



A Catholic Parish of
The Archdiocese of Wellington

To Tatou Wahine O Nga Whanga Parahi Katorika

OUR LADY OF THE BAYS

MOTUEKA • RICHMOND • TAKAKA • WAIMEA WEST • WAKEFIELD

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

26th Jan 2025

3rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

00125

Nehemiah 8: 2-4a, 5-6, 8-10; First Corinthians 12: 12-30; Luke 1: 1-4; 4: 14-21

MASS TIME

Sunday Mass

RICHMOND

Sunday 9.00am

MOTUEKA

Sunday 11.00am

WAKEFIELD

Vigil Mass 5pm, 2nd Sat each month

WAIMEA WEST

Vigil Mass 5pm, 4th Sat each month

TAKAKA

Saturday 5pm, 1st & 3rd each month
2nd Sunday of month at 9.30am

Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Weekdays Mass

MOTUEKA

Tuesday 9.30am

Friday, 9am Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament, 9.15am Rosary

Friday, 9.30am Liturgy of the Word

RICHMOND

Wednesday and Friday, 9.30am

Reconciliation after weekday Mass or by
Appointment

CONTACT

Fr Ron Bennett— Locum Priest

Parish Office

Era Creevey, Admin 9.00-14.00

Monday, Wednesday, Friday

Email: office.admin@parish.org.nz

Address: 35 William St, Richmond

Richmond: 03 544 8987

Motueka: 03 528 8899

Website

www.ourladyofthebays.org

Newsletter

ourlady.newsletter@gmail.com

Deadline Wednesday Noon

2025 THE YEAR OF HOPE

We hope you've all had a holy and happy Advent Season and are now fully refreshed for another year with Our Lady of the Bays.

You may recall in the earlier part of 2024, Angela Francis provided a series of presentations on child sex trafficking. As a result of the feedback received from parishioners, it was suggested that we set up a charitable trust. So we did! We are delighted to announce the newly formed

Saint Nicholas Children's Trust

raising awareness of child sexual exploitation...

The trustees include Adrienne Hill, parishioner from Richmond (but not for long, as we are losing her to Christchurch diocese, where she will continue to be a Trustee); and Hemon Dey, parishioner from our Motueka Church.

We are officially launching The Trust on 8 February to coincide with The Pope's World Day of Prayer and Reflection against human trafficking. This was intentional as we believe any work we do must be led by the Holy Spirit.

The launch will take place at 10am on the Church steps of Trafalgar Street, this will be attended by current and previous mayors, members of Parliament, heads of government agencies and charities, and also support people and parishioners. Part of the launch will include a brief silent March, walking in single file wearing our Saint Nicholas Children's Trust T-shirts and a black facemask to represent children who are unable to speak out. As God's people we stand with them... we stand for them... we stand in the gap..

Afterwards we will meet at River Kitchen Cafe to get to know each other a little more over a coffee.

The media will be present and the event will also be videotaped.

We look forward to welcoming those of you who would like to join us.

Further information including bank account details for donations can be found on our website www.snctrust.org (coming soon)

Angela Francis

Chair, Saint Nicholas Children's Trust



Jubilee 2025

PILGRIMS OF HOPE

The Jubilee Year 2025 can contribute greatly to restoring a climate of hope and trust as a prelude to the renewal and rebirth that we so urgently desire.

It is a chance to experience special grace and mercy in your life. Pope Francis

2025 - Year of Jubilee:

JUBILEE YEAR OPENING MASS - Sunday 26th January 2025, 10am @ Sacred Heart Cathedral - All are welcome!
More to follow as Jubilee events approach throughout the year

JUBILEE PRAY CARDS are to be available in all church foyers. Please take one and pray for the success of the Jubilee Year.

NEW CHURCH EXPLORATORY GROUP

This group was formed, at the request of Archbishop Paul Martin, in 2024 with members from Holy Family Parish and Our Lady of the Bays Parish to consider potential sites for the development of a single church in the Stoke/Richmond area.

This initial work was completed in November with 11 sites in the area being considered and the pros and cons for each site identified and considered.

The full report was sent to the Archbishop in mid November and the group is currently waiting on a response from him. Once this has been received and dependent upon the decisions made by +Paul the group will reconvene and consider the next steps.

There will be further communication to all parishioners once this advice has been received.

GOOD BYE Fr Ron

This weekend we farewell Fr Ron who is returning to his role of guiding, encouraging and supporting the seminarians who are currently studying in Auckland. Although he may have been very persuasively talked into spending time at OLOB by Archbishop Paul, Fr Ron has very graciously spent his "summer break" with us in the Top of the South. This has not been an area that Fr Ron was familiar with but he has made the most of his time here exploring the hills and walking tracks.

