



ST. JOSEPH'S

CATHOLIC PARISH LEVIN

Te Pārihi o Hāto Hōhepa Taitoko

OCTOBER 12, 2025

28TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

Dear brothers and sisters,

"Has none but this foreigner returned to give thanks to God?"
(Luke 17:18)

Today, our Lord teaches us that thanks and praise must to God alone. Like Naaman the leper in the first reading and the ten lepers in today's gospel, we have been made unclean by sin.

Lepers in our Lord's time were quarantined from their families and community. The skin disease meant that boundaries were broken. The skin is a boundary that cannot be breached by what is inside the body nor by anything outside the body.

The breach of boundaries is a sign of disorder, of chaos. This, according to ancient Jewish law, is ungodly, impure, dirty. God, our Creator, has put everything in its proper place, proper order. Disorder is a breach of God's design.

God therefore cannot be approached for His holiness will destroy the impure completely. People without this disease must therefore not come into contact with lepers or they too will be contaminated and cannot come into God's presence.

Leprosy here is symbolic of the sin that has made us unclean and unworthy of His presence. We are outside the walls of the garden of Eden, the walls of the New Jerusalem in heaven. Like the lepers, we are displaced, we are away from our home.

Yet Jesus has left heaven and descended into our sinful lives and has come to take away the sins of the world. Only He who has come down from heaven is able to take away our sins and make us worthy to be in the Father's presence again in heaven.

Forgiveness and healing is ours if only we cry out to Him, "Jesus, Master! Have pity on us." This we do at the Holy Eucharist. It is also at the Holy Eucharist that He makes us clean. It is also at the Holy Eucharist that we already are reconciled to the Father.

The Holy Eucharist is our thanksgiving and praise to the Father for having welcomed us back into His House. The Greek word *euchariston* is a word meaning praise and thanksgiving that is owed to God alone. Luke, in his gospel reserves this word of thanksgiving, Eucharist, for God alone.

When we come to Mass, we do not become the center of that liturgy. We do not come to be the recipients of thanksgiving. All our prayers and actions are ordered only to God. We are all lepers who are being cleansed and wish only to give thanks to God, who alone has taken away our sins and welcomed us back into His Home.

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

THE CHOSEN - SEASON 5 SCREENING

Join us in the Parish Centre on Mondays from 13 October, at 6:00pm, for screenings of The Chosen, Season 5. We'll watch two episodes each week over four Mondays. All are welcome! For more details, please contact Nicole on 027 340 0340.

PLANNED GIVING

Where does my money go? 

Most of what is collected in our parish is applied right here. 50% Local Costs, 32% Clergy costs, 18% Archdiocesan costs. It has been a number of years since we have asked you to review your gifting.

Our Target

Our target is to get a 30% uplift in planned giving, that would keep our finances sustainable going forward without having to tap into cash reserves as we are now having to do.

Please pray on this.

Your prayerful discernment on this will be greatly appreciated.

Banking Details for Our Parish:

BNZ - St. Joseph Catholic Parish, Levin
02-0668-0115553-00

PRAYER CHAIN

Our Parish Prayer chain will pray for your intentions. Just record them in the prayer notebook in the side chapel. 

If you wish to join in praying for the intentions of your fellow parishioners, please contact the Parish Office.

TUESDAY SOCIAL CLUB

The Tuesday Social Club is being held in the Parish Centre at 1pm this week. Everyone is welcome to join us for a cuppa, fun, and fellowship. See you there!

BE PART OF SOMETHING LIFE CHANGING!

Open Home Foundation International, warmly invites you to a special evening with Lun and Ngaiching Misao, Directors of OHFI's work in Kolkata India. They will share moving stories of children and families whose lives are being transformed from the risk of hunger, exploitation, and trafficking. The event will be held in the St Joseph's School Hall on Wednesday 15 October at 7.00pm. All are welcome – entry free and light supper provided. Please RSVP to Chris Olsen 0274477098 or chris.olsen5@hotmail.com.

VIRTUE OF THE WEEK: GRATITUDE

Definition: Having a thankful disposition of mind and heart.

Prayer: Dear Jesus, thank You for Your love for me and for providing for me in abundance. Help me to live my life with a spirit of gratitude. When I am tempted today to dwell on the negative, open my eyes to the good things You have given me and the good things You are doing. Amen.

DIVINE INTERCESSION

Come along this Wednesday at 7pm for intercession and personal prayer intentions in side chapel. Contact Josephine Olsen at 0273674453 for more info.

