



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 Ngā Whāngai Parahi Kaitiaki
OUR LADY OF THE BAYS
MOTUEKA • RICHMOND • TAKAKA • WAIMEA WEST • WAKEFIELD

22 March 2026

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT

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

HOLY FAMILY PARISH and OUR LADY OF THE BAYS PARISH

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, (1st & 3rd Saturday), Wakefield 5pm (2nd Saturday), Waimea West 5.00pm (4th 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 1st Thursday, 1pm - Benediction 5.45pm

Gospel Reading: John 11: 1-45 - Jesus raises Lazarus from the dead.

Today's reading recounts another sign, or miracle, found in John's Gospel - the raising of Lazarus. As our catechumens move closer to the celebration of their Baptisms at the Triduum, the Gospel invites us to reflect upon what it means to call Jesus the Resurrection and the life. The Jewish leaders' animosity toward Jesus is growing and the people are pressing Him to declare plainly whether He is the Messiah. Jesus tells them to look to his works, which testify to His coming from God. Many do not believe Him, however, and some try to stone Him for blasphemy.

Lazarus' sisters Mary and Martha, meanwhile, send word to Jesus from Bethany that his friend Lazarus is ill. Lazarus dies after Jesus delays his journey for two days, in obedience to God, who is to be glorified through Lazarus's resurrection. The scene at Bethany is a sad one. Martha meets Jesus weeping, bewildered by His delay, yet confident that God will do whatever Jesus asks. She affirms her belief that there will be a resurrection of the dead in the last days. Mary has the same confidence that Jesus could have cured Lazarus - which finally He does. At this sign many come to believe in Jesus, but others take word of the miracle to the Jewish authorities, who begin to plot His death.

Many elements of the raising of Lazarus foreshadow the good news of Jesus' own Resurrection. Jesus shows his power over death so that when He dies, those who believe in Him might remember that and take hope. Just as He calls for the stone to be rolled away from Lazarus's tomb, so too will the disciples find the stone rolled away from Jesus' tomb. **LP**

Contact details: Ph 027 337 4622, Email addresses: office@hollyfamilynelson.org.nz, office.admin@parish.org.nz
Parish Priest: Fr Andrew Kim 022 301 8828, priest@hollyfamilynelson.org.nz, parish.priest.olob@parish.org.nz;
Fr Dyson Tharakan, frdysonz@gmail.com; Fr Raymond Soriano, rasorsvd@gmail.com; (Assistant Priests).

On Mondays, please contact the office unless it is an emergency: priest@hollyfamilynelson.org.nz | office@hollyfamilynelson.org.nz (HFP) | 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; St Peter Chanel, Elaine Taggart 021 256 2941; Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Mary Silcock 021 174 9383.

Archivist:: Bernadette King-Turner, archivist@hollyfamilynelson.org.nz 021 394 516

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

Websites <https://www.hollyfamilynelson.org/> and www.ourladyofthebays.org

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

Anniversaries: Joyce Billingham.

Prayers for the sick: Tom McInerney.

“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

Temporary Mass Date Changes for Waimea West and Takaka: Waimea West Vigil Mass this month will occur on the 3rd Saturday (21 March) and the Takaka Vigil Mass will occur on the 4th Saturday (28 March).

Monday 23 March

† 6.30pm, Rosary for Richard Hood, SFA, Stoke

Tuesday 24 March

† 11am, Requiem Mass for Richard Hood, SFA, Stoke. This will be the Mass of the day

Sunday 29 March

† 12noon, Faith & Light, SFA meeting room

Tuesday 31 March

† 12pm, Chrism Mass, St Mary’s, Nelson

Friday 3 April

† 11am, Way of the Cross, Tahuna Beach to Cathedral Steps

Sunday 5 April

† Daylight Saving Ends

Sunday 19 April

† 11am, Amalgamation Mass, Garin College

Anointing Mass, Richmond:

11am, Thursday 26 March, The Wood

Holy Week & Easter Schedule Nelson & Tasman

Sacred Heart Takaka Mass Schedule

Reconciliation for Lent

Rite I: After each weekday Mass 6pm, following Adoration, St Mary’s, Nelson or by appointment with a priest.

Faith & Light: Next meeting Sunday 29 March, 12.30pm, St Francis of Assisi Meeting. Please feel free to join us. Margot 027 444 8398.



