



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: 10:30—11:00am or on request

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

RONGOTE A MASSES
9:30am: 1st, 3rd & 5th Sundays
Thurs: 7:00pm

First Sunday of Lent

5th March 2017; Year A / Weekdays Year 1



Psalms Response: Be merciful, O Lord, for we have sinned.
Prayers of the Faithful Response: Whakarongo mai ra kia matou.

DAY OF PRAYER FOR CHILDREN

Sunday 5th March is the Day of Prayer for Children. This is an opportunity for the Church and wider society to reflect on the plight of children in New Zealand and around the world. It is also a time to focus on praying for children.

Caritas has distributed prayer resources to parishes throughout New Zealand.

The resources are also available from the Caritas website at: www.caritas.org.nz

For more information, contact Caritas – either Roger on 04 496 1742 or Joe on 09 360 3028.

LOL FIRST RECONCILIATION PROGRAMME

Begins on Sunday 12th March at 11:00am, after 10:00am Mass. Enrolment forms and the programme are available in the foyer now. Please complete and return to the School or the Parish Office asap

THE CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME IS STARTING SOON!

For year 10 students & up ... To find out more, come along to the Confirmation Kick-Off Night **Sunday March 19th, 4pm til 5:45pm, Catholic Diocesan Centre, 33 Amesbury St (behind the Cathedral)** Please pre-register your interest with Lucy Ingle: 021 509 439, lingle@pndiocese.org.nz.

- **STATIONS OF THE CROSS**
7:00pm Fridays during Lent, followed by Adoration until 9:00pm.
- **LENTEN GROUPS** Tuesday 2:00pm and Thursday 7:00pm in the Foyer.
- **LENTEN PACKS** available in the foyer.

LOL PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL AGM
11:00AM SUNDAY 26th MARCH, IN THE HALL.

LOL COFFEE GROUP
Tuesdays 9:00am-11:30am

LOL PRAYER CHAIN: Please call Eileen O'Connor 329 1801/021 671 755 or the Parish Office. No request is too big or too small!

MARIAN EUCHARISTIC COMMUNITY

Kerala Catholic Prayer Community prayer meeting, every Monday 4:15pm-7:00pm.
Exposition 1st Monday of the month.

NEW READERS are required to join the roster for Ministry of the Word. Full training given. Please phone Patria 354 4571.

LOL GUILD will be celebrating their **60th Anniversary on 3rd May 2017**. Please contact former members, and give them the opportunity to join us for lunch to celebrate this milestone. For further information phone Sheila Evans 357 0172 or June Lynch 354 7686.

FLOWER ARRANGERS We urgently need new flower ladies. We only have 3 at the moment. We will teach new people or put you on with someone else, even if you are able to water the flowers a couple of times a week would be very helpful. Please phone 3296816 for more information

ON SALE NZ Catholic \$4; Tui Motu \$7; Calendars \$12. **FREE Wel-Com.....Danny Karatea-Goddard welcomed to Archdiocese as Tūrangā Māori.**

MARIST BROTHERS' BICENTENNIAL The Marist Brothers were founded in 1817, so this makes 2017 their bicentennial. To mark the occasion they would like to say THANK YOU to all those people who supported them when they were here in Palmerston North, from 1939 until 1983. On **Sunday 19 March, after the 9:30am Mass at the Cathedral**, there will be a morning tea and a few words of thanks from the Brothers. The Brothers would welcome any past students, parents, teachers, supporters and friends of the Brothers to come along and mark the bicentennial with them. Any inquiries could be made to Br Doug Dawick, Lower Hutt, Ph. 021.258.1484.



ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

Shop volunteers needed please.
Opening hours: Mon-Fri 10:00am-4:00pm. Sat 10:30am-1:30pm
Please phone St Vinnie's 357 6779

to leave your details. **Current Sale - Fill a bag with summer clothes and shoes for \$5!!!**

YOUTH AND YOUNG ADULTS NEWS

Set Free Catholic Youth Festival Hamilton April 7-8
We are definitely taking a group to this. Yrs 11-13 and young adults. Setfree.org.nz. Interested? Contact Lucy 021 509439; lingle@pndiocese.org.nz

Caritas Challenge 6:00pm Mar 31st-3:00pm Apr 1st
St Peters College students & TGIF youth group. Fundraising to support the Pacific Islands in their battle against the effects of climate change. Help support a young person doing this challenge or be an adult helper. Contact Kathleen 021 509 436; kfield@pndiocese.org.nz

WHAT EARTH IS ASKING OF US Welcome to a workshop day on Saturday 11 March

Two Dominican sisters from the USA are visiting NZ during March. Sisters Margaret Galliardi & Sharon Zayak will facilitate a workshop day for people of our diocese. Building on insights from Pope Francis's encyclical *Laudato Si*, Sharon & Margaret will help us to explore our response to the cry of the earth at this time in history. The day will include prayer & reflection, times of quiet & times of sharing. Everyone is welcome!