SUPPORT LIFE SUNDAY 2025 - SUNDAY 12 OCTOBER

Each year, on the second Sunday of October, the Church in Aotearoa celebrates Support Life Sunday. As the New Zealand bishops reminded us in the 2023 document, Te Kahu o te Ora: "We do not need to look far to recognise that our world requires a lot of healing. All around us, we experience divisions that are the result of human behaviours and institutions." Support Life Sunday 2025 provides an opportunity, within this year of Jubilee, to focus on how we can better support a culture of love and life through prayer and action. Find out more at: <https://catholic.org.nz/resources/>

PRAYERS AND REFLECTIONS

POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR OCTOBER 2025

For collaboration between different religious traditions: Let us pray that believers in different religious traditions might work together to defend and promote peace, justice, and human fraternity.

VOLUNTEER & NOMINATIONS FOR PARISH MINISTRIES

Our parish vision is to be *"a community radiating the light of Christ"*. You can help make that vision a reality by sharing your gifts in one of our ministries—where faith comes alive through service, care, and community.

You can use the **Volunteer & Nominations Form** to put your own name forward as an expression of interest, or to nominate someone you believe would be a great fit for a ministry. Think about the gifts and skills your fellow parishioners have - sometimes, nominating someone might be all the encouragement they need to step forward and share their talents. You can nominate as many people as you like for as many ministries as you like. No experience is needed - just a willing heart!

Forms will be available at both weekend Masses this weekend and online via our digital form, which can also be found on the homepage of the parish website and through the link [here](#).

Nominations are open for two weeks and will close at 8:00pm on Sunday, October 26th, 2025. All those nominated will be invited to a meeting to learn more about the ministry they've been nominated for.

Let's come together to build a parish where Christ's light shines through every act of love, welcome, and service. Thank you all!

St. Joseph's Parish Volunteer & Nominations Form

Our parish thrives when everyone brings their unique gifts to the table. Whether you feel called to volunteer or know someone whose talents would bless our community - this is your opportunity to express interest in volunteering or to nominate someone for a ministry role.

How It Works
Find the ministry key (letter and number) from the list.
At the bottom of this page, write the key (e.g. F3), and your name or the name of the person you're nominating.
If you know their contact details, feel free to include them.

You can volunteer for, or nominate, as many ministries as you like!

Liturgy Ministry	Faith Formation & Evangelisation Ministry	Marriage & Family Ministry	Youth Ministry	Health & Safety Ministry	Property Management Ministry	Parish Life & Outreach Ministry
11 Sacristan	F1 Catechesis	M1 Marriage & Families	Y1 Youth Groups	S1 Safeguarding & Police Vetting	P1 Building Committee	O1 Outreach Ministry
12 Liturgical Environment	F2 Ongoing Faith Formation	M2 Family and Parenting	Y2 Youth Music	S2 Fire Aid	P2 Maintenance	O2 Transport
13 Alter Linens	F3 RCIA	M3 Marriage Enrichment	Y3 Young Adults	S3 Church Cleaning	P3 Church Cleaning	O3 Shopping
14 Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	F4 Sacramental Program	M4 Marriage Preparation	Y4 Altar Server Training	P4 Health & Safety and Emergency Planning	P4 Gardening	O4 Pastoral Care & Visitation
15 Communion to the Sick	F5 Divine Renovation	M5 Family Healing			P5 Working bees	O5 Social Ministry
16 Altar Servers	F6 Evangelisation	M6 Widowed, Separated & Divorced				O6 Men's Club
17 Music Ministry						O7 Hospitality Ministry
18 Lectors						O8 Sunday Morning Tea
19 Children's Liturgy						O9 Welcome Team
20 Creators/Ushers						O10 Farewell Team
21 Bereavement Ministry & Funeral Preparations						

Need more space? Feel free to continue on the back!

Key: _____ Name: _____	Key: _____ Name: _____	Key: _____ Name: _____	Key: _____ Name: _____	Key: _____ Name: _____	Key: _____ Name: _____	Key: _____ Name: _____
Contact Info (optional)	Contact Info (optional)	Contact Info (optional)	Contact Info (optional)	Contact Info (optional)	Contact Info (optional)	Contact Info (optional)
Key: _____ Name: _____	Key: _____ Name: _____	Key: _____ Name: _____	Key: _____ Name: _____	Key: _____ Name: _____	Key: _____ Name: _____	Key: _____ Name: _____
Contact Info (optional)	Contact Info (optional)	Contact Info (optional)	Contact Info (optional)	Contact Info (optional)	Contact Info (optional)	Contact Info (optional)

Keep an eye out for this form at Mass this weekend!

