



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

17th Dec 2023

3rd Sunday of Advent

Issue 304

Isaiah 61: 1-2, 10-11; Thessalonians 5: 16-24; John 1: 6-8, 19-28

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

Fr Cirilo Barlis - Assistant Priest

Parish Office

Era Creevey, Parish Admin 9.00-14.00

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Email: office.admin@parish.org.nz

Postal Address: 35 William Street,
Richmond 7020

Richmond: 03 544 8987

Motueka: 03 528 8899

Website

www.ourladyofthebays.org

OLOB Newsletter

ourlady.newsletter@gmail.com

Deadline Wednesday Noon

Dear Parishioners

It seems like a lifetime ago when I was leaving for my sabbatical. So much has happened on my time away. It has been an enormously rich experience for me, with much that has changed in me, as much as around me.

Next year I will be living in with Archbishop Paul at Viard House, taking up a role supporting and liaising with clergy in the Archdiocese in this time of transition. I will also be spending time completing certification in the Group-work training I have done over the years. This training will complement the work I am doing to support clergy and parishes. This work will also complement my ongoing role as a spiritual director.

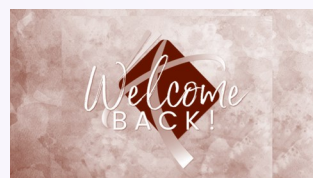
At its core, my sabbatical time, and especially my 30-day Ignatian retreat, has been a transformational experience and renewal in my faith in Jesus and my priesthood. It has not been an easy time for me, as for the world and as much as the church, being as we are in a time of profound transition, and in many ways, crisis. Wondering who I am, and where I fit in, is no easier these days for me as a priest as much as anyone else. In the end, Jesus has asked me to trust in Him again, and to put out into the deep through this new beginning.

I am indebted to Fr Michael and Fr Cirilo for being so willing to look after you all in my absence. I am delighted too, of course, that Fr Michael has accepted an ongoing role as the new parish priest for Our Lady of the Bays. Along with Fr Jaya Praveen and seminarian Emilio Capin, I wish them every blessing as they begin, with each of you, this new phase of parish life within Our Lady of the Bays.

As I depart, I am very aware of the gratitude I feel for my time in Our Lady of the Bays. I realise it has been a time of significant change for everyone over the eight years I have been with you, and that much has been asked from many of you. I have been moved by the kindness and love each of you have offered and shared with me in so many ways. I thank each of you from the bottom of my heart for the experiences you have given me in allowing me into your lives. My prayerful thoughts and love as you continue to journey together.

God Bless,

Fr Seph



OUR LADY OF THE BAYS



Prayer for the Holy Land
 Jesus, protect the innocent and vulnerable, comfort the suffering, and give courage and wisdom to leaders in the Holy Land. Amen.



God does not call us to flee from this imperfect and hurting world but enter more deeply into it as we strive to work for social justice and peace after the example of Jesus Christ

Christmas Story with Prof Thomas O'Loughlin:
<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2021/12/23/the-christmas-story/>

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP, RICHMOND

Kia Ora Tatou,
 The St Vincent de Paul Society's Christmas outreach to families in need will operate in the same way as it did last year. Bearing logistics in mind and in the interests of keeping things simple our giving will again be in the form of grocery and petrol vouchers. Should you wish to make a donation to this cause:

Our bank account number is: **03-0703-0394763-02**

Please use **Christmas** as your reference.

If you require a receipt for tax purposes, please supply your physical address, by email, to our treasurer, Margaret Pattison: pattison@ts.co.nz

A receipt will be posted out.

Nga mihi nui and God bless from Our Lady of Perpetual Help conference

Income & Expenditure Summary YTD to 30 November 2023

	YTD Nov 2023	YTD Nov 2022
Income		
Collection Income	\$125,032	\$118,859
Distributions from EA O'Connor Trust	\$52,145	\$40,657
Other Income	\$55,088	\$50,838
Total Income	\$233,165	\$210,353
Expenses		
Support of Clergy	\$51,137	\$47,384
ADW Levies	\$19,425	\$18,440
Repairs & Maintenance	\$85,829	\$29,508
Travel & Vehicle Expenses	\$22,871	\$13,782
Parish Expenses	\$100,055	\$90,738
Total Expenses	\$259,316	\$199,950
Net Operating (Deficit) / Surplus	(\$26,151)	\$10,403

YTD Total Income is \$22,812 higher than the corresponding period last year, due to:
 a. collection income is \$6,174 higher this year,
 b. distributions received from the EA O'Connor Trust are \$11,488 higher this year, (mainly used to fund the painting of the Wakefield church earlier this year)
 c. investment income is \$7,663 higher due to higher term deposit interest rates.

