



Catholic Parish of Christchurch South

19th November—33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

What is the Sacrament of Confirmation

The Sacrament of Confirmation is the last of the Sacraments of Initiation that children in our parish will receive this weekend. They and their parents have been preparing for this for the past few months with prayer, catechesis and service.

But we often forget the importance of Confirmation, and how it changes us to be better disciples.

The first Sacrament that we receive is Baptism which incorporates us into the Church, the family of God and makes us a member of the body of Christ. Confirmation strengthens and completes the grace of Baptism. Like baptism, we are only confirmed once, and this confirmation imparts in our souls the fullness of the gifts of the Holy Spirit: the gifts of **wisdom, understanding, counsel, fortitude, knowledge, piety, and fear of the Lord**. The strengthening of these gifts fortifies us on our Christian journey, helping us to **actively witness** to our faith in Jesus in our words and actions and to **defend** the truth of Christ and His Church.

This is not something that was made up recently, this Sacrament follows the tradition seen in the Acts of the Apostles, when the Apostles laid hands on believers to confer the Holy Spirit, and prepare them for mission. This is why it is the bishop, descendant of the 12 Apostles who ministers this sacrament, who lays hands on the confirmands invoking the Holy Spirit and anoints them with Sacred Chrism on the forehead. They are now adults in the faith, and have the full responsibility within the Church and its mission.

Let us pray for our *confirmandi*, as they prepare to receive this important Sacrament of mission and of service.

Let us also pray for each other, that we may live out to the full, the grace of our Confirmation, by actively witnessing and defending our faith in Jesus Christ and His Church.

I'll finish with the final prayer that the Bishop prays over the confirmation candidates.

All-powerful God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, by water and the Holy Spirit you freed your sons and daughters from sin and gave them new life. Send your Holy Spirit upon them to be their helper and guide. Give them the spirit of wisdom and understanding, the spirit of right judgement and courage, the spirit of knowledge and reverence. Fill them with the spirit of wonder and awe in your presence. We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Fr Ben D'souza sm
Assistant Priest



Parish Priest

Fr Peter Head sm
phead@now.net.nz
(03) 338 8395

Assistant Priests

Fr Ben D'souza sm
assistantpriest@christchurchsouth.org.nz
Fr Barry Malone sm

In Residence:

Fr Allan Jones sm

Leadership Team Chairperson

Pamela Arthurs
Leadership@christchurchsouth.org.nz

Parish Secretary:

Janice Beban
secretary@christchurchsouth.org.nz
Ph 338 8395

Parish Administrator

Judy O'Regan-Lockington
administration@christchurchsouth.org.nz

Coordinator of Pastoral Care

Joanne Hope
pastoralcare@christchurchsouth.org.nz

Coordinator of Sacramental Ministries

TBA
sacramental@christchurchsouth.org.nz

Parish office

Ph: 03 338 8395
secretary@christchurchsouth.org.nz

Office Hours:

9.00am—3.00pm

70 Spencer St, Addington
Postal: PO Box 9055,
Tower Junction,
Christchurch 8149



Parish Website
Christchurchsouth.org.nz



Parish App
The Catholic Parish of
Christchurch South



<https://www.facebook.com/CatholicChchSouth/>

SOCIETY OF MARY SHIFTS FOR OUR PARISH 2024:



I have been asked to **remain as Parish Priest** until 18th March 2024

Fr Phil Bennenbroek sm will be coming from Auckland to be the **Acting Parish Priest** from 20th March until the end of June

Fr Peter McAfee sm will be joining the Parish Staff *after Easter* (early April) as an **Assistant Priest**. He is currently the Parish Priest of St Anne's Parish, Manurewa, South Auckland

Fr Patrick Breeze sm will be arriving *early July* to be the **new Parish Priest** after having a sabbatical (January – June). Fr Pat is at present in charge of our Marist Seminary, in Auckland.

I have been appointed **Parish Priest of South Westland** and will take up this appointment *after Easter* (early April). I will be based in Whataroa. Please keep us all in your prayers; thank you - Fr Peter

READINGS (Year A) Prov 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31, 1Thess 5:1-6, Mathew 25:14-30

Response: *Happy are those who fear the Lord*

Next Week: Eze 34: 11– 12, 15– 17; Cor 15:20-26, 28, Mathew 25:31-46



PARISH NOTICES

PARISHIONERS OF OUR LADY OF THE ASSUMPTION, HOON HAY: Saturday 25th November at 11.00am, a Rite of Thanksgiving will be celebrated at OLoA, this being the date the Church was opened in 1956.