*Together,
We make a
Difference*

READINGS AT SUNDAY MASS

12 October 2025: 1ST Reading: 2 Kings 5:14-17 **2ND Reading:** 2 Timothy 2:8-13 **Gospel:** Luke 17:11-19

Psalms Response: The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.

19 October 2025: 1ST Reading: Exodus 17:8-13 **2ND Reading:** 2 Timothy 3:14-4:2 **Gospel:** Luke 18:1-8

WE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED FAMILY AND FRIENDS

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

Margaret Hughes

Michael Vance

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CORNER

Thanks to those who came to our festival morning tea. We are really grateful!
Through God, we are all travelers on the road and we share in Frederick Ozanam's life by sharing the load. Spaghetti and baked beans, tinned tomatoes, and packet soups will be helpful. God bless you all.

SVdP Levin Bank Account for donations: 11 6932 0308328 11

Simon (0274 445 757)

Margaret (027 439 1426)

John (027 626 4792)

BABY ASSIST

Please keep the gorgeous knitwear coming, mainly for boys' sizes 2 - 6, which would be great!
Also, pants and tops would be greatly appreciated.

Brigette (027 379 2802)

SUZANNE AUBERT SAYS... *We must neither say nor take pleasure in listening to what we would not like to have said of ourselves.*

Reflection: Politicians are daily faced with the repercussions of throw away lines they have spoken about other people. Sometimes they are forced out of their posts because of such unguarded utterances. How easy it is for me also to utter or listen to words of criticism or condemnation of others without really thinking of what I have said. But when someone says something hurtful about me, my instinct is to retaliate in kind, of course. How much less stressful and more Christlike it would be if I thought about what I was going to say before I said it.

Prayer: Lord, teach me to weigh the consequences of my words in advance.

WEEKLY SCHEDULE

MON 13 OCT 6:00pm 'The Chosen' Screening in the Parish Centre

TUES 14 OCT 9:30am Liturgy of the Word

1:00pm Tuesday Social Group

WED 15 OCT 9:30am Holy Mass (*St. Teresa of Avila, Doctor of the Church*)

10:00am Rosary

7:00pm Divine Intercession in the Side Chapel

7:00pm Open Home Foundation Evening (*School Hall - RSVP please*)

THURS 16 OCT 9:30am Liturgy of the Word

7:30pm Christian Meditation in the Side Chapel

FRI 17 OCT 11:00am Exposition, Reconciliation

12:00pm Benediction

12:10pm Holy Mass (*St. Ignatius of Antioch, Bishop and Martyr*)

5:00pm Youth Group in the Parish Centre

SAT 18 OCT 4:15pm Reconciliation

5:30pm Vigil Mass

SUN 19 OCT 9:30am Holy Mass (*29th Sunday in Ordinary Time*)

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

HOPE AND RENEWAL SUMMIT EXPERIENCE



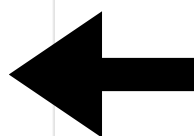
Revival is happening! Fr Simi and a team of St Joseph's parishioners were blessed to join 500+ participants at the Hope and Renewal Summit in Palmerston North last weekend. Over two days, we listened to Fr. James Mallon, founder of Divine Renovation Ministry, and a range of speakers share tips and testimonies for making parishes more welcoming, vibrant and mission-focused communities, where everyone can encounter a personal relationship with Jesus. Highlights included praise and worship, time for parish reflection and brainstorming, praying over each other for an infilling of the Holy Spirit, and seeing Fr. James in an All Blacks shirt! We left feeling encouraged, energised and full of ideas for our own St. Joseph's community.



Summit attendees urged to promote renewal at home

Palmerston North Bishop John Adams says he is "looking forward to the future with great..."

