



**HOLY FAMILY PARISH NELSON-STOKE**  
 St Francis of Assisi Church, Songer Street, Stoke  
 St Mary's Church, Manuka Street, Nelson



A Catholic Parish of  
 The Archdiocese of Wellington  
 Te Taura Whiri o Ngu Whangape Parahi Kaitiaki  
**OUR LADY OF THE BAYS**  
MOTUEKA • RICHMOND • TAKAKA • WAIMEA WEST • WAKEFIELD

## 1 February 2026

### FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

This week's readings: [click here](#)

**HOLY FAMILY PARISH and OUR LADY OF THE BAYS PARISH**  
**Mass Times - Please see over page for Holiday Mass changes**

**Tuesday:** Richmond 9.30, Nelson 12.05pm

**Wednesday:** Motueka 9.30am, Stoke 9.30am

**Thursday:** Nelson 12.05pm

**Friday:** Richmond 9.30am, Stoke 9.30am

**Saturday Vigil:** Takaka 5pm, (1<sup>st</sup> & 3<sup>rd</sup> Saturday), Wakefield 5pm (2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday), Waimea West 5.00pm (4<sup>th</sup> Saturday) and Nelson 6pm

**Sunday:** Stoke 8.30am, Richmond 9am, Nelson 10.30am, Motueka 11am.

**Reconciliation: Offered after Mass, Holy Hour or by appointment**

**Adoration & Benediction:** Nelson Friday's 5pm, Richmond 1<sup>st</sup> Thursday, 1pm - Benediction 5.45pm- Mass 6pm

#### **Gospel Reading: Matthew 5:1-12a**

Jesus teaches what it means to be happy.

#### **Background on the Gospel Reading:**

Today's reading is the beginning of Jesus' Sermon on the Mount, which is found in Matthew's Gospel. The form of the Beatitudes found here is not unique to Jesus. Beatitudes are found in the Old Testament, in the psalms, and in wisdom literature, for example. They are a way to teach about who will find favour with God. We quickly note in this reading that the people whom Jesus calls "blessed" and "happy" are not people we think of as blessed or happy . . . the poor in spirit, the meek, the persecuted. This Gospel is one of reversals. Jesus' blueprint for happiness reflects little of what the world might call happiness. "Blessed" is sometimes translated as *happy, fortunate, or favoured*. In other words, Jesus is saying that divine favour is upon those who are poor, those who mourn, those who are persecuted. This news might have been welcome—and surprising—to the crowds who heard Jesus that day. The Beatitudes can be understood as a framework for Christian living. Our vocation as Christians is not to be first in this world, but rather to be first in the eyes of God. By referring to the good things that the faithful will experience, Matthew reminds us that those who act in the manner described in the Beatitudes will find their reward with God. **LP**

**Contact details:** Ph 027 337 4622, Email addresses: [office@holymfamilynelson.org.nz](mailto:office@holymfamilynelson.org.nz), [office.admin@parish.org.nz](mailto:office.admin@parish.org.nz)

Parish Priest: Fr Andrew Kim 022 301 8828, [priest@holymfamilynelson.org.nz](mailto:priest@holymfamilynelson.org.nz), [parish.priest.olob@parish.org.nz](mailto:parish.priest.olob@parish.org.nz);

Fr Raymond Soriano, [rasorsvd@gmail.com](mailto:rasorsvd@gmail.com); Fr Dyson Tharakan, [dysonexpress@gmail.com](mailto:dysonexpress@gmail.com) (Assistant Priests). On

Mondays, please contact the office unless it's an emergency: [priest@holymfamilynelson.org.nz](mailto:priest@holymfamilynelson.org.nz) |

[office@holymfamilynelson.org.nz](mailto:office@holymfamilynelson.org.nz) (HFP) | [office.admin@parish.org.nz](mailto:office.admin@parish.org.nz) (OLOB)

Communion to the Sick: St Mary's, Pete Gillin 548 8195; St Francis of Assisi, Shelley Hills 027 437 7851

Archivist:: Bernadette King-Turner, [archivist@holymfamilynelson.org.nz](mailto:archivist@holymfamilynelson.org.nz) 021 394 516

