



ST. JOSEPH'S

CATHOLIC PARISH LEVIN

Te Pārihi o Hāto Hōhepa Taitoko

NOVEMBER 9, 2025

THE DEDICATION OF THE LATERAN BASILICA

Dear brothers and sisters,

*"Destroy this temple and in three days I will raise it up."
(John 2:19)*

We celebrate today the Feast of the Dedication of the Lateran Basilica in Rome, the Cathedral or the ecclesiastical seat of the Bishop of Rome, the Pope. It is significant for the whole universal church to remember and celebrate the dedication of this church as our mother church due to the primacy of St. Peter and his diocese, the Diocese of Rome.

We do more than celebrate the physical building of that church. We also celebrate the very real Temple that Christ is and all of us who are united to His Body through the sacraments, especially the Holy Eucharist.

We recall this mystery at every Mass most vividly at the words of Eucharistic Prayer III when the priest prays, "Grant that we, who are nourished by the Body and Blood of your Son and filled with his Holy Spirit, may become one body, one spirit in Christ."

Let us remember then at this Mass the infinite dignity and honour it is to be a part of the very body of the Son of God. With no merit on our part, but with the free and utter gift of the Holy Spirit that flowed as blood and water from the pierced heart of the Crucified Priest, we are being washed clean and made worthy to be part of the Real Temple of the New Jerusalem.

Let us also remember with gratitude the physical building that is our church, in which God the Father gathers us as His children. Let us continue to work together in making sure that it reflects the dignity and holiness of the Body of the Crucified Priest who is the Real Temple to whom we are united along with countless saints in heaven and all the hosts of angels.

Let us also pray this day that we remember and celebrate our own bodies as temples of the Holy Spirit united to the very body, blood, soul and divinity of the Son of God.

We humbly pray each day that the Holy Trinity will give us the graces we need to become the holy and pure temples of His Divine Presence radiating His light and beauty and laying down our lives in self sacrificing love with the Crucified Priest to God the Father.

Fr. Simi

OUR PARISH VISION

"A COMMUNITY RADIATING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST"

Parish Priest: Fr. Simione Volavola
stjosephlevin.priest@gmail.com

Parish Finance Chair: Harry Bennik
stjosephlevin.finance@gmail.com

Parish Secretary: Bridget Lobb
027 511 2474
stjosephlevin.office@gmail.com

Office Location and Hours:
56 Weraroa Rd, Levin 5510
Mon-Fri (9-10am) *Outside of these hours, please call the parish office.*



GENERAL NOTICES

PARISH SECRETARY ANNOUNCEMENT

Dear Parish Family,

I would like to share that I will soon be stepping down from my role as Parish Secretary to focus more on my young children. It has been such a joy and a privilege to serve our parish community over the past six months, especially in helping with the Pastoral Plan and Planned Giving Launch.

I have absolutely loved working alongside Fr. Simi, whose leadership and kindness have been such a blessing. A special mention also to Chris and Harry for their constant support and encouragement on the Parish Operations Team, and to Irene, Maria K, Wilhelmina, and Leo for their generous help and quiet dedication in serving behind the scenes. You have been absolutely amazing.

Thank you to everyone who has shown such patience and understanding towards my little ones in the office. I am truly grateful for all the friendship and support I've received from our parish family.

I'm delighted to share that Adam Praat will be stepping into the role of Parish Secretary from the beginning of December. Please join me in warmly welcoming Adam, already a valued member of our parish and school, to his new role as Parish Secretary. He is a wonderful blessing to our parish.

God bless, Bridget Lobb

MEALS ON WHEELS

We are rostered to do the Meals on Wheels in the week of 10th November - 14th November. If you can help, please contact Yoka on 022 5022645 or dekkernz@gmail.com. Thanks!

2026 COLUMBAN ART CALENDARS FOR SALE

You can purchase your calendar for \$15 at the Pleroma Stall in the Parish Centre after Sunday Mass. Don't miss out - grab yours while stocks last!

CALLED AND EQUIPPED

Called & Equipped Formation Programme
Are you looking for an opportunity to dig deeper into your faith, and to learn how to share it with others? 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 information, contact Lucienne Hensel at l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz or 04 496 1715. Registrations close 29 November!

