etc. Please see
the notice board in the Gathering
Area or the back of the church.

Welcom is available this
weekend.

*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 Barbara &
Graeme Younger, Betsy
Franssen, Chris Kleinsman,
Evie Feierabend, Kararaina Te
Ira, Margaret Kersel, Steve
Horgan, Vinnie Carroll, William
Lemmon*

Worldwide Marriage Encounter Live-Out Retreat, 2020: 15-16 February

Turn a "good marriage" into a "great marriage" through a Marriage Encounter Weekend!
Palmerston North Dioceses Centre. Booking info: 0800 362 686

"Hibernian Catholic Benefit Society – St Patrick's Branch 400

4th Quarterly Meeting: 4.00pm, Monday 17/02/2020 in the Gathering Area, Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Palmerston North. Enquiries to Kevin Frost, Secretary, Tel (06) 3577844 or email kfassociates@xtra.co.nz"

Caritas Lenten Reflection Programme 2020

Each year Caritas Aotearoa NZ prepares a Lenten Study Reflection booklet and other material. This year the focus is "Renewed by the Spirit". The theme is from Pope Francis' "Guadete et Exsultate". The context is "God wants to speak to the world by your life...do not abandon the path of love". Caritas also gives a half-day preparation Training Workshop for leaders and co-leaders of the parish study groups. If interested, please advise if you could attend a training session for leaders at the Diocesan Centre on Saturday 22 Feb 2020 from 9.30am – 12.30pm. Morning tea provided. To register contact Mary Nash before 19 Feb 2020 at either egmanash@gmail.com or 06 3568931.

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. Including standing and peacefully praying during a 40-day vigil on the public footpath outside Te Mahoe in Wellington Regional Hospital. 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.

Christian Mission: Supporting a Deeper Humanity.

29th February at 10:00am Fr. Jamie Calder will present in Palmerston North at the Diocese Centre, 33 Amesbury Str. "Christian Mission: Supporting a Deeper Humanity".

Vinnies Shop: Is looking for donations of Summer Clothes as well as a King size base bed. Thank you.

Sacred Heart Rongotea Roster: 16th of February 2020

Greeter – T Hehir, **Readers** – S Mullin, C Carroll, **Eucharistic Ministers** – T Taylor, A Robinson, **Offertory**-Mullin Family, **Children's Liturgy** – R Hehir and **Sacristan** – C Carroll, **Cleaning/Flowers** – C&T Hehir

St. Joseph's Shannon Roster: 16th of February 2020

Reader – T Olsen, **Eucharistic Ministers** – M Lawrence, N Creighton

St. Mary's Foxton Roster: 16th of February 2020

Greeter – T Rockell, **Readers** – M Rahui, C Fullick, **Eucharistic Ministers** – M Caldwell, F Roache

Parish Priest & Moderator: Fr Joe Grayland
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

St Mary's Foxton Office Hours:

Thursday and Friday: 9:00am – 1:00pm

Online Communications Coordinator:

Claire Jacobs: info@lourdesparish.nz

OLOL Roster 10 Feb to 16 Feb 2020

Church Cleaning: TBD, **Counter:** TBD

Flowers: (26 Feb – Ash Wednesday) Ann O'Hara and Judy Walker

Greeters: 5:30pm – Suneal & Beverley Singh, 9:30am – Alistair Cameron

Children's Liturgy: TBD

Readers: 5:30pm – Kathy Gardiner, Rosalie McCann & Moira Jury.
9:30am – Rolyene Grocero, Matthew Mabalay & Maricar Dongon

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

5:30pm – John Werder, Julie Lees, Jeanette Currie, Hannah Brown & Lesley Wright

9:30am – Denis & Margaret Beckett, Sherin Thomas, Mary Murrow & Maria Amey

Altar Servers: TBD, **Hospitality:** Rose & Wally Semmens

Linen: (Feb) Margaret Swinbourne, **Lawns:** (15 Feb) Moira Jury

Religious Goods Cabinet: Martin Boyle

SVDP Basket: (Feb) Barry England