

THE CATHOLIC PARISH OF SELWYN

Incorporating the churches of: St Joseph's, Darfield: St John the Evangelist, Leeston:
St Patrick's, Lincoln and including parishioners from the Rolleston area.



Parish Contacts

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<https://selwyncatholic.nz/>

<https://www.facebook.com/selwyncatholicparish>

The Christchurch Diocesan Website:
<https://cdoc.nz/>

First Sunday of Advent

Year B

3rd December 2023.

Readings

Isaiah 63:16-17

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

Mark 13:33-37



WEEKEND MASSES

Lincoln: Saturday Vigil - 5.30pm
Sunday - 8.30am

Darfield: Sunday – 8.30am
Leeston: Sunday - 10.00am

Weekday Masses:

Lincoln, Tuesday, Wednesday, 9.00am
Friday Communion service.9.00am

Leeston: Wednesday 5.30pm

Darfield: Thursday 10.00am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:
Friday after Mass until Midday

Reconciliation: Saturday 10.00am at
Lincoln

A Funeral Mass will replace the
advertised mass in the same church.

From Fr Brian:

Attention/ Beware

Some parishioners have received a **scam** email claiming to be from 'Fr Brian Fennessy'.

The email address is a **scam** ... the scammer is using 2 email addresses: frpastor339@gmail.com and deanpriest@gmail.com

This is not me. Do not open. Do not reply.

'Thank you' to the parishioners who have offered suggested Patronal Names for the Selwyn Parish.

A Patronal Name allows us to identify with a saint who is our patron. ...it allows us to reflect on the outstanding life of a Catholic from previous years. Their lives can be an inspiration for us.

The patronal names of the 3 churches will remain the same.

This is your chance to offer a name - only those names that have been suggested will be offered to parishioners to vote for the top three ... then the top 3 names will be sent to Bishop Michael for his decision. Please offer a reason, or significance, for the name.

Patronal Names received so far are:

St Elizabeth Ann Seton - had a great witness to the Eucharist.

Our Lady of the Plains x4 - associated with the Canterbury Plains.

St Gabriel - God's messenger to Mary and Daniel – announces God's Will.

Santa Maria - a Marian name

St Isidore x3 - a farmer; patron of farmers.

St Thomas of Canterbury - martyr and associated with the name 'Canterbury'.

St Timothy - recipient of Letter from St Paul; Bishop of Ephesus.

St Teresa of Calcutta - a life of humility and service.

St Chad - from Lichfield; with a NZ ecumenical name - associated with Bishop Selwyn.

St Benedict - associated with the monastery & prayer; promoted the dignity of work.

St Francis of Assisi - associated with simplicity and evangelisation.

St Pio - he is patron of civil defence; he carried the stigmata.

Mary, Mother of God

Mary, Mother of the Church

St Joseph - a worker; a wonderful example of husband and parenthood.

The Patronal Name for Christchurch South Parish has been announced by the Bishop as: *Our Lady of Peace*.

This week: There will be **NO mass in Lincoln** on Thursday;
Friday will be a Communion Service - I'll be at Bishop-Elect Richard Laurenson's episcopal ordination in Hamilton.

The Parish owns a block of land on **Shands Road**. The land was the site of the first Lincoln church, plus the presbytery and a school.

The site has been vacant since 1956.



As it is rural land it is difficult to sell – as a block of land in the SDC must be 4 hectares to subdivide and built a house.

The land is landlocked, and the only potential buyer would be the neighbour.

The land would be worth about \$80,000.

Over the past 6 months, the Selwyn Parish Finance Committee has been in dialogue with Greg & Sue Tucker to enter into a joint venture to sell a 4-hectare block. The Parish would contribute ~40% and the Tuckers ~60%.

This arrangement would be worth about \$800,000. The Parish, on a ~40% partnership would net about \$300,000.

This seems to be a good deal. I'm sure parishioners will agree and support the proposal.

Protection of the Memorial Rock will be part of the survey and agreement.

The First Communion Programme for 2024 will commence in February - a couple of weeks after School starts.

If you will have a child in Year 5 (an 8-year-old) during 2024 ...then please inform the Parish Office (phone number and email are on the newsletter) or Frs Brian/Chris.



Bishop's Appeal for Seminarians: there has been a change to the annual Advent Appeal. This year Bishop Michael would like to focus on supporting our seminarians who are preparing to serve the Diocese as priests. When you donate to the Bishop's Appeal, you will be supporting these young men in their faith journey.

