OUR LADY OF THE PLAINS PARISH

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

31 Gerald Street, Lincoln, 7608
Ph: 03 325 2770

Parish Priest: Fr Brian Fennessy
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Assistant: Fr Chris Orr
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Parish Secretary: Mary Prendergast
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Office Hours: Wed & Fri 9.00am-1pm

Pastoral Assistant: Brigid McIndoe
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Office hours: Tue 9.30am – 12.30 pm
M:021 08176358

Parish Safeguarding Officer
Sophia Tionko -
E: olpsafeguarding@gmail.com

https://selwyncatholic.nz/

https://www.facebook.com/selwyncatholicparish

First Sunday of Lent

9th March 2025.

Readings

Deuteronomy 26:4-10

Romans 10:8-13

Luke 4:1-13

WEEKEND MASSES

Lincoln: Saturday Vigil - 5.30pm
Sunday - 8.30am

Darfield: Sunday – 8.30am
Leeston: Sunday - 10.00am
Rolleston: Sunday 11.00am

Weekday Masses:
Lincoln: Tuesday, Thursday, Friday 9.00am
Leeston: Wednesday 5.30pm
Darfield: Thursday 10.00am
Akaroa: Wednesday 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.

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

From Fr Brian:

As we begin 2025 – there are a couple of vacancies on ***Our Lady of the Plains Parish*** **Leadership Team.** A couple of members retired at the end of 2024.
Would you - or can you nominate a parishioner to - serve on the Leadership Team.
Over the past few years, the Leadership Team has made great contribution to the formation of the Selwyn Parish.
There was a Report from the Leadership Team in the Christmas Booklet.
Appointments are normally for a 3-year term, but renewable.
Please contact Frs Brian or Chris with any nominations … please speak to them beforehand.
This is a good and practical way to serve the Parish.
The role of the Leadership Team is to give guidance and coordinate the Pastoral Life of the Selwyn Parish.

Lenten Programme

Caritas **Lenten Appeal Envelopes** are available at the entrances to the churches. *Caritas* is the Catholic Chruch's Development and Aid Agency.
You may place the *Caritas Envelope* in the Collection Basket; or make a Bank Deposit to: **03 0518 0211216 03**

Stations of the Cross:
Lincoln: Fridays of Lent, 7.00pm. (not 7 March due to the World Day of Prayer).
Leeston: before Sunday mass – about 9.30am

Reconciliation
Lincoln: Tuesday 8 April, 7.00pm.
Darfield: Sunday 13 April, 7.00pm

Sacrament of Anointing:
Lincoln: Friday 4 April, 2.00pm
Leeston: Wednesday 9 April, 2.00pm.
Darfield: Thursday 10 April, 10.00am

Easter Triduum

Chrism Mass: St Mary's Pro-cathedral, Monday 14 April,7.30pm. At this mass, the Bishop blesses the Holy Oils that will be used in Parishes during the coming year.

Holy Thursday - Mass of the Lord's Supper.
Lincoln: 7.00pm
Darfield: 7.00pm

Good Friday – Commemoration of the Lord's Passion.
Leeston: Midday
Darfield: 3.00pm
Rolleston: 3.00pm. (There will be **no Service in Lincoln** – it will be held in the Rolleston School Hall, Tennyson Street.

Easter Vigil (19 April)
Lincoln: 7.00pm (**no** 5.30pm mass)

Easter Sunday
Lincoln: 8.30am
Darfield: 9.00am
Leeston: 10.00am
Rolleston: 11.00am

Akaroa Easter Services
Fr Michael Mahoney SM will be in residence in the Akaroa Presbytery from Palm Sunday to Easter Sunday. He will celebrate masses on Palm Sunday and Easter Sunday.
He will also preside at the **Holy Thursday Mass of the Lord's Supper @ 7.00pm;**
and the **Good Friday Commemoration of the Lord's Passion @ 3.00pm.**

STATIONS OF THE CROSS ON-DEMAND: This Lent we invite you to journey through the Stations of the Cross at your own time and pace.
Not everyone is able to attend in person - you can now experience the Stations of the Cross 'On Demand' at https://www.fdm.org.nz/
Visit the website anytime to reflect and pray in a way that best fits your schedule.

The First Communion Candidates will receive a copy of the Ten Commandments at masses this weekend.