PARKING: Parking is available at the Sparks Road driveway area of the school and in the adjacent empty section as well as the surrounding streets. Please note, those attending will be permitted to walk through the school grounds to the Church.

WHERE TO GATHER: Please meet in the space between the school and the back of the Church – (in front of the former presbytery). Please do not drive up the Church driveway as there will be no parking in this area.

THOSE WITH MOBILITY PROBLEMS: Pick up and drop off will be on the apron in front of the Church. We ask those who will need to sit during the Liturgy to please provide their own walker/ chair.

TOILET: Toilet available through garage of former presbytery.

POSTPONEMENT: Should the weather be wet and the Liturgy be postponed you will be notified by email or the parish app. A new date will be advised in the New Year.

AFTER THE RITE: We are now permitted to use the school grounds after the rite so you are most welcome to bring a BYO picnic. A cup of tea or coffee will be provided but there will be no cold drinks or food provided.



Would you like to join the choir to sing at **10.30 Mass on Sundays in Advent** at the Halswell church (Sts Peter and Paul). Or possibly even the **Christmas Vigil on Christmas Eve**? We will practice on Thursday evenings at Halswell. To register your interest please phone Pat Watson 0273427401

The World Day of the Poor is an annual Catholic observance established by Pope Francis to reflect on the significance of poverty in the Gospel. This day serves as a call to action, urging the faithful to engage with and assist those in need.



The theme for this year's World Day of the Poor, is **"Do not turn your face away from anyone who is poor"** (Tobit 4:7). In his message for this year, Pope Francis emphasised the importance of not ignoring the plight of the poor, encouraging active involvement and compassionate response in the face of growing challenges related to poverty and social justice. This theme underscores the timeless message of charity and solidarity with the less fortunate, challenging all to confront poverty with empathy and practical solutions.

VOCATIONS GROUP FOR MEN: A monthly Vocations Group is starting up for men open to discerning a vocation to the Priesthood or Religious Life. Each meeting will involve some dinner, a talk, fraternity, Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament and Night Prayer. The first meeting is being held on Wednesday **December 6th at 6.30pm** at the Diocesan Offices, 9 Washington Way. Contact the Vocations Coordinator, Matt O'Connell, for more information on moconnell@cdoc.nz or 027 536 9407.

Collections 12 November 2023

Parish \$2,944 Clergy Fund \$1,472

Automatic Payments October

Parish \$11,887 Clergy \$5,943

Next Special Collection:

Diocesan Clergy—Christmas Day 25th December

Parish account for donations

Westpac 03-1592-0207148-20 Thank You

Mass Intentions: Mary & George Callaghan (anniv), John Brier (anniv), Mary Parsonage, Veronica & Edward Consedine, Leon & Matthew Faid (anniv)

Please Pray for all those with

Anniversaries at this time: Mary & George Callaghan, John Brier, Leon & Matthew Faid



Catholic Parish of Christchurch South: Mass Times

Addington - Sacred Heart

70 Spencer Street

Monday	6.00pm
Wednesday	9.00am
Friday	9.00am
Saturday	9.00am
Saturday Vigil	5.00pm
Sunday	10.30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Sacred Heart:

Saturday 10.30am–11.30am

or by appointment with a Priest

Exposition at Sacred Heart

Friday 9.30am until 10.30am

Saturday 9.30am until 11.30am

Beckenham - St Peter's

11 Fisher Avenue

Sunday	9.00am
Thursday	11.00am*

(*School Term only)

Carmel Monastery

52 Halswell Road

Daily 8.30am

Halswell - Sts Peter & Paul

56 Nicholls Road

Thursday	9.00am
Saturday Vigil	6.00pm
Sunday	9.00am
Sunday	10.30am

Baptisms 2nd Sunday of the month.

Contact the Parish Office on 338 8395

Primary Schools

Our Lady of Assumption

Ph 338 9503,

www.ola.school.nz/Home/

Sacred Heart, Ph 338 3247,

www.sacredheartchch.school.nz

St Peter's, Ph 332 7598,

www.saintpeters.school.nz