Each week we will feature one of the young men from our diocese. Matthew Clark will join the seminary next year. He works as a Primary School Teacher at St Francis of Assisi School and belongs to the Christchurch West Parish. Let's all keep Matthew in our prayers as he begins this exciting journey. To support Matthew's formation financially and find out more about the Bishop's Appeal visit: <https://cdoc.nz/support/donate/ba>
Please take an envelope.

Confirmation

Confirmation Mass will be this Saturday, 2 December, 7.00pm, in St Patrick's Church.

There will be supper after the mass. Please bring a plate or two.

The 16 young candidates are: Bella Avhad, Caileigh Bonghanoy, Cameron Byrne, Charlotte Byrne, Elaijah Kei Cabanday, Eurie Caditan, Bella Chapman, Arianne Espozo, Edward Garbutt, Luke Gumley, Phoebe Ira, Kaiya Lysaght, Nathalie Nabo, Hayley O'Connor, Daniel Reid, Helena Stack.

There are also 3 adult candidates: Emma Greenslade, Julianna Burt, Justin Duke-Norris.



St Mary MacKillop Pilgrimage to Sydney



Four parishioners came to the 'Expression of Interest Evening'.

The **dates for the Pilgrimage will be 10-15 March**.

If anyone else is interested in joining the small group - then please speak to Fr Brian.

If you wish to remain in Australia, for an extended holiday, parishioners can make their own return flights.

We would travel with Emirates (direct flights) and stay at Anderledy Lodge in North Sydney (includes a continental breakfast).

Cost: total cost for flights & accommodation would be ~\$1,300+.

Itinerary: mass each day at the Mary MacKillop chapel and shrine; visit the Mary MacKillop Museum; visit site of her first grave at Gore Hill Cemetery; walk around the Rocks looking at sites where she worked; visit St Mary's Cathedral.

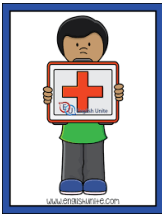
Thursday is a R&R Day with a ferry trip to Parramatta.

RIP

Recently deceased: Alison Robertson (Rolleston)

Day of Reflection: next Saturday 9 December, 10.00am – 3.00pm.

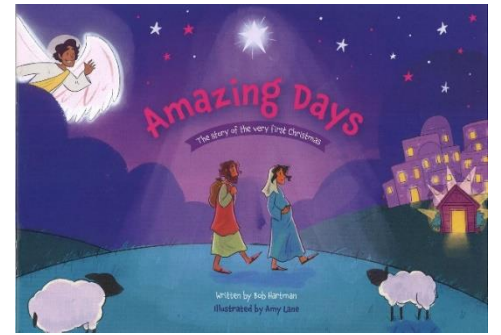
Last year Fr John O'Connor offered an Advent Reflection Day - this year he is willing to offer another Reflection Day on **Saturday 9 December**, at St Patrick's Church, Lincoln, beginning at 10.00am. Mark in your diary. **BYO own lunch.**



Parishioners who possess a current First Aid Certificate are urged to inform the Parish Office/Frs Brian /Chris so that your name may be placed in a Register in the unlikely event of a Medical Event. This is a good H&S procedure.

The **Bible Society** has made a booklet on the Christmas Story available to the Parish. The booklet is entitled: 'Amazing Days'.

Parents with young children are welcome to take a copy in preparation for Christmas. Grandparents may also like to take a copy and put in their grandchildren's stockings. Please take a copy.



Advent Programme

Advent commences on Sunday 3 December.

Anointing Mass

Leeston: Wednesday 13 December, 2.00pm; followed by a cuppa in a café.

Darfield: Thursday 14 December, 10.00am; followed by a cuppa in a café.

Lincoln: Friday 15 December, 2.00pm; followed by a cuppa in the St Patrick's Centre.

Reconciliation:

Darfield: next Sunday, 10 December, 7.00pm.

Lincoln: Wednesday 13 December, 7.00pm.

Leeston: Sunday 17 December, after mass.

Inter-Church Carols

Darfield: Sunday 17 December, 7.00pm, in Trinity Church.

Saturday Vigil, 23rd & Sunday Morning, 24th Masses are 4th Sunday of Advent.

Christmas Masses:

Christmas Eve (Sunday 24 December)

Lincoln: 5.30pm carols for 6.00pm mass.

8.00pm carols for 8.30pm mass.

Parishioners are invited to the presbytery for some 'Christmas Cheer' after the 8.30pm mass.

Leeston: 5.30pm carols for 6.00pm mass.

Darfield: 8.00pm carols for 8.30pm mass.

Christmas Day

Lincoln: 9.00am

No masses in the Parish: 26-28 December.

Lincoln Mass on Friday 29 December, 9.00am.

