

Te Whetu O Te Moana / Star of the Sea Marlborough Catholic Parish

From the Sounds to the Sea, the Mountains to the Plains,
We Are One Mission. One Parish.

Parish Office: 61 Maxwell Road, Blenheim 7201

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FB. Star of the Sea Marlborough (813 followers)

WEB. www.staroftheseamarlb.co.nz

Mass-UTube: <https://youtube.com/@staroftheseaparish4103>



Newsletter 04 18th February 2024

First Sunday of Lent

Dear Parishioners,
Today's readings have a number of powerful and reassuring images.

After the floods a covenant is gifted to Noah – a rainbow of reassurance for Noah and his descendants. After the temptations in the desert Jesus is ministered to by angels. Jesus then reminds us that the kingdom of God is at hand.

In a time of transition, it is very easy to forget that the kingdom of God's grace is breaking through - God's reassuring presence.

The Season of Lent and its grace can easily pass us by if we rehash old complaints and focus on old and unresolved wounds.

Similarly for the parish as we wait for our priests to receive their visas – God is still present. We are not abandoned. As a parish, and in our families, and at work, let us pray for the gift of trust and charity in our speech at this time.

Let us ask God to help us recognise the kingdom of grace and God's presence breaking through.

Fr Alliston will hear reconciliation on Saturday 17, 24 February between 9.30-10.30am in St Mary's Church, also 1/2 an hour before mass on the weekends of 17-18, 24-25 February and by appointment.

During Lent the Foodbank baskets will be in the Foyer of St Mary's all the time, so you can contribute every week if you wish. There are also drop off spots in the Picton and Kaikoura churches.



Parish Calendar, News & Notices

Tongan Mass: 7pm, 24th Feb in the Mercy Chapel with Fr 'Akuila Taliaúli SVD followed by a meal in the Community Centre. All welcome.

St Vincent de Paul Blenheim : We are currently in need of volunteers for the Vinnies Shop in High Street. Shift hours are 10am– 12.30pm and 12.30pm-3pm Monday to Friday; 10.30am-1pm on Saturday. Please phone Lorraine 020 4118 8521 or email blenheim@svdp.org.nz for more information.

Blenheim Women's Friendship Group: This year the monthly get together has changed to the **4th** Wednesday of the month. This month they will be at the Omaka Heritage Centre Café from 10am on 28th February. Feel free to bring a friend.



Sycamore Lenten Programme: A "taster" session is being run on Sunday 18 February after Mass in the church at **Sacred Heart, Kaikoura**, Everyone is welcome. The 6 week programme is intended to start the week of 19 February (the day to be confirmed closer to the time).
On Wednesday 21 February the same Sycamore Programme will be held for the 6 weeks of Lent at the **Community Centre, Blenheim**. More details to follow.
Sycamore is an informal course about the Christian faith, through a Catholic lens, and looks at its relevance for life today in 2024. It gives you space to meet other people, share ideas, explore your faith and think about questions that really matter.

As Lent has just got underway, why not try something new to help with your prayer life. Here are a few websites that you might like to spend some time looking at that provide daily reflections, meditations and helping you pray the rosary:

<https://hallow.com/>
<https://www.wordonfire.org/>
<https://www.youtube.com/c/PauseforFaith>
<https://stpaulcenter.com/exodus/>
<https://amenapp.org/refer/lent2024/invite>
<https://www.passionists.com/daily-reflection/>
<https://christian.art/>

Some are totally free, others require a subscription and others are partly free; some have videos; others are podcasts; and others use the power of the written word. Enjoy!

The First Reconciliation Program for Blenheim will commence on Sunday 25th Feb at 9am, then 9am on March 3rd, 10th & 17th with Reconciliation on Thursday 21st at 5.15pm. For registration forms and more information please contact Lorraine, email trukwalker@gmail.com ph 9273512 or 0276246264. 1st Reconciliation will be 10th March in Kaikoura and contact Sr Maureen.

[A Warm Welcome to Our Parish Family of Marlborough](#)

We are joy-filled missionary disciples: walking in Christ's light, growing in faith together, and taking the Gospel and the love of Jesus to the people of Marlborough and beyond.

Parish Calendar, News & Notices

Mass & Liturgy Schedules

1st Sunday of Lent

Sat 17th Feb

Blenheim -5pm **W&C**

Picton -5pm **Mass**

Sun 18th Feb

Seddon- 8am **Mass**

Kaikoura- 9.30am **W&C**

Blenheim 10am-**Mass**

Tuesday-20th Feb-

Blenheim 9.30am **Mass**

Kaikoura 9.30am **W&C**

Wednesday -21st Feb-

Picton 9.30am **Mass**

Kaikoura 9:30am **W&C**

Blenheim 12.05pm **W&C**

Kaikoura Rosary 7pm

Thursday - 22nd Feb

Blenheim 9.30am - **Mass**

Kaikoura 9.30am -**W&C**

Kaikoura 11am Scripture

Friday - 23rd Feb

Kaikoura 9.30am -**W&C**

Blenheim 11am - Exposition

Blenheim 12.05pm -**Mass**

2nd Sunday of Lent

Sat 24th Feb

Blenheim -5pm **Mass**

Sun 25th Feb

Seddon- 8am **W&C**

Picton 9am **W&C**

Kaikoura- 9.30am **Mass**

Blenheim 10am **W&C**

Readings for:

18th-25th Feb 2024

Sun 18 Feb-1st Sun of Lent,

Levi 13:1-2,45-46

1Cor 10:31-11:1

Mark 1:40-45

Mon 19 Feb

Levi 19:1-2,11-18

Matt 25:31-46

Tues 20 Feb

Isai 55:10-11

Matt 8:7-15

Wed 21 Feb

Jonah 3:29-32

Luke 11:29-32

Thurs 22 Feb-Chair of Peter

1Peter 5:1-4

Matt 16:13-19

Fri 23Feb-

Ezek 18:21-28

Matt 5:20-26

Sat 24 Feb

Deut 26:16-19

Matt 5:43-48

Sun 25 Feb-2nd Sun of Lent,

Gen 22:1-2,9-13,15-18

Rom 8:31-34

Mark 9:2-10

Find peace in God's Word



Remembering the Holy souls —May they Rest In Peace

Megan McCarthy-Plant;

George Cheesman

Yeoh Keat Chye

and all our deceased parishioners and benefactors.

Intentions: please keep the following parishioners in your prayers.

Richard Booker;
Rebecca Upton;
Donna Lippiatt;
Les McKay;
Barry Butcher;
Luke Clayton;
Sr Frances Anna;
Michelle Parkin;
Terry Jordan;
Anne Haines;
Vince Smith;
Tilly van Dyke;
Graeme Daines;
Peter Phillips;
Sophie Greening;

Maria Martin;
Peter Campbell;
Charlotte Cagney;
Nancy Woolford-Stayner;
Denise Eddowes;
Terry Price;
Steven Crundwell-Nlsn
Lex & Mary Agnew;
Peter Smith;
Margaret Searle;
Anne Rundle;
Wilma Rutherford;
Helena Lord;

Flower arrangers wanted for St Mary's Church. Monthly rotation. Contact Margaret McLeod 579 2052

Every year over 100 former refugees from around the world settle into The Blenheim community as new New Zealanders.

The Red Cross works to support those people as they make the adjustment to 'Kiwi' living. We build a team of volunteers around each family to help with practical tasks like setting up the house, enrolling at school and exploring the supermarket.

Volunteers are well trained, The amount of time people give is very flexible. There are training opportunities in Blenheim this year in April, May, August and October.

We are keen to recruit new volunteers. To find out more email migration.volunteers@redcross.org.nz or text John on 027 223 5972.

Collections: We are most grateful for your support.

Last Week:

Total: \$ 2243.39

If you would like to contribute to the running costs of the Parish, here is our account number:

Star of the Sea Parish
02-0600-0154396-00

Please contact Ginetta at the Parish Office for a giving number, and for setting up an automatic payment.

World Day of Prayer

Friday 1st March,

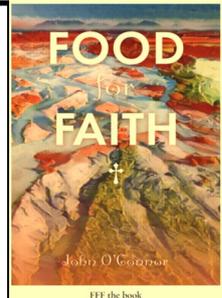
10am at St Andrews Presbyterian church.

Starting with a cuppa followed by the Service at 10.30am.



Columban Calendars- \$16:

are still available till the end of February, along with Food for Faith Reflections —\$40 each.



Quote from Pope Francis

'It is time to act, and in Lent, *to act also means to pause*. To pause in prayer, in order to receive the word of God, to pause like the Samaritan *in the presence of a wounded brother or sister*. Love of God and love of neighbour are one love. Not to have other gods is to pause in the presence of God beside the flesh of our neighbour. For this reason, prayer, almsgiving and fasting are not three unrelated acts, but a single movement of openness and self-emptying, in which we cast out the idols that weigh us down, the attachments that imprison us. Then the atrophied and isolated heart will revive. Slow down, then, and pause!' Pope Francis, [Message for Lent](#) 2024.

Parish Priest: Fr Simione Volavola MSC— ParishPriest@staroftheseamarlb.co.nz (Yet to arrive)

Assistant Parish Priest: Fr Tavita Lemusu MSC- (Yet to arrive)

Pastoral Assist: Sr Maureen Connor SMSM — maureensmsm@yahoo.co.nz — 03 319 5385

Pastoral Assist: Sr Frances Anna SMSM - franciesmsm@gmail.com

Youth Ministers: Maurice & Mieke Davies — stmarysyouthgroup@xtra.co.nz — 022 391 8584

Parish Pastoral Council Chair: Blair McLean **Finance Committee Chair:** Tom Harrison