

Sacred Heart Parish

22nd March 2026 – 5th Sunday of Lent

FR BRIAN'S PRAYER & REFLECTION

"Pope Francis said: "Jesus' act of raising Lazarus shows the extent to which the power of God's grace can go, and thus the extent of our conversion, our transformation. Listen carefully: there is no limit to the divine mercy offered to everyone! Remember this sentence. Let us say it together: 'There is no limit to divine mercy which is offered to everyone!' The Lord is always ready to remove the tombstone of our sins, which separate us from Him, the Light of the living."

Jesus relies on the mediation of other people in freeing Lazarus from the bonds of death. We can see here a symbol of the ministers of the Church who absolve people of their sins. (https://opusdei.org/)

SUNDAY 12th APRIL



DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY – 12 noon

Our Lord Himself asked Sister Faustina to have this Feast day of Mercy promoted and celebrated. It is always celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter Sunday at Sacred Heart Parish, Inglewood. Refer to pamphlets in the foyer. Everyone welcome.



After Divine Mercy, we would love you everyone to stay around and have a cup of tea and afternoon tea before the Chris Skinner concert starts at 2pm.

CHRIS SKINNER CONCERT – 2pm

We are delighted to welcome Fr. Chris Skinner, well-known Marist priest and acclaimed New Zealand singer-songwriter, for a special fundraising concert on the beautiful setting of Sacred Heart Church, offering a reflective and uplifting musical experience. This event aims to raise funds for Forrestal House, an important Catholic property in our parish that is in need of maintenance and care. By attending, supporters can enjoy an inspiring performance while helping preserve a treasured part of our community's heritage. Tickets are $30 and can be purchased from the parish office, phone 756 7164, email on shparish@xtra.co.nz or from Inglewood Hammer Hardware

We will be selling tickets, this Sunday before Mass.

THE VISION *of* SACRED HEART PARISH, INGLEWOOD IS:

Parish communities empowered by the Holy Spirit to grow in faith, hope and love.

Ngā Hāpori Pariha i whakamanahia e te wairua tapu ki te tupu i roto i te whakapono, te tūmanako me te aroha.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED RELATIVES AND FRIENDS: Clara Hancock, Jill Sole, Pat Dodunski, Don McKay, Heni George, Marcia Herlihy, Fr Jack O'Neill, Tup Lamplough, Raymond Biesiek, Elizabeth Radich, Rosalia Stachurski, Tom Blundell, Fr Jack O'Sullivan, Veronica Smith, H & T Fowler, K Fowler, Kath Goodin, Robin Chapman, Dennis Walsh, Pat Plimmer, Adrian Dravitzki, Jim Duynhoven, Veronica Curd, Cosmos (Pip) Eichsteadt, Alice Stephenson, Val Dodunski, Charles Bublitz, Charlie Lamplough

We remember in our prayers: All those who are unwell in our Parish, those who are caring for sick loved ones and those who are still living in their own homes, the lonely, the elderly, those suffering Bereavements and all Parishioners in Rest Homes and Hospitals.

FORRESTAL LODGE WORKING BEE: Thank you to everyone who turned up and helped at the working bee on Taranaki Anniversary. Your help is much appreciated.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Note from Megan - Unfortunately due to my health issues, children's liturgy is returning to the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month. If there is anyone willing to learn and be involved in this ministry see me. Special thanks to Susanne who does a wonderful job teaching the children.

ROADWORKS: Over the next month, Whitakers will be doing roadworks along Carrington Street, by our Church. This could affect the entering and exiting from Carrington Street. Please be mindful of this when coming to Church.

DAILY REFLECTION FOR EASTER TO PENTECOST BOOKETS: These are $8 each and are on the foyer table.

DONATIONS AT THE END OF THE TAX YEAR: The tax year ends 31 March 2026 and tax receipts for parish donations will be issued during April. If we have a cur-rent email address for donors, receipts will be emailed. If you would rather have a paper copy tax receipt please advise the office. If we do not have a current email ad-dress, paper copy tax receipts will be left in the church foyers. If you wish to bring your giving for the year up to date, there is an opportunity over the next few weeks.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE

MOVIE OUTING

Attn: CWL members & friends
Monday 23rd March at 10.45am.
Movie: "Tenor: my name is Pati"
Carpooling: Meet in the Church carpark between 10am – 10.15am
Lunch: Afterwards we will go to the Art Café.
Important: If you are parking at the Events Theatre parking, please register you number plate as they have a time limit on parking.

