



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 Taitō Whakatoa o Ngā Whanganui Parahi Kaitiaki
OUR LADY OF THE BAYS
 MOTUEKA • RICHMOND • TAKAKA • WAIMEA WEST • WAKEFIELD

12 APRIL 2026

DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY (Second Sunday of Easter)

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 4pm, (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

INTRODUCING OUR INAUGURAL PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

As we move toward the formation of our new Saint John Paul II Parish, I am delighted to share the names of those who have generously agreed to serve on our Parish Pastoral Council. Their willingness to offer leadership at this important moment is a great blessing for our community.

Parish Pastoral Council Members:

Gerard McDonnell (Chair); Chris Bascand; Margaret Jones (secretary); Judy Kenter; John Maguire; Lloyd Moyle; Stephen Powick; Sam Schryvers; Sieni Seloti-Ese; Judith Ashley.

During the Amalgamation Mass on Sunday, 19 April, the council will be formally commissioned and entrusted to the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Please keep our parish community - and especially our new council - in your prayers as we take these hopeful steps forward. There will also be an opportunity to meet the Parish Pastoral Council in person, as we are planning to visit each of our communities sometime later this year.

Fr. Andrew Kim

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!*

Priest contact details:

Parish Priest: Fr Andrew Kim
 022 301 8828, priest@holyfamilynelson.org.nz
 Fr Dyson Tharakan, frdysonz@gmail.com
 (Assistant Priest)
 Fr Raymond Soriano, rasorsvd@gmail.com;
 (Assistant Priest)
 On Mondays, contact the office unless it is an
 emergency: priest@holyfamilynelson.org.nz

Ministry contact details:

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, 021 394 516
 archivist@holyfamilynelson.org.nz
 Nelson Hospital: Sacraments of Healing contact Parish
 Office or ask for the Hospital Chaplain

Office contact details: Ph 027 337 4622. Email addresses: office@holyfamilynelson.org.nz (HFP); office.admin@parish.org.nz (OLOB). News Deadline **Wednesday noon:** ourlady.newsletter@gmail.com or office@holyfamilynelson.org.nz. Websites <https://www.holyfamilynelson.org/> and www.ourladyofthebays.org

Recently Deceased: Paul Bromell

Anniversaries: Edna McBride (12/4)

Please pray for the sick in our community.

“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 Time Change: Sacred Heart Takaka first and third Saturday Masses will now be at 4pm for the winter season.

Thursday 9 April

- † 11am, extra Mass, Takaka with Wellington Archdiocesan Seminarians
- † No Mass at the Wood

Friday 10 April

- † 9.30am, Mass, Stoke with Seminarians

Saturday 11 April

- † 6pm, Vigil Mass, Nelson with Seminarians

Sunday 12 April - Divine Mercy Sunday

- † 9am, Mass, Richmond with Seminarians

Saturday 18 April

- † No Masses across the region

Sunday 19 April

- † 11am, Amalgamation Mass, Garin College Gym, Archbishop Paul presiding
- † 6pm, Mass, SFA, Stoke - For those who can't attend the Amalgamation Mass

Saturday 25 April - Anzac Day

- † 9.30am, Nelson, Anzac Day Mass
- † 9am, Richmond, Anzac Day Mass
- † 5pm, Extra Vigil Mass, Takaka
- † 6pm, Vigil Mass, Nelson

Reconciliation Rite I

- † After each weekday Mass at each church.
- † During Adoration, 6pm, St Mary's, Nelson.
- † By appointment with a priest.

Please keep praying the [Amalgamation Prayer](#).

Pope Leo: In this Easter Octave let us keep the call from Pope Leo firmly in mind and pray for Peace and an end to the senseless actions of War - that those who unleash wars will lay down their weapons. Lord hear us.



Divine Mercy Sunday 12 April 2026

Jesus said to Saint Faustina:

I desire that the Feast of mercy be a refuge and shelter for all souls, and especially for poor sinners. On that day, the very depths of My mercy are open. The Feast of Mercy emerged from My very depths of tenderness. It is My desire that it be solemnly celebrated on the first Sunday after Easter. Mankind will not have peace until it turns to the Fount of My Mercy.

Say unceasingly the chaplet that I have taught you. Whoever will recite it will receive great mercy at the hour of death. Priests will recommend it to sinners as their last hope of salvation. Even if there were a sinner most hardened, if he were to recite this chaplet only once, he would receive grace from My infinite Mercy.

At the hour of their death, I defend as My own glory every soul that will say this chaplet; or when others say it for a dying person, the indulgence is the same.

Encourage souls to say the chaplet which I have given you...When they say this chaplet in the presence of the dying, I will stand between My Father and the dying person, not as the just Judge but as the Merciful Saviour.

Through the chaplet you will obtain everything, if what you ask for is compatible with My Will.

(Diary refs: 687, 699, 754, 811, 1541, 1731)

St John Paul 11: “There is nothing that man needs more than Divine Mercy.” (7/6/97).

Gospel Reading: John 20:19-31: Thomas believes because he sees Jesus.

Gospel Reflection: (click this link)

AMALGAMATION MASS

As we draw closer to our Amalgamation Mass here is some information to help make the day go as smoothly as possible!

