

Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Parish

Palmerston North (1951)
Te Pariha o to mātou Wahine o Ruata
<http://www.lourdesparish.nz/>



Priest Ministers

Fr Joe Grayland (Pastor)
Fr Kevin Neal
Presbytery: 06 358 3667
Cell: 027 777 8096
lolpastor@xtra.co.nz

LOL 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—LOL

Sat 10:30am—11:00am
and on request

EUCHARIST ADORATION—LOL

Fri: 10:30am—Noon
7:00pm —9:00pm

Feast of Christ the King – 24 November 2019 – Year C

Proclamations of the Word for 1 December 2019 – 1 Isaiah 2:1-5, 2 Romans 13: 11-14, Matt 24: 37-44

Pastors Desk

The Feast of Jesus Christ, Universal King marks the end of this liturgical year. It is an opportunity to stop and reflect on one's personal journey of faith and how that has unfolded this year. At the end of a year of grace it is worth taking the time to ponder how you have grown in faith.

In Jesus of Nazareth "we see the image of the invisible God" writes St Paul, so overcome was he with the experience of being always in the presence of God, made visible in Jesus. Everything visible is, without doubt, the outpouring of God's love and the light enables us to see. But remember the light is not *what you see*, the light *enables you to see*. Jesus is the light who enables sight; sight that helps one see the needs of neighbours and the plank in one's own eye. The light gives us freedom and this freedom is not a small thing either; it is the freedom to be free; to be for another; and to be "freed" of oneself.

Paul then takes us on a journey to understand how *Jesus of Nazareth* became *the Christ of God*. We read of Christ's pre-existence before his incarnation in the person of Jesus: "He is the beginning". We believe that God's presence is poured into a single person (Jesus) in order that divinity and humanity might meet in a kiss of eternal creativity and peace. We dare to believe that we are each created in the image and likeness of God. We dare to believe that what is true for Jesus, the Christ, will become true for each of us because Christ is "the pioneer and perfecter of our faith" (Heb 12:2). All of this reframes God, making the world the hiding place and the place of revelation of God. In this, we learn that God loves all things by becoming all things. As Paul asserts, even Hades is not forbidden to God! In this we learn that salvation is not the sum of what we do and believe; salvation is the gratuitous gift of God that renders us grateful. Out of gratitude comes belief and this is celebrated in the Eucharist!

Paul then leads us to understand the cosmic Christ. He tells us we live "in Christ" and that living in Christ is God's gracious invitation to participate in the Trinity's "work" or *Leitourgia of Salvation*. What we do during the week is brought to the Sacred Sunday Liturgy as thanksgiving and from the Sacred Liturgy we go back to work and pray in the world, for the good of all. In this way our Liturgy is taken up into the *Leitourgia* of God.

This is why the Second Vatican Council in its Constitution on the Liturgy, *Sacrosanctum concilium* speaks of the Liturgy as "the summit towards which the activity of the church is directed [and]...the source from which all its power flows" (n10). Worship offers us an incarnational worldview where the divine is seen in all creation and all people, where humanity is taken into the divine. We begin to understand now why standing in the presence of God and ministering to God is more than just a posture, it is an expression of the deepest

humility, because we are participating in the priestly office of Jesus, the Christ of God. Thus, we come to see that every liturgical celebration is an action of Christ the Priest and of his Body, the Church. We are called to this participation as men and women born anew in baptism.

Lastly, Paul teaches us that death, resurrection, reconciliation, peace and the cross are all one. Paul teaches us that in the resurrection Christ is raised from the dead by the will of the Father. Resurrection belief in the Father's will to raise the Christ; the self-giving of the Son to the will of the Father; and the love of the Spirit who is the love between them both enables us see that great love and great suffering are unitive, transformative and holiness-making. Great love and great suffering reduce the *selfish-self* and make a room for the *self-less self* to grow.

The redemptive quality of great love and great suffering begins with the Trinity, where God is endlessly outpouring and self-giving. In this experience believers stop making a God who is like them and start believing in God who is calling them to be as God is. In this experience one begins to see more and more that the path to holiness is lived in gratitude.

Then with St Paul we can begin to see that faith is reconciling and healing. The reconciliation Christ has given is eternal and cosmic. Reconciliation is the product of peace and peace is the gift of the Cross. Into this life of God great love and great suffering bring peace; peace brings reconciliation; reconciliation bring perfection; and perfection brings freedom.