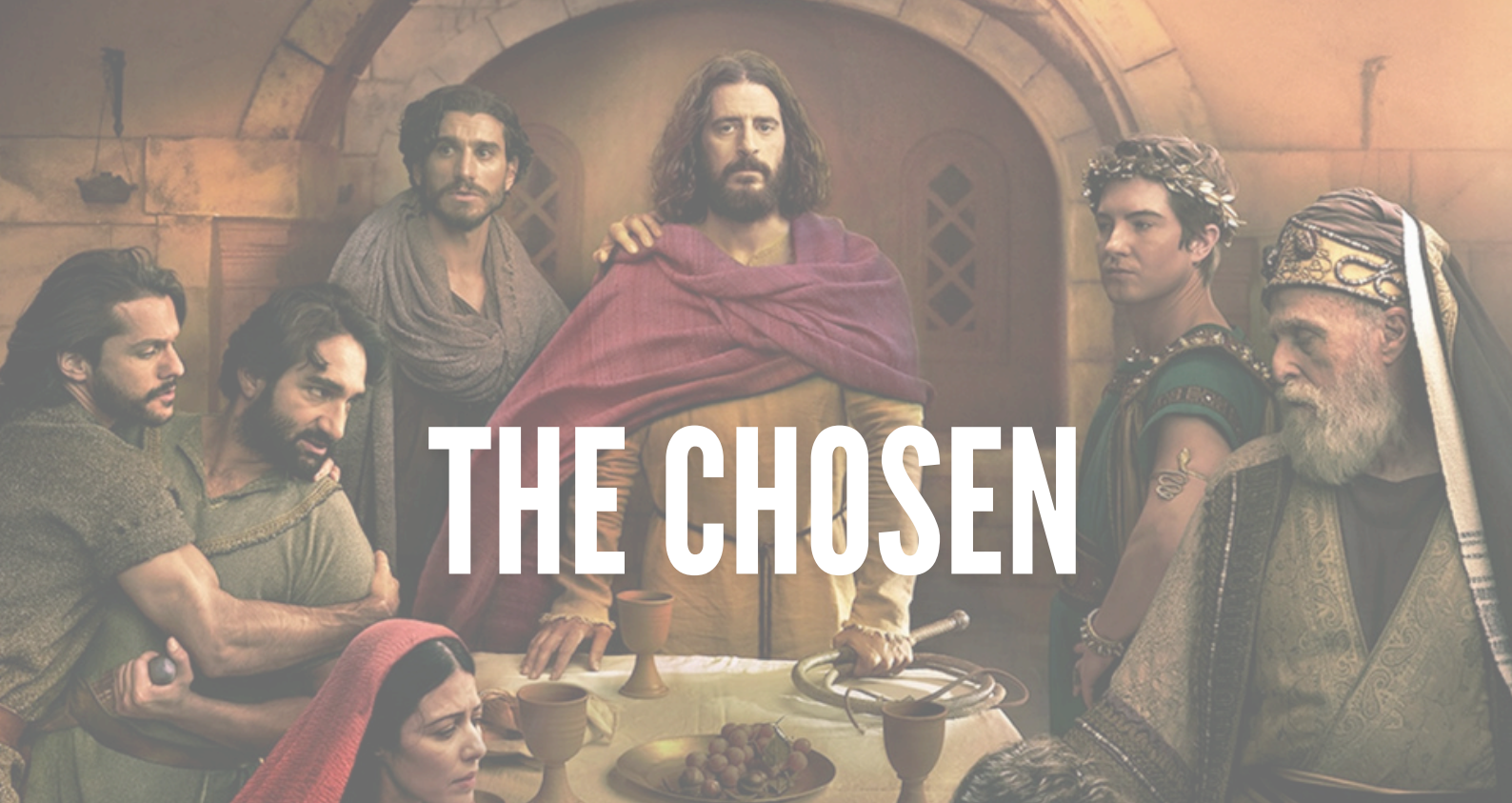
✝ New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference



Click here to read more about the Summit experience



Come Holy Spirit! Renew our parish so it comes alive with joy, welcome and mission. Help us to be missionary disciples that radiate Christ's love to all in our wider community.



THE CHOSEN - SEASON 5 HAS ARRIVED AT ST. JOSEPH'S!

Forget popcorn at the movies - come grab your blessings at the Parish Centre instead!

Screenings will run for four Mondays, beginning **13 October**.

🕒 6:00pm Start Time (Two episodes each night)

🍿 Popcorn optional, faith essential.

🙌 No tickets needed - Jesus already paid the price.

⚡ Warning: Side effects may include laughter, tears, and the sudden urge to tell random strangers about the Gospel.

Bring yourself, bring a friend, bring some snacks (miracle of the loaves and fishes not guaranteed 😊)

For more information, contact Nicole Boyce or reach out to the Parish Office on 027 511 2474



OPEN HOME FOUNDATION INTERNATIONAL
INVITES YOU TO JOIN

STORIES OF HOPE FROM KOLKATA

Join us for a special event with Lun & Ngaiching Misao, Directors of Open Home Foundation International (OHFI) Kolkata, as they share their powerful story and life-changing work with vulnerable children in Kolkata's slums.