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE 70th BIRTHDAY

You are invited to celebrate the Catholic Women's League 70th Birthday!
12 November at 10:30am at The Old Court House Cafe, Levin. \$15 per person
RSVP by 20 October to Marie on 027 350 4688 or Janette on 027 465 2517. Please let us know of any dietary requirements.

TUESDAY SOCIAL GROUP

The Tuesday Social Club is being held in the Parish Centre at 1pm this week. Everyone is welcome to join us! See you there!

PASSIONIST FAMILY GROUP MOVEMENT



Passionist Family Groups have been gathering and growing for over 35 years in New Zealand. We extend a very warm invitation to attend a time of fellowship, faith, education and reflection around two topics:

Belonging
Why does community matter?

These presentations will each be followed by shared discussion. They encapsulate what Passionist Family Groups are about, and how we can (re)connect with the vibrancy of the early Church by 'being for others' and building a place of welcome and belonging in our local parish communities. It'll be engaging and fun - come join us.

Presenter: Paul Traynor, National Co-ordinator of Passionist Family Groups Aotearoa

Date: Monday, 24 November **Venue:** Parish Centre - 11am

What to bring: Something to share for a 'Shared Lunch'; Bring a friend - all are welcome

Contact: Tony and Leonie Strawbridge

EVENTS THIS PAST WEEK

PARISH 'HEAVENLY HEROES' PARTY

Thank you to everyone who joined our Parish Party on Friday! A special thanks to our volunteers for helping make the celebration of our Heavenly Heroes - the Saints - so wonderful!



PARISH CENTRE WORKING BEE

A huge thank you to everyone who came along to help clean up and organise our Parish Centre! Your hard work made such a difference — from building new cupboards to dusting away cobwebs and pressure washing the concrete steps and wheelchair ramp. The Centre is looking fresh and welcoming again thanks to your efforts. We truly appreciate your time and energy — you are amazing!

READINGS AT SUNDAY MASS

9 November 2025:

1ST Reading: Ezekiel 47:1-2, 8-9, 12 **2ND Reading:** 1 Corinthians 3:9c-11, 16-17 **Gospel:** John 2:13-22

Psalms Response: *The waters of the river gladden the city of God, the holy dwelling of the Most High!*

16 November 2025:

1ST Reading: Malachi 3:19-20a **2ND Reading:** 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12 **Gospel:** Luke 21:5-19

WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED FAMILY AND FRIENDS

May eternal light shine upon them and may they rest in peace,
Amen.

We remember all our loved ones who have passed over the past year.



ST VINCENT DE PAUL CORNER

Thank you for your ongoing support! In line with the Gospel message, Matthew 25:40 says, "Amen, I say to you, whatever you did for one of these least brothers of mine, you did for me." Anyone who wants to join us on our journey, the meetings are the first Thursday of every month at the St. Vinnies Community Centre. All are welcome. Breakfast foods, long life milk, and tinned foods would be appreciated!

SVdP Levin Bank Account for donations: 11 6932 0308328 11

Simon (0274 445 757)

Margaret (027 439 1426)

John (027 626 4792)

BABY ASSIST

We have donated clothes and blankets to 27 children and babies in the last few months so our stock is running low. We would greatly appreciate clothes for children sizes 2-5. Thank you!

Brigette (027 379 2802)

SUZANNE AUBERT SAYS... *There are on earth many men who make much noise, and others who pass unknown. Everyone is rushing to the grave, and none will ever come back. The grave conceals rich as well as poor, there is no difference whatever between the ashes of the one and the ashes of the other.*

Reflection: Do you ever read the obituaries of those who have flashed across the screen of our world leaving a trail of light behind them? A bit like a comet, really. But, when you come to think of it, they are as dead as the poorest of the poor in the slums of India. The thought of my last end ought to bring me to reality. I cannot be a hypocrite in the face of death. Ashes to ashes and dust to dust.