**Diocesan Centre, 33 Amesbury St,
10:00am - 4:00pm Saturday 11th March 2017**

Suggested donation \$30 waged; \$15 unwaged
OR koha (Please don't stay away because of finance!) BYO lunch please. Morning and afternoon tea will be provided.

THE DIOCESE OF PALMERSTON NORTH, in conjunction with the Catholic Charities Foundation of PN, the Tindall Foundation & Catholic Social Services, is seeking applications from parish groups, agencies & Church organisations. Application forms & criteria for funding are available from parish office or Diocesan Office, PB 11012, PN – Attention: Mrs Wendy Silver, 06 354 1780 x 833; wsilver@pndiocese.org.nz or download a copy of the application form from <http://pndiocese.org.nz/news-and-events/application-for-funding/>.

Applications are to reach the Diocesan Office by 31st March 2017. Allocations will be made 2/5/2017.

We Pray for the Sick: Kerrin McManus, Liu Mingquiong, Vanessa Farrelly, Vinnie Carroll, Phillip Gleeson, Joseph Ang, Joan Lambourne, Liam Stone, Graeme Younger, Marie Wenman, Aileen Ryan, Helen Taylor, Mary Jefferies, Kevin Patterson, Ian Sutherland, Jules Haakman, Ann Fairclough, Mikulas Oros, Louis Heyne, Braxton Prentice, Anne & Bill Bethune, Katherine Denby, Toshi Sekizaki, Oliver Gillespie, Marie Hubbard, Guiseppina Dujany, Trevor Wilson.

Died Recently

Anniversaries

Charlie McCormack

Requiescant in Pace



PARISH FRIST AIDERS NEEDED

If you have a current first aid certificate and are happy to assist fellow parishioners, should a medical event occur at an OLOL's

Mass/event you are attending, please contact the parish office (358 3667 or ololpn@xtra.co.nz) to go on our register. The Parish is also looking to purchase a St John AED defibrillator Unit, to be installed in the Church. A 90-minute training course on the Unit's use will be offered to our registered first aiders by St John.

Please consider stepping forward – you may never need to do anything, but in the event of an emergency, your generosity, at this stage, could be life-saving.

HEALTH AND SAFETY REPORTING

If you are aware of any accidents, medical events, near misses or hazards that have occurred or exist on the OLOL site, please report these to the Parish office (358 3667 or ololpn@xtra.co.nz) ASAP, in order for them to be recorded in our incident or hazard registers.

PARISH WEBSITE DEVELOPMENT HELP!



If you have the skills and a few hours to spare in order to design a simple website for our parish, where we can post our weekly newsletter, Mass times, photo etc., please contact Fr Vaughan (358 3667 or frvipleslie@yahoo.com).

Pope's Ash Wednesday Homily: 'Return to the Lord With All Your Heart'

Posted by Deborah Castellano Lubov on 1 March, 2017—Zenit

Pope Francis repeated this advice during tonight's Mass at Rome's Basilica of Saint Sabina, as he recalled how the prophet Joel makes this plea to the people in the Lord's name.

This afternoon –Ash Wednesday, the day marking the beginning of Lent – an assembly of prayer took place in the form of the Roman "Stations," presided over by Pope Francis. At 4:30 pm, in the church of Saint Anselm all'Aventino, a moment of prayer was held followed by a penitential procession to the Basilica of Saint Sabina.

Taking part in the procession were cardinals, archbishops, bishops, Benedictine monks of Saint Anselm, Dominican fathers of Saint Sabina and some faithful. At the end of the procession, Pope Francis presided over the celebration of the Eucharist in the Basilica of Saint Sabina, with the rite of the blessing and imposition of ashes. In his homily, during the Mass at St. Sabina, the Pope noted that we, today, are to take up this appeal, to return to the merciful heart of the Father.

"In this season of grace that begins today, we once again turn our eyes to his mercy," the Pope noted, adding, "Lent is a path: it leads to the triumph of mercy over all that would crush us or reduce us to something unworthy of our dignity as God's children."