YTD Total Expenses are \$59,366 higher than the corresponding period last year, mainly because of:
 a. repairs & maintenance which has had a high expenditure mainly due to the recent painting of the Wakefield church,
 b. with two priests, we have higher travel & vehicle expenses,
 c. with higher collection income, we have a corresponding increase in ADW levies,
 d. we have higher inflationary costs such as insurance and electricity.

Reconciliation Opportunities

For those who cannot come to Reconciliation on Wednesday, don't forget that reconciliation is always available after our weekday Masses and also by arranging a time with one of our Priests. Just ring 03 5448987 and follow the instructions to contact them.

This Sunday's (17th Dec) Mass at Richmond will be a "Thank You" Mass for all people carrying out ministries in our Church. At the end of Mass a list of ministries will be read out and all ministers will receive a blessing. Following Mass there will be morning tea in the hall

SIMBANG GABI (Novena Mass at Night): This is Filipino tradition which involves 9 consecutive Masses being celebrated from 15 to 23 December, at 7pm each night. They will be held in St Francis of Assisi church, as this will be more central for Filipinos from Richmond and Motueka to attend. Originally, it popularly came to be known as Misa Aguinaldo. De Aguinaldo means gift, which is peculiar to Christmas. The faithful makes this their "Aguinaldo" to God for the great gift of Jesus. The practice can also be understood as the preparation of the faithful to receive from God the great gift or "Aguinaldo" of Christmas, who is Jesus, the saviour of the world. These nine Masses are also considered as a novena to the Blessed Virgin Mary by the Catholic faithful. This refers to the Roman Catholic practice of performing nine days of private or public devotion to obtain special graces. This is the time where we mostly feel the presence of the Lord because it is the spiritual preparation for Christmas, the birth of Jesus Christ. It is a great source of spiritual nourishment to all of us as we prepare for the celebration of the birth of our Jesus Christ. Everyone is welcome to experience a different style of celebration. The Mass is in English. Fr Michael and Fr Cirilo together with Fr Marlon will take turns to celebrate the different days.

SACRED HEART, TAKAKA

17 December (Sunday) – 3rd Sunday of Advent,
mass at 5:00pm
24 December (Sunday)-*Christmas eve*, mass at 5:00pm
25 December (Christmas day) – **no mass**
31 December (Sunday) - mass at 5:00pm

There is a box by the entrance door for *donations of non-perishable goods*. St Vincent de Paul Society will forward these donations to the Mohua Social Services for distribution. **St Vincent de Paul Society** (Sacred Heart Takaka) also welcomes monetary donations which will be used to provide fuel and food vouchers to those in need. Donations can be deposited directly to this bank account: **03 0703 0394763 005**
If you require a receipt for tax purposes, please state your name and address by email, to our treasurer:
csaccountancy@xtra.co.nz

ST PETER CHANEL, MOTUEKA

HALLELUJAH ! IT'S A BOY ! BORN TO A STABLE FAMILY!

Seasons Greetings to all of our Parishioners as you read this, the last newsletter of the year.

CHRISTMAS MASS IS ON MONDAY 25th AT 9.30am. CAROLS at 9am

NOTE: There is normal Sunday mass at 9-30am on the 24th, but NO Christmas Eve vigil Mass at Motueka.

Prepare the way of the Lord

A Rite II Advent Parish Reconciliation service is on Friday 22 December at 6:30pm at St Peter Chanel Church. It is planned to have at least 2 Priests.

COVID

Covid is again active in our community. If you feel ill, please test, and stay home if you are toxic. We don't want to make our Christmas celebration a Superspreader!