Our participation in God's *Leitourgia* is made possible because we are called into a sacred people, the Mystical Body of Christ, the People of God. This means that humanity can never be separated from God, because our salvation is discovered in our humanity. The more we can live in the ordinary the more God, who created it, is revealed to us. This an Incarnational worldview.

Fr Joe.

Masses is offered

For deceased members of the Angland family
Holy souls of the Gallagher and Lyon Families

On the **24th Dec** there will be a **Children's Christmas mass** at 6pm here at LOL. It will be similar to last year's Christmas play and mass. If you would like your children to be involved in some way, please write their name on the list that the children's liturgy leaders will be holding after mass today. **Practises** will be held after 9.30am mass on the 8th, 15th and 22nd Dec. Please contact Lorraine Wilson on 021 222 7802 if you have any questions.

Sisters and brothers, we owe a **huge debt of gratitude to Mons Brian Walsh VG** for his leadership of the Cathedral parish during two appointments. Mons Brian's appointment as Vicar General to Cardinal Dew and Local Diocesan Administrator has placed him in a new leadership role, together with Mr. Tony Murphy, our Diocesan General Manager. As a result of this change, I have been asked to become the **Acting Parish Priest** of the Cathedral Parish, while continuing as **Parish Priest of Our Lady of Lourdes** and **Moderator of Foxton**. I will continue to live at Lourdes Presbytery and will work out of there and the Cathedral office.

This is an interim role until the appointment of a new bishop.

During this time, the Pastoral Teams at the Cathedral, Lourdes and St Mary's Foxton will work together to ensure the smooth running of our five communities of faith and worship. Where opportunities arise for combined pastoral outreach, we will take them, while respecting the differences of each community.

Mons David Bell, Mons Brian and I will share the Sunday Liturgies across our communities with the assistance of our retired bishops and priests. Mons Dave and I will be responsible for funeral and baptism liturgies as well as the general priestly ministry that is requested or required. We are grateful for Mons Dave's 50 years of priestly wisdom and practice.

Our Lay Ministers and baptismal ministries will continue because: 'Lay people's right and duty to be apostles derives from their union with Christ their head. Inserted as they are in the mystical body of Christ by baptism and strengthened by the power of the Holy Spirit in confirmation, it is by the Lord himself that they are assigned to the apostolate.' (*Apostolicam actuositatem*, Decree on the Apostolate of Lay People, n3, Vatican II, 18 November 1965). Where opportunities for shared prayer, reflection and ministry training arise we will use them to the greater glory of God.

It is our role as members of the Church, responding to Christ's command and moved by the Holy Spirit, to be present in the world as examples of faith, hope and love, so that the mystery of Christ is made available to all. Please keep me in your prayers and please pray for the pastoral team members. **Please continue to pray daily for our Diocesan Leaders, Mons Brian and Tony Murphy that they may lead us with wisdom and courage.** Blessings, Joe Grayland

New Name for our Four Communities will be announced next week – Thank you to everyone who entered a name suggestion.

Parish and Diocese Notices

Please diarise:

24 Nov – **Combined Churches Choir** – St Luke, Thames St Rongotea 7pm

30 Nov – **Josephite Retreat Centre** – Whanganui – Take a day to stop for a while. Rest your body, rest your mind. 10am-3pm - \$20

3 Dec – **Anointing Mass & Christmas Dinner for Seniors** – OLOL – 11am. (RSVP by the 30th of Nov)

3 Dec – **International Day of Persons with Disabilities** – Connolly Hall, 10 Guildford Terrace, Thorndon, **Wellington – 12pm-1pm**

6 Dec – **Mass for Life** – St. Mary of Angels, 17 Boulcott Street, Welling, 7pm

7 Dec – **National March for Life** – Civic Square Wellington – 12pm (March to Parliament Grounds begins at 2pm. Concludes at 4pm)

7 Dec – **Rosary of Life & Faith** – Rosary group in your parish – 3pm (Info – www.coasttocoastrosary.co.nz or ph Clare 022 1912886)

8 Dec – **Carols in Bethlehem** – Te Kawau Recreation Centre Rongotea

10 Dec – **Unity Singers** – Cathedral of the Holy Spirit – 7pm (Admission – Donation or non-perishable food)

15 Dec – **Liturgy - Mere Kirihimete** – Rita Cahill rsj – 4.30-6pm. Please bring a non-perishable food item to help those in need.