Every day in these Kolkata communities, thousands of children face hunger, exploitation, and trafficking. OHFI partners with local leaders like Lun & Ngaiching to bring safety, education, and hope where it's needed most.

A story of faith, courage, and perseverance—still transforming lives today.

Learn more: www.ohfi.org.nz



WEDNESDAY

15 October, 2025



**ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL HALL
35 DURHAM STREET LEVIN**

7:00PM

**ENTRY IS FREE AND SUPPER IS KINDLY PROVIDED BY
THE SPONGE KITCHEN LEVIN**



FOR CATERING PURPOSES PLEASE RSVP TO CHRIS OLSEN



027 447 7098



chris.olsen5@hotmail.com

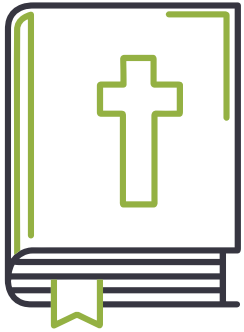
Archdiocese of Wellington News

50th Anniversary Mass

St. Francis Xavier Church, SV - Sunday, 9th November 2025 at 10:00 AM



Join us for a special Parish Mass celebrating 50 years since the opening of St. Francis Xavier Church. This will be the only Mass in the Parish that Sunday (usual Saturday vigil mass remains) — let's come together to mark this milestone with joy and gratitude. All are welcome — let's make it a celebration to remember!



Study Opportunity

Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College enrolment for Bachelor Degree and Graduate Diploma in Theology for Semester One 2026 will run from 22 September – 21 November 2025. Go to www.tekupenga.ac.nz/apply to enrol.

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

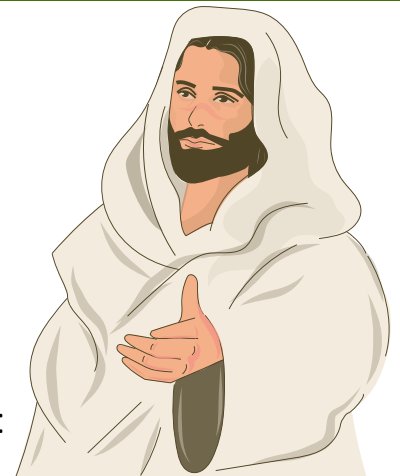
Catholic Kiwi Podcast

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.



“A Journey of Hope: Combating Pornography on the Internet - A Catholic Approach to Healing and Freedom”

A book by Fr Robert Steele, Parish Priest, Pukekohe in the Auckland diocese. Pornography leaves many trapped in cycles of shame and despair. A Journey of Hope offers a path to freedom through faith, healing, and practical strategies. With honesty and compassion, Fr. Robert Steele shows that God's mercy is greater than any struggle, and that real hope is possible. Available at Link: <https://www.amazon.com/dp/B0FR6FD8VJ>



Safeguarding Policy and Code of Conduct Feedback

“Please give your feedback.... As part of the National Office for Professional Standards’ commitment to ensuring a safe environment for all, they are carrying out a review of key safeguarding documents. They are currently reviewing the ‘Safeguarding Policy: Working Together for a Safe Church’ and the ‘Code of Conduct for Employees & Volunteers in Ministry in the Catholic Church’. They welcome and encourage you to submit feedback through their [Reviews page](#), with submissions open until 31 October 2025”

Catholic Social Teaching/Pope Quote



“This October, as we contemplate with Mary the mysteries of Christ our Savior, let us deepen our prayer for peace, which should become concrete solidarity with people tormented by war. I thank the many children around the world who are praying the Holy Rosary for this intention.” - Pope Leo XIV (October 7, 2025)

“No one should be forced to flee, nor exploited or mistreated because of their situation as foreigners or people in need! Human dignity must always come first!” - Pope Leo XIV (October 6, 2025)

Come & See Vocations Morning - Saturday 18 October



From 9.30am till 12.30pm @ St Patrick's Church, Kilbirnie.

Are you thinking about priesthood? Join other like-minded young men for a morning of reflection, discussion and fellowship. Text 021 164 5800 or email l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz to let us know you're coming!

Launch Out Letters (LOL) - October Issue

https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/adw_resource/launch-out-letters-lol/.

Gospel reflection for the 28th Sunday in Ordinary Time is from Bernadette Patelesio of Te Wairua Tapu Parish. Bridget Tamoepeau shares her experience attending a mass with the LGBTQ+ community in Rome. And special contribution from Dr John Kleinsman of the Nathaniel Centre on ministering to people who opt for assisted dying; a timely article for Support Life Sunday.

Nostra Aetate

Celebrating 60 Years of the Church's call to dialogue with people of all faiths. The New Zealand Catholic Bishops' Committee for Interfaith Relations welcomes all who wish to join us as we acknowledge Nostra Aetate, the Vatican II document promulgated on 28 October 1965, and outline contemporary approaches to religious dialogue in Aotearoa New Zealand Today. To be held on: Tuesday, 28 October 2025 from 7.00 – 8.00pm. Zoom Link: <https://tinyurl.com/NA-NZ-2025>

The Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation - Love is a Decision

Register online now on the Archdiocesan website for the next Course, consecutive Sundays 2 & 9 November 10.00am-4.00pm held at St Catherine's College, Kilbirnie. Please note that couples attend both Sundays together in person to complete the course. The November course will be the last course for 2025. The first course in 2026 will be in March. Email: marriage@wn.catholic.org.nz

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.

LOCHMARA LODGE MALBOROUGH SOUNDS

Ferry Me Away

CHARITY PRIZE DRAW



Prize Package includes

- Bluebridge Voucher \$200
- Interislander Voucher \$250
- BP Petrol Voucher \$100
- Woolworths Voucher \$100
- Voucher from Lochmara Lodge that includes two nights stay for x2 Adults in the Kākāriki room, return water transfers for two from Picton, dining in the onsite cafe to the value of \$200, breakfast for two adults over the two night stay.

\$10
per ticket

Catholic
Social Services

people helping people āwhina tātou

GAME ON!

AN 8 WEEK PARENTING COURSE JUST FOR DADS

**WE SUPPORT DADS TO BE THE BEST DAD THEY CAN BE FOR
THEIR KIDS**

**WE EXPLORE WHAT WE WANT FOR OUR KIDS AND WHAT WE
HAVE TO DO TO MAKE A POSITIVE DIFFERENCE**

LEARN.CONNECT.SHARE



DATE

**STARTS THUR 16TH OF OCT 2025,
6:30 PM - 8:30 PM**

LOCATION

**CATHOLIC SOCIAL SERVICES
LEVEL 1, 132 TORY ST, TE ARO
WELLINGTON**

COST

FREE

FOR MORE INFO CONTACT US

RECEPTION@WN.CATHOLIC.ORG.NZ

OR RING IAN 021 374 593

OR REGISTER ON OUR WEBSITE PAGE:

[HTTPS://CATHOLICSOCIALSERVICES.ORG.NZ/GAME-ON/](https://catholicsocialservices.org.nz/game-on/)

FACILITATOR TRAINING - Supporting Children & Young People through Change, Loss & Grief

Friday 21st & Saturday 22nd November in Levin

This paid course trains professionals to facilitate evidence-based programmes that help children and young people develop coping skills for navigating change, loss and grief.

[Learn More and/or Register Here](#)

Children and Young Persons' Change, Loss & Grief Programme

Seasons
for Growth*



- Supports tamariki and rangatahi through life's changes, losses, and grief.
- Uses the seasons of the year to explore grief and healing.
- 8-session program in a safe, peer-supported space.
- Builds resilience, confidence, and emotional wellbeing.

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people helping people āwhina tātou



Children and Young Persons' Change, Loss & Grief Programme

Seasons
for Growth*



- Helps tamariki and rangatahi understand and adapt to change, loss, and grief.
- Uses the seasons to explore feelings and experiences in a safe, creative way.
- Small group sessions led by trained Companions.
- Builds resilience, emotional literacy, and communication skills.
- Non-therapeutic, age-appropriate, and supportive.
- Encourages peer connection, self-awareness, and personal growth.
- Tailored to different age groups and developmental stages.

Contact

Jess Ferroni

seasons@wn.catholic.org.nz

021 374 405

[www.catholicsocialservices.org.nz/
seasons-for-growth](http://www.catholicsocialservices.org.nz/seasons-for-growth)

Catholic
Social Services

people helping people āwhina tātou

Phone: 027 40 55 469

Email: reception@wn.catholic.org.nz

Website: catholicsocialservices.org.nz

