

ST JOSEPH'S PARISH NEWSLETTER

*Serving the people of South Taranaki in Hawera,
Normanby and Manaia*



**2nd Sunday of Lent
Sunday 17 March 2019**

Second Sunday of Lent 17 March 2019

The Mount of the Transfiguration is not too far from the Sea of Galilee. From every direction it rises distinctively from the plain landscape as a solitary hill. In a similar way, the account of the Transfiguration of Jesus rises up as if from nowhere in the Gospels. All of a sudden Jesus is speaking with the Old Testament prophets Moses and Elijah and his clothes become *dazzlingly white, whiter than any earthly bleacher could make them.*

The Transfiguration of Jesus is the event that communicates an open door between earthly ordinariness, (days and weeks of routine and mundane and struggling existence), and divine eternity. In this moment Peter, James and John got a taste of something more; so much so that they could not even put it into words and did not speak of the event when they went down the mountain. With the birth of Jesus God comes to earth. With the Transfiguration humans taste heaven. This is what happens every time we celebrate the Mass and the sacraments of the Church. The door between heaven and earth is thrown open by God: we express our struggle and our sin and God pours grace onto us and into us and we are enticed into the divine life of God.

When we leave the church after Mass we changed. Like Peter James and John we will struggle to put this experience into words. We are not even really sure what has happened. The fact is, we have tasted heaven and in the most tangible form of Holy Communion, heaven has come INTO us. We are different, and because of this, even though we go home into the same realities and relationships, every moment of the week ahead is different. This taste of heaven enables us to live fully in every earthly reality.

An Invitation: We often understand prayer as us speaking to Jesus. Set aside five minutes of stillness and silence twice every day this week and gently hear the Father tell you as he told the disciples of Jesus at the Transfiguration: "This is my beloved son Jesus. Listen to him."

Fr. John O'Connor www.foodforfaith.org.nz©

PARISH INFORMATION

St Joseph's Church 38 Victoria St Hawera
Sacred Heart Church 43 Ngatai St Manaia
Mission Centre (parish/school) office
Postal Address Box 488 Hawera 4640
Email stjoshw@xtra.co.nz
Website www.stjoshw.co.nz

Parish Secretary Patrea Clement 06 2785656
Parish Priest Fr Craig Butler 06 2785656
a/h mobile 021 272 4401 24hrs
(Office Hours Mon – Fri 9.00am – 12.00noon)

SUNDAY MASS TIMETABLE

Vigil Mass St Joseph's Hawera 23rd March 5pm
Sunday Mass 9.30am St Joseph's Hawera
Sunday Hoani Papita 11.15am Mass

Weekday Mass Timetable

Mon, 9.00am Communion Service
Tuesday Thursday and Friday 9.00am Mass
Wednesday 10.30am Mass Trinity Rest Home
Tuesday 12noon School Mass St Joseph's Day

PARISH NEWS

Parish School Mass this morning our Mass 2nd Sunday of Lent will be led by the students of the school.

A special Mass to Celebrate **St Joseph's Day**, with the school will be held this Tuesday 19th March at 12noon.

Little Black Book: We still have some little black books available for Lent. These are available for **\$6.50** each.

Sacrament of Confirmation: An enjoyable evening was held on Monday for those contemplating Confirmation. The group meet **tonight Sunday 17th March at 7pm** to begin their preparation. If you missed Monday evening, you are still welcome to come along tonight.

Bibles: We would like to give the Confirmation Class some youth Bibles. If you would like to donate towards them please visit the office at the Mission Centre.

Planned Giving: The end of March marks the end of our Planned Giving Financial Year, new envelopes will be available next week. Should you wish to change your method of planned giving please call the office. If you wish to alter an automatic payment, you will need to do this yourself at the bank.

Our Parish relies on the generous contributions of our parish family to function, power, rates, repairs and maintenance, gas, altar bread, cleaning products to name a few expenses. Should you wish to join planned giving, which is tax deductible please give the office a call or email or pick up an application form from the foyer.

MINISTRIES

Church Gardens – A working bee will be held in the church gardens this Wednesday at 1.30pm. All welcome.

Annie Brydon Church Service – It is St Joseph's turn to host the Annie Brydon Church Service this Thursday at 10.30am at Annie Brydon. Everyone welcome to come and join the residents for prayer and singing.

Ministry Rosters: There are still some rosters to be picked up.

Parish Council Meet this week.

Little Company of Mary: – Next meet Monday 1 April at 2pm in the Church.

MISCELLANEOUS

Lenten Websites Best lent ever

<https://dynamiccatholic.com/best-lent-ever>

FOOD FOR FAITH (Fr John

O'Connor) <https://foodforfaith.org.nz>

Caritas Envelopes 2nd Sunday Lent – Papua New Guinea: Caritas has been assisting villages in four Highland provinces of Papua New Guinea due to extreme El Nino weather patterns, to mitigate the effect of droughts. This includes training of villagers in planting drought-resistant varieties of crops, the establishment of nurseries, distribution of seed,

enhancing rain water catchment and providing hygiene training. Response work is ongoing, as support is given to transform their livelihoods in the face of environmental hardship.

Lenten Prayer for Life- Family Life flyers in the foyer.

ProLife Facts On March 10th the #DefendNZ trailer and website were launched at defendnz.co.nz and DefendNZ Facebook page, providing a valuable resource for those who wish to become better informed about this issue as our nation grapples with the possibility of decriminalising euthanasia/assisted suicide. *For more pro-life info, visit www.voiceforlife.org.nz.*

Funding: The Diocese of PN, Catholic Charities Foundation, the Tindall Foundation and Catholic Social Services funding application close on 31st March. Application forms & criteria <https://pndiocese.org.nz/news-and-events/application-for-funding/>

PRAYER

Prayer Circle: If there is someone you would like to be prayed for (including yourself) you are invited to write out your intention and place it in the specially marked box in the foyer. Alternatively you can contact our coordinator Sue directly on 278 4635.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention for March – Recognition of the Right of Christian Communities. That Christian Communities especially those who are persecuted feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected.

Adoration Fridays at 8.15am before Mass and on Tuesdays from 1.00pm - 2.00pm.

Sacrament of Reconciliation before Saturday evening Vigil Mass at 4.30pm or anytime by contacting Fr Craig by mobile.

Evening Prayer of the Church Sundays 5.00pm.

Prayers for the Dead We remember and pray for all our loved ones who have died recently. We also pray for those who's anniversaries occur around this time including Anne Ropiha, Noeline Kuchler, Shirley Watson, Lynoor Gibbons, Mary Cook, Daniel Hurley, Shirley Johnston, & Matilda Radich. May they rest in peace. Mass has been requested for Barry Meechin at request of SVDP.

ROSTERS

Hospitality for Funerals: 17/3 Jill Saxton Ph 2786832

Sunday Morning Tea:24/3 Joy Torres Group

Church Cleaning:22/3 D Bourke, A Orchard, J Weinberger, N Muller

Flowers: 23/3 Sharon Gestro

Greeters:23/3 Carroll & Janice Walsh
24/3 Tom Butler & Berta Hughes

Power point 23 March M Brady
24 March J Dionisio