

Te Whetu O Te Moana / Star of the Sea Marlborough Catholic Parish

From the Sounds to the Sea, the Mountains to the Plains,
We Are One Mission. One Parish.

Parish Office: 61 Maxwell Road, Blenheim 7201
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FB. Star of the Sea Marlborough (894 followers)

WEB. www.staroftheseamarlb.co.nz

Mass-UTube: <https://youtube.com/@staroftheseaparish4103>



Newsletter 45, 30th November 2025

First Sunday of Advent

Accept reality and carry it forward, make it bear fruit, render it fruitful.

We begin the New Liturgical year with the first Sunday of Advent, where the world is divided by conflict, when people live in terror, when insecurities are rampant, and talk of hope can seem like a fairy tale. Not true, says Pope Francis. Talking of hope and living in hope amid reality are what will carry the message forward. This is our call – to respond in hope wherever we find ourselves, with our eyes and hearts open to bringing hope vividly and enthusiastically to those who need it most. God is calling us to be fruitful, Pope Francis tells us. God calls you to pass this life on. God calls you to create hope. God calls you to receive mercy and to give mercy. God calls you to be happy. Do not fear! Do not be afraid!

We are also at a time of concluding this Jubilee Year of Hope. The Eucharistic table offers a beautiful answer, in every celebration we remember the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ. We meet Christ in the present moment and we are sent forth with confidence and hope into the future.

We need to ponder – What first hope-filled step will I take today? With a prayer – God of hope, fill me with your light and grace! Remembering Psalm 31:24: Be strong, and let your heart take courage, all you who wait for the Lord.

May the Passion of Jesus Christ be always in our hearts.
Fr Sony CP



Parish Calendar, News & Notices

Christmas Choir: Are you keen to join a choir to sing at the 7.30pm mass at Blenheim on Christmas Eve? Anyone interested can come along after 5pm Mass on 7th, 14th and 21st December. Come to any or all of the practices. We would love to see you.



Handel's Messiah by the [Blenheim Choral](#) and [Marlborough Civic Orchestra](#). The concerts will take place at the [Church of the Nativity](#) on Friday, December 5th at 7PM and Saturday, December 6th at 2PM. Tickets are available through Eventfinda and ASB Theatre.

Those wanting to say the Our Father in another language at 5pm and 10am BHM weekend masses, please contact Belinda Vavasour 021 774 858.

Advent: a hikoi for Pilgrims of Hope - In this new booklet, [Bringing the Word to Life](#), Fr James Lyons and other Catholic leaders and writers, including Cardinal John Dew, offer timely reflections for each day of Advent and Christmas. Connecting Biblical truth with modern-day examples, they provide valuable spiritual nourishment for Catholics as this Year of Jubilee comes to a close – and a new year begins. As Archbishop Paul says, "I highly recommend it, and I know that you will find the reflections by fellow Catholics relevant and reflecting our faith experience within the context of this beautiful country we live in." Speak to the parish office about obtaining a copy of this booklet (priced at \$8.00 per copy).

CALLED & EQUIPPED Formation Programme - Applications CLOSING SOON! Are you looking for an opportunity to dig deeper into your faith, and to learn how to share it with others? Would you like to know more about what it means to be Catholic? Do you want to serve in your parish community, but feel you don't know enough? **DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY! JOIN US** on an exciting journey that offers personal faith formation and equips you for ministry and service. For more information, contact Lucienne Hensel at l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz / 04 496 1715 or speak to your Parish Priest.

YOUTH Year 13s! If your family has a year 13 leaver this year, please make yourself known to Mieke this coming week, as we are planning a blessing for all school leavers after 10am youth Mass on Dec 7th. Contact 0223918584, thanks

Adoration: is once a month, in the Mercy Chapel between 11am-2pm. The next date is **30th November**.

Men's breakfasts will be held on the first Sunday of each Month at 8am. The locations will vary. Please contact Maurice Davies at 0274445506 to be added to the Star of the Sea Men's What's app group.

Are you looking for a daily reflection. Click on the link below which takes you to the Passionist Website and their daily reflections. [Daily Reflection | The Passionists](#)

A Warm Welcome to Our Parish Family of Marlborough

We are joy-filled missionary disciples: walking in Christ's light, growing in faith together, and taking the Gospel and the love of Jesus to the people of Marlborough and beyond.

