



A Catholic Parish of
The Archdiocese of Wellington

To Tatou Wahine O Nga Whanga Parahi Katorika

OUR LADY OF THE BAYS

MOTUEKA • RICHMOND • TAKAKA • WAIMEA WEST • WAKEFIELD

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

3rd March 2024

3rd Sunday of Lent

Issue 311

Exodus 20:1-17, First Corinthians 1:22-25, John 2:13-25

MASS TIME Sunday Mass

MOTUEKA

Sunday 9.30am

RICHMOND

Sunday 9.30am

WAKEFIELD

Vigil Mass 5pm, 2nd Sat each month

WAIMEA WEST

Vigil Mass 5pm, 4th Sat each month

TAKAKA

Sunday 5pm, 1st & 3rd each month

Service of the Word with Communion
on 2nd Sunday of month at 9.30am

Weekdays Mass

MOTUEKA

Tuesday 9.30am

Friday, 9am Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament, 9.15 Rosary

Friday, 9.30am Liturgy of the Word

RICHMOND

Wednesday and Friday, 9.30am

Reconciliation after Mass or
by Appointment

CONTACT

Priests

Fr Michael Bellizzi - Parish Priest

parishpriestolob@gmail.com

Fr Jaya Yenubari - Assistant Priest

littlejpraveen@gmail.com

Parish Office

Era Creevey, Parish Admin 9.00-14.00

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

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Deadline Wednesday Noon

Be Holy as I am Holy: Embracing God's Commandments

On this third Sunday of Lent, let us reflect upon the sacred theme of Holiness. In the books of Exodus and Leviticus, God's commands echo through the ages, calling us to embrace His holiness and live according to His divine instructions.

Our God is holy, and His holiness surpasses all understanding. It is a holiness that emanates purity, righteousness, and perfection. In striving to be holy as God is holy, we are called to walk in His ways and follow His commandments. These commandments, given to us out of love, serve as a guide for righteous living and a path towards holiness.

In Exodus 20:20, Moses reassures the people not to fear as they receive the commandments. He emphasizes that the commandments are given to test and instill a reverent fear of the Lord, keeping us away from the pitfalls of sin. This teaching underscores the purpose of God's commandments as a protective guide, leading us away from the dangers of disobedience.

In today's Responsorial Psalm (Psalm 19:10), we are reminded that "the fear of the Lord is pure, enduring forever; the ordinances of the Lord are true and righteous altogether." The psalmist beautifully describes God's commandments as being more desirable than gold and sweeter than honey. This imagery emphasizes the incomparable value and delight found in following God's divine instructions.

God's sanctuary is a place of worship and reverence. Just as He demanded holiness from the Israelites in their tabernacle, our places of worship are to be sanctuaries of purity and devotion. God does not tolerate unholiness in His dwelling place, reminding us that our reverence and obedience should extend to both our individual lives and our collective worship.

In today's Gospel from John 2:15, we witness Jesus making a whip and driving out those who were making His Father's house unholy. This powerful image prompts us to reflect on our own lives. Are we ready to make such whips, to drive away the temptations and distractions that threaten the sanctity of our own bodily temples? Can we muster the courage to confront and eliminate anything that hinders our pursuit of holiness?

Let us, therefore, reflect on our actions and attitudes, ensuring that we approach God with pure hearts. The commandments are not burdensome restrictions but rather a loving roadmap that leads us to a life of holiness. As we embrace these divine guidelines, we draw closer to the very essence of God's character.

During this Lenten season, let us recommit ourselves to holiness. Through prayer, repentance, and obedience to God's commandments, we open our hearts to His transformative power. May our worship be marked by reverence, our lives by righteousness, and our community by a shared pursuit of holiness.

In conclusion, let us heed the call to "Be Holy as I am Holy." Embrace God's commandments with gratitude and humility, recognizing that in our pursuit of holiness, we draw nearer to the heart of our holy God.

Blessings Fr Jaya

OUR LADY OF THE BAYS



Through the desert God leads us to freedom. (Lent 2024)

Third Sunday in Lent Sunday 3 March

The National Liturgy Office has published readings, prayers and homily suggestions for this coming Sunday, March 3, the Third Sunday in Lent. Go here:

<https://www.nlo.org.nz/.../media.../lent-2024-week-three/>

"Whereas those who serve idols become like them, mute, blind, deaf and immobile, the poor of spirit are open and ready: a silent force of good that heals and sustains the world." -- Pope Francis Lenten Message 2024

Fr David Dowling appointed Rector of Holy Cross Seminary

Father David Dowling has been appointed as the new rector of Holy Cross Seminary in Auckland. Fr David is at present the Human Formator at Holy Cross. He will take over the role in April from the present Interim Rector, Bishop Emeritus Colin Campbell. Fr David is a priest of the Archdiocese of Wellington whose priestly journey began when he entered Holy Cross in 2001 after a career as a Customs officer. Fr David is committed as Rector to following the example of Pope Francis in cultivating the joy of the Gospel with a sense of being part of God's people: "I am inspired and encouraged by the teaching of Pope Francis, who sees priestly formation as service, not simply as the transmission of a body of teachings, but also the art of concentrating on others, bringing out all their beauty and all the good that they carry within."

