



CALLED, GIFTED, SENT FORTH

We, the people of God, led and inspired by the Holy Spirit, fed by the Word and the Eucharist, strive to share our faith and live our lives daily as disciples of Christ.

REFLECTION

The prophet Malachi proclaims: “The Lord whom you seek and the messenger of the covenant whom you desire will come into his temple.” These words were fulfilled in the feast that we celebrate today. Forty days after the birth of a child, the Law of Moses prescribed the rite of purification of the mother before participating in any acts of worship.

The “Feast of the Presentation of the Lord” is also the “Feast of the Encounter”: the “meeting” of God with his people, but also the meeting of Mary, Joseph and Jesus with Simeon and Anna, representatives of Israel who were faithfully awaiting the day of “encountering – meeting” the Lord. The “encounter” is also with us: it is the day to meet Jesus, the “light” that illuminates the world and our lives.

In the first reading, the prophet Malachi announces the proximity of the “Day of the Lord”, the day on which God will encounter his people in the Temple to purify them, to renew their hearts and to enable them to live in a new life. A new time will begin on that day, the time of the new Covenant between God and us.

Paul’s letter to the Hebrews, presented Jesus as one of us, who came into the world to “meet” the “descendants of Abraham”, and through this “encounter – meeting” I transformed us all into beloved sons and daughters of God. Offering his life out of love, he introduced into our weak, fragile and sinful human nature, a new way of overcoming our limits, a different way to a new life.

Luke shows how Jesus, a few days after his birth, entered the Temple of Jerusalem to fulfil the promise made by God through the prophet Malachi. Christ is “the true light that illuminates us all”. All of us, enlightened by Jesus, also become light. In Christ and with Christ, we assume the mission of taking Christ the light into the world.

Let us celebrate, with joy, this Feast. Let us also pray for those in Consecrated life, so that they continue in their special vocation of bringing Christ the light to the rest of society.

Fr Akuila

**02 FEBRUARY 2025 - THE PRESENTATION OF THE LORD (C)
READINGS:**

Malachi 3: 1-4; Hebrews 2: 14-18; Gospel Luke 2:22-40

41 Britannia Street, Petone, Lower Hutt 5012 Telephone: (04) 971.7885

Email:holyspiritparish41@gmail.com Website: www.holyspirit.nz

This Parish is administered by the Divine Word Missionaries, SVD



Responsorial Psalm

Who is this king of glory? It is the Lord!

Mass has been offered for



OUR RECENTLY DECEASED
Mapu Rudy Reid, Lucy Rush
May they rest in God's eternal peace.



ANNIVERSARIES

*Doris Burns, Joan Larkin, Terence Peter Doile, Stanley and Kathleen Pettit,
Andrew and Philomeno Massarella, June Jones,
Fr Ray Stachurski, Meri Krummenacher, Pauline Henderson, Keith Barnes,
Jonny Johnstone, Mark Murphy, Paepae Smith, Melesete Jago, Margaret Hanson.*
**Eternal Rest grant to them, O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.**
**May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God,
rest in peace.**

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

*Francis Ogwaro, Saoleititi Joe Taito, Dorothy Niven, Hira Lal,
Gillian Robinson, Gerard Mangan, Gerry Leech, Fr David Orange,
Beverley Campbell, Lino Ausage.*

Please remember these and others in the parish who are ill.
**If you know of anyone confined to their home or who needs a visit with Holy
Communion, please contact the office 04 971 7885.**

Parish Notices

PARISH NEWSLETTER:

Welcome to the first parish bulletin for the year 2025. The parish office would like to invite parishioners to submit articles, news, announcements etc for our weekly bulletin. Newsletter items must be into the parish office by Wednesday 12 noon at the latest for Thursday publication. Email: holyspiritparish41@gmail.com or phone us on **04 971 7885**. Trust you all had a restful and relaxing Christmas break and holiday time.

BACK TO SCHOOL:

We ask for God's blessings on all the teachers, children/students and staff of our three Parish Primary Schools and also St Bernard's College and Sacred Heart College as they begin the first school term of 2025.

EMAIL ADDRESSES:

The Parish is sending out updates and information on what's happening through emails provided to the parish. Please advise the Parish Office if you would like to provide your email or change your email address. You can unsubscribe at any time. Thank you.

REMINDER – CHURCH BOOKINGS:

Please be reminded that a **booking is required** (phone the office at 971 7885) for those who wish to use any of our parish churches for any reason. This is important for security reasons.

CHURCH PARKING: Please remember to park legally and considerately.

WANTING TO BECOME A CATHOLIC: If you, or someone you know, would like to learn more about becoming a Catholic please contact Gerard Duignan 027 265 6085.



BAPTISM:

We warmly welcome **Jota-Paulo Tapuaki Filifilisounuu Uenuku Lealaisamanoa, Cedric Ray Santisteban and Dwight Deejay Tuupisalomoa** who received the Sacrament of Baptism in our Parish of the Holy Spirit – Te Wairua Tapu (St Patrick's Wainuiomata and Sacred Heart Church Petone respectively) during the Christmas break together with their families.



May they always walk in the light of Christ's love.

BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION:

is held every **first Thursday of the month in the Church Foyer, 7:00pm, Sacred Heart Church 41 Britannia St. Petone**. Parents wishing to have their child baptized are invited to attend. If you wish to attend the session **please register by contacting the Parish Office at 971 7885**.

The next Baptism Preparation session is Thursday 6 February 2025.