Seating

Mass will begin at 11.00am. Please allow enough time to park and make your way to the gym where you will be ushered to a seat. We ask that you be seated by 10.50am. As we are expecting up to 800 people we encourage you to be early. There is a health and safety limit on the number of people that can be seated in the gym. Once that limit is reached people will be redirected to the school library where there will be a live stream of the mass available. Holy Communion will be brought to the library at the appropriate time. Ushers will be available to direct you to the library.

Live stream of the Mass

For our Parishioners in Takaka and those who are house bound there will be a livestream of the Mass available. The link will be provided nearer the time. There will be no communion to the sick and house bound on Sunday 19 April.

Parking will take time

There is no parking available along Champion Rd or Salisbury Road. Parking is available in the following places.

1. Waimea Richmond Funeral Services, 24 Champion Rd. directly opposite Garin College.
2. On the field in front of the Gym - please follow the direction of the Parking Marshalls to the coned area. Entrance is through the school staff carpark.
3. Saxton Playing Field access road parking alongside the boundary of the College and behind the college..

Please Note: Parking in the school staff carpark is restricted to those people showing a Disability Parking Permit (Blue) or a Mobility Parking Permit (Green) and our parishioners travelling from Takaka. We encourage car-pooling and other alternative methods of transport where possible.

Picnic Lunch

Please bring a picnic lunch and something to sit on. A sausage sizzle (including Gluten free) will be available. Tea and Coffee will be available from the school staff room. Entertainment will be happening during the picnic. The picnic will be cancelled if it is raining.

First Aid

We would very much appreciate the services of two volunteer first aiders to support us on the day. If you are able to help us with this please contact Judith - judenz13@gmail.com. Thank you! We look forward to welcoming you!

Thank you Patrick! Each year, for more than forty years, Nelson parishioner Patrick Cronin has quietly gathered the remnants of candles from St Mary's Church and St Francis of Assisi Church, including the stubs of previous Paschal Candles. What once burned during prayer and worship is carefully melted down, purified, and formed into



two new Paschal Candles for St Mary's Church and St Francis of Assisi Church. From the Easter Vigil onward, these candles take their place at the heart of the Church's celebration — lit from the new fire, marked with the cross and sacred symbols, and shining as a sign of Christ's resurrection. Patrick's work is deeply meaningful. The wax of past prayers becomes the light of new life, carried forward from year to year. Like many unseen acts of service in parish life, Patrick's work reflects quiet dedication and faithfulness — a reminder that what has gone before is never lost, but renewed and made to shine again." Written by: Bernadette King-Turner Archivist of St John Paul II Parish 1st April 2026.

Newsletter: Issue 3 of [The Sower](#), newsletter of [MissioNZ](#) and [Missio Aotearoa](#), which support the Pope in his missionary work is now available <https://missio.nz/newsletters/>.

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.

A small charge of \$15 per family per sacrament would be greatly appreciated. All please use this bank account number - Our Lady of the Bays: 020747 0066112 00. Use your name and 'SAC' as a reference.

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>.

OUR LADY OF THE BAYS

Morning tea: The Samoan Cenacle Divine Mercy group would like to host morning tea this Sunday after Mass at our Lady of Perpetual Help. A warm welcome is extended to everyone to celebrate this special day.



St Peter Chanel Women: Come and gather for a social evening upstairs at the Motueka Sprig & Fern on Thursday 23 April from 6pm. RSVP to ellecampion@gmail.com by 19 April if you can.

Book Bags - Help needed: We need the Children's Book Bags to remain in the church so they can be used each Sunday. At Easter many seem to have gone home. PLEASE BRING THEM BACK THIS WEEK. The Bible Society books on 'The Easter Story' that were given out may be kept. Thank you.

Autumn Working Bee: Please bring your gardening tools and lots of energy to Waimea West's Sts Peter and Paul Church on Saturday 16 May for an annual clean up from 9am -12.30pm. Please also bring something to eat, drinks provided.

Mothers Prayers: We are a small group that pray for families especially our own. We meet on the third Thursday of the month at 10.30am in the OLPH parish hall. Our next meeting is Thursday 16 April. For more information please phone Kath 9706754 / 027 4523 948 or Elizabeth 544 5188 / 027 5451818.

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.

HOLY FAMILY PARISH

Found: A large green file containing guitar music has been found at St Francis of Assisi Church. If this is yours, please contact Frances on: 027 646 4529.

Planned Giving: Planned Giving Receipts are available for collection in Stoke and Nelson for those parishioners who haven't provided their email address. Queries to finance@parish.org.nz.

Thank You! To all the wonderful folk who participated in the Good Friday Liturgy at SFA, all who performed various roles and the 285 congregational participants – you all make sense of the sacrifice offered. **And** to the amazing 295 who took part in our Easter Sunday celebration – Alleluia, Alleluia! Christ certainly lives in his Church today!

IMAGES FROM HOLY WEEK

Our Parishes in Motueka, Richmond, and Nelson welcomed 22 new Catholics in Holy Week 2026.



Pictured are those at St Peter Chanel and St Mary's Churches after celebrating the Vigil Mass.



Representatives from our Filipino, Italian, Tongan, Indian, European and Myanmar communities helped Fr Andrew celebrate the Washing of the Feet ceremony at St Mary's Church on Holy Thursday.



NEWSLETTERS & CHURCH ROSTERS - LINKS

[St Peter Chanel, Motueka](#)

[Holy Family Parish](#)

[Our Lady of Perpetual Help](#)

[St Peter Chanel School Newsletter](#)

[Garin College Newsletter](#)

[WelCom](#)