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
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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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Office hours: Tue 9.30am – 12.30 pm
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Parish Safeguarding Officer
Sophia Tionko -
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https://selwyncatholic.nz/

https://www.facebook.com/selwyncatholicparish

18th Sunday of Ordinary Time

1 August 2026

Readings

Isaiah 55:1-3
Romans 8:35-39
Matthew 14:13-21

WEEKEND MASSES

Lincoln: Saturday Vigil - 5.30pm
Sunday - 8.30am
Darfield: Sunday - 9.00 am
Leeston: Sunday - 10.00am
Rolleston: Sunday - 11.00am

Weekday Masses this week:
Lincoln: Friday, 9.00am

Darfield:
Akaroa: not during winter
Leeston: not during winter

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/

There will be **NO Lincoln masses** this coming week on Tuesday & Thursday: 4 & 6 August - the Priests of the Diocese are having a Hui.

- However, there will be a Lincoln mass on Friday 7 August @ 9.00am
- **NO Darfield Mass** on Thursday, 6 August.

Parishioners are welcome to attend the Priests' Jubilarians Mass @ Nazareth House, 5.00pm, on Thursday, 6 August.
Come and pray for priests and give thanks for their faithful service:
60 years – Fr Mike Mahoney SM
50 years – Fr Peter Norris & Fr Kevin Mowbray SM
25 years – Fr Sean Mary Britto CSJ & Fr Isaiah Lee (Korean)

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The Selwyn Parish will be celebrating the **Sacrament of Confirmation** at the Saturday Vigil Mass on 7 November (Election Day). Bishop Michael will be the celebrant.
Confirmation is for Students in Years 7, 8, 9 & above.
Are there any adults who have not been Confirmed?????
Contact: Brigid McIndoe, the Pastoral Assistant: pastoralassistantselwyn@gmail.com to enrol in the Confirmation Programme.

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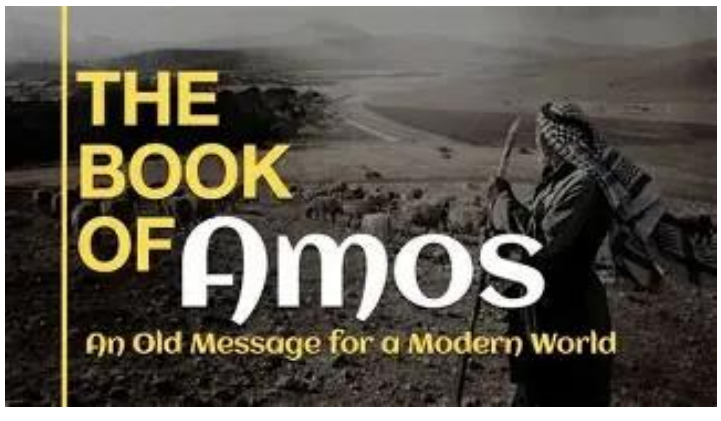
Study of the Book of Amos – led by Fr Brian.

Amos is a great Prophet of 'Social Justice'; his preaching is relevant for today.
Amos' preaching is full of imagery which needs to be understood.

- Study Sessions: **Sundays 2, 9,16, 23 August, 7.00pm**
- Lincoln Church Centre
- Bring a Bible.



The Art of Celebrating Mass Workshop – with Fr Paul Turner, from USA.

- **Saturday, 8 August**,
- at St Joseph's Centre, Papanui,
- 9.30am-12.30pm

Inspired by Pope Francis' Apostolic Letter *Desiderio Desideravi*, this workshop will explore the art of celebrating the liturgy.
Fr Paul Turner will lead practical and enriching sessions aimed at deepening our understanding of the Eucharist and strengthening the celebration of Mass in our parishes and schools.

No cost to attend, but registration is required by going to our website https://cdoc.nz/news-events/ars-celebrandi-workshop
Information: Mike Stopforth: mstopforth@cdoc.nz or phone 027 5398 542

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The Hoon Hay CWL is holding a Fabric Fair on Saturday, 15 August, 10.00am - 1.30pm @ Catholic Cathedral College.
Come, donate, buy and sell fabric, wool and haberdashery.
Donations of clean fabrics, wool and haberdashery appreciated and can be donated at St Vincent de Paul shops in Hornby, Papanui, Stanmore Road or Manchester Street.
Information/ book a table: cwlhoonhay@gmail.com

Daniel Ho is having an **Art Exhibition in the Lincoln Church Centre** this weekend of **1-2 August: Saturday 2.30pm-7pm; & Sunday 9.30am-11am.**
His intention is to share the Gospel through painting - and hopefully spark some parishioners to go deep into the scriptures.
Parishioners are invited to have a look call into the Centre after masses on Saturday & Sunday ….and if you wish purchase some of his art or prints.