Further information: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/rector/>

Bishops' Lent Appeal 2024

The Time is Now to empower vulnerable families to thrive. Lenten Giving Envelopes for the Bishops' Lent Appeal 2024 are available in the Foyer. This year, they are using a single giving envelope. By reducing costs, we ensure more of your donations go to those in need. You can give once or weekly, as is your preference. You may either return your donation envelopes in the offertory collection or send them to Caritas directly using the freepost option with the envelope. NZ Post specifies that cash must not be sent through the post.

Direct deposit is also available on the website www.caritas.org.nz/donate-online

Donations received by Caritas by 31 March 2024 will be sent receipts for the 2023/2024 tax year. Donations received by Caritas after April 1st will be sent receipts for the 2024/2025 tax year.

Thank you for your generous support.

Advanced Care Planning

What is it and why is it important? What are the benefits of planning for our end-of-life care and treatment? How can we create a personal advance care plan?

If you would like more information on answers to these questions please do come to a short introductory presentation by Maryann Hardcastle from Nelson Marlborough Primary Health Care.

The presentations will be held in the OLPH Hall on Thursday, 4 April at 10.30am and repeated again at 7pm. To register your attendance or for more information please contact Adrienne Hill on either 021 526 404 or howard_adrienne@xtra.co.nz



FOOD FOR FAITH

Fr John OConnor offers daily reflections sent to you email address www.foodforfaith.org.nz to find out more, see a sample reflection and register to receive a daily email for Lent.

Thanksgiving

To celebrate Fr Pat Maloney 90th Birthday, he will be celebrating the Mass at 10.30am on 7 March at the church of St Francis Asisi. All Welcome.

The Light is ON for You  **Reconciliation Lent 2024**

Celebrate the Sacrament of Reconciliation

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Richmond

- > After Mass on Wednesday and Friday
- > During / after the Stations of the Cross (on Fridays at 7pm)
- > On GOOD FRIDAY - 29th March - RECONCILIATION SERVICE at 9:30AM

St Peter Chanel, Motueka

- > After Mass on Tuesday and Sunday
- > During / after the Stations of the Cross (Fridays at 7pm)
- > On TUESDAY of HOLY WEEK - 26th March - RECONCILIATION SERVICE at 7:00pm

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP, RICHMOND

Stations of the Cross

Stations of the Cross will take place in the Church at 7.00pm every Friday evening during Lent,. All are most welcome

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament this Thursday
7th March from midday until Benediction at 5pm.
All welcome any time during those hours

DOVE FELLOWSHIP FOR ALL WOMEN

Come for our first 2024 music and prayer group

Sat 9th March, 1 p.m.

Let's put some time aside this Lent to spend with our God and praise Him through songs and prayer.

Come be filled with the Holy Spirit...

We'd love to see you there.

All women welcome...

35 William St, Richmond, Church Meeting Room.

Contact : Stacey Ashley 021 259 7681

St Vincent de Paul, Richmond

Notice of Special Opening for

Sale of surplus stock of women's clothing and shoes \$2 per item

Saturdays 2 and 9 March, 10am - 2pm

Fresh stock put out on each of these dates!!

At the Vinnies shop, 11 McGlashen Avenue

ST PETER CHANEL, MOTUEKA

A busy Leadership Group meeting last week saw a range of topics discussed.

One was a suggestion that the Tabernacle be repositioned behind the Altar so that the focal point becomes the centre of the Church, not over to one side. The Tabernacles in older Churches used to be on the Altar, when the Priest said Mass with his back to the Congregation. When the Altars were shifted forward there often was no room to have a separate Tabernacle behind them without hindering the Priest. Our Church was designed with the Tabernacle on the side for this reason, but also because it is double sided, having a door on the other side which opens into the Day Chapel. The Leadership group is going to discuss this with the person who made the suggestion. What do you think?

Another subject is the left over from Covid 19. Some people did not return to our Church after the Covid restrictions imposed by the Government and adopted by all Churches were lifted. And some of those who chose not to be vaccinated still feel they were let down by their Church. At St Peter Chanel, the Saturday Vigil mass was always open to all, two metre spacing was arranged and Masks were worn. It is sad that this unique chapter in the life of our Country has had such a lingering effect. Please encourage your friends who feel that our Parish did not support them to contact someone on the Leadership group, or Fr Michael, to discuss what we could have done differently, and how to regain their trust. Covid is still with us, and while such extreme measures are unlikely in the future, you never know!