The Second Parents' Meeting will be held **this Sunday**, 7.00pm -8.15pm in the Lincoln Church Centre. Darfield Parents will have the Second Session - after mass next Sunday, 16 March. (They may attend either session). It is essential at least one parent attends to receive the lesson sheets and listen to the teaching by Fr Brian. Children attend Sunday morning lessons During 8.30am mass in Lincoln or Darfield Depending on where they have registered. Lesson 4 is to be handed in this week. Any queries or to advise absences please email Brigid on passtoralassistantselwyn@gmail.com

Planned Giving. As we approach the month of March and the end of the financial year. We start to look at ordering the envelopes for the new year. If you want to avoid the hassle of finding cash each Sunday, you may like to consider changing to an automatic payment straight from your bank account. If you wish to do this, please contact the office. Receipts for the end of year will be available as soon as possible after the end of March. Please be aware there is a process to follow before they are available.

The SAT team would like to invite a couple of parishioners from the Rolleston area who would like to join our team. We only meet about three or four times a year to organise different activities in our parish of Our Lady of the Plains. You will see in this newsletter the different things we have organised already and we thought that maybe there was some parishioners who would like to help but also give us some new ideas of things we can do as a parish. If this appeals to you, please contact Margaret on 021 1731316 or ring Mary at the office and she will put you in touch with us. Please give it some thought.

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.

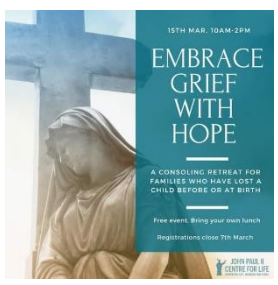
Darfield: Morning tea after mass this Sunday.

A photo from Thursday's morning Tea.

Next Monday is **St Patrick's Day** – the Patronal Feast for the Lincoln Church. There will be mass at 9.00am.

Youth Mass Rolleston: We will be holding a Youth Mass in Rolleston on the 23rd March in the Rolleston School Hall. We have many roles available for the children to participate in, which are Musical Ministry: Choir/Musical instrument, Musical Ministry: Pack up/Pack down. Greeting, Offertory, Collection, Reading the Welcome/First Reading/Responsorial Psalm/Second Reading/Prayers of the Faithful, Setup/Pack down of the hall. The last date to register your child/children's interest is the **14th March** at 5pm at the absolute latest, to allow maximum time for rostering. The children will have mentors to help them along, and this is such a great way for them to get involved in mass, serving within the parish, and gain confidence in doing so. Please contact ***Telly Power*** on ***rollestonmass@gmail.com*** for more information and questions you may have. I will send you everything you need once you have made contact.

Parish Men's Breakfast 29th March (Saturday) @ 8.00 am
Where, **"The PANTRY"**, (Rosemerryn Shopping Complex, opposite the former Lincoln HQ which is now called the Sparrow) See the Pantry website for menu and prices. Names will be taken nearer the date to confirm numbers for the Pantry Staff. OR, phone Ray on 366 9795 to leave your name. Leave your name on the answer phone if no one answers.



Embracing Grief with Hope: The *John Paul Centre for Life* are offering **a** free one-day retreat on Saturday 15 March for parents who have had a miscarriage or other early loss of a child. Registrations: ph. 022 503 9249 or director@jp2.org.nz

The Bishops' Conference has launched the renewed **CathNews New Zealand Project.** This ministry supports Catholics in accessing news and other content of interest. It draws from material that has already been published and includes original content. The best way to receive **CathNews New Zealand** is by signing up to the newsletter, which is sent on Tuesday and Friday mornings. Visit the CathNews New Zealand website and sign up: **https://cathnewsnz.com** With no Catholic publications, except *Inform*, this is a good site to receive Catholic news.

Fostering Vocations in the Parish Community – a half day Vocations Conference - for interested parishioners to learn about the role of the parish community in fostering vocations to the priesthood and Religious Life. The Conference will be on **Saturday, 15 March, 10am-1pm, @ the *Lamb of God Centre,*** St Albans. This Conference would interest parishioners about creating environments in parishes so that more young people will hear the call to the Priesthood and Religious Life. The Conference will include practical tips on how to do this, focussing on the upcoming Vocations Week in May. For more details and to register please contact the Diocesan Vocations Coordinator, Matt O'Connell, moconnell@cdoc.nz ; or 366-9869.