Prayer: Lord, when I am tempted to put tickets on myself, remind me that I must die one day.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

MON 10 NOV *(St. Leo the Great, Pope and Doctor)*

TUES 11 NOV **9:30am** Liturgy of the Word *(St. Martin de Tours, Bishop)*

1:00pm Tuesday Social Group

WED 12 NOV **9:30am** Holy Mass *(St. Josaphat, Bishop and Martyr)*

10:00am Rosary

THURS 13 NOV **9:30am** Liturgy of the Word *(St. Frances Xavier Cabrini)*

7:30pm Christian Meditation

FRI 14 NOV **11:00am** Exposition, Reconciliation

12:00pm Benediction

12:10pm Holy Mass *(St. Lawrence O'Toole)*

5:00pm Youth Group in the Parish Centre

SAT 15 NOV **4:15pm** Reconciliation

5:30pm Vigil Mass

SUN 16 NOV **9:30am** Holy Mass *(33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time)*

11:00am Legion of Mary Kiribati Group in the Chapel



YOU ARE WARMLY INVITED TO OUR

REMEMBRANCE MASS

THURSDAY 6 NOVEMBER AT 7PM

This is an opportunity for our community to come together in support of those who have experienced the loss of a family member during the last twelve months.



SUPPER TO FOLLOW IN THE PARISH CENTRE

**ST. JOSEPH'S CATHOLIC PARISH
56 WERAROA RD. LEVIN**



cheers to **seventy.**

You are invited to celebrate the Catholic Womens League
70th Birthday!



12.11.25

**10.30am at the
The Old Court House Cafe, Levin**

\$15.00 p.p

RSVP by 20th October 2025.

Marie: 027 350 4688 or Janette: 027 465 2517

Let us know of any dietary requirements.

Archdiocese of Wellington News

Mission Hub: Monday 10 November

Monday, 10 November from 7.00pm – 8.15pm online. Can you believe it's almost a month since the Hope & Renewal Summit? The conversations, the prayer, the fire of the Holy Spirit — it hasn't faded. If anything, it's growing. We're thrilled to be holding the very first Mission Hub online gathering — a new monthly opportunity to connect, pray, and share in the spirit of renewal that's spreading across Aotearoa New Zealand. It is an evening of prayer, inspiring content, and small group discussion — a chance to reconnect with others who share the same desire to fuel the fire of renewal in our parishes and communities.

Whether they were at the Summit or are not — all are welcome!

Register: <https://us06web.zoom.us/join/9876543210> or
email: missionhubnz@gmail.com



Study Opportunity

Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College enrolment for Bachelor Degree and Graduate Diploma in Theology for Semester One 2026 will take enrolments until 21 November 2025. Go to www.tekupenga.ac.nz/apply to enrol.

You can find the post for this on [Facebook](#) and [Instagram](#).

Catholic Kiwi Podcast

The New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference has launched a new podcast series, sharing stories of faith, ministry and mission of Kiwis and visitors to our shores. The first episodes have been released, with new episodes scheduled as part of Season 1 leading up to Christmas. Search “Catholic Kiwi Podcast” on YouTube or Spotify now.



Catholic Social Services Annual Appeal Month

November is Catholic Social Services Annual Appeal Month. We live in challenging times – times that are causing many people to lose hope. The poor and vulnerable among us are especially affected. This is why we need your help. Your ongoing support helps us bring hope to those who need it. Supporting this valuable mahi is easy, and there are many ways to do so, including the link: www.catholicssocialservices.org.nz/donate

Prefer to donate via bank transfer? You can use CSS' bank account details to donate directly through your internet banking service.

BANK: BNZ **ACCOUNT NUMBER:** 02 0560 0213864 000

PARTICULARS: your surname & initial **REFERENCE:** Your phone number **CODE:** CSS-HOPE

Aroha Afternoon in Te Awa Kairangi

Sunday, 16 November, Hutt Valley Irish Society, 12 Raroa Road, Lower Hutt from 5.00pm. Come and share an evening of conversation, stories, music, fun and kai with people from diverse backgrounds. Everyone is welcome. A contribution of food is appreciated. Strictly no peanuts at the venue. Aroha Afternoons bring people in communities together, building connections across the spaces between us. Catholic Social Services partners in this Kaupapa. Contact: Deirdre Meskill d.meskill@wn.catholic.org.nz



Theology on Tap

Theology on Tap is back on again at the Sprig & Fern! Come and enjoy a cold drink and good food and learn about Ignatian Spirituality!

