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

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

Pastoral Assistant: Brigid McIndoe
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Parish Safeguarding Officer
Sophia Tionko -
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https://selwyncatholic.nz/

https://www.facebook.com/selwyncatholicparish

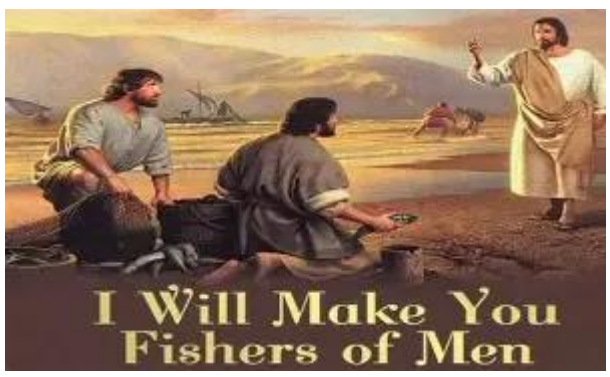
Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

Year A

25 January 2026

Readings

Isaiah 9:1-4
1 Corinthians 1:10-17
Mathew 4:12-23



WEEKEND MASSES

Lincoln: Saturday Vigil - 5.30pm
Sunday - 8.30am
Darfield: Sunday – 8.30 am (Summer)
9.00 am (Winter)
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/.

No Lincoln mass on Thursday 5 February
Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament recommences on First Friday of February - 6 February.
Ash Wednesday is on 18 February.

'Thank you' to all the parishioners who have placed their names on the **St Patrick's Church Cleaning roster**.
We'll have an introduction to the duties in the next week or so.
As volunteers, will have to sign the Diocesan Code of Contact.
The duties include: cleaning the church & narthex, clean the church centre, clean 6 toilets & hand basins and floors. Three people are normally rostered each week.
Equipment and cleaning supplies are in the cupboard within the women's toilet.
If several parishioners volunteer - the roster could be once every 2-3 months.

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The **Selwyn Parish Annual Picnic** will be on again at Helena and Mike Hanning's place, at **4/1608 West Coast Road**, just on the westside of West Melton, on **Sunday 15 February commencing with Mass at midday** followed by lunch and mixing with parishioners.
There will be races for the young and not so young, plus lolly scramble and ice blocks.
Just bring your chair and lunch and sun-screen as we are hoping for a sunny day.
It has been very successful in other years so we would love to see you there.

The first **Baptismal Preparation Programme** for Catholic parents wishing to have a child baptised will be on Mondays: 23 February & 2 March, 7.00pm – 8.15pm, in the Lincoln Church Centre. Contact the Parish Office to register: - selwyncatholicparish@gmail.com

RIP: Recently Deceased: Maureen Jones (Lincoln) - her Funeral Mass will be on Monday, 26 January, at 2.00pm.
Fr Earl Crotty SM.

Anniversary: Mike Casey 31/12.

Registrations are now closing for the Selwyn Parish's **'First Holy Communion Programme'. Registration needs to be in this week – so we can order worksheets etc.**
The link to the Schedule & Registration Form can be found on the Parish website:
https://selwyncatholic.nz/communion/
Brigid McIndoe: pastoralassistantselwyn@gmail.com

The new plaque for the Memorial Stone on Shands Road is in process. The new plaque will be stone, rather than bronze. Robertson Memorials are the stonemasons - which will be installed in the New Year. The Memorial Stone marks the site of the first church & presbytery in the New Headford Parish, as it was known in the 1870s. The Shands Road Church was demolished when the Lincoln Church was opened in 1956. 'Thank you' to all who contributed to the replacement of the plaque.

Bishop Michael has employed Farrell Construction as the builder for the **new Priests' Retirement Villas**. The company is led by Sean Farrell. Farrell Construction's notable projects include the Nazareth Chapel, Nazareth Retirement Village, and the restoration of the Isaac Theatre Royal. The Foley Group were the architects.

Fr Brian is taking another **St Mary MacKillop Pilgrimage to Sydney:** Sunday 26 April – Friday 1 May 2026.
The Pilgrimage will leave Christchurch on Sunday evening and return on Friday afternoon (flying by Emirates); however, parishioners may stay longer.
The Pilgrimage will stay at North Sydney @ the St Mary MacKillop Centre.
The Pilgrimage will visit her shrine & museum at North Sydney, site of her first burial at Gore Hill, a tour of the Rocks where she and her Sisters worked with the needy, and visit St Mary's Cathedral.
We will also visit the Waverley Cemetery - the site of Fr Julian Tenison-Woods' grave.
There will also be a R&R Day.
If interested (no commitment), contact Fr Brian: bfennessy@inet.net.nz ; mobile: 0276758456.

St Michael's Troops - Saturday, 7 February. St Michael's Troops is an event for men aged 16-35 seeking strength, discipline, and purpose rooted in Christ. This morning event in Riccarton includes Mass and formation, physical activity, and shared BBQ. Join us and bring a mate. Register now at https://fitforthekingdom.com.au/ Contact: Joshua Mischewski - joshua.mischewski@gmail.com

The **Akaroa Wednesday mass** on 11 February will be at 11.00am. This is to accommodate the visit of New Zealand seminarians to Akaroa. The seminarians and staff of 'Holy Cross College', in Auckland, are visiting significant sites in the Christchurch Diocese: – they are visiting Temuka to walk in the footsteps of St Mary MacKillop; and also visiting Akaroa - the site of the first mass in the South Island on 23 August 1840.
Bishop Pompallier visited Akaroa on 2 October 1840 and again on another couple of occasions. He was able to visit sites in the South Island as he had purchased a ship, called the *Sancta Maria* – which became a financial strain on the early New Zealand Church's finances.

Lincoln Sunday Cuppa's - We are in need of volunteers to host the morning tea after 8.30 Mass. You only need to bring the milk. No expectation to bake as there are biscuits in the cupboard. If you can help please write your name on the list on the kitchen bench.

Friendship Group - Our first gathering this year is Friday 6 February, Waitangi Day, following the 9am Mass. Please bring a small plate of morning tea to share. All welcome.

Lincoln Prayer Group
The prayer group based at Lincoln begins again on Wednesday 28th January, and every Wednesday afterward, in the Parish Centre from 7pm - 8.30pm. Be supported as you grow in exercising your spiritual gifts through prayer, intercession, praise and worship, with reflections on church teachings. All age groups are welcome. For more details contact Marge Newburry phone 338 6793, or leave a message for her at the parish office.