



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

8 February 2026

FIFTH 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, (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- Mass 6pm

Gospel Reading: *Matthew 5:13-16*

Jesus teaches that his disciples are to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world.

Background on the Gospel Reading

Following upon the teaching of the [Beatitudes](#), Jesus uses the now familiar metaphors of salt and light to describe the life of discipleship. We take salt and light for granted in our society, but these commodities were more precious in ancient cultures. Just as now, salt was used in Jesus' time for flavouring, as a preservative, and as a healing agent. Similarly, the widespread use of electricity in the modern world makes us less aware of the value and importance of light in our lives.

Still, our familiarity with this passage from Matthew's Gospel speaks well to the abiding power of the imagery that Jesus presented. Jesus' call to be salt for the earth and light for the world powerfully states our mission as Church and as Christians. Our commitment to social justice flows from the exhortation that Jesus gives us in today's Gospel. Some of the activities that this commitment leads us to are given more concrete expression as the Corporal and Spiritual [Works of Mercy](#). When we feed the hungry, clothe the naked, console those who mourn for example, we show ourselves to be the salt of the earth and the light of the world. When we do these things with the community of faith, the Church, we are indeed acting as "a city set on a mountain" that cannot be hidden! **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, dysonexpress@gmail.com ; Fr Raymond Soriano, rasorsvd@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)

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@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)

Recently Deceased: Michael Lynch
Mass Intentions: Richard Hakkens (26/1)

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

Mass changes: Tuesday 9.30am Richmond, Wednesday 9.30am Motueka.

Friday 6 February - Waitangi Day:

† 9.30am, Mass OLPH, Richmond

† 9.30am, Mass SFA, Stoke

Monday 9 February

† 7.30pm, Christian Meditation, Richmond Hall

Tuesday 10 February

† 9.15am, St Joseph’s School opening Mass

† 3.30pm, Motueka SVDP, @ SPC, Motueka

Saturday 14 February

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

Sunday 15 February

† 11.30am, HFP annual picnic - ALL WELCOME

Ash Wednesday Mass Timetable: 18 February

9.30am, SPC Motueka, Mass

9.30am, St Paul’s School, Richmond, Liturgy

9.30am, SFA Stoke, Mass

11am, St Joseph’s School, Nelson, Liturgy

11am, Garin College, Richmond, Liturgy

6pm, St Mary’s, Nelson, Ecumenical Liturgy

7pm, OLPH, Richmond, Mass

Friday 20 February

† 6pm, Light refreshments followed by

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

† Stations of the Cross, time TBC, Fridays, OLPH, Richmond

Wednesday 25 February

† 11.45am, Garin College opening Mass

Thursday 26 February

† 2pm, Anointing Mass, SFA, Stoke

Friday 27 February

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

Special Jubilee Year of St Francis: Pope Leo IX has proclaimed a Special Jubilee Year of St Francis of Assisi from 10 January 2026 to 10 January 2027, marking 800 years since his death.

Parishes Sacramental Programme 2026 Nelson/Richmond/Motueka:

To register for the sacramental programme, click this link: <https://forms.gle/cFU5vKv9X5c5medB7>



Baptism:

School Baptism Programme: Each school will prepare children for Baptism prior to the commencement of the Sacramental Programme.

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.

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

Ash Wednesday: Ashes are an outward sign of inward sorrow for sin and penitence.

In Biblical times in the Near East, to wear old clothes and pour ashes on your head was a cultural expression of deep grief, humility and a desire to repent.

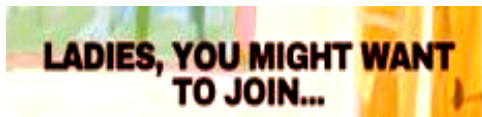
For example, we see this in Isaiah 37:1, Job 42:6, Daniel 9:3. Jonah 3:5-6 shows those in Nineveh responded to God’s judgement with a call for all

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.

people, from the King down, to repent and sit in ashes, so that God may show mercy. This act was important to God – He listened to the humble and sincere repentance and showed mercy. As we approach Ash Wednesday, may we prepare to meet God in sorrow and penitence – praying with thanksgiving for his mercy.



Men's Breakfast Saturday 14 February at St Mary's meeting room, 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. He is the first Filipino born person to be represented in the NZ Parliament. Contact details and RSVP by Thursday 12 February - Willie 0274625983.



The Nelson Dove Fellowship for Women:
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. Blessings and fondest regards, Stacey, Margot and Teresa.

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

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR SEMINARIANS



Deacon Emilio Capin Final Year Gerson Badayos Sixth Year Kham Nguyen Second Year



Dyester Abo-Abo Second Year Long Tran First Year Ele Minseok Oh First Year

Please pray for our Seminarians and look out for them visiting the region throughout the year on their journey of discernment for a priestly vocation. God bless them all!



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. Queries marriage@cadw.nz

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.



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 0212964155; **Richmond**: Greg & Maryanne Hall, 0276181421 Greg.maryanne@gmail.com or **Motueka** - Margaret Jones 0210474894 marg.t.jones.58@gmail.com

Christian Meditation: Our weekly meetings begin again next week for 2026. You are warmly invited to come along and join in this quiet contemplative prayer rooted in Christian tradition. No prior experience is needed, only a willingness to be still and present and rest in God's presence. **Monday, 9 February, 7.30pm to 8.15pm** OLPH Richmond Hall. We look forward to sharing this time of prayer with you. Contact Karen 027 245 7800 or Marie 027 865 8032

Thanks! 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.

LifeTeen 2026 Term 1 Launch - Family Amazing Race: On Friday 13 February 2026 from 7pm to 8:30pm. Bring the whole family and compete in the Amazing Race at the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Parish Hall, Richmond. Supper is provided as well as prizes for the winners. Aimed at families with youth in years 7-13. Contact 022 454 8973 or lifeteentasman@gmail.com for further information.

Welcome! The Motueka community were thrilled to welcome Mya, Charlie, Robin, Daphne and Hunter into our parish family on the occasion of their Baptism last Sunday. We continue to pray for the children and their families as they continue their faith journey with us.



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 Year's 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 diary!



Welcome! Three members of the one family were welcomed into the Lord's fold last week when Fr Andrew baptised them in St Mary's Church. Welcome Elle, William and Parker, may God bless you and all your family members.

CHURCH ROSTERS - LINKS

[St Peter Chanel, Motueka](#)

[Holy Family Parish](#)

[Our Lady of Perpetual Help](#)

Parish of the Holy Family Nelson

FAMILY GATHERING

"A Valuable Time, a Priceless Bond"

BBQ, bouncy castle, games, music, fun, raffle tickets

Sunday
15th February

St Joseph's school
back field at 12-2pm