Parish Calendar, News & Notices

Mass & Liturgy Schedules

Saturday 29th Nov

Blenheim 9.30am **Mass** followed by reconciliation

1st Sun of Advent

Sat 29th Nov

Blenheim 5pm –**Mass**
Picton 5pm—**Mass**

Sun 30th Nov

Seddon 8am - **Mass**,
Kaikoura 9.30am– **Mass**
Blenheim 10am– **School Mass**
Blenheim 5pm –**Mass**

Tuesday-1st Dec

Blenheim 9.30am **Mass**
Kaikoura 9.30am W&C

Wednesday-2nd Dec

Picton 9.30am **Mass**
Kaikoura 9:30am W&C
Blenheim 12.05pm **Mass**

Thursday-3rd Dec

Blenheim 9.30am - **Mass**
Kaikoura 9.30am -W&C
Kaikoura 10am Scripture
Picton– 5.15pm Adoration

Friday-4th Dec

Kaikoura 9.30am -W&C
Blenheim 11am - Exposition
Blenheim 12.0 5pm –**Mass**

Saturday 5th Dec

Blenheim 9.30am **Mass** followed by reconciliation

2nd Sun of Advent

Sat 5th Dec

Blenheim 5pm –**Mass**
Picton 5pm—**Mass**

Sun 6th Dec

Seddon 8am - **Mass**,
Kaikoura 9.30am– **Mass**
Blenheim 10am **Youth Mass**
Blenheim 5pm –**Mass**



Readings for:

30th Nov-6th Dec 2025

Sun 30 Nov-1st Sun of Advent

Isaiah 2:1-5
Romans 13.: 11-14
Matthew 24:37-44

Mon 01 Dec

Isaiah 4:2-6
Matt 8:5-11



Tues 02 Dec

Isaiah 11:1-10
Luke 10:21-24

Wed 03 Dec

Isaiah 25:6-10
Matt 15:29-37

Thurs 04 Dec

Isaiah 26:1-6
Matt 7:21,24-27

Fri 05 Dec

Isaiah 29:17-24
Matt 9:27-31

Sat 06 Dec

Isaiah 30:19-21,23-26
Matt 9:35-10:1,5-8

Sun 07 Dec-2nd Sun of Advent

Isaiah 11:1-10
Romans 15:4-9
Matthew 3:1-12

Collections: We are most grateful for your support.

Last Week:

Total: \$2,366.90
Maori Pastoral care: \$20.00
Peter's Pence: \$20.00

If you would like to contribute to the running costs of the Parish, here is our account number:

Star of the Sea Parish
02-0600-0154396-00

Please put "Planned Giving" in the reference so we know its purpose and contact Ginetta at the Parish Office for a giving number before starting online banking so you can claim on your donations each year.



Remembering the Holy souls – May they Rest In Peace

Sr Francie smsm; Graham Check; Maurice McQuillan; Richard Booker;	CSSR; Nanny Kay Nukunu-ku; John Smart;
Chris Fredericks; Anne Petersen; Fr Maurice O'Leary	Also all our deceased parishioners and benefactors.

Intentions: please keep these parishioners in your prayers.

Donna Lippiatt; Luke Clayton; Nancy Spatz; Phil Best; Esme Murphy; Eileen Moreland; Glenn Ormsby; Craig & Viv Grant; Charlotte Cagney; Johan Van der Geest; Terry Price; Maria Prutten; Russell Millar; Lex & Mary Agnew; Robin O'Kane; Michael Carmody; Jane Caldwell;	Nancy Woolford-Stayner; Peter Smith; Margaret Searle; Anne Rundle; Francesca Perkins; Aveera & Araylee Marsh; Rilee Wright; Elizabeth & Don Boyd; Craig Jackson; Catherine; Jill Carpenter; and those unnamed that need our prayers at this time.
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If you, or a loved one, are in hospital or at home unable to get out, contact Mary Tolan 021 184 0617 to arrange for a Eucharistic Minister to bring out Communion to you.

Community Foodbanks:

Our Community Food Banks help people in need.

The bins in our churches are cleared every week so donations can be made outside of the times listed.

**1st Sunday @ Kaikoura
All Sundays @ Picton & Blenheim**

Please consider donating nonperishable goods: Canned tomatoes, fruit, vegetables, Canned spaghetti, canned Baked beans, Canned Fish, Sugar, rice, Soup mix, Flour, Pasta sauce, spreads, Longlife milk, Breakfast cereals, Weetbix, salt, Pasta, school lunch items.

Quotes from the Popes

'We share the same faith in the one and only God, the Father of all people; we confess together the one Lord and true Son of God, Jesus Christ, and the one Holy Spirit, who inspires us and impels us towards full unity and the common witness to the Gospel. Truly, what unites us is much greater than what divides us! In a world that is divided and torn apart by many conflicts, the one universal Christian community can be a sign of peace and an instrument of reconciliation, playing a decisive role in the global commitment to peace.' Pope Leo XIV, [Apostolic Letter](#) on the 1700th anniversary of the Council of Nicea, 2025.

Parish Priest: Fr Sony Kannanaikal CP– ParishPriest@staroftheseamarlb.co.nz

Assistant Priest: Fr Jacob Kuman CP—jacob.kuman@passionists.com

Community leader: Fr Peter Gardiner CP peter.gardiner@passionists.com

Pastoral Assist: Sr Maureen Connor SMSM — maurencsmsm1@gmail.com — 03 319 5385 (new updated email)

Seminarian: Br TJ Nguyen

Youth Ministers: Maurice & Mieke Davies — stmarysyoungroup@xtra.co.nz — 022 391 8584

Parish Pastoral Council Chair: Blair McLean **Finance Committee Chair:** Tom Harrison