Fr Ron has gently guided us through the last couple of months. We have witnessed thought provoking homilies, have been present when he has officiated at funerals and baptisms and have witnessed his kindness and spirituality when visiting the sick and homebound to bring them communion and anointing.

Fr Ron, you will be missed but our loss is the seminarians gain. We ask that you especially continue to guide and support Emilio this year as he works toward another milestone in his journey to the priesthood.

Please keep Fr Ron and all our seminarians in your prayers

Celebration of the Sacrament of Holy Orders Ordination to the Priesthood

Deacon Matthew White

Metropolitan Cathedral of the Sacred Heart
Wellington

Saturday 22nd February
11:00 a.m.



A Journey of Faith, Love and Renewal

With grateful heart, we joyfully share with our community the completion of the Christian Life Program for our Couples for Christ (CFC) Nelson and Tasman. In this remarkable journey of faith, we have welcomed 5 couples and 2 handmaidens, all eager to deepen their relationship with God and grow as a community.

The Christian Life Program (CLP) is a foundational formation in Couples for Christ (CFC), an international Catholic lay organization that aims to strengthen and support couples and families in living out the gospel. Through a series of talks, discussions and activities, CLP provides an understanding of what it means to live a Christ-centered life. The sessions cover key areas of faith, spirituality and relationship-building offering invaluable insights to couples and families.

Completing the CLP has been a truly transformative experience for all of us. It taught us how to live our faith, deepen our relationship with God, grow as an individual, strengthen our family relationship and build community through service and fellowship.

This journey has also given us the opportunity to open our hearts, share our struggles and doubts, and find hope in our faith with our brothers and sisters. In our shared moments of laughter, prayer, and praise, we have experienced God's daily providence and seen how His love is always present and guiding us through life's challenges. His love and grace is always sufficient.

In a modern world filled with unprecedented challenges and shifting cultural norms, Couple's for Christ offers us a Christ-centered and spirit-filled approach to live our lives with the fullness of God's love.

For anyone considering participating in the Christian Life Program, we wholeheartedly encourage you to take this step.

If you are interested in joining or learning more about the CLP, please feel free to reach out to:

- Sonny Bautista: 021 111 8258
- Lea Bautista: 0210 712 426

Together, let us continue to grow in faith, love, and service as we walk this beautiful journey with God at the center of our lives.



OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP, RICHMOND

TUESDAY 28th JAN : WORKING BEE 10am to 12 noon

Helpers needed to spring clean the presbytery house and garden.

Many hands make light efficient work so please come if you can. Karen Moynagh 027 245 7800

WEDNESDAY 29th JAN : Casual morning tea after Mass

Every Wednesday you are welcome to come to the hall after Mass for a self-help morning tea. Make your cuppa in the kitchen and then move to lounge area and enjoy being with parishioners. Wash your cup before you leave. This has been happening for a couple of weeks and now will be a regular event.

The hosted morning tea with a speaker will be held on 3rd Wednesday of each month.

Adoration will resume on Thursday, 6th Feb from 12-5pm.

ST PETER CHANEL, MOTUEKA

JOHN COLLINS RIP

John died suddenly on Monday this week and we think of his wife Susan and their family. A willing worker around the Church, John's electrical background was only one of his skills. John was also the President of the Motueka St Vincent St Paul Chapter. "If you want something done ask a busy person" certainly was appropriate here. Rest in Peace John.

SPC PRAYER GROUP

The Prayer Group will resume in February with a new format and you are all invited to join us when you can. We meet at 6pm to begin at 6.15pm for an hour every Wednesday evening. On the first week of the month, we will pray the Rosary and on the second week, we will intercede for the needs of the Parish. On the third Wednesday of the month, we will extend the contemplative format introduced at Advent to the church calendar and to guests from other churches. On the fourth week, we will worship and if there is a fifth week, God will guide us even more. For information, contact Elizabeth Stolten on 021 161 7607. or Elle Campion on 022 499 4879.

CHRISTMAS MASS

Our Christmas Eve Vigil Mass was a full house and it was nice to see some old faces. The Children acted out the Christmas play complete with Donkey, and it was preceded by 3 of our Indian school students doing a Bollywood dance to some well known Christmas Carols. Thanks to the Casas family for erecting the Crib and decorating the Christmas tree.

COMMUNICATION

To contact a Priest, phone 03 528 8899 – it will take you to the parish office in Richmond, and then follow the prompts