ICE CREAM SUNDAY THANK YOU

A very big thank you to all who supported this CWL fundraiser. A marvellous $436 was raised. Your generosity is much appreciated.



Each Sunday throughout Lent we will be bringing up one item that is a symbol of Lent.

This week we will bring up the Pretzels.

Pretzels are made from simple dough which has no dairy or fat, pretzels remind us of fasting and, shaped like two arms crossed, of prayer.

DONATIONS COLLECTION - Sunday 15th March
Parish $345.65 Clergy Trust Fund $127.85
Lent Appeal $165.00

PARISH CONTACTS

23 Standish Street, PO Box 109, Inglewood Phone: 756 7164 or 027 672 2514
Email: shparish@xtra.co.nz

Parish Priest: Fr. Brian Carmine – 756 7164 or 027 516 3758
Secretary / Administrator / Parish Planned Giving: Nicky Kuklinski – 756 7164
Parish Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9am – 12noon, Friday 12noon – 3pm
Donations: If you would like to make a donation to our Church, you can use the following details:
Bank: Sacred Heart Parish Account Inglewood Bank: BNZ, Palmerston North
Account Number: 02-0630-0288002-011 Reference: Your name
(If you would like a receipt, can you please email the Parish Office)

PARISH CONTACT PEOPLE

Parish Prayer Support (Prayer Line): Theresa Gibbon – 756 8349
Parish Hall Hire & Religious Stall: Parish Office – 756 7164
Gluten Free Hosts: Nicky Kuklinski – 027 672 2514
Floral Arrangement Roster: Tess Johnston – 756 8452
St Patrick's School Principal: April Baylis – 756 7908, email: office@stpatsinglewood.school.nz
Foodbank: Open at Forrestal House on Fridays – 9.30am – 10.30am.



INGLEWOOD

SUNDAY MASS TIMETABLE

Sunday 10.30am

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Sunday 10.30am

WEEK DAY MASS TIMETABLE

Tuesday 9.00am
Thursday 10.00am
Saturday 9.00am *Every 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturday*

BENEDICTION & RECONCILIATION

Saturday 8.30am *Every 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturday*

WAITARA

SUNDAY MASS TIMETABLE

Sunday 9.00am *Every Sunday*

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Sunday 9.00am *Every Week*

WEEK DAY MASS TIMETABLE

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place for 30 minutes as shown below (before or after)

Tuesday	9.00am	Liturgy of the Word	*(after)*
Wednesday	5.30pm	Mass	*(before)*
Thursday	9.00am	Liturgy of the Word	*(after)*
Friday	9.00am	Mass	*(after)*
Saturday	9.00am	Every 2nd & 4th Saturday	*(before)*
Saturday	9.00am	Liturgy of the Word	*(after)*

All other Saturday's

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 8.30am *Every 2nd & 4th Saturday*

MOKAU

Saturday 5.00pm 11th April

NGA PEKANGA

Sunday 10.30am 12th April

BAPTISMS (INGLEWOOD): 1st Sunday of every month (except January). For more information contact Fr. Brian or the Parish Office

BAPTISMS (WAITARA): 2nd Saturday of every month (except January). For more information contact Fr. Brian or the Parish Office

SCRIPTURE READINGS

22nd March – Psalm Response: With the Lord there is mercy and fullness of redemption.
Ezekiel: 37.12-14 **Romans:** 8.8-11 **John:** 11.1-45
29th March – Psalm Response: My God, my God, why have you abandoned me?
Isaiah: 50.4-7 **Philippians:** 2.6-11 **Matthew:** 27.11-54
5th April – Psalm Response: This is the day the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad.
Acts: 10.34, 36-43 **Colossians:** 3.1-4 **John:** 20.1-9

Mass Readings for the 5th Sunday of Lent, Year A

First Reading – Ezekiel 37:12-14: God promises to resurrect and return His people to Israel, affirming His identity and power. He vows to infuse them with His spirit, assuring fulfillment of this promise.

Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 130: From the depths, I cry to the Lord for mercy. If He counted sins, none could stand, but with Him, there is forgiveness, redemption, and steadfast love.

Second Reading – Romans 8:8-11: Living by human nature cannot please God. True life is in the Spirit, evident if Christ's Spirit dwells in us. This Spirit brings life to our mortal bodies, just as it raised Christ.