Holy Family &
Our Lady of the Bays Parishes

Invite you to the

Amalgamation Mass

Celebrating the union of the two parishes into

St John Paul II Parish



19 April 2026 @ 11:00 AM
GARIN COLLEGE GYM

B.Y.O Picnic & Entertainment to follow!

A **MALGAMATION MASS– 11am, 19 April: Garin College Gym - Archbishop Paul presiding. A BYO food & drink BBQ and picnic will follow to celebrate our formation as St John Paul II Parish. Please bring something to share. [Amalgamation Newsletter #4 \(Click this Link\)](#). Please keep praying the [Amalgamation Prayer](#).**



STATIONS OF THE CROSS AROUND THE REGION

Fridays during Lent, 7pm - Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Richmond; St Joseph’s, Wakefield; St Peter Chanel, Motueka.

Friday 20 March, 7pm Stations of the Cross - St Mary’s, Nelson, hosted by the Children’s Music Group supported by the Knights of the Southern Cross.

Friday 27 March, 7pm Stations of the Cross - St Francis of Assisi, Stoke, hosted by our Syro Malabar Community.

Way of the Cross: 11am, Good Friday, 3 April - bring your faith closer to Christ by joining parishioners for the annual Way of the Cross journey from Tahuna Beach carpark to Nelson’s Cathedral Steps. Ph: Willie Schryvers 027 462 5983.



Fridays **TERM ONE** Lifeteen joins the Stations of the Cross at 7pm, OLPH before refreshments and activities in the hall until 8.30pm. All youth from Yr 7 -13 welcome! lifeteentasman@gmail.com.

Come and celebrate with

St Paul's School: 9am, Sunday 22 March. All are invited to celebrate Mass led by our Youth and Families, followed by morning tea at Our Lady of Perpetual Help church hall, 35 William Street. Please bring something to share for morning tea - (items can be dropped off at the Parish Centre before Mass).



Lent Series: Biblical

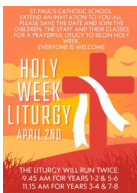
Walk Through Christ's Passion. Screened at Holy Family Parish Mtg Rm, Nelson Monday 23, 30 March from 7pm-8.30pm. No Greater Love is a five-part video series, which, along with the companion full-length book by best-selling author Edward Sri, guides you through the last hours of Christ's life in this biblical pilgrimage.



House Group Biblical Study: An afternoon study group on the Lent Series above will take place on Tuesdays 24, 31 March, 1.30pm, 2 Commodore Place, Nelson. Contact Tony: 027 4433 455.

All Invited! Thursday 2 April -

St Paul's Catholic School extend an invitation to our parish communities to join the children, staff and their classes for a prayerful Liturgy on Thursday 2 April to begin Holy Week. The Liturgy will run twice: 9.45am for years 1-2 & 5-6 and 11.15am for years 3-4 and 7-8.



Decorate Your Own Paschal Candle

with Gertrud Weiss. Thursday 26 March 7-8.30pm, St Francis of Assisi Hall, Stoke. Talk on paschal candle and decorate your own. Material supplied. \$14 candle and decorating wax, \$4 if own candle. Registration Karen txt 027 245 7800.



Relics of Pope St John Paul II:

St Peter Chanel Church in Motueka is blessed to have the altar at which Pope St John Paul II celebrated Mass when on his Papal visit to Christchurch in 1986. If that isn't exciting enough, there is also a relic of Pope St John Paul II sent to us from the Liturgical Office of the Vicariate of Rome. It is secured into the underside of the altar along with a relic of St Peter Chanel! A booklet, researched and compiled by Motueka



parishioner Kevin Courtney, is now available for purchase at a small cost. Copies of the booklet are already in the Archdiocese of Krakow; with Cardinal Driansz, Pope John Paul II Secretary at the time of the Papal visit to Christchurch; in the Liturgical Office of the Vicariate of Rome; in the Wellington Archdiocese Archives. If you would like a copy email the parish office at office@holyfamilynelson.org.nz.

Planned Giving: Planned giving envelopes for next year are now available for collection at Nelson, Stoke, Richmond & Motueka. You



may have a new planned giving number for the new amalgamated parish due to the large number of parishioners using the same numbers in both Holy Family and Our Lady of the Bays parishes. Check your new number and start using it from 1 April (including for the Easter special collections).