**Nelson Hospital:** Sacraments of Healing contact Parish Office or ask for the Hospital Chaplain.

Websites <https://www.holymfamilynelson.org/> and [www.ourladyofthebays.org](http://www.ourladyofthebays.org)

News Deadline **Wednesday noon:** [ourlady.newsletter@gmail.com](mailto:ourlady.newsletter@gmail.com) (OLOB), or [office@holymfamilynelson.org.nz](mailto:office@holymfamilynelson.org.nz) (HFP)

**Recently Deceased:** Maureen Cox, Andrew Willowby

**Mass Intentions:** Luz Tibon 2/02, Audrey King-Turner 24/1, Eduardo Punzalan, Pio Andrade, Michelle Quinn 26/1, Kathleen Bydder 20/1, Senor Santo Nino Devotees (Filipino Community).

**Please pray for our sick:** *“Father, we lift up all those who are suffering. We ask that You bring healing, comfort and peace to them. May they experience the healing power of Your love. In Jesus’ name we pray.”*

### DATES TO REMEMBER ACROSS THE REGION

**Richmond and Motueka Mass changes effective from**

**1 February:**

**Tuesday, 9.30am Richmond**

**Wednesday, Motueka 9.30am.**

**Tuesday 3 February**

† 7pm, RCIA, HFP Mtg room, Nelson

† 7pm, RCIA, Richmond Hall, Richmond

**Thursday 5 February**

† 11am, Anointing Mass, The Wood

† 1pm, Adoration & 5.45pm Benediction, OLPH

**Saturday 14 February**

† 7.30am, Men’s Breakfast, HFP Mtg Room

**Sunday 15 February**

† 11.30am, HFP annual picnic

**Ash Wednesday Mass Timetable: February 18**

9.30 am, Motueka

9.30am, St Paul’s School, Richmond

9.30am, Stoke

11am, St Joseph’s School, Nelson

11am, Garin College, Richmond

6pm, St Mary’s, Nelson, Ecumenical

7pm, OLPH, Richmond

**Thursday 19 February**

† 11am, Anointing Mass, Summerset Richmond Ranges

**Friday 20 February**

† 6pm, Light refreshments followed by

7pm, Stations of the Cross, St Mary’s, Nelson

**Friday 27 February**

† 6pm, Light refreshments followed by Stations of the Cross, St Francis of Assisi, Stoke

**Welcome Fr Raymond:** Our Parishes warmly welcome Fr Raymond Soriano who returns to the region after 16 years. Fr Raymond was Holy Family Parish Priest from 2008 to 2010 and will be here throughout 2026.



**Special Jubilee Year of St Francis:** Pope Leo IX has proclaimed a Special Jubilee Year of St Francis, marking 800 years since the death of the beloved Saint Francis of Assisi. From 10 January 2026 to 10 January 2027, Catholics around the world are invited to “follow the example of the Saint of Assisi”, so that they may also become models of holiness of life and constant witnesses of peace.

**Sacramental Programme 2026:**

Further Registration details will be posted at the start of the school year.



**Baptism:** Each school will be preparing children for Baptism prior to the commencement of the Sacramental Programme.

**Confirmation:**

Session 1: Sunday 3 May

Session 2: Sunday 10 May

Session 3: Sunday 17 May

Session 4: Sunday 24 May

Practice: Saturday 6 June

Sacrament of Confirmation: Sunday 7 June

**Reconciliation:**

Session 1: 26 July

Session 2: 2 August

Session 3: 9 August

Practice: 15 August

Sacrament of Reconciliation: 16 August

**Communion:**

Session 1: 1 November

Session 2: 8 November

Session 3: 15 November

Practice: 21 November

Sacrament of First Eucharist: 22 November



**Men’s Breakfast Saturday 14 February** at St Mary’s parish meeting rooms, Nelson, from 7.30 - 9am. We invite all men from our region to come and listen to Paolo Garcia, (National MP for Grey Lynn). He is strongly prolife, a devout Catholic, a man with strong faith, husband and father of four. Contact details and RSVP by Thursday 12 February. Willie - 0274625983.

