



Priest Ministers

Fr Joe Grayland (Pastor)

Fr Kevin Neal

Presbytery: 06 358 3667

Cell: 027 777 8096

ololpastor@xtra.co.nz

LOLO MASSES

5:30pm Vigil (Saturday)

9.30am Sunday

Mon & Thurs Liturgy of Word & Communion

Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat 10:00am

SACRED HEART RONGOTEA

9:00am: 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month

ST MARY'S FOXTON MASSES

10:30am Sun

10:30am Thurs

ST JOSEPH'S SHANNON MASSES

9:00am 1st & 3rd Sunday of the month

RECONCILIATION—LOLO

Sat 10:30am—11:00am

and on request

5th Sunday of Easter Sunday

19th May 2019 Year C / Weekdays Year 1



From the Pastor's Desk

This Sunday the leadership of the four communities is gathering to begin a discernment process focussed on the future needs of each community. We need to focus on:

- how we function as four communities and how we collaborate
- how must the present structure of pastoral care evolve to meet future needs
- what are the local imperatives that hinder or enhance collaboration?

This is a collaborative effort and each community, Lourdes, Rongotea, Foxton and Shannon will be represented. The challenges are similar for each and include retention and growth of parishioner numbers, evolving lay ministry, provision and training of Lay Presiders, financial viability and management, new pastoral opportunities and social needs, and the list goes on.

The two parishes of St Mary's Foxton and Our Lady of Lourdes remain and will continue, with their second churches of St Joseph's Shannon and Sacred Heart. Describing each church community as a pastoral community doesn't mean that each is a parish, rather it means that each community is an outreach point of the diocesan community of parishes.

A pastoral community's focus is the pastoral work and the mission of the Gospel; to be among the people of the community and to be a place for the community of the baptised to gather for worship and fellowship. At the heart of our communities is the person of Christ and the work of the Spirit. As Christian communities of pastoral outreach, worship and fellowship we honour and give praise to the Father, with the Son in the Holy Spirit.

Collaboration is essential to the vision of Christianity and no person or community can stand outside, or stand apart from, the others because they want to suit themselves. Equally, our communities are not service providers to self-centred individuals who are interested only in their own spiritual needs. We are communities of sisters and brothers who bear the load of community with generosity. Therefore, the survey is important, and the 74 responses will guide the discussion at the leader's meeting.

In the survey communication was identified as a growing and positive trend; that people know more about each of the other communities and that information is shared across them. The

reduced numbers of priests and their availability each weekend was raised as an ongoing concern. The overall experience of Lay Presiding was good, or very good, and there is an identified need for resources and ongoing support and training as this ministry evolves.

From this material it is clear there is an evolving concept of ministry and a greater acceptance and even regard for Lay leadership of worship, though this is not universal, as some feel the need to only attend when a priest is presiding.

There are also generational and demographic changes taking place within our four communities. In some there is "an old guard" and in others there are "evolving patterns". Significantly the growing multicultural and multi-ethnic developments were not significantly commented on.

Financial and income matters were also raised, because of the decline in attendances coupled with rising costs. This means that other forms of income need to be considered across the pastoral communities and how these might be achieved.

All this material is a cause for great hope, because it is work of the Spirit speaking through the People of God. Listening to the Spirit is not always easy, because of the challenge the Spirit offers to those who would know the mind of God. As the Acts of the Apostles notes, good leadership can put new heart into people, and where that leadership is shared, as it was between Paul and Barnabas, believers will preserve in faith and grow stronger.

Our Christian faith constantly reminds us that God makes a home amongst us; that we shall be God's people and the name of our God is, God-with-us. God's presence amongst us cannot be denied, when we see women and men responding to Gospel each week, as they place their food offering in the basket. The greatest glory we give to God is to love each other as God has loved us in Christ.

Joe Grayland

Pastoral Communities Survey Feedback.

Thanks to all those who took the time to respond to the Survey. There were 74 respondents. Here is the link to the survey feedback for your information

<https://www.surveymonkey.com/results/SM-XBCBNNHHV/>

Font

The font is in the final stages of preparation before it is plumbed in. This should happen in the next few weeks, all going well.

When we were deciding how to heat the font we came to the conclusion that a separate water heating system just for the font would be an unreasonable cost, so we decided to ask the School Board if we could install a water heating unit for the kitchen that we can draw hot water from for the font and the Board agreed. This means that we, parish and school, have improved hot water provision in the kitchen, which is to the benefit of all of us.

Seating in the Church

The choir format we have used for the Easter Season will remain until Pentecost and the First Holy Communion on June 9th. We have had so many special events it was considered better to keep the one format until Pentecost rather than changing back and then changing again for Pentecost.

First Holy Communion

June 9th, Pentecost Sunday, is a great day and we'll celebrate with families and those receiving Communion for the first time. Please mark it in your diaries and come along. All parishioners are welcome to bring a plate of food or a bottle of drink to share.

Marian Month

May is the Marian Month, so please remember we have rosary prayed each weekday and Saturday morning before Mass. Friday 24th May is the Feast of Mary, Help of Christians and Friday 31st May is the feast of the Visitation.