Caritas: "Hear the Voice

Answer the Call": Donations welcome to Caritas via direct debit or credit card through <https://www.caritas.org.nz/ways-to-give>. Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand bank account number: 03-0518-0211216-000. Use "Lent" as the Code, your first and last name as particulars. Freepost envelopes are available at Mass throughout Lent. For more information Email caritas@caritas.org.nz, call 0800 22 10 22 or visit <https://www.caritas.org.nz>



Invitation - 120th Jubilee: The Catholic Parish of Wellington South invites former and current parishioners to a celebration of several historical milestones on Saturday/Sunday 18-19 April, 2026. The area's first Catholic church, St Francis de Sales in Island Bay, was built in 1906, 120 years ago, and the current church was blessed and opened on 17 April 1966, 60 years ago. For more info: email: office@wellingtonsouthcatholic.org

Vacancy: Ecumenical Hospital Chaplain (Part Time 0.9FTE). Nelson Hospital, Health New Zealand -Te Whatu Ora Nelson Marlborough require applications from anyone who is interested and has enhanced pastoral skills with a practical theology. All applications need to be submitted via the seek website <https://www.seek.co.nz/job/90883460?ref=cm-ui>. Applications must be received before 4pm, Wednesday 1 April 2026. To be considered, please submit: CV, Cover letter and Application form.

Parishes Sacramental Programme 2026

Nelson/Richmond/Motueka: Click here

to register:

<https://forms.glecFU5vKv9X5c5medB7>

The Sacraments of Confirmation, Reconciliation and First Eucharist are for children in year 4 and above.

Please note: There will be one Sacrament of Confirmation ceremony for the region on Saturday 6pm, 6 June, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Richmond.

School Baptism Programmes: Each school will prepare children for Baptism prior to the commencement of the Sacramental Programme. Please contact the Parish office or your local Catholic School Director of Religious Studies.

Baptism registration for school-aged children not attending Catholic Schools. If your child does not attend a Catholic School and wishes to be baptised and attend the sacramental programme you can contact the parish office to register them.

Sacramental programme session dates across the region, visit <https://www.holyfamilynelson.org>.

Journey toward Easter 2026

Please pray for Catechumens across our parishes as they journey toward Easter 2026. May the Holy Spirit guide and deepen their faith.

Richmond: (From rear L-R); Sam, Duncan, Tony, Sarah, Natalie, Grace and Amanda (insert).



Motueka: (From L-R); Amy, Cara, Dean, Fr Andrew, Steve, Floyd, Danielle and William (not pictured).

Nelson/Stoke: (From rear L-R); Sarah, James, Peter, Abbe, Susheila, Linnia, Rosemary, Hefa and Hayley.



OUR LADY OF THE BAYS

Christian Meditation: Monday's 7.30 to 8.15pm in OLPH Hall. You are warmly invited to join in this quiet contemplative form of prayer. Karen 027 245 7800 or Marie 027 865 8032.

Book bags OLPH: This is a new initiative for our children at Mass. Each bag has a book, soft and

something to fiddle with. Families can pick one up in the foyer and return after Mass.

Contemplative Prayer Morning:

9.30am-12.30pm, Friday 27 March, St Barnabas, Stoke. Our theme will be 'Remembering -The Lamb of God'- led by Ilene Allan. What to bring: \$10; Bible; Journal. Morning tea provided. RSVP to eileengordon.eg@gmail.com by 25 March for copying and catering purposes. Thank you.



Congratulations! Fr Dyson conducted his first ever wedding in NZ when he officiated the Sacrament of Marriage for Mitch and Gemma in Waimea West's historical Sts Peter & Paul Church on 7 March.



Welcome! Our Lady of Perpetual Help church echoed with the joy of baptism as Fr Dyson welcomed little Margo into our Catholic Community last week.



HOLY FAMILY PARISH

Welcome! Holy Family Parish welcomes Eliam who was baptised by Fr Andrew in St Francis of Assisi Church last weekend.



Baptism Day - St Joseph's School



Holy Family Parish joyfully welcomed six St Joseph's School children into the embrace of Christ and His Church as they received the Sacrament of Baptism at St Mary's Church with Fr Andrew on the blessed Feast of Saint Joseph, Thursday 19 March. May the grace of their baptism take deep root in their hearts and may Saint Joseph watch over and guide them always in faith, hope, and love.

NEWSLETTERS & CHURCH ROSTERS - LINKS

[St Peter Chanel, Motueka](#)

[Holy Family Parish](#)

[Our Lady of Perpetual Help](#)