**A** **malgamation Update - Our Journey Together** - As we continue this journey, we invite you to keep praying the [Amalgamation Prayer](#), trusting in the faith, history, and hope that unite us as one community.

## LADIES, YOU MIGHT WANT TO JOIN...

**Invitation:** Hello everyone, Hope you had a blessed Christmas and a festive New Year. The Nelson Dove Fellowship for Women has finished operating big group get-togethers. However, Dove we are now launching new small local faith groups for all women across the region. Come to a gathering to form the groups and kick it off. Our Lady of the Bays, (35 William St, Parish rooms) meeting is on Feb the 14th, 1- 2pm with cuppa and snacks to follow. Come and be part of a friendship group where women encourage each other in their daily faith lives. If you want to be part of a group but cannot make this meeting please email [staceyashley5@gmail.com](mailto:staceyashley5@gmail.com). Blessings and fondest regards, Stacey, Margot and Teresa.

**Columban Calendars 2026:** We have Columban Calendars still available from the Parish Office for \$13.00.

**Historical timeline:** Click on the link below to access a historical timeline of the establishment of church communities. [Parish Timeline](#)

**The Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation – Love is a Decision & Commit** - online registration available on the Archdiocesan website. Next course, consecutive **Sundays 1 & 8 March** 10.00am-4.00pm held at St Catherine's College, Kilbirnie. Register early (couples attend both Sundays together in person). See the Archdiocese's website for information about getting married overseas and the papers required. Any queries [marriage@cadw.nz](mailto:marriage@cadw.nz)

### Become a Seasons for Growth Companion:

Help children and young people navigate change, loss, and grief. Seasons for

Growth is a peer support programme for ages 6 -18, designed to assist with life events such as separation, bereavement, or moving schools. **Upcoming**

**Training Dates: 23–24 March** (Online).

This training is ideal for teachers, pastoral staff, counsellors, and anyone working with children and young people who want to deliver Seasons for Growth in their school. Contact Jess Ferroni at **021 374 405** or visit [Seasons for Growth](#) to register.



**Voice for Life – National Conference:** Voice for Life's national conference runs 9am-4pm on Friday 6 march at the Reformed Church of the North Shore, Auckland. Speakers will cover euthanasia, conscience rights and effective pro-life engagement skills. Food is provided; tickets available at [voiceforlife.org.nz/shop](http://voiceforlife.org.nz/shop). For prolife information, visit [www.voiceforlife.org.nz](http://www.voiceforlife.org.nz).

**Job Vacancies:** Hospital Chaplaincy Aotearoa has two new vacancies, which can be viewed on Seek. All applications need to be submitted via the seek website. To be considered, please submit the following: CV, Cover letter and Application form **Ecumenical Hospital Chaplain (Part Time 0.9FTE)** Hospital Chaplaincy Aotearoa - Nelson Hospital, Health New Zealand -Te Whatu Ora Nelson Marlborough: Closes: 4pm, 9<sup>th</sup> February 2026 <https://www.seek.co.nz/job/89695164?ref=cm-ui>

**Great Saints of Italy Tour 2026:** Fr Chris Friel from Timaru will lead a tour to Italy in May 2026. Please contact Pilgrimage Tours Ph 0800 99 77 88 or [www.theTOURcompany.net](http://www.theTOURcompany.net) for the full itinerary and price.

### OUR LADY OF THE BAYS

**Palms please!** If you have palms from last year, we would welcome them being placed in the basket in the church foyer before Ash Wednesday on 18 February so that they can be prepared for use on that day.



**Lost Property:** There are a number of items in the Lost Property Box inside the main entrance to the foyer at OLPH which will be put on the seat outside on Sunday for collection if fine. Please claim yours.

**Seventh Heaven Family Group:** Annual BBQ at Moturoa/Rabbit Island on Sunday 8 February 2025 starting at 12noon. Please bring something to put on the barbecue, salad to share, tea, coffee or something to drink and nibbles. God bless. Brian 027 444 0170.