Gospel – John 11:1-45: Lazarus from Bethany, brother of Mary and Martha, fell ill. Despite their message to Jesus, He delayed His visit, explaining the situation was to glorify God. Upon arrival, Lazarus had been dead four days. Martha expressed faith in Jesus, who declared Himself as the resurrection and life. Deeply moved and troubled by the mourning, Jesus wept, then miraculously raised Lazarus from the dead, strengthening the faith of many onlookers.

Mass Readings for the Palm Sunday of the Passion of the Lord, Year A

Procession – Matthew 21:1-11: Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem, where he rode on a donkey and was greeted by crowds of people who praised him as the Son of David and King of Israel.

First Reading – Isaiah 50:4-7: The prophet Isaiah speaks of a servant of God who is a skilled teacher and obedient to God's will, even in the face of persecution and suffering. The servant trusts in God's protection and ultimately prevails over his oppressors.

Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 22: This psalm describes the anguish of a suffering individual who feels abandoned by God and is mocked and persecuted by others. Despite this, the speaker expresses trust in God's ultimate protection and proclaims God's glory to others.

Second Reading – Philippians 2:6-11: This passage describes the selfless humility of Jesus Christ, who, despite being divine, chose to become human and submit to a humiliating death on a cross. As a result of his obedience, God exalted him and gave him a name above all others, that every knee should bow and every tongue confess that Jesus Christ is Lord.

Gospel – Matthew 26:14 – 27:66: The Passion reading describes the events leading up to Jesus' crucifixion and death. It includes Jesus' betrayal by Judas Iscariot, his arrest and trial before the high priest, his denial by Peter, his sentencing by Pilate, his crucifixion and death, and his burial in a tomb.

SUNDAY MINISTRIES			
	This Week Sun 22nd March	**Next Week Sun 29th March**	**Easter Sunday 5th April**
Readers	Marg Evans Sue Duoba	Alan Gibbins Lyn Potroz	Alan Gibbins Vonna Parsons
Passion Readers		Nancy Leahy Dennis Dravitzki	
Prayers of Faithful	Mike Davey	Mark Duynhoven	Val Young
Presentation of Gifts	Val Young	Betty Dravitzki Anne Dravitzki	Sharyn Taylor
Communion Ministers	Ngaire Dravitzki Terry Dravitzki Vonna Parsons	Emma Dravitzki Pat Kuklinski Jim Mahony	Tony Dravitzki Volunteer Volunteer
Altar Servers	Sophia Chloe	Rita Emily	Emily
Music	Music Group	Music – Sue Marsh	Music Group
Power Points	Nicky	Tanius	Tanius
Counters	Stan Duoba Sue Duoba	Stan Duoba Sue Duoba	Christiane McIntyre Mike Crofskey
Cup of Tea	Monforte Family	Maree & Alan Gibbins	Due to Easter, there will be no morning tea
Church Cleaning	Sharyn Taylor 20 / 21 March	Vonna & Bruce Parsons 27 / 28 March	Ngaire Dravitzki & Nancy Leahy 3 / 4 April

HELP NEEDED

From time to time, wax from the candles gets dropped on the ground and altar. I was wondering if anyone wanted to volunteer to clean this up when needed, We have everything that you will need here. If you can help out with this or would like more information, can you please see Nicky in the office or email shparish@xtra.co.nz



FROM THE DIOCESE OF PALMERSTON NORTH

Tūmanako Print Edition Available Now!: The print edition of Tūmanako, the monthly diocesan newsletter, is available now! If you or someone you know would benefit from the print issue, please talk to your parish office. All material in the printed edition is already available online, either at https://tumanako.pndiocese.org.nz or https://cathnewsnz.com

BISHOPS' LENTEN APPEAL: The New Zealand Bishops are encouraging the Catholic community to prayerfully consider how they can contribute to the annual Lenten Appeal. The appeal supports the work of Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand, which through its global network serves some of our world's most vulnerable and needy communities. The Bishops explain that acts of Christian charity can change the lives of those who benefit from that charity, but also can transform those who give with generosity — according to their own circumstances. Find out more at www.caritas.org.nz/lent

