# 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: 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

## 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

## 6 September 2026

**Readings**
Ezekiel 33:7-9
Romans 13:8-10
Matthew 18:15-20

## 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:** Tuesday, Friday, 9.00am

**Akaroa:** Wednesday, 10.00am
**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.

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

While Fr Chris is on holiday - there will be **NO Lincoln Thursday masses until 1 October.**

- There will be Thursday 10.00am masses at Darfield.
- Leeston mass recommences this Wednesday, 9 September, 5.30pm.
- **This Sunday:**

Fr Michael Mahoney will be the celebrant at Darfield and Rolleston

**Akaroa Wednesday mass:** Wednesdays, 10.00am.
**Akaroa Sunday Mass:** Fr Dan Doyle will celebrate mass in Akaroa this Sunday, 6 September, 9.30am.

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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.

The **Parents' Meeting** will be **this Tuesday 8 September, 7.00pm**, in the Lincoln Church Centre.
**Candidates' first meeting** is **next Sunday 13 September.**
Confirmation is for Students in Years 7, 8, 9 & above.
Adults, who have not been Confirmed, are invited to also participate in the Programme - there will be a couple of separate sessions for adults.

Contact: Brigid McIndoe, the Pastoral Assistant: pastoralassistantselwyn@gmail.com ,or speak to Fr Brian, to enrol in the Confirmation Programme.

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Copies of ***Inform*** are available at the entrances to the churches – there's quite a lot of information on the new Cathedral. Please take a copy. Or online: https://cdoc.nz/inform

**RIP: Recently Deceased:** Keira D'Arcy (Rolleston); Maureen Devlin (Lincoln); Heather Donley (Leeston).
**Anniversary:** Joan & Austin Lysaght 25/8 & 26/8, Zita Moynihan (Hokitika) 2/9

**Filipino Mass: this Sunday, 6 September, 3.30pm**, in St Patrick's Church. Fr Rex Ramos will be the celebrant.

**CWL are collecting New World Stickers.**
Please donate your stickers: Annette James in Leeston; Margaret Rea in Lincoln … or just place in the Collection Basket.

Bishop Michael has launched the campaign for building the **new Cathedral of the Blessed Sacrament.**
See more information: https://cdoc.nz/news-events/plans-for-new-cathedral-released

Bishop Michael is asking for pledges - gifts paid over 5 years that allow you to make a lasting impact without financial strain.

If/when you make your donation/pledge use this form: https://blessedsacrament.nz/donate/ - and nominate:
*Our Lady of the Plain's Parish*, Selwyn.

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH
TE TAKIWĀ Ō TE PĪHOPA
SUPPORT OUR SACRED PROJECT

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**The Selwyn Parish** has established a Fundraising Account.
The new Fundraising Account Number is:
The Roman Catholic Diocese of Christchurch - **The Catholic Parish of Selwyn: 03-1592-0207180-022**

***World Youth Day:*** - joining with young Catholics from all over the Diocese, and the world, for an incredible experience.
The pilgrimage will be approximately 18 days & will include time in Vietnam before joining pilgrims for the *World Youth Day* celebrations in South Korea; expecting over 250 pilgrims from NZ. The Parish will sponsor some pilgrims.
Promo video: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DgtBKDW8iq0
Applications closing at the end of September. All the information is at www.cyt.org.nz/worldyouthday

**Diocesan One-Day Prayer Conference: Saturday, 12 September @ Holy Family Parish, Timaru** - begins @ 9.30am with Mass and finish @ 5.00pm.
Bishop Michael and 3 Nashville Dominican Sisters, based in Australia, will give Keynote Talks.
Registrations: $49, @ https://cdoc.nz/news-events/prayer-conference
For more information contact Matt O'Connell: moconnell@cdoc.nz ; ph 366-9869.

