



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
 The Pastors: William O'Shea Whangape Parish, Katherine
 O'Shea OF THE BAYS
 MOTUEKA • RICHMOND • TAKAKA • WAIMEA WEST • WAKEFIELD

7 September 2025

23rd SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

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

HOLY FAMILY PARISH and OUR LADY OF THE BAYS Mass Times

Tuesday: Motueka 9.30am, Nelson 12.05pm

Wednesday: Richmond 9.30am, Stoke 9.30am

Thursday: Nelson 12.05pm

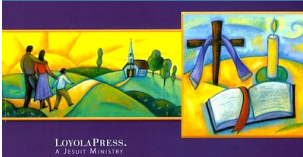
Friday: Richmond 9.30am, Stoke 9.30am

Saturday Vigil: Takaka 4pm, (1st & 3rd Saturday), Wakefield 5pm (2nd Saturday), Waimea West 5pm (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- Mass 6pm



Choosing to Follow Jesus:

In chapter 14 of Luke's Gospel, Jesus is speaking to people about the difficulties of following him. This group of people is suspicious about Jesus, looking to catch him saying something wrong. Jesus speaks to them in parables, emphasizing that although there is a right way to enter into the kingdom of his Father, it is a difficult path to follow. Many reject the invitation. So Jesus turns to the crowds and speaks to them of discipleship. He explains that, when it comes to making a choice for the Kingdom of God, nothing must get in the way. Jesus describes "hating" one's father and mother but he is not talking about feelings. Rather, he is emphasizing very strongly that choosing to be a disciple means that everything else—family, money, your own life—must come second. In Matthew's version of this story (Matthew 10:37), Jesus refers not to "hating" father or mother, but to *loving them more* than Jesus. Jesus makes it very clear that being a disciple is not easy. It means to bear one's own cross. These difficult sayings of Jesus are followed by two brief parables (a person constructing a tower and a king marching into battle) that make an obvious point—don't start what you cannot finish. Discipleship is difficult and is something we can commit to only if we are prepared to put the Kingdom of God before everything else.

LP

Contact details: Phone 027 337 4622 , Email addresses: office@hollyfamilynelson.org.nz, or, office.admin@parish.org.nz

Parish Priest: Fr Andrew Kim 022 301 8828, priest@hollyfamilynelson.org.nz, parish.priest.lob@parish.org.nz

Fr Cirilo Barlis , cfbarlis@gmail.com, Fr Dyson Tharakan, dysonexpress@gmail.com (Assistant Priests)

On Mondays, please contact the office, unless it's an emergency

priest@hollyfamilynelson.org.nz | office@hollyfamilynelson.org.nz (HFP) | office.admin@parish.org.nz (OLOB)

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

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

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

ANNIVERSARIES & MASS INTENTION:

Mina Finnigan 2/9

RECENTLY DIED: We hold in prayer those who have recently died: Michael Cavit

For those that are sick, Kerry Eggeling, Kerry Mitchell, Shanny Schipper, and Stan Frika.

Please remember in your Prayers all our parish community that are suffering,

“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.”



Social Justice Week: **7-13 September.** The New Zealand bishops have published their annual Social Justice Statement. The theme for this year’s week is *“Let’s Build Peace Together”*. In their message, the bishops explain that the work of building peace is “the vocation of every Christian”. Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand has produced resources to support Social Justice Week, including in schools and parishes. Find the bishops’ message and the resources at: <https://bit.ly/2025SJW>



CARE FOR CREATION ([link to resources](#)) and **Catholic Social Teaching - Save the date!** During September Christians reflect on the need to care for the earth, our common home. This is an integral part of our Catholic tradition of social teaching, which also emphasises themes like solidarity, human dignity, the promotion of peace, and the right of all to what is needed for a decent human life. In our Archdiocese the Commission for Ecology, Justice, and Peace is asked to reflect on church and society in light of this tradition. The Commission extends an invitation to everyone interested in reflecting on

ecology, justice and peace to gather on **Saturday 4 October**, the feast of St Francis of Assisi, from 9:30am to 12:30pm at St Joseph’s Church, Mt Victoria. We will celebrate Mass and take time to share and reflect on issues of concern. We hope this will be a time of sharing and of making connections. A plate of food to share would be appreciated. Enquiries to Jim McAloon, jmcaloon@xtra.co.nz

Catholic Social Teaching / Pope Leo XIV quote: 'Environmental justice – implicitly proclaimed by the prophets – can no longer be regarded as an abstract concept or a distant goal. It is an urgent need that involves much more than simply protecting the environment. For believers it is also a duty born of faith, since the universe reflects the face of Jesus Christ, in whom all things were created and redeemed. In a world where the most vulnerable of our brothers and sisters are the first to suffer the devastating effects of climate change, deforestation and pollution, care for creation becomes an expression of our faith and humanity.' - Pope Leo XIV, [Message](#) for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, 2025.