Vatican II Deep Dive – Online Formation: After the first Diocesan Hubs in Palmerston North and Hastings, the conversation continues online through Vatican II Deep Dive. In April we will reflect on selected passages from *Sacrosanctum Concilium*, the Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, exploring how the Church's teaching on the liturgy shapes our understanding of worship and parish life.
Sessions: Wednesday 15 April, 7:00–8:45pm Wednesday 29 April, 7:00–8:45pm
Join us online. To register: bit.ly/deepdiveapr26

Prayer Retreat for Women | Magnificat Retreat Centre, Featherston: All women are warmly invited to a Prayer Retreat for Women, a weekend to step away from daily life and grow in prayer. The retreat includes talks exploring the meaning of prayer, why we pray, and how to deepen our prayer through humility, along with time for personal prayer, Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, and spiritual direction. The retreat begins with dinner at 6pm Friday 15 May and concludes 3pm Sunday 17 May after the final session and Rosary. To register: https://www.trybooking.com/nz/BBMC

FROM THE DIOCESE OF PALMERSTON NORTH cont.

Rebuild My Church | Dr Mary Healy: In June, internationally renowned Catholic theologian Dr Mary Healy will be in Hamilton for a three-day formation series, (June 9–11) exploring the power of God's Word, the life of the Holy Spirit, and our call to live our faith today. Known around the world for her engaging teaching on Scripture and the Holy Spirit, Dr Healy helps people hear God's voice more clearly and grow in confidence in the gifts He gives for the building up of the Church. Full details and registration are available at https://www.eventzilla.net/e/rebuild-my-church--dr-mary-healy-2138676397

EASTER ON AIR: On Good Friday, the Christian Broadcasting Association (CBA) will once again bring the Easter story to life on Newstalk ZB. This year will feature Bear Grylls sharing his faith journey and discussing his new book, 'The Greatest Story Ever Told.' Each year, an estimated 300,000 listeners tune in to experience this powerful retelling. Tune in to Newstalk ZB from 6am – 6pm on Friday 3 April and be part of the story!

Chrism Mass | Save the Date: This year's Chrism Mass will be held on Tuesday 31 March, 12:05pm at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit. Everyone is welcome.

Submissions on Liturgical Posture in the Diocese still open: If you haven't had a chance to email Bishop John around the issue of Liturgical Posture in the Diocese, the deadline for submissions has been extended to Easter Sunday (5 April). Please send all submissions to bishop-pa@pndiocese.org.nz if you would like to share your thoughts. More information can be found at https://tumanako.pndiocese.org.nz/2025/12/liturgical-posture-in-the-diocese-of-palmerston-north

World Youth Day 2027 | Seoul, South Korea: Young adults aged 18 – 35 are invited to attend WYD27, where millions of young Catholics will gather. The NZ bishops aim to bring 500 young people. Fill out the expression of interest form at https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScfUWcTPgzkxtwlH86NPEnHqvdt2scpc1nkj_4WjzGrbx4WKQ/viewform

Diamond Jubilee - The Catholic Parish of Wellington South: All former and current parishioners are invited to a celebration of several historical milestones on Sunday, 19 April 2026. The first Catholic church, St Francis de Sales Church, Island Bay, was built in 1906, 120 years ago, and the current church was blessed and opened on 17 April 1966, 60 years ago. The weekend of celebration will also acknowledge 100 years since the opening of the St Madeleine Sophie primary school, the forerunner of the current primary school of St Francis de Sales. A special Mass of remembrance and thanks featuring past and present priests will be followed by a lunch at the Pines Cabaret, Houghton Bay. Registrations of interest are welcomed by providing contact details at: office@wellingtonsouthcatholic.org

NZ Catholic Medical Association Retreat & Seminar: The New Zealand Catholic Medical Association provides community, support and chaplaincy for those involved in health care in Aotearoa. The association welcomes doctors, nurses, midwives, carers, pharmacists, physiotherapists, psychologists, dentists, health administrators, counsellors, social workers, chaplains, lawyers, and anyone in allied roles. The next nationwide event is a retreat and seminar at the St Francis Friary & Retreat Centre, Auckland on March 20 and 21. For more information or to register, visit https://bit.ly/NZCMA2026 or email newzealandcatholicmedical@gmail.com

Lourdes to Lisieux Pilgrimage, 8 – 27 May 2026: Discover the sacred beauty of France on an inspiring 18-day pilgrimage. Visit Lourdes, Lisieux, Paray le Monial, Chartres, Normandy and Paris, and walk in the footsteps of beloved saints including St Thérèse of Lisieux, St Bernadette, St John Vianney, and St Vincent de Paul. This journey offers daily Mass, expert guides, and the chance to deepen your faith in some of the most grace filled places in the Catholic world. For details and bookings: NZ Free Call: 0800 819 156 or visit www.harvestjourneys.com/pv2659

A Safeguarding Workshop will be held at St Joseph's parish hall,
and all parishioners are warmly invited to attend.