**Vinnies Youth Holiday Programme:** 28 September - 2 October; @ Vinnies, Manchester Street, Years 6 - 9.
Come to the Vinnies Youth Holiday Programme and spend a few days making new friends, building your confidence, developing leadership skills, and putting your faith into action.
This programme is a chance to connect, have fun, serve others, and make a difference in our community.
Get in early and secure a spot. Contact: cyrene@svdpcanterbury.nz
Register: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLScD16SXLpg6ysH6xpU-sFo8lN85mIn2EhXq5WgcbinthMekRA/viewform

**Catholic Business Network Event:** 'From Amberley to America' with Rosemary Banks.
On Thursday, 24 September, 5:30pm - 7:30pm @ Terrace & Fairway Room, Russley Golf Club. Cost $65.
After more than four decades as a New Zealand diplomat Rosemary Banks will reflect on New Zealand's place in a rapidly changing world and the way other countries see us.
Having twice served as ambassador to the United States - she will discuss the way America's view of its global role is changing and what this means for New Zealand. To register/more information: https://www.cbn.nz/

***CATHSOC Alumni Dinner:*** Join us for a special evening bringing together generations of the University of Canterbury Catholic Society community - an opportunity to reconnect with old friends, meet current students.
**Thursday, 8 October,** 5.30pm–9:00pm @ Tī Kōuka Function Room Haere-roa, University of Canterbury.
Tickets are available: Students - $30; General Admission - $60.
https://ucsaclubs.flicket.co.nz/events/5aad2ea0-80ef-4da0-af7a-672136baa8c2?utm_source=chatgpt.com
For further enquiries about the event or sponsoring table for the evening contact: Ryan Frost rfrost319@gmail.com

## Prayer for Fathers

God our Father,
we give you thanks and praise for fathers young and old.
We pray for young fathers, newly embracing their vocation;
may they find courage and perseverance to balance work, family and faith
in joy and sacrifice.
We pray for all fathers around the world whose children are lost or suffering;
may they know that the God of compassion walks with them in their sorrow.
We pray for men who are not fathers but still mentor and guide us with fatherly love and advice.
We remember fathers, grandfathers, and great grandfathers who are no longer with us but who live forever in our memory and nourish us with their love.
Amen

**Catholic Women's Retreat Day:** led by Linda Polaschek. **Theme:** 'Prayer in everyday life'.
On **Saturday, 19 September**, 9.30 am – 4.00 pm @ at Mary Potter Community Centre, 442 Durham Street North. Christchurch. Cost $60 - includes morning tea and lunch.
Contact/register: Helen Warren: helenterry9@outlook.com ; Ph: 021 133 5132

In **2028, Sydney** will host the 54th International **Eucharistic Congress.**
These conferences are held every 4 years. The event consists of a week of activities, talks, events, processions culminating in a final Mass attended by hundreds of thousands of people, hopefully celebrated by Pope Leo XIV.

There will be an I**nformation Night this Wednesday, 9 September @ Nazareth House,**
beginning @ **7.00pm** with adoration in the chapel, followed by the presentation in the Hall.
For more information and to RSVP please contact Matt O'Connell: moconnell@cdoc.nz or 0275369407

**'Farewell & Closing Service' to St Mary & St Francis de Sales Church in Rangiora:**
**this Sunday 6 September, 2.00pm.**
All are welcome. Enquiries: admin@waimakariricatholic.org.nz

The church has remained closed since the earthquakes and, following many years of consultation, heritage processes and discernment, all necessary steps towards demolition have now been completed.
This will be a time of thanksgiving for the generations of faith, worship, family celebrations and community life that have been centred around this church for well over a century, while also looking forward with hope to the future rebuilding of a new Catholic church in Rangiora.