Children's Market of Hope : Come and join us at our Children's Market of Hope in the St Paul’s School Hall, 63 Salisbury Rd, Richmond, Saturday 6 September, from 9.00am–12.30pm. This special event is run by the Year 5 & 6 tamariki of St Paul’s, with all proceeds going towards buying supplies to help resettle refugee families here in Nelson through the **Red Cross**. You can also enjoy a cup of **hot vegetable soup** for a gold coin donation. The Market of Hope is part of our outreach programme, supporting our overarching theme: **Hope for the Future**. We warmly invite you to come along, and be part of this wonderful cause. Thank you!

CALLED & EQUIPPED Formation Programme - Applications for 2026 now open! Are you looking for an opportunity to dig deeper into your faith? Would You like to know more about what it means to be catholic? Do you want to serve in your parish community, but feel you don’t know enough? **JOIN US** on an exciting journey that offers personal faith formation and equips you for ministry and service. For more contact Lucienne Hensel at 04 496 1715 or l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz.

Safeguarding Training: The safeguarding Team is pleased to again have Kevin Plant visit from Wellington to conduct another Safeguarding Training. There will be two options: Friday 10th October at 7 pm and Saturday 11th October at 10 30 a.m. Both of these sessions will be held in the parish meeting rooms in Manuka St, Nelson and last 1 ½ hours. Ministers who have not attended a safeguarding training since 2022 need to attend one of these sessions to continue their role in their parish ministry. This training is open to ministers from all of the Nelson/Tasman parishes. Any enquiries Tim James 027 4468760.

Father's Day 7 September: This Sunday we give thanks for all fathers, grandfathers, and those who show a father's love. May God bless them with strength and kindness, and grant eternal rest to our fathers who have died.

DATES TO REMEMBER: For both parishes

Saturday 6 September

† 10.30am, Requiem Mass, Peter Assaf

Sunday 7 September

† Social Justice Week commences.

† 9.30am, First Holy Communion preparation commences, HFP Meeting Room, Nelson

Monday 8 September

† Nativity of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Tuesday 9 September

† 7pm, RCIA, OLOHP Hall, Richmond

† 7.30pm, Taize Hour, SFA, Stoke

Sunday 14 September

† Multicultural Sunday celebration at St Francis of Assisi and St Mary's

ANointing Masses:

16 Oct, 2pm, Our Lady of Perpetual Help

4 Dec, 2pm, St Mary's, hosted by NSN SVDP

26 Feb 2026, 2pm, St Francis of Assisi, Stoke SVDP.

HOLY FAMILY PARISH

Taizé Hour will be held in the St Francis of Assisi chapel at 7.30pm on Tuesday 9 September. In keeping with Social Justice week, the theme for this prayer hour will be "Let's build peace together". Everyone is welcome to this quiet, prayerful hour.

First Holy Communion: A child's first Holy Communion is when the child continues their initiation into the church and receives the body of Jesus in the form of bread and wine at Mass for the first time. It is a time to deepen their personal relationship with Jesus and give a deeper appreciation of Mass and the church as a community. If your young person has been baptised, has received the sacrament of confirmation, we invite them to the First Holy Communion programme. **The First Communion Preparation sessions are as follows: parents and candidates gather at 9.30am followed by the Mass.** 7, 14 September, 12, 19 October, Holy Communion practice - 8 November at 4pm and the Sacrament of Holy Communion will be celebrated on 9 November at the 10.30am Mass.



Jubilee Multicultural Sunday celebration

14 September: Come and celebrate with us! On **Sunday, 14 September**, we're marking the Jubilee of Migrants at Mass. We'd love everyone to wear their national dress to show the beautiful mix of cultures in our Holy Family Parish. After Mass, we'll have a shared morning tea – bring along a plate of something from your culture if you can. It will be a wonderful chance to enjoy each other's food and company!