SAFEGUARDING WORKSHOP REGISTER NOW

Thursday 16 April
Time – 7pm to 8:30pm
Venue – St. Joseph's Church Hall,
151 Devon Street West, New Plymouth
Please register early by emailing Jane Hahn, National Safeguarding Lead
Jane.hahn@nops.org.nz

This session is **general safeguarding training**, suitable for **everyone**, not only for those who work with children or youth. It is a valuable opportunity for anyone involved in parish ministries, volunteering, or helping out in any parish group.

Strengthening our understanding of safeguarding helps us create a safe and welcoming environment for all.

ROSARY AT FORRESTAL LODGE
Every Tuesday at 7pm. Entry is through the sliding door. Everyone is welcome.

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PRAYER GROUP with ADORATION
Every Thursday from 9 am-10am.

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OFFICE CLOSED – 23rd – 27th MARCH
I will be on annual leave from the 23rd to the 27th March.

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RECONCILIATION RITE II - RECONCILIATION IN LIGHT
Tuesday 24th March from 6.00pm – 7.00pm
Fr. Brian will have Reconciliation for one hour and parishioners can come anytime between these times.

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STATIONS OF THE CROSS
Wednesday 25th March at 7.00pm
Then on the 1st April

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LENT WEBINER SERIES 2026
Wednesday 25th March after Stations of the Cross.
Then on the 1st April

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FEAST OF ANNUNCIATION
Wednesday 25th March, 10.00am

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ANOINTING MASS
Wednesday 1st April, at 10.30am. We will have a shared morning tea afterwards

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CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE MEETING
Monthly Meeting will begin with morning tea in the Burckett Hall at 10:00am on Holy Thursday, 2nd April. Please bring ideas for quest Speakers & a winter project. Hostess: Veronica Hinz.

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MEN'S DINNER - INGLEWOOD
Sunday 12th April at 6.00pm at Fern Lodge, Inglewood. Please ring Pat Kuklinski, 021 047 1074 before noon on the Sunday so he can book the restaurant.

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WORKS & FINANCE MEETING
Sunday 19th April at 11.30am

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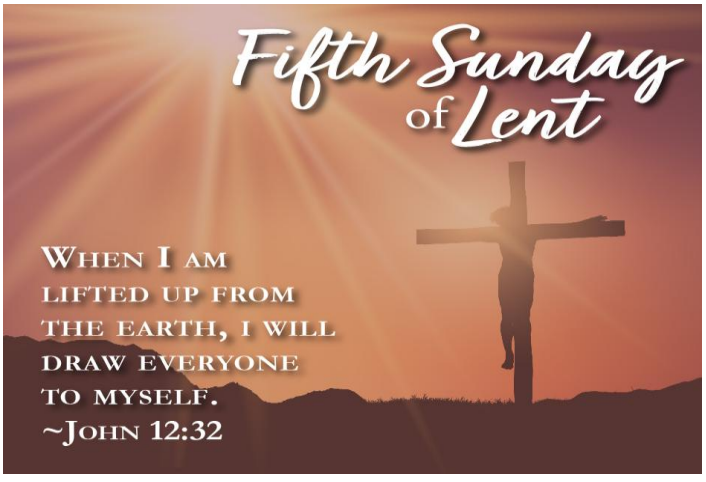
PARISH COUNCIL MEETING
Tuesday 21st April at 10.00am





PALM SUNDAY
Sunday 29th March, Mass at 10.30am

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CHRISM MASS – PALMERSTON NORTH
Tuesday 31st March, time to be confirmed

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HOLY THURSDAY
Thursday 2nd April at 7.00pm
This Mass will be combined with St Joseph's Parish Waitara and held here in Inglewood

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GOOD FRIDAY
Friday 3rd April at 1.30pm

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EASTER VIGIL
Saturday 4th April at 7.00pm
This Mass will be combined with St Joseph's Parish Waitara and held in Waitara