St John Paul II Centre Race Night: Join 200+ people from across the Diocese for a lively night at the trots & a 2-course dinner &our famous Priest Punter of the Year competition.
Every ticket goes toward our work of helping marriages and families to flourish across the Christchurch Diocese.

- Friday, 28 August, Addington Raceway.
- Book at https://jp2.org.nz/racenight

Diocesan One-Day Prayer Conference is being held on Saturday, 12 September at *Holy Family Parish*, Timaru. It will begin at 9.30am with Mass and finish at 5.00pm.
The conference will include 2 keynote talks, workshops on different aspects of prayer, mass, Adoration and more.
Bishop Michael will be attending and will give a keynote talk. Three Nashville Dominican Sisters, based in Australia, will give a keynote and workshops.
The cost for the conference will be confirmed soon. Registration will open in a couple of weeks. For more information contact Matt O'Connell, moconnell@cdoc.nz ; ph 366-9869.

Thank you to those that attended the Safeguarding Workshop last Wednesday. We had a good turnout. We were reminded of the importance of keeping ourselves and the community safe from harm and we also learned the changes and updated policies and processes.

For those that weren't able to attend, there is an online workshop on the 12th August. All new volunteers and those that are due for a refresher must attend this workshop. Please email Clodagh Ward at cward@cdoc.nz to register and receive the link.
Sophia

Request for accommodation: François de Luzy and Jean-Paul have found accommodation.

Friendship Group - our next gathering is **Friday 7 August** following the 9am Mass. Please bring a small plate of Morning Tea to share. All welcome.

Many of you will have read the item in Monday's *'Press'* about Fr Michael Mary Sims being illegally ordained a bishop.
Below is an **announcement from Bishop Michael Gielen**:

Dear brothers and sisters in Christ,
It is with a heavy heart that following a canonical process conducted by the Bishop of Aberdeen, the Most Rev Hugh Gilbert, I inform you that Fr Michael Mary, formerly Superior of the Sons of the Most Holy Redeemer, has been excommunicated from the Catholic Church, dismissed from ecclesiastical office, and prohibited from celebrating Mass or the other sacraments.
Furthermore, the religious body known as the Sons of the Most Holy Redeemer is no longer recognised as being in communion with the Catholic Church.
Accordingly, I urge the faithful of the Diocese of Christchurch to have no dealings with them in matters of faith, worship, or the sacraments.
At the same time, we continue to pray for their repentance and reconciliation, trusting in the mercy of God and the Church's desire to welcome all who sincerely seek to return to full communion.
The Diocese continues to support those with a particular devotion to the Traditional Latin Mass at Kaiapoi.

From Fr Brian:

BOGUS EMAILS.

During the week - a couple of parishioners received an email claiming to be from me.
Neither Fr Chris nor myself would ever send an email requesting money, or assistance.
If we were going to seek assistance from a parishioner we would normally ring or visit them.
So, keep vigilant: always check the email address.
Scammers are now part of the modern World – so be wise
……. like King Solomon's Prayer in the First Reading last Sunday.

Catholic Women's League FUNdraiser: Join us for a fun afternoon as we raise funds towards the new Catholic Diocese of Christchurch Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament. Cost - $15.00 (raffle on the day)
Monday **10th August 2026**, **12:00 noon** – Soup & Savoury Lunch, **1:00pm** – Quiz.
Everyone is warmly invited to come long and enjoy good food, great company, and plenty of laughter.
For a bit of extra fun – come dressed in your favourite Liturgical colour – whether it's just a splash or you decide to go 'all out'! For more information/registration, contact Margaret Rea – 021 173 1316 or mbmerea@gmail.com

New World Supermarket Stickers: The Catholic Women's League (CWL) and the Social Activities Team (SAT) of our Parish are once again collecting New World Sticker rewards. If you're shopping at New World and don't need your stickers, we'd be very grateful if you would donate to us. Stickers can be given to Annette James (Leeston), Colleen McKay (Rolleston) or Margaret Rea (Lincoln), or place them in a clearly labelled envelope in the Collection Basket at Church. Thank you for your generosity.

The **SAT team** is again running their annual Housie/ Bingo afternoon each Wednesday in August in the Lincoln Church Centre so come along and have an afternoon of fun and friendship
Each Wednesday starting at 1pm cards are $10 a card and extra cards $1 each. All money paid out each week
We will provide a lovely afternoon tea, please come along and join us…

Alpha: We would like to invite you to join our Alpha Team. Our meetings include coming together for prayer, music discernment & to build a strong team with a goal of launching our next Alpha in early 2027. Next Meeting **Tuesday 11th August 7pm**-Lincoln Parish Centre
If you would like more information email Brigid on pastoralassistantselwyn@gmail.com
or just come along to the next meeting with an open mind & heart.

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING /REFRESHER. Saturday 8th August 4.30pm-5.15pm -St Patrick's Lincoln
If your child would like to train to be an altar server at either the Saturday Vigil or Sunday morning mass in Lincoln please come along to this training session. We would also like to invite any current servers who would like a refresher to join us. Contact Brigid on pastoralassistantselwyn@gmail.com

PRAYER GROUP –**Mondays 10.00am -Rolleston**. Connect with other Mothers in the Parish /Community- Start the week by putting aside time to pray and be uplifted in a small group environment. We meet in private homes, discuss a scripture reading or share a reflection. Preschoolers welcome.

Creation in John's Gospel by Sr Kath Rushton: Tuesdays 11 August, 7.30pm & 8 September, 7.30pm.
Reflection on illusions and symbols in **John's Gospel 1:15 – 5:47** - which may evoke the seven days of creation in Genesis. At Catherine McAuley Centre, Villa Maria College.
Indication of attendance to roho@xtra.co.nz or ph 379-1298.

Next weekend, 8 & 9 August, the Parish Leadership Team will be giving a brief analysis of the **Parish Survey**. Greater details will be on Parish's Facebook page.

Villa Maria College & SVdP 'Evening of Style'
Join us for a fun, fashion event with renowned local stylist, Becks Mason, raising funds for our Villa Maria College PTA and Villa Maria Foundation. Proceeds benefit current students and future students whose families could not otherwise afford a Catholic education.

- Thursday, 13 August, @ Villa Maria College Hall
- Doors open at 6.30pm, refreshments available, event starts at 7.00pm

Raffles, stalls, spot prizes.
Don't miss this opportunity to plan your spring wardrobe, mingle and be part of a fun night with friends.
Cost: $30.00
Tickets available at: https://events.humanitix.com/evening-of-style or contact Yvonne: 0273534450

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All welcome to a free Choral Festival featuring community, church, youth and concert choirs.
At St Mary's Pro-Cathedral @ 2.00pm next Sunday, 9 August.
Visit: https://cdoc.nz/news-events/cbs

Last Weekend, Bishop Michael commenced the Campaign for the building of the new Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament.

Each Parish has been asked by Bishop Michael to participate in and raise funds for both Parish projects and the Cathedral campaign. These efforts are designed to work together, not compete.
In the Selwyn Parish we need to fundraise for a new church in Rolleston and for a new church in Leeston; we also need to strengthen the Darfield Church. In addition, fundraising for the Lincoln Church needs to continue.
The 18 parishes of the Dioceses have been asked to support the construction of the Cathedral, to a combined total of $14 million over the next several years. A parish's share of that total has been determined based on current financial planned giving of each parish.
As a member of the Selwyn Parish - and if you wish to support the Cathedral campaign, it will help offset our Parish's pledge.

It is important that when you make your donation/pledge, use this form:
https://blessedsacrament.nz/donate/ - and nominate *Our Lady of the Plain's Parish*, Selwyn. This will ensure your contribution is attributed to the Selwyn Parish's overall pledge to the Cathedral.
A pledge may be paid up to five years, aligning with the planned five-year building timeline to ensure funds are available as construction progresses.
The Diocese will need pledged funds to flow in steadily during this period to align with the project's progress.
Bishop Michael has expressed his gratitude that your gift will assist fulfilling from planning to completion.

On a lovely sunny Sunday afternoon - a small Group of parishioners turned-out, to re-Dedicate the Shands Road Stone & Plaque.

Afterwards we had a cuppa @ *Coffee Culture* to celebrate the historic moment.

This is the site of the first church - on land that was gifted to the Parish by Patrick Henley in 1871.

The original church was demolished in 1956.

Prayer Vigil for the Unborn
Saturday August 8, 1:30PM – 2:30PM, at Hagley Park, Matai Street East Entrance.
Bring a rosary. All are welcome to attend and pray.