Health Care Workers Mass: all those involved in health care - nurses, doctors, rest home staff, pharmacists; to celebrate this healing ministry and to acknowledge and pray for the challenges faced. Bishop Michael welcomes you to Mass on **Sunday 6 April,** 6pm, @ St Mary's Pro-Cathedral, followed by hospitality in the Assisi Lounge afterwards. information: Mike Stopforth, mstopforth@cdoc.nz , ph. 027 539 8542.

LENTEN TALKS – Christ the Redeemer Parish @ St Joseph's Pastoral Centre, Papanui, 7pm -8pm,
Over six consecutive Thursdays (beginning on 6 March) they are offering a Lenten Talk Series.
Speakers include Francis Mones-Cazon, Brendan & Judith Woodnutt, Fr Michael Pui, Sr Lauren.

CATHOLIC BUSINESS NETWORK LUNCH: ‘Building Character to Shape our Future’.
Peter de Keratry will be the Guest Speaker at the first Catholic Business Network lunch of 2025 on Thursday, 3 April @ Rydges Latimer. Peter has led significant church projects in the US & Australia and will share his powerful story of leadership in church initiatives, offering insights into how personal growth can positively influence people and communities around them. For more information or to register: cbn@cdoc.nz

INFERTILITY SUPPORT GROUP: The *John Paul Centre* invites parishioners to a monthly Support Group if you are struggling with infertility. Join us to find encouragement, hope and a way forward through prayerful reflection, sharing and solidarity. contact us to register and to find out more: Ph 021 0814 8834; email info@jp2.org.nz

***LAUDATO SI* RETREAT** - 29 March, 10am - 4pm, at Catherine McAuley Centre, Villa Maria College. Pray and reflect on Pope Francis’ encyclical, *Laudato Si*. Register: roho@xtra.co.nz ; Ph 379-1298. Tea & Coffee provided. Bring own lunch, Cost – koha.

Diocesan Women’s Retreat Day: Marian College, 5 April, beginning at 9.30am for mass with Bishop Michael. All women are invited to join us.

VACANCY - The diocese is seeking a part time Archivist (5 hours per week) to join our team. The Archivist is responsible for managing and preserving the diocese’s archival collection, ensuring the accurate inventory, maintenance, and accessibility of materials that document the history, mission, and activities of the Catholic Diocese of Christchurch. This role supports the Church’s mission by safeguarding its heritage and enabling effective communication of its values and history. Job Description: https://cdoc.nz/news-events/vacancy-archivist . Enquiries/applications to Janice Rennell at jrennell@cdoc.nz

Fr Chris Alar will visit Christchurch on 27 May, 7.00pm, for a one-off talk at St Bede’s College Chapel.
He will be accompanied by international singer Anna Nuzzo.
Donations accepted. Information: 359-2087

A Lenten Reflection Day, The Soul of a Pilgrim - facilitated by Sr Lyndall Brown rsj - Tuesday 18 March, 10.30am -2.30pm @ Catherine McAuley Centre, Villa Maria College.
We will pause to open our hearts to letting go, surrendering and embracing the possibility of wonder, delight, and inner freedom. Bring own lunch. Tea, coffee provided. Koha Donation.
Register: roho@xtra.co.nz ; Ph379-1298

ROCHESTER LECTURE: FREE. All Welcome - 26 March, 7.30pm, Rochester Hall, 77 Ilam Road.
Maria Owen - CEO Impact Lab. Impact Lab connects decisionmakers in the social sector with data they can trust, use and learn from to do good, better for their communities. Maria has a BA in Politics, Psychology and Sociology from Cambridge University, an MBA from Stanford University and was New Zealand's Hi-Tech Young Achiever of the Year in 2021.

The SAT team have got all the dates of the activities they are planning so put these dates in your dairy now.
The Picnic was held on 2nd February and that was a success
Men’s Breakfast Saturday 29th March at the Pantry in Rosemerryn, Lincoln at 8am. Ray will be taking names for that soon
Mid-Winter Luncheon Sunday 27th July after Mass at Rolleston. this will be a pot luck finger food meal
Housie will again run every Wednesday of August at 1pm
Quiz night at the meeting room in Lincoln Friday 3rd October it is always a good night
Christmas pot luck dinner after Saturday night Mass Saturday 8th November
The SAT team are also doing the food for Alpha on Thursday 6th at Rolleston

Alpha Evening photos.