

The Amalgamating Parishes of State Highway 3

Saint Patrick, Te Awamutu; Our Lady of the Sacred Heart, Otorohanga; Saint George, Te Kuiti

Te Awamutu 625 Alexandra St, PO Box 191, Te Awamutu 3840
Father Joe Stack
Office: 07 871 6109; Presbytery: 07 871 7404
E-mail: office@stpatta.org.nz or parishpriest@stpatta.org.nz
St Patrick's Catholic School: 07-871 4669

Te Kuiti 24 Seddon St, PO Box 21 Te Kuiti 3941
Father Joseph George
Presbytery: 07 878 6417
Email: stgeorgetekuiti@gmail.com
St Joseph's Catholic School: 07-878 8190

Lounge/Church Bookings: email office@stpatta.org.nz

Otorohanga 38 Hinewai St, PO Box 5, Otorohanga
Deacon Brian Whitlow: 07 873 7722
St Mary's Catholic School: 07-873 8801

Items for the Notice Sheet must be in by Wednesday 12pm

If you would like the Diocesan Newsletter, please email newsletter@cdh.org.nz
If you would like our parish notice sheet emailed, please email office@stpatta.org.nz

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"St Patrick's Parish Te Awamutu"

First Sunday of Ordinary Time - 20-21 February 2021

The season of Lent is a gift. It offers us the time and space to stand back and look at the big picture - the big picture of our human condition within the horizon of divine love. We survey the whole story of salvation from the dawn of creation to the climax of Jesus' mission among us. At no other time of the year do we engage in such sustained exploration of our vocation as human beings.

Our principal guides on the way are the great storytellers of the Old Testament, the dynamic and provocative preacher Paul, and above all Jesus himself via the evangelists Mark and John. Today's ensemble of readings invites us into the grand sweep of God's saving work in our human history from his covenant with Noah after the flood, through the earthly mission of Jesus, to our life in the risen Lord through Baptism. The time has come to turn around and believe the Good News; the reign of God is at hand.

Readings for THIS Sunday - 20-21 February 2021

1st Reading: Genesis 9:8-15
2nd Reading: 1 Peter 3:18-22

Response: Psalm 24:4-9 resp v10
Gospel: Mark 1:12-15

*St Ambrose reminded the newly baptised of the water, the wood and the dove in the story of Noah.
The water of Baptism saves us through the merits of Christ's death on the wood of the cross.
The Holy Spirit breathed life into that water so that we might have fullness of life.*

Readings for NEXT Sunday - 2nd Sunday of Lent - 27-28 February

Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18; Psalm 115:10, 15-19 resp v114:9; Romans 8:31-34; Mark 9:2-10;

Weekday Mass Times

Monday 22 February	7.15am Te Awamutu		<i>Chair of St Peter</i>
Tuesday 23 February	9.15am Te Awamutu	5.30pm Te Kuiti	<i>St Polycarp</i>
Wednesday 24 February	7.15am Te Awamutu	9.15am Te Kuiti	
Thursday 25 February	5.30pm Te Awamutu	9.15am Otorohanga	
Friday 26 February	9.15am Te Awamutu	9.15am Te Kuiti	
Saturday 27 February	8.15am Te Awamutu		

Our Ancestor in Faith - Polycarp (AD 65 -155) was a disciple of the Apostle John, and was mentor and possible baptiser of Irenaeus (AD 130 - 202), who became the first Bishop of Lyon, from where Bishop Pompallier in 1836 set out for Western Oceania and New Zealand.

SACRAMENT OF CONFESSION – RITE OF RECONCILIATION

Te Kuiti: Tuesdays 6pm (after 5.30pm Mass)

Te Awamutu: Thursdays 6pm-7.15pm, Fridays 8.30am-9am, Saturdays after evening Mass

Otorohanga: Wednesday 3rd March (first Wednesday of the month), 5pm after Rosary and Stations

SACRAMENT OF ANOINTING OF THE SICK - Friday 26th February, 2pm, St Patrick's Parish Lounge

SUNDAY MASS TIMES during Covid-19 Emergency Level 1

Te Kuiti: 9.30am Sunday

Otorohanga: 11.30am Sunday

Te Awamutu: 5pm Saturday Vigil Mass, 10.30am Sunday (there is no 8.30am Mass at Covid Level 1)

Kawhia: Sunday 7th March, at 5pm, St Peter's Church, Hoturoa Street, Kawhia

BISHOPS' LENT APPEAL - During Lent