Mass on New Year's Day

Lincoln: 9.00am.

* No masses in the Parish: 2-4 January.

* Lincoln Mass on Friday 5 January, 9.00am.

* Thereafter Lincoln will have the normal mass times.

* **No** Leeston or Darfield masses until last week of January.

A monthly Vocations Group is starting up for men open to discerning a vocation to the Priesthood or Religious Life. Each meeting will involve some dinner, a talk, fraternity, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Night Prayer. The first meeting is being held **this Wednesday, 6 December, 6.30pm**, at the Diocesan Offices, 9 Washington Way. Contact the Vocations Coordinator, Matt O'Connell, for more information on moconnell@cdoc.nz or 027 536 9407.

The **Lincoln Christian Churches** are keen to have a Christmas Carol Service on Saturday 23 December, 11.45am – 12.15pm (assemble at 11.30am) at the Lincoln Farmers' Market. They are looking for volunteers from the Lincoln Christian Churches to join the 'Singing Group'. There is no power available so we will sing 'a cappella' with song sheetswhich will give people a 'takeaway' with the words of the Christmas narrative on it.

St John the Evangelist Leeston Church cleaning and gardening Bee will be held on Saturday 2nd November @ 9.00 am. Many hands make light work; please join us even if only for an hour. Morning tea provided.

Darfield Gardening: Hi, its gardening time. For those willing and able to meet Tuesday 5th December 9am to 12 pm. Hope to see you there.

Leeston Catholic Ladies Christmas get together Raspberry Cafe 9th December 11.30am also bring a Xmas gift for Catholic Social Services stating Age group & Gender on gift. Thank you. Numbers by 5th December to Jeanette 0272040407 or Kathleen 02102436762

Gifts for Christmas – Catholic Social Services. Our annual appeal for gifts is now upon us. Please wrap the gifts and label Family, Man, Lady, boy and age, girl and age. Please place gifts in the bin in the Narthex before Monday 11 December when the gifts will be taken to town for distribution. Many thanks.

Nativity play: There will be a nativity play at 5.30pm Lincoln Christmas Eve Mass again this year. We would love as many children as possible involved. Rehearsals will run for the first three Sundays in December during children's liturgy time at 8.30am Mass. Please send your child along to attend these rehearsals so they can join us for the play. Please email Aimee and Mike Stewart with any questions aimee.stewart2424@gmail.com

Projector operators – are urgently required for weekend Masses at St Patrick's. Training will be given. Please let Tricia Smith know if you can help. Email: tric1948@gmail.com

Book Sale. "Call me Brother" The story of a New Zealand doctor in Bangladesh. A further supply of books available. A wonderful gift for Christmas- also giving a needed donation to the clinic he established in Bangladesh. When: After Mass Saturday 9th & Sunday 10th December or contact Jeanette 021 1020294 or 03 3257066.

Craft and Friendship: Tuesday 1.30pm to 3.30pm on Lincoln Church centre. Enquiries to Yvonne 0273341151 or 3669795 We are also looking for wool to make Prayer Blankets. Any Donations would be greatly appreciated.

Prayer Blankets are given to the sick and those who are going through a distressing period of their lives. They are Blessed at mass and from then on, the person is kept in our prayers. Contact Yvonne 366 9795 or 027 334 1151 if you would like one for someone or for yourself.

Legion of Mary (Mother of Mercy) All Catholics of the Selwyn parish are invited to join our meeting's, held Saturday 3.30 pm to 4.45pm in Lincoln Catholic Church centre. For further information contact Catherine 027 356 0916

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament: Every Friday after 9am mass the Blessed Sacrament is exposed for all of us to come and pray. 1 hour – ½ hour or 10 minutes. He is waiting anxiously for each and every one of us. Bring your love and concerns or just sit quietly so he can talk to you in your heart. Don't we all love a visitor when alone.

REPORT for St Vincent de Paul St Vincent de Paul is going to be the beneficiaries of a BBQ supplied by Property Brokers this Sunday 3rd December at Rolleston from 11.00 until 2.00. If you are going to the Family Day there, then please come and support us. It should be a really fun day.

Thank you for the response to our appeal, started last week, for items for the refugee family we are sponsoring and supporting when they arrive. We already have some of kitchen ware, crockery, TV and a blender. As always, thank you all for the support you give the needy. If you want to know more about our conference, please feel free to come to our next meeting at 7.00 Thursday 7th December Secretary: secretary@svdpselwyn.org.nz Phone: 0210 855 1988 Website: www.svdpselwyn.org.nz Give a Little website: <https://givealittle.co.nz/org/st-vincent-de-paul-selwyn-conference>