O'Shea Shield

Congratulations to St Peter's College and Hato Paora for co-hosting this event and further congratulations to St Peter's for coming second overall! Well done everyone! We will welcome St Peter's Students and the Chapel Band to the parish on Saturday evening, 15th June at 5.30pm Mass.

Saturday 25th May

No 10am Mass on Saturday 25th May. Fr Joe is attending a meeting in Auckland and so there will be a liturgy of the Word on that day.

Sunday June 23rd Children and School Mass (9.30am)

On this Sunday we have the children's ministry mass – they will look after all the ministries. This is a school mass as well and we will welcome our new Principal, Caroline Deazley-Gilligan. It is an opportunity to meet the school staff and the children too!

HELP PLEASE The friendly Hospitality team has sadly dwindled and we are in urgent need of more volunteers to serve tea and coffee after Sunday Mass each week. If you have a spare 45 minutes and would like to join us please contact Dianne Jordan 356 9333 or the Parish Office 358 3667.

ROSTERS: May 20th—27th

Church Cleaning: (May 13th) Judy Walker and Eileen Walsh.

Counters: (May 21st) Marion Carey.

Flowers: (May 25th/26th) Ann O'Hara and Judy Walker.

Greeters: Vigil 5:30pm Raymond and Julie Jones
9:30am Dianne Jordan

Children's Liturgy: (26th) Narelle O'Connor and Lorraine Wilson

Readers: 5:30pm Jane Charlton, Kerry Hocquard, Roselle Gouwland
9:30am Meg de Joux, David Griffin, Iveta Griffin.

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: 5:30pm Lesley Wright, Hannah Brown, Denis Jones, Judith Wall, Denise Bailey 9:30am Stephen Guy, Martin Boyle, Wendy Derksen, Jacinta Cousins, Eileen O'Connor.

Altar Servers: 9:30am Gabriel and Gwen Josafat

Hospitality: 9:30am Tokelauan Group

Linen: (May) Dorothy Crombie **Lawns:** (May 11th) Alan Marlow

Religious Goods Cabinet: Martin Boyle

SVDP Basket: (May) Barney O'Connor.

Protect vulnerable people: Say no to the euthanasia Bill

If you haven't already signed your name to the petition rejecting David Seymour's Euthanasia Bill, we ask that you consider visiting this link and recording your opposition to it.

<https://www.gopetition.com/petitions/protect-vulnerable-people-say-no-to-the-euthanasia-bill.html>

The euthanasia Bill is fundamentally flawed and dangerous. There are no effective safeguards that can adequately protect vulnerable people from coercion and wrongful deaths. If more than one person in your household would like to sign the petition this is allowed, but each person needs to use a different device (PC, Mac, tablet, phone, etc).

To use Pope Francis' term, 'get off your couch' and be pro-active in building the New Zealand we all want. Last chance now.

New Zealand Catholic Medical Association - Inaugural Meeting

Date: Sat: **25 May 2019** Time: 10am -3pm Place: St Michael's School Hall, 6 Beatrice Road, Remuera, Auckland - Cost \$25 per person.

Bishop Pat Dunn will celebrate Mass for the gathering and Fr Joe Grayland from our Diocese is the Chaplain. The Association provides an opportunity for doctors and others involved in healthcare to find pastoral care, support, encouragement and faith development. Med students welcome too. Registration is required by 20 May 2019.

Details www.newzealandcatholicmedical.co.nz/event

Contact email: info@newzealandcatholicmedical.co.nz

+ Charles

- **An update on the City Wide Youth Groups** and the upcoming **Te Hakarameta o te Whakapumautanga - Confirmation** Programme: Below is a link where candidates can register. Please share it around to potential candidates and those who may be interested.
<http://www.pndiocese.org.nz/manawatu-confirmation>
- **Senior Youth Group called The Manawatu Mokos** begins Friday 24th May at the Diocesan Centre, 7:00pm-9:00pm.
- **Te Ahi Kaa Young Adults Community** - Praise & Worship this Sunday 19th at Te Ahi Kaa from 4-5.30pm. All Young Adults Welcome

A member of our parish is discerning the call to Religious Life. Please keep this person and their discernment in your prayers over the next three months.

Cards and gifts for First Holy Communion will be available from the religious goods cabinet from next Sunday.

Joshua Men's Group next meeting Tuesday 21st May, 7pm St Mary's church foyer. Prayer, praise, worship, fellowship. Supper to follow. All welcome. For information contact John 027 6887750 www.joshua.org.nz

Readings 26th May

Acts 15:1-2, 22-29; Apoc 21:10-14, 22-23; Jn 14:23-29.

We Pray for the Sick: Ron Gleeson, Ryan Marsden, Fr Joe O'Sullivan, Fr Tom O'Connor sm, Sheila Evans, Vinnie Carroll, Tony Keenan, Oliver Gillespie, Trevor Wilson, Michael Eades, Joan Lambourne, Barbara & Graeme Younger, Louis Heynen, Michael Quirk, Gary Meyer, Mary Jefferies, Evie Feierabend, Katherine Denby, Marie Hubbard, Mikulas Oros, Ann Fairclough, Toshi Sekizaki, Braxton Prentice, Anne & Bill Bethune.

Mass has been offered for the recently deceased.

Warren Smith (husband of Prue Smith)
Fr John Pearce cp (Blenheim)