17 Dec – **Rite II Reconciliation** – St Mary's Foxton – 7pm

18 Dec – **Rite II, City Wide Reconciliation** – St Mary's P/N – 7pm

Our Lady of Lourdes Guild Christmas Raffle:

\$1 tickets will be available next weekend (30Nov-1Dec) after Mass. Cash only. Thank you.

Please note that the **SVDP do not benefit in any way from the Lions Palmerston North Citywide food drive**, and therefore would really appreciate your donation, by way of food item or a gold coin, at the **Unity Singers SVDP Christmas Carols performance on Tuesday 10 December 2019.**

Anointing Mass and Christmas Dinner for Seniors. Tuesday 3rd December 11:00am. Please invite Catholic friends and put their names and your names on the forms in the gathering area. We need to know numbers by 30th November for catering purposes.

Children's Christmas Shoes Boxes – The 'Social Socks' ministry in schools, together with St Alban's Church, want to help 143 children in care here in P/N have some joy in their Christmas. See the bulletin board in the Gathering area for more information.

The Annual Sick and Retired Priests, Special Collection Sunday 1 December 2019

The Clergy Trust Fund provides for the well-being and care of priests in the Diocese. This includes stipends, food, travel home for overseas priests, retreats, and all costs relating to healthcare. The Clergy Trust Fund is struggling to meet growing medical costs. Hence, your giving to this special collection is most appreciated especially by our elderly priests who then benefit from your generosity. Your support is a great way of showing your gratitude to your priests. Many thanks and blessings to all who contribute to this special collection. Every contribution helps.

Mons Brian Walsh, Vicar General.

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.

ROSTERS: 25 Nov to 1 Dec 2019

Church Cleaning: (9 Dec) Eileen Walsh

Counter: (26 Nov) Gabrielle Barnes & Jane Charlton

Flowers: (23/24 Nov) Mary Dorn

Greeters: **5:30pm** Denise Bailey, Kathy Morton

9:30am School children with teacher.

Children's Liturgy (1 Dec) Narelle O'Connor & Donna Brown

Readers: **5:30pm** Rob Towers, Judith Wall & Dot Bowe

9:30am Diane Baucke, Jeanette Iwikau & Maree O'Donoghue

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

5:30pm – Pat Curran, Hannah Brown, Miller Johns, Moira & Kevin Jury

9:30am – Brendon O'Connor, Stephen Guy, Martin Boyle, Eric & Jeanette

Wright, **Altar Servers: 9:30am** Brianna Wilson & Samuel Torok

Hospitality: 9:30am Rose & Wally Semmens.

Linen: (Dec) Mary O'Connor, **Lawns:** (7 Dec) Alan Marlow.

Religious Goods Cabinet: (1 Dec) Mary O'Connor,

SVDP Basket: (Dec) TBA

We pray for those who are unwell:

Darren Wright, Margaret Kersel, Rufino Petim, Caterina Rodrigues Ribeiro, Louisa Vieira, Michael James McAvinue, Peter Taylor, Betsy Franssen, Oleg Bogdanovas, Louis Heynen, Ron Gleeson, Ryan Marsden, Fr Joe O'Sullivan, Fr Tom O'Connor sm, Vinnie Carroll, Oliver Gillespie, Trevor Wilson, Michael Eades, Joan Lambourne, Barbara & Graeme Younger, Michael Quirk, Gary Meyer, Mary Jefferies, Evie Feierabend, Katherine Denby, Marie Hubbard, Mikulas Oros, Ann Fairclough, Toshi Sekizaki, Braxton Prentice, Anne & Bill Bethune, Catherine Kearins

Planned-Giving Direct Credit:

OLOL Parish Account 02-0630-0288037-18

Details to appear on payee's (OLOL) bank Statement

Name of Account **Code** **Reference**

OLOL PG # Your Name

Donations for Special Collections may be made using the details above, please include the name of the Collection, e.g. Missions, Dues, Holy Places.

OLOL Prayer Line phone Eileen (06) 329 1801 or (021) 671 755 or the Parish Office.