No Longer to Be Slaves, But Free

"Lent," Francis noted, "is the road leading from slavery to freedom, from suffering to joy, from death to life."

The mark of the ashes with which we set out, the Pontiff highlighted, reminds us of our origin, namely that we were taken from the earth, we are made of dust. However, he stressed, we are dust in the loving hands of God, Who has breathed His spirit of life upon each one of us, and still wants to do so.

He wants to keep giving us that breath of life that saves us from every other type of breath: the stifling asphyxia brought on by our selfishness, the stifling asphyxia generated by petty ambition and silent indifference – an asphyxia that smothers the spirit, narrows our horizons and slows the beating of our hearts. The breath of God's life saves us from this asphyxia that dampens our faith, cools our charity and strangles every hope.

To experience Lent, the Pope said, is to yearn for this breath of life that our Father unceasingly offers us amid the mire of our history.

"The breath of God's life sets us free from the asphyxia that so often we fail to notice, or become so used to that it seems normal, even when its effects are felt. We think it is normal because we have grown so accustomed to breathing air in which hope has dissipated, the air of glumness and resignation, the stifling air of panic and hostility."

Time to Say No

Lent, the Holy Father also reminded, is the time for saying no. "No to the spiritual asphyxia born of the pollution caused by indifference, by thinking that other people's lives are not my concern, and by every attempt to trivialize life, especially the lives of those whose flesh is burdened by so much superficiality. Lent means saying no to the toxic pollution of empty and meaningless words, of harsh and hasty criticism, of simplistic analyses that fail to grasp the complexity of problems, especially the problems of those who suffer the most.

"Lent is the time to say no to the asphyxia of a prayer that soothes our conscience, of an almsgiving that leaves us self-satisfied, of a fasting that makes us feel good. Lent is the time to say no to the asphyxia born of relationships that exclude, that try to find God while avoiding the wounds of Christ present in the wounds of his brothers and sisters: in a word, all those forms of spirituality that reduce the faith to a ghetto culture, a culture of exclusion."

Time to Remember

Lent, he added, is a time for remembering, and asking ourselves what we would be if God had closed his doors to us.

"What would we be without his mercy that never tires of forgiving us and always gives us the chance to begin anew? Lent is the time to ask ourselves where we would be without the help of so many people who in a thousand quiet ways have stretched out their hands and in very concrete ways given us hope and enabled us to make a new beginning?"

Lent, the Pope noted, is the time to start breathing again, to open our hearts to the breath of the One capable of turning our dust into humanity.

"It is a time to set aside everything that isolates us, encloses us and paralyzes us."

Pope Francis concluded, noting, "Lent is a time of compassion, when, with the Psalmist, we can say: 'Restore to us the joy of your salvation, sustain in us a willing spirit', so that by our lives we may declare your praise (cf. Ps 51:12.15), and our dust – by the power of your breath of life – may become a 'dust of love.'"

PARISH OFFICE

Monday—Friday: 9:00am—1:00pm
96 Shamrock Street, Palmerston North 4412
06 358 3667; Fax 06 358 8817
ololpn@xtra.co.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 March 12th: Gen 12:1-4; 2 Tim 1:8-10; Mt 17:1-9.

ROSTERS: March

Church Cleaning: Alicia & Frank Pabellon, Marcela Codeneira (Feb 27th).

Counting: Marion Carey (Mar 7th)

Flowers: Roster will start again after Easter.

Greeters: Vigil 5.30pm Lorraine & Dave Marriott

8am Pat & Colin Keegan **10am** Kapatiran Group

Readers: Vigil 5.30pm: Peter Ridge & Rosalie McCann

8am: Brian Wilkinson & Kath Rooney **10am:** Ben and Sam Phiri.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: Vigil 5.30pm John Werder, Denise Bailey, Martin Wall, Pat Curran, Monica Hammond.

8am Colin Keegan, Judy Nixon, Kieran McCormack

10am Eric & Jeanette Wright, Martin Boyle, Denis & Margaret Beckett.

Altar Servers: 10am Logan Brown and John Garrovillo.

Children's Liturgy: Narelle and Molly O'Connor.

Hospitality: 10am Kapatiran Group.

Religious Goods/Library: Diane Baucke.

Brass: June Lynch (March) **Linen:** Maria Lukkassen (March)

Lawns: Fr Vaughan (March 4th)