Monday, 24 November at Sprig & Fern, Thorndon (6:00pm)

P.S We would appreciate no outside food and drink - instead please support Sprig & Fern for hosting us by getting a cheeky bite and bevy from the bar!

Advent: A Hīkoi for Pilgrims of Hope

In this new book, *Bringing the Word to Life*, Fr James Lyons and other Catholic leaders and writers, including Cardinal John Dew, offer timely reflections for each day of Advent and Christmas. Connecting Biblical truth with modern-day examples, they provide valuable spiritual nourishment for Catholics as this Year of Jubilee comes to a close – and a new year begins. As Archbishop Paul says, "I highly recommend it, and I know that you will find the reflections by fellow Catholics relevant and reflecting our faith experience within the context of this beautiful country we live in." Speak to your parish leaders/parish office about obtaining a copy of this book.

World Youth Day 2027

Interested in going to South Korea? Come join us for World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul! Please fill out the expression of interest form below and email Regina Fernandes at r.fernandes@wn.catholic.org.nz for any questions.

St. Mary's College 175th Jubilee

St Mary's College will be celebrating the 175th Jubilee on Saturday, 6 December 2025 from 11.00am – 5.00pm. <https://forms.gle/qC1YmfV7N7Mq7dx27>

The Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation - Love is a Decision

The Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation – Love is a Decision - register online on the Archdiocesan website for the next course, consecutive Sundays, 1 and 8 March 2026. Please note that couples attend both Sundays together in person to complete the course. Courses are offered four times a year - they will run in March, June, September and November 2026. For queries please email: marriage@wn.catholic.org.nz



Reflections on Jubilee 2025 - Pilgrims of Hope

As we draw near the end of the Jubilee Year in January 2026, Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College is offering its last webinar for the year "Reflections on Jubilee 2025-Pilgrims of Hope" with Fadi Yalda, Lecturer in Biblical Studies. This webinar is on Wednesday, 26 November 5.00-6.00pm via Zoom. Fee is \$20. To register, go to www.tekupenga.ac.nz/webinar2025



BRINGING THE WORD TO LIFE

**Daily
Scripture
Reflections**
ADVENT/
CHRISTMAS
SEASONS
2025/26

Advent: a hīkoi for Pilgrims of Hope

In this new book, Fr James Lyons and other Catholic leaders and writers, including Cardinal John Dew, offer timely reflections for each day of Advent and Christmas. Connecting Biblical truth with modern-day examples, they provide valuable spiritual nourishment for Catholics as this Year of Jubilee comes to a close – and a new year begins.

Copies are available for
\$5 each

Please contact the Parish
Office if you are interested in
ordering a copy.

“The year is racing ahead and before we know it, Advent will be upon us. As we enter that sacred season, this book of reflections, co-ordinated by Fr James Lyons, provides material for reflection each day based on the daily readings. These help us to pause, pray, and prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ amongst the busyness of this time of year. I highly recommend it, and I know that you will find the reflections by fellow Catholics relevant and reflecting our faith experience within the context of this beautiful country we live in.”

- Paul Martin SM

Archbishop of Wellington





St Bernard's School

Official Closing Mass and Jubilee Celebrations

St Bernard's School will be closing at the end of 2025 after 90 years of providing Catholic education in Brooklyn. On November 15th we invite you to join us as we celebrate this amazing school and take time to look back over its history.

Programme for the day:

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|---------|---|
| 11.30am | School Hall opens |
| 12pm | Mass presided by Archbishop Paul Martin and concelebrated by present and past parish priests |
| 1pm | Tour of the school |
| 1.30pm | Buffet lunch |
| 2pm | Open mic for a chance to share memories
Chance to peruse old photographs and other memorabilia |
| 5pm | Gathering at 1852 Pub and Kitchen for past pupils and parents |



Space in the hall is limited so please contact the school to register your attendance using this link

<https://forms.gle/tCZ6qtN9kJqq9h64A>