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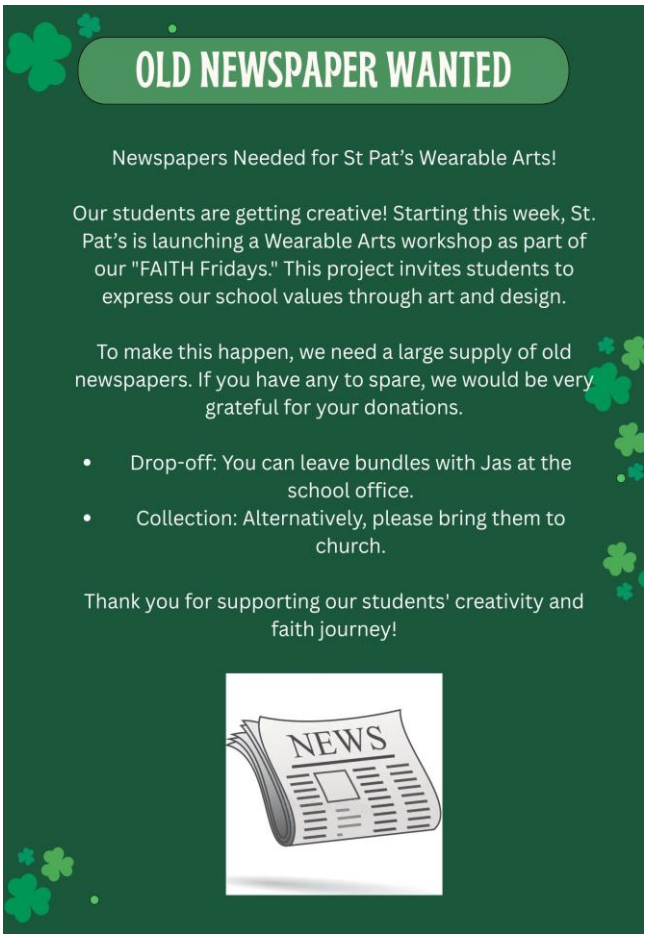
EASTER SUNDAY
Sunday 5th April at 10.00am
This Mass will be combined with St Joseph's Parish Waitara and held here in Inglewood

The 'Ministries for Holy Week' sheet is on the foyer Table today, so if you would like to be involved in a Ministry over Easter please put your name down. We will need some parishioners for ministries for Easter Vigil in Waitara as well.



Sacred Heart Parish, Inglewood
HOLY WEEK CEREMONIES 2026

Holy Thursday	**7.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper,**
2nd April	**Sacred Heart Parish, Inglewood**
Good Friday	**1.30pm Celebration of the Lord's Passion,**
3rd April	**Sacred Heart Parish, Inglewood**
Easter Vigil	**7.00pm Vigil Mass,**
4th April	**St Joseph's Parish, Waitara**
Easter Sunday	**10.00am Sunday Mass,**
5th April	**Sacred Heart Parish, Inglewood**

MINISTRIES for HOLY WEEK 2025

HOLY THURSDAY **2nd April** **7.00pm** **Inglewood**

Welcome: Inglewood
Readers: Ruth Dravitzki, Vonna Parsons
Prayers of the faithful: Margaret Maddaford, Christiane McIntyre
Offertory Procession: Alan & Clare Sarten, Ray & Mary Coombe
Communion Ministers: Chris Werder, Inglewood, Richard Dravitzki
Feet Washing: Nancy Leahy, Alan Gibbins, Maree Gibbins, Marley Gibbins, Christiane McIntyre, Nicky Kuklinski, Noreen Hanover, Dennis Hanover, Gary McCalman, Doug Quayle, Margaret Maddaford, Waitara
Altar Servers: Seline, Rita
Presentation of Sacred Oils: Waitara, Inglewood
Leader for Night Prayer: Richard Dravitzki
Stripping of the Altar: Nicky Kuklinski

GOOD FRIDAY **3rd April** **1.30pm** **Inglewood**

Readers: Alan Gibbins, Val Young
Readers of the Passion: Fr. Brian Carmine, Nancy Leahy, Dennis Dravitzki
General Intersessions: Sue Duoba
Cross Bearers: Pat Kuklinski, Mike Crofskey
Setting the Altar: Nicky Kuklinski
Communion Ministers: Inglewood
Altar Servers: Emily, Rita