SENIORS' ANOINTING MASS: Will be celebrated on Wednesday 5th February, 10:00am at Sacred Heart Church, Petone.

ADORATION IN CHURCH: Our Lady of the Rosary will have adoration for one hour after the 9.30 am Mass on Fridays.

DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE WELLINGTON UNIT

SACRED HEART PETONE PRAYER MINISTRY/BIBLE STUDY:

Our next Prayer Meeting & Bible Study will be on Wednesday 05 February 2025, from 7.00 PM to 8.30 PM at the Sacred Heart Chapel Petone. We invite you all to join us. This week's Bible study is on the ***Book of Acts Episode 18 : The conversion of Saul*** " Presented by Fr. Joseph Edattu VC (Divine Retreat Centre UK)

For further inquiries don't hesitate to get in touch with **027 3476327**.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL: You are invited...to join the **Sacred Heart Petone**

St Vincent de Paul group, for their first meeting of 2025 on **Wednesday, 5 Feb 5.30-6.30pm in the Parish Meeting Room (behind the Church)**

Our Agenda: Discuss Roles and February tasks. If you would like to put your faith into practical action - you are most welcome to come along.



WEEKLY COLLECTION:

January 2025 excluding APs - \$7,368.00

December 2024 Automatic Payments - \$13,702.00

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

ARCHDIOCESE OF WELLINGTON MONTHLY LEVY PAYMENT:

The Levy amount paid for **December 2024** was **\$10,780.93** This amount is based on our total collections for the month (cash, envelopes, automatic payments, and including appeals) - **\$26,507.80**

The calculation of the December levy payable to support costs within parishes is:

Bishops Support (2%)	403.06	
Lay Ministry Support (6%)	1,209.19	
Support of Clergy (32%)	6,449.02	
Support of National Costs (5%)	1,007.66	(Seminarians, Chaplaincies, NZ Bishops Conference)
Christmas Dues	1,692.00	
Maori Pastoral Care	20.00	(appeal)
TOTAL	<u>\$10,780.93</u>	

PLANNED GIVING:

We need our Parish Community to help and support our Planned Giving Programme to meet the challenges for our church. To continue to provide well maintained buildings and grounds for the use of our schools and communities and provide a budget for parish programmes and activities, and to support our Archdiocese - which is our monthly levy payments.

This is very easy to do especially if you use internet banking – you don't need to go to the bank. You can set up a weekly/fortnightly/monthly payment to the Parish. Any amount large or small donated regularly makes all the difference to the Parish.

Our bank account number is: **BNZ 02 0544 0049224 00** and your PG number as **reference**.

We still have the weekly envelope system available, however we would like to see more giving by Automatic Payment.

For those who contribute by a cash donation - Have you thought about using the envelope system or setting up a AP? You will receive a rebate of 33% of your giving at the end of the financial year - Now that's pretty good isn't it - Please think about it.

If you would like to sign up to our planned giving programme, please contact the parish office at (04) 971 7885 or email the Parish Secretary to obtain a PG No. to serve as your reference. (holyspiritparish41@gmail.com)

Your financial contributions to the parish are gratefully appreciated.

Other Notices

Situation Vacant: COORDINATOR, YOUNG CHURCH MINISTRY:

(Archdiocese of Wellington) We are looking for a new team member to support our college youth ministry programme, young church ministry around the Archdiocese and our leadership camp held each year in December. If you have some experience in youth ministry and managing young people and are seeking a 20-26 hour position, explore this option online at SEEK or be in touch with the Director of Church Mission, Chris Duthie-Jung – c.duthie-jung@wn.catholic.org.nz / 021 02305149.

WAITANGI DAY MASS: Thursday, February 6th 9:00am at St Mary of the Angels church, Boulcott Street Wellington. Archbishop Paul Martin presiding.

The Mass includes prayers and hymns in Maori, English, Latin and other languages.

Jubilee of MARRIED COUPLES AND ST VALENTINE'S DAY MASS:

Married and engaged couples are warmly invited to this special celebration of marriage. Mass will be celebrated by Archbishop Paul Martin at Sacred Heart Cathedral on **Friday 14th February at 6pm**, with refreshments to follow. Come and join us for Mass with plenty of time for a dinner reservation afterwards.

CELEBRATION OF THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY ORDERS:

Ordination to the Priesthood of Deacon Matthew White at the Metropolitan Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Wellington, Saturday 22nd Feb, 11:00am.

MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE: – online registration is open for the first course for the year, consecutive **Sundays 2 & 9 March 2025**, Wellington. Couples are encouraged to attend the course well before their wedding date and register early to ensure there is space on the course. For queries, please email marriage@wn.catholic.org.nz

DAILY READINGS FOR THIS WEEK:

February

- 3** Heb 11:32-40; Mk 5: 1-20
- 4** Heb 12: 1-4; Mk 5: 21-43
- 5** Heb 12: 4-7,11-15; Mk 6: 1-6
- 6** Heb 12: 18-19, 21-24; Mk 6: 7-13
- 7** Heb 13: 1-8; Mk 6: 14-29
- 8** Heb 13: 15-17, 20-21; Mk 6: 30-34

NEXT WEEK: 5th Sunday Ordinary Time

First reading: Isaiah 6: 1-8

Here am I send me.

Second reading: Corinthians 15: 1-11

Concerning the Christian life in the world.

Gospel: Luke 2: 41-52

I preach what they preach, and this is what you believe.