**RCIA Richmond:** The RCIA Richmond course began on Tuesday 29 January and runs each Thursday during Feb/March until the Easter ceremonies at the beginning of April. The church may run the course "Jesus and the Jewish roots of the Eucharist" in May/June/July with the next RCIA course starting in September.

**RCIA** : Are You Interested in Becoming a Catholic? The course will be held in Nelson, Richmond and Motueka. More information please contact : **Nelson** - Katie Rose [katiemrose54@gmail.com](mailto:katiemrose54@gmail.com) 0212964155; **Richmond:** Greg & Maryanne Hall, 0276181421 [Greg.maryanne@gmail.com](mailto:Greg.maryanne@gmail.com) or **Motueka** - Margaret Jones 0210474894 [marg.t.jones.58@gmail.com](mailto:marg.t.jones.58@gmail.com)

**Special Thanks** to Karen, Sam, Grace, Oliver and Yoyo who helped clean the patio, front door paths, washed windows and cleaned the garage to have the presbytery looking fresh to Welcome Fr Raymond.

### HOLY FAMILY PARISH



**Parish Picnic 2026:** The date for the annual Holy Family Parish Picnic is Sunday 15 February after 10.30am Mass. Save the date! Any enquiries: Tim James Phone or txt 027 4468760.

**Last Years Palms:** Over the next two weeks, as we prepare for Lent, there will be a basket in Church foyers for Palms from last year's Palm Sunday. These will become the Ashes that we will use on Ash Wednesday 18 February. Please can you bring you have at home and pop them in the baskets.



**Lent 2026 Stations of the Cross** each Friday of Lent alternating between St Mary's and St Francis of Assisi churches at 7pm. This will be preceded by light refreshments at 6pm. Please add to your calendars.

**Thanks!** Mission Sisters Colleen and Maria have long wished to thank the generous donors of the three large, elegant, ceramic pots and lavender plants which adorn and pay tribute to the lives of our ancestral missionary sisters buried in the Wakapuaka Cemetery plots, adjacent to Garin Chapel. We are deeply touched by your threefold gift and would like to know who you are! Our email address is: [olmnelson@gmail.com](mailto:olmnelson@gmail.com) - We would like you, and others who have tended the graves, to join us at a simple service on site.



**Prayer Space:** A new prayer space has been developed at St Joseph's School to provide all people, including school students, a quiet space to contemplate, reflect and pray. Thanks to Sr Maria for her input along with senior students and Principal Chris Bascand.



Sherlock Landscaping executed the design.

**Please join us in welcoming** Florence to our Parish community following her baptism at St Mary's Church during Fr Cirilo's last Mass in Nelson.



### FAREWELL AND THANK YOU FR CIRILO from all our parish communities!



On 11 January the Our Lady of Perpetual Help community farewelled Fr Cirilo after he had said his final Sunday Mass at Richmond. Fr Cirilo was gifted a pounamu cross. A Karakia was prayed removing any tapu and the congregation sang a waiata imbuing the cross with our intentions of aroha (love),

wakapono (faith) and te rangimarie (peace) to take with him to his home in the Philippines. The community was encouraged to touch the cross in order to add their wairua (spirit/energy) as an ongoing connection. We wish Fr Cirilo every blessing in his new ministry.

The **Motueka community** sent Fr Cirilo on his way with our love and blessings. We will miss his infectious smile and laughter. Everyone appreciated his dedication and commitment to helping us along our faith journey and feel very blessed that God chose our place for Fr Cirilo to share his faith and great love for God with us. We remember with fondness the day he helped us celebrate St Peter Chanel's Feast Day last year and thank him for the contribution he made to our community.



On 25 January, following the 10.30am Mass in Nelson, our HFP parish community came together to celebrate and farewell Fr Cirilo with a relaxed morning tea and a special presentation. We have been truly blessed by Fr Cirilo's presence in our parish over the past year. We thank him sincerely for all he has shared with us and wish him every blessing as he continues his ministry, assured of our prayers and good wishes.



**CHURCH ROSTERS - LINKS**  
[St Peter Chanel, Motueka](#)  
[Holy Family Parish](#)  
[Our Lady of Perpetual Help](#)