EASTER VIGIL **4th April** **7.00pm** **Waitara**

Fire: Peter Maessen
Welcome: Zara Maessen
Readers (Old Testament): Ruth Dravitzki, Anita Walthew, Nancy Leahy
Mass Reader: Inglewood
Prayers of the Faithful: Catherine Barleyman, Inglewood
Offertory Procession: Mike & Alison Townes, Danny Townes
Communion Ministers: Fr. Brian Carmine, Doug Quayle, Ann Woodd, Inglewood, Inglewood
Altar Servers: Felix, Ryder
Exsultet: Waitara, Waitara
Collection Plate: Waitara

EASTER SUNDAY **5th April** **10.00am** **Inglewood**

Readers: Alan Gibbins, Vonna Parsons
Prayers of the Faithful: Val Young
Offertory Procession: Sharyn Taylor
Communion Ministers: Tony Dravitzki, Inglewood, Waitara
Altar Servers: Emily, Inglewood

NORTH TARANAKI PASTORAL AREA
MASS TIMES for EASTER TRIDUUM

HOLY THURSDAY – 2nd April

Sacred Heart	**Inglewood**	**7.00pm**
St Joseph's	New Plymouth	7.00pm

GOOD FRIDAY – 3rd April

Sacred Heart	**Inglewood**	**1.30pm**
St Joseph's	Waitara	3.00pm
St Joseph's	New Plymouth	3.00pm
Our Lady Help of Christians	Fitzroy	3.00pm
Bell Block Centre	Bell Block	3.00pm

EASTER VIGIL – 4th April

St Joseph's	**Waitara**	**7.00pm**
St Joseph's	New Plymouth	7.00pm

EASTER SUNDAY – 5th April

St Joseph's	New Plymouth	9.00am
Sacred Heart	**Inglewood**	**10.00am**
Our Lady Help of Christians	Fitzroy	10.30am
Bell Block Centre	Bell Block	10.30am

The EASTER TRIDUUM'

(Latin for 3 days) begins with the Mass on Holy Thursday evening and ends on Easter Sunday. These are the holiest days of the church year. Throughout the centuries Christians have set these 3 days apart as a spiritual retreat time - time for more prayer and reflection on Jesus' supreme gift to mankind through his giving of himself in the Eucharist, his death on the cross and his triumphal resurrection from the dead. During the Triduum ceremonies we enter into the mysteries of Christ's life and death and we rejoice with him in his triumph over death in the resurrection. The Easter Vigil liturgy with its rich symbols is the high point or climax of the Triduum ceremonies. Good Friday and Holy Saturday are symbolic dormant times in the Church as we, the Body of Christ, enter into the tomb with Jesus. The celebration of Mass and the sacraments are not celebrated during these two days.

Holy Thursday Eucharist and Washing of Feet

recalls the Last Supper when Jesus gathered with his friends to celebrate the Passover of the Israelites from slavery to freedom. The Last Supper was also the beginning of the Passover of Jesus from death to life, when he offered himself to the Father for all mankind, redeeming us from sin and opening the gates of salvation for us. At the Last Supper, the priesthood and the reception of communion were instituted and this was the unique beginning of what we now call the Mass—entering into and uniting ourselves with the suffering, dying and rising of Our Lord. The washing of the feet symbolises our call to humble service of others - not just ministering to those in need, but allowing ourselves to be ministered to. Like Jesus, we must be ready to forgive those who hurt or irritate us and be accepting of those who offer forgiveness to us**.**

Good Friday—Celebration of the Lord's Passion

The heart of the Good Friday liturgy is the Passion according to St John and the public veneration of the cross. Jesus embraces the cross and so must we accept the sufferings and trials in our daily lives.

Easter Vigil Ceremony

The symbols of water, darkness, light, sacred oils, procession, paschal candle help us to enter into our own passage or journey from death to life as we reflect on God's marvellous deeds of salvation and respond to the Old Testament Readings, the Vigil ceremonies and the celebration of Mass**.**

Celebration of Mass on Easter Sunday

The beginning of forty days of celebration of the Lord's resurrection during the Easter Season. Just as in childbirth, the pain and anguish of the recent past is acknowledged but filled with joy as new life is celebrated, so at Easter we acknowledge and celebrate Christ's triumph over sin and death. Easter is the greatest feast of the Church year - the fountain from which all other mysteries of faith flow.