Fr Michael explained that Motueka will probably never have a resident Priest again. Fr Marlon in Nelson will retire in August and so far there is no replacement for him. This may leave our 2 Priests with 2 Parishes to cover. This raises the status and future of our presbytery which is a drain on the Parish funds sitting empty. And a security risk for the Church.

The Leadership group has had a quote for a new Security system which will cover the Church and the Presbytery. Final details are still being sorted, but this will go some way to cover the advantage that someone living in the Presbytery gives by being on hand.

A number of little jobs have been done as a result of defects being reported. These include the Crucifix holder on the Altar being repainted, chair seats being reattached, dings in the wall fixed and a disconnected downpipe being reconnected- thanks to Fr Michael for that one. If something looks wrong, lets right it!

St Vincent de Paul

SVDP monthly meeting is Tuesday 5th March in the Church foyer at 3pm. New members are welcome, or just drop in and see what's happening. The basket is in the Church Foyer for donations of non-perishable food each week.

PIANO FUNDRAISING

Thanks to our generous Congregation! Fundraising is over \$3000, only another thousand to go! The piano has been featuring in our Music presentation for the last two weeks, and on Sunday showed it's versatility by sounding like an Organ! To help the fundraising there will be a raffle for a quilt handcrafted and donated by Shirley Cooper. The design, by Shirley, is a traditional "split-nine-patch" block. The quilt was machine quilted by local legend Bev Dyke in 2009. Tickets are \$2.00 or 3 for \$5.00. available in the Foyer after Mass.

Please pray for those in our community who need our love and support. That we reach out to the sick, the sad, and those who are struggling to support their families at this time. We remember especially the sick of our own Church community, including Peter Goodman and Joan Curtain. Also spare a prayer for the Doctors and Nurses whom we don't need until we really do!

Fr Pat celebrates his 90th Birthday by saying Mass in Stoke at 10.30am on Thursday 7th March. Ring John 03 540 2543 if you want to car-pool from Mapua. Talk about car -pooling from Motueka on Sunday.

Angela's Presentation for Philippine Child Sex Trafficking Awareness in Motueka after Mass on Sunday, 10 March.

Thanks to the friendly and helpful blokes at ITM Motueka for donating the Gib Board to repair the hole left by the removal of the old heater in the Meeting Room. And thanks to John and John for doing the electrical and painting work.

ST PETER CHANEL SCHOOL

Touch Rugby Coaching

We welcome Reuben Griffith an ex- student and current Y13 Motueka High School student. Reuben will be coaching our students for Touch on Tuesday afternoons.

Palm Sunday Mass - 9.30am Sunday 24th March

To celebrate the beginning of Holy Week we have been invited to participate in Palm Sunday Mass on Sunday 24th March. This is a lovely time for our school whānau to connect with our Parish. Please make every attempt to attend this Mass and share this important tradition with your children.

Seeking a Tractor for our Adventure Playground

We are excited to be upgrading our playground equipment and in particular are looking for a tractor or a wooden dinghy that has retired from working life and is looking to spend time bringing joy to children in our playground. If you know of something that would be suitable please get in touch with the office.

St Peter Chanel Parish Directory

Parish Priest	Chose a Priest option, and leave a message	03 528 8899
Parish Leadership Group	Jim Maguire - Chairman	027 223 9766
St Peter Chanel School	Margaret Campbell-McCauley	03 528 7366
St Vincent De Paul	Cherie McKinstry	021 466 554
Home Communion/ Greeters/cleaning	Elaine Taggart	021 256 294
Home Visit	Cherie McKinstry	021 466 554
Ride to Church	Susan Collins	021 293 4912
Prayers for the Sick/of the Faithful	Fran Peacey	022 664 7362
Morning Tea	Robyn O'Gorman	021 602 82
Music	Hemon Dey	021 170 2682
Readers	Vickie Cameron	027 437 3885
Eucharistic Minister	Mary Devine	027 466 1060
Lawns	John Farrelly	03 528 9063
Children's Liturgy	Eric Buenz	022 513 5791
Newsletter	John Leydon - spcmot@gmail.com	03 540 2543

Minister	3/3/2024	10/03/2024
Greeter	M Carr A Lane	A Frances & S Fry
Morning Tea	L Kim	E Taggart & Z Ogilvie
Music	Scott Cameron	Josie Moriarty
Prayers Faithful	Judy Kenter	Fran Peacey
Readers	A Lane & M Carr	M Kilmartin & E stolten
Eucharistic	T Donaldson & J Maguire	A Lane & K O'Gorman
Cleaning	M Campbell McCauley	
Lawns	John Farrelly	Mike Carr