New Appointments

Congratulations to Fr Micheal Bellizzi on his permanent appointment as Parish Priest.

Which means farewell to Fr Seph, who has been with us for 7 years and who leaves us for another appointment within the Archdiocese. Thank you Fr Seph for your contribution to the Parish. Good bye, and best wishes in your new job. And goodbye, and thank you to Fr Cirilo, as he leaves us to return to new responsibilities in his homeland of the Philippines. We will miss your bouncy sermons and hope you will return one day.

At the end of January we will welcome our new Assistant Priest Fr Jaya-Praveen Yenubari.

The Leadership Group have their final meeting for the year on Wednesday 20th December, in the Church Foyer at 5-15. If you have a query or a suggestion, please come along and contribute!

The Rosters will show up until Christmas Day. There is a master list on the Notice Board, and some hard copies available in the foyer for January.

Columban Calendars are still available for \$12. Please pay into the slot.

St Vincent St Paul held a successful gathering for about 25 senior Parishioners last week. St Peter Chanel School students entertained, and this was followed by morning tea. Thanks to those who helped organise the event, and thanks to those who attended.

At this time of the year when families gather, let us remember the ill, elderly, housebound, and those on their own in our Parish. Invite a lonely neighbour for Christmas lunch!

Having it done your way may be best, but having it done well by some one else may also work"
"If it does not work at this time, then try again another time, and another time"
Something for everyone from Fr Michael last Sunday!

‘Mary, did you know, when you kiss your little baby, you kiss the face of God?’ A current and meaningful seasonal song beautifully performed by the Dey family, the duet by Alysha and Hemon ,and backing from Jordan and Katie. Thankyou!

At this time of the year, we acknowledge and thank all the volunteers who run our Ministries. Some, like our amazing Musicians, the Greeters, Readers, Childrens Liturgy leaders, Eucharistic Ministers, and Morning Tea providers are visible every week. But there is also a strong backroom group who do the cleaning, the flowers, the Prayers of the Faithful, the Lawns, wash the Altar linen, run St Vincent de Paul and open and close the Church each day. And our Leadership group. Without these dedicated people we would not be the welcoming and efficient community we strive to be.

As St Peter Chanel School enters it’s last week of the year, I would like to mention the part that the School plays in our Parish life. Without a resident Parish Priest this year, Principal Margaret Campbell-McCauley has had a big impact with her Spiritual approach to the running of the School, and her push to introduce the Sacraments to the Children of the Parish. Thank you Marg.

	17/12/2023	24/12/2023	25/12/2023	31/12/23
Greeter	S&V Cameron	M Kilmartin D Ogilvie		C. McKinstry Jim Maguire
Morning Tea	S & V Cameron	A Lane & R Cahill		M Kilmartin L Assaf
Music	Josie Moriarty	Josie Moriarty	Scott and Josie	Hemon & Katie
Prayers Faithful	VERONICA DUGDALE	JUDY KENTNER	FRAN PEACEY	JIM MAGUIRE
Readers	D Ogilvie V Dugdale	S & V Cameron	M Kilmartin & E stolten	J Maguire M Jones
Eucharistic Ministers	S & V Cameron	T Donaldson V Dugdale		J Kenter E Taggart
Cleaning		W&M Frondarina		
Lawns	Paul Hay	Maurice Roche		William Frondarina

Christmas Mass Times

Sts Peter & Paul, Waimea West

23rd December at 4.40pm Carols, 5.00pm Mass

Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Richmond

24th December at 9.30am - 4th Sunday of Advent

5.45pm Carols, 6.00pm Christmas Vigil Mass

25th December 9.30am Christmas Mass

31st December at 9.30am Feast of Holy Family

1st January at 9.30am New Year Mass

Sacred Heart, Takaka

24th December at 5.00pm Christmas Vigil Mass

31st December at 5.00pm Feast of Holy Family

25 December (Christmas day) - no mass in Takaka

St Peter Chanel, Motueka

24th December at 9.30am - 4th Sunday of Advent

25th December Carols at 9.00am, 9.30am Christmas Mass

31st December at 9.30am Feast of Holy Family

1st January at 9.30am New Year Mass

After 1st January, Weekday Mass as usual in every church



Merry Christmas