

### WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR VOCATIONS

Today, Good Shepherd Sunday, the Catholic Church prays for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life. Please pray that the "Lord of the harvest will send labourers into his harvest" (Mt 9:38; Lk 10:2). Please pray that young men and women hear and respond generously to the Lord's call for their lives. You might like to join in the Diocesan nine-day novena for vocations starting today. Copies available online at the Diocesan website <https://cdoc.nz/>. For more information contact the Vocations Coordinator Matt O'Connell on 366-9869 or [moconnell@cdoc.nz](mailto:moconnell@cdoc.nz)

### THINKING ABOUT A VOCATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD OR RELIGIOUS LIFE?

The Good Shepherd knows his sheep and lays down his life for them. On this Vocations Sunday are you being called to Shepherd others as a Priest or Religious? Pope Leo XIV encourages all young people to "listen to the voice of the Lord who invites you to a full and fruitful life, calling you to put your talents to use". "In coming to know the Lord ... you will 'discover your vocation', which is an immeasurable gift for the Church and for those who receive it with joy". Contact the Vocations Director, Fr Monty Bamford on [frmonty@cathedralparish.nz](mailto:frmonty@cathedralparish.nz) or the Vocations Coordinator, Matt O'Connell on 366-9869 or [moconnell@cdoc.nz](mailto:moconnell@cdoc.nz) if you want more information or to talk about a possible vocation.

### CATHOLIC BUSINESS NETWORK

Only two weeks to go until our first Catholic Business Lunch for 2026! The event will feature guest speaker Rt Hon Sir Bill English and will be held on **Thurs, May 7** from 12.00pm to 2.00pm. Now working as a Director and advisor, Sir Bill will share insights from his years in government and offer thoughtful reflections on the current state of New Zealand and the wider world.

Register at [cbn.nz](http://cbn.nz)

### THREE HAIL MARY'S FOR VOCATIONS

This week (**April 26-May 2**) is Vocations Awareness Week. Bishop Michael invites every parish, family, school, classroom, prayer group, and community to pray three Hail Mary's a day for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life, along with a prayer to Our Lady.

We ask Our Lady's intercession because she also was a young person whom God called to be the mother of Jesus. Mary, known as the Queen of Vocations, responded with all her heart, saying that she was God's servant and would do what was being asked of her.

We ask for her intercession for all the young people of the Diocese of Christchurch; that they may respond generously and courageously to God's call on their lives.

### Prayer

O Mary, Mother of Jesus and Mother of the Church, We turn to you as Queen of Vocations, Intercede for all young people as they discern their path in life.

You believed and responded generously to God's call.

Help the Young People of this Diocese to hear the voice of your Son, to follow Him with courage, and to say Yes to his call.

Our Lady Assumed into Heaven, Patroness of New Zealand, *Pray for us.*



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### DIOCESE YOUTH MASS

Our Diocesan Youth Mass for term two is going on the road to the St Bede's Chapel on **Sun, May 10!** We're excited to be bringing together two great CYT institutions and running a Battle of the Youth Groups style event straight after Mass over at Marian College for young people between Year 7 and 13. More info and registrations for the post-Mass activities are at [www.cyt.org.nz/mass](http://www.cyt.org.nz/mass). Any questions, contact [mcurrie@cdoc.nz](mailto:mcurrie@cdoc.nz)



### CATHOLIC DIRECTORY

The latest edition of the New Zealand Catholic Directory has just been published. It is the comprehensive record of the people and organisations in the Catholic Church in New Zealand. The print edition can be purchased for \$40, including GST and postage. Order your copy by emailing [directory@nzcbc.org.nz](mailto:directory@nzcbc.org.nz).

### CRANZ RESTORE WHOLENESS PRESENTS "A TASTE OF INNER HEALING"

On **Fri, May 1** CRANZ Restore Wholeness will offer an introduction to inner healing night at the Christ the King meeting room, Burnside at 7.00pm. This is an opportunity to learn about how God can heal the wounds in your soul and for you to experience a 'Taste of Inner Healing' for yourself, friends, and family. All welcome! For more information, contact [crarestorenz@gmail.com](mailto:crarestorenz@gmail.com) or phone 0273009887.

### ENROLMENT FOR SEMESTER TWO 2026

Interested in studying theology at Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College? Study full-time or part-time, on-campus or online. Enrolment for Bachelor of Divinity and Graduate Diploma in Theology opens on **Apr 28**. For courses offered, go to [www.tekupenga.ac.nz/timetables](http://www.tekupenga.ac.nz/timetables)

### STOUTHEARTED

#### MEN OF SEXUAL INTEGRITY

Inviting all adult men to take part in a supportive 8-week programme tackling the impact and challenges of becoming the men God has called them to be.

Each session involves engaging videos, reflection, discussion and activities to build essential practical strategies. If you want more information without the commitment, come along to our info night on:

**Tues May 5**, 7.00pm – 9.00pm

Christchurch RSVP: [moconnell@cdoc.nz](mailto:moconnell@cdoc.nz)

<https://stouthearted.com/>

**WORLD YOUTH DAY 2027** in South Korea is fast approaching and the Diocese is excited to be organising a pilgrimage to Seoul for those aged between 18 and 35. The best way to keep in touch with info is to sign up on our expressions of interest form at [www.cyt.org.nz/wyd](http://www.cyt.org.nz/wyd) We're expecting proper applications to open in the next couple of months ahead of an incredible experience in July and August next year.

For enquiries, please contact [mcurrie@cdoc.nz](mailto:mcurrie@cdoc.nz)

### MASS FOR VOCATIONS CELEBRATED BY BISHOP MICHAEL

To conclude Vocations Awareness week, Bishop Michael will celebrate the 9.30am Parish Mass at St Patrick's, Kaiapoi for vocations on **Sat, May 2**. All are welcome to come and pray for vocations to the Priesthood and Religious Life. There will be adoration in the church from 8.30am.



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### SEVEN SORROWS ROSARY GROUP AND ADORATION SUPPORTING CATHOLICS THROUGH GRIEF

7.30-8.30am, **Mon, Apr 27**, Anzac Day  
St Teresa's Church 8 Puriri St, Riccarton

### REBUILD MY CHURCH – FORMATION SERIES WITH DR MARY HEALY

9–11 June 2026, Hamilton

This June, internationally recognised Catholic speaker and scholar Dr Mary Healy will visit Hamilton for three days of teaching and renewal. Through a range of sessions, she will explore the power of God's Word, life in the Holy Spirit, and the gifts God gives His people for the mission of the Church today. All are warmly invited to the three-night series, exploring the power of God's Word, the life of the Holy Spirit, and our call to live our faith today. This is a wonderful opportunity for clergy, parish leaders, and anyone seeking to deepen their faith and grow in service to the Church. Full details and registration are available [here](#).