PUBLICATIONS: The Tui Motu publication and the *WelCom* available in Nelson church foyers.

RCIA : Are You Interested in Becoming a Catholic? Do you know someone who might be interested? We will be starting our RCIA course for enquirers in September. The course will be held in Nelson, Richmond and Motueka. More information please contact : **Nelson** - Katie Rose katiemrose54@gmail.com 0212964155; **Richmond:** Greg & Maryanne Hall, 0276181421 Greg.maryanne@gmail.com or **Motueka** - Margaret Jones 0210474894 marg.t.jones.58@gmail.com

OUR LADY OF THE BAYS

Birthday of the Blessed Virgin Mary: This Monday, 8 September, we celebrate the birthday of Mary, Mother of God. As an unmarried mother living in a small town in Galilee, you can see life would not have been easy for her. And yet she is the most well-known and revered women of all time, because of her faith and the love and support she showed for her son.

The RCIA Richmond has commenced. Tuesday, Richmond parish hall at 7pm. All those who are interested in the enquiry process about the Catholic faith or wishing to become Catholic are most welcome. Sessions start with a video presentation followed by short discussion.

St Peter Chanel, Motueka

The Requiem Mass for Peter Assaf will be on Saturday 6 September at 10-30 am.

Roster link: [St Peter Chanel, Motueka](#)

Intercessory Prayer Group: The Prayer group meets in the Day Chapel at 6pm each Wednesday. Take an hour out of your busy life to pray and contemplate in peace and companionship.

St Vincent de Paul: The Motueka Conference will meet in the Church Foyer at 3:30pm this Tuesday, 9 September. Remember there is a bin in the foyer donations, and a slot next to the Kitchen for cash donations. Thank you to generous parishioners for continuing to fill the

meal kit bags to support SVdP - these are not only providing people with food, but are supporting them in cooking skills too. These bags have become an important part of our outreach and we are very grateful for your ongoing support. There is a SVDP food bin next to the checkouts at Pack'nSave in Richmond.

NOTICES AND ROSTERS As mentioned last week, the Rosters for the next 3 months were emailed out with the Newsletter. If you did not receive a copy, contact the Parish Office. Due to changes in editorial policy, St Peter Chanel no longer needs a co-ordinator for Newsletter items. If you wish to publish a notice in the St Peter Chanel section of the Parish Newsletter, just send it directly to the Parish office at ourlady.newsletter@gmail.com.

SPC SPRING FIESTA AND MARKET DAY - Next Saturday, 13 September 9am - 2pm. Our amazing Parents Group have organised such a variety filled, fun Fiesta that everyone will find something to enjoy, whether it is finding a bargain from one of the market stalls, getting some great books, sampling excellent food at great prices or buying up some seedings for your spring planting project. Looking forward to seeing you there, supporting the school.

ELECTRONIC ORGAN FOR DISPOSAL: Old electric organ, a top of the line at the time Technics SXGX5, is looking for a new home. Only used on Sundays by a careful woman organist, the organ is in remarkable condition with all bells and whistles intact and working. If you have an interest in acquiring this instrument, talk to Jim Maquire.

Holy Family Parish Roster - 13/14 September 2025

	Greeters	AV/Music	POW/POF	Eucharistic Ministers	Altar Care	Church Cleaning	Hospitality
St Mary's, Saturday 6pm	D & C Meria		S Babbage N Sowry	T Goodman M Kularathna P Robertson			
St Francis of Assisi, Sunday, 8.30am		D Tighe-Umbers (M) Joseph's Grp	F O'Leary G Weiss	S Hills	A McBride	D Le	
St Mary's, Sunday, 10.30am	P Do O Meh Maungmit	Justin's Music Group	V Lobo A Oertly	T Nicholas P Nang C Piper M Nang	D deBorja	A Fidler	Lobo Family
<i>Thank you to all who support the Ministries. If you are unable to attend, please arrange for someone to fill in.</i>							
Liturgy of the Word - St. Francis of Assisi Chapel 9.30am				Ernest Rutherford Sunday Service:			
Tuesday 9 Sept (Shelley)		Thursday, 11 Sept (Ann)		Sunday 14 September (Gertrud)			