**A Billings Ovulation Method Natural Fertility Seminar will be held in Christchurch: Friday 9 - Saturday, 10 October.**
This seminar will offer a comprehensive introduction to a natural and scientifically based fertility awareness method that assists couples in planning their families and supports women in understanding their reproductive health.
The seminar is suitable for couples, health professionals, educators, and anyone interested in learning more about fertility awareness. It is also an excellent opportunity for those interested in becoming accredited Billings Teachers, as demand for teaching services continues to grow across New Zealand.
For further information/registration: www.billingslife.org.nz/training-seminar

**From Fr Brian:** **Scams**

**2 parishioners have informed me that they received a scam from Fr Brian.**
**So, beware - don't be gullible and respond to any email asking for 'help'/ 'financial assistance' or 'buy an Apple Gift Card' because I am busy or going into a meeting.**
**If it looks suspicious - then it is.**

**The Hoon Hay Catholic Women's League** wish to thank those who donated goods for the Fabric Fair and for those who attended on 15th August. We also wish to thank Catholic Cathedral College for a wonderful venue, St Vincent de Paul shops for assistance with collecting materials, our stall holders and the businesses Sew Far Sew Good and Sew It who provided raffles prizes. It was a fun event and successful fundraiser. Watch this space for news of future Fabric Fairs.

# The JPII Race Night at Addington

Race 9: *The Thermo King Mobile Pace*, last Friday, 28 August @ Additon Raceway.
A great night enjoyed my many.
Parishioners with the winning horse: Tony Scarlett, Tom McCann, Mike Hanning, Chris Donovan, Jacinta Anderson.
(Chris was lucky to ride in the mobile starting vehicle with the race starter – which I'm sure gave him a massive rush of adrenalin as the horses sweated and breathed, a few feet from him, at the commencement of the race).

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**Science for the Churches:** How does faith fit with science?
**Topics:** Empowering Young People to Explore Big Questions (Steph Bevan); Believing Scientifically (Joshua Wilson-Black); Science in the Pews by Curate Ciru Muriuki; Climate Science with Richard Milne and Kathleen Rushton RSM; and Science and Faith from William & Philip Pattemore who has had a career in medical research.
**@ Theology House, 95 Tuam St; Saturday, 12 September, 9.00am-3.00pm.** Bring your own lunch / eat at Riverside.
Registration: https://www.eventbrite.co.nz/e/science-in-the-churches-tickets-1993172137518?aff=ebdsoporgprofile
Free to students.

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**Dr Jeffrey Lehman,** Professor of Humanities @ Augustine Institute, is visiting Christchurch this month - hosted by the Saint Thomas More Liberal Arts Charitable Trust.

1. **Virtue, Vocation and the Examined Life: Tuesday, 22 September,** 7:00pm - 8:45pm; @ Bishop Joyce Centre, OLV.
   Most of us decide what to do with our lives long before we ask what a life is for; with Dr Lehman joined by Ali Ghaffari, Executive Director of the St John Henry Newman Institute and a former US Navy pilot.

All welcome. Koha - $10 suggested. Register: https://www.stmtrust.org.nz

2. **The Consolations of Philosophy: Boethius and the Recovery of the Examined Life: Thursday, 24 September,** 7:00pm - 9:00pm @ St Bede's College Performing Arts Centre.

Boethius wrote his greatest work in prison, awaiting execution, on how a good life is possible when everything has been taken. The evening includes supper. $20 per person. Register: https://www.stmtrust.org.nz

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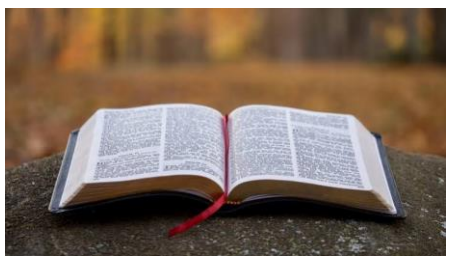

**Unlocking the Mystery of the Bible – 8 Sessions:** Want to understand the Bible but don't know where to start? This eight-session course explores salvation history through the Bible's fourteen narrative books, from Adam and Eve to Christ and the Church, and reveals the connection between the Old and New Testaments**. 7–8.30 pm**, starting **Thursday 1 October** at **Lincoln Church Centre/Monday 5 October in Rolleston.** Register by **12 September** to allow time to order the Bible Timeline Chart ($15 + postage). Contact Nick Otto: 029 237 8142 | ottofamilynz@gmail.com