

St Columba's Parish Newsletter

26 March 2023

Fifth Sunday of Lent

Year A

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Reflections on the Readings of the Day

Ezekiel 37:12-14 Romans 8:8-11 John 11:3-7. 17. 20-27. 33-45

The raising of Lazarus in today's Gospel is a sign of the new life offered to us through the Spirit of the risen Lord. His resurrection is the source of our resurrection: his presence among us is the source of our hope.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Sunday 8 am & 10 am

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated every Saturday morning at 9:30 am.

SACRED HEART FUNDRAISER Thank you note from Francesca: *We received so much support from the parishioners and we just wanted to thank you for all the support that they gave us on Sunday! We now have enough funds to start up our project and donate to the Young Vinnies later on in the year.*

STATIONS OF THE CROSS are held in the Church every Friday during Lent at 7.00 pm.

CONFESSIONS FOR LENT

Thursday 30th March, 7.00 pm

WORLD YOUTH DAY FUNDRAISER There will be a Breakfast Fundraiser after both 8 am and 10 am Mass on **Sunday 2 April** for those attending World Youth Day in Lisbon.

HOLY WEEK MASS TIMES

Chrism Mass Tuesday 4th April, 6.00 pm Cathedral of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Hamilton East

Holy Thursday 6th April, 7.00 pm

Good Friday 7th April, 3.00 pm

Easter Vigil Saturday 8th April, 7.00 pm

Easter Sunday 9th April, 10.00 am only (no 8.00 am Easter Sunday Mass)

GOOD FRIDAY WALK OF FAITH 7th April The annual ecumenical walk of faith will begin with a service at St Columba's at 9:30 am, followed by a procession to West Hamilton Community Church.

EFTPOS / TAP N GO / INTERNET BANKING

We now have **Eftpos** in the Parish, also a **Tap n Go** donation system in the foyer of the church which allows donations of **\$7.00**. For those who may wish to make a contribution via **Internet Banking:**

Parish Bank Acct: 020342 0050016 03

Ref: PLGVNG

Thank you to all who support the Parish financially.

SUNDAY MASSES & INTENTIONS		
Sunday	8.00 am	
Sunday	10.00 am	Parishioners
WEEKDAY MASSES		
Monday	9.00 am	Communion Service
Tuesday	9.00 am	
Wednesday	9.00 am	
Thursday	9.00 am	
Friday	9.00 am	
Saturday	9.00 am	

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: Passion (Palm) Sunday

1st Reading: Isaiah 50:4-7 2nd Reading: Philippians 2:6-11 Gospel: Matthew 27:11-54

CARITAS LENTEN APPEAL 2023 *'I am the Light of the World.'*

Jesus is the Word that continues to echo down the ages, helping us to meet the darkness of our times.

POPE FRANCIS' LENTEN MESSAGE 2023

"We need to listen to Jesus. And how does he speak to us? In addition to the Scriptures, the Lord speaks to us through our brothers and sisters, especially in the faces and the stories of those who are in need."

Diocesan Snippets

Achieving Pregnancy Naturally

The Billings Ovulation Method™ can help you to optimise your chances of conceiving naturally. Our Fertility Educators will teach you to recognise your body's natural signs of fertility and pinpoint the most fertile day in your cycle. The Billings Ovulation Method™ is effective, non-invasive and affordable! It is backed by over 50 years of medical research. For a free information leaflet, contact Billings LIFE NZ.0800 693 378 info@billingslife.org.nz or visit www.billingslife.org.nz

Volunteers for Cathedral Community Meals

We are seeking volunteers to be rostered on once every 6 weeks to help prepare and serve hot lunches at the Church Centre each Tuesday. All training will be provided. Please phone 07 856 6486.

Food For Faith Lent 2023 Daily Emails

For those seeking greater maturity of faith. Sign up for daily emails at www.foodforfaith.org.nz/sign-up

Post Cyclone Gabrielle

Within our diocese, St Vincent de Paul Societies (SVDP) have already been providing direct help within their areas. They are now preparing to meet the medium and long term needs of people affected by the storms. SVDP has a strong presence in many of our parishes and has shops throughout the diocese. Please consider donating to them in the future for these (and other) needs.

Advocating for the Sacredness of Life: A Pro-Life Training Wed/Thurs 29th - 30th March – St Pius X School Hall, Pine Avenue, Melville 6:30-9:30 pm Fr Shenan Boquet <https://fb.me/e/LgGqJppM>

Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy

***Online Sessions (Morning): Creation of Adam from Whēnua...** with Dr Christopher Longhurst.

Saturday 1 April, 9-10.30am. ZOOM. Fee: \$25

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/01/22/the-creation-of-adam/>

2023 Guided Retreats at Cluny Retreat Centre, Tauranga

Weekend Retreats: [April 14-16, Cluny](#) **Weekday Retreats:** [May 21-26, Cluny](#)

And at Tyburn, Ngakuru [March 24-26, Tyburn](#) [April 14-16, Tyburn](#) [September 22-24, Tyburn](#)

Visit cdh.org.nz/retreats for more information and to register.

Iftar Dinner Invitation: Saturday April 8th in the Claudelands Event Centre at 5.30 pm. Please register by [Monday March 20](#). Inquiries to Teresa teresafz@waikato.ac.nz or phone 022 366 0908.

Hui Aranga 2023 Commemoration of the Paschal Mystery. Tauranga [Timetable](#) [Brochure](#)

Family Camp Weekend April 14-16, St Thomas Moore, Mt Maunganui

Limited spots available. [Register here](#) <https://fb.me/e/14RggYZ0T>

Youth / Young Adult Festivals - Set Free and Heaven Come - 18th - 23rd April

kirstym@cdh.org.nz 027 261 6140

Catholic Prison Chaplain Currently there are Chaplaincy vacancies at Waikeria Prison and Springhill Correctional Facility. **Applications close 28th April.** Visit <https://www.cdh.org.nz/jobs>

Catholic Development Fund *Looking for a socially responsible investment? Want to earn interest and pay no fees? Want an investment that aligns with your values and is guaranteed by the Bishop? Want to know more about CDF?* Visit online: cdh.org.nz/cdf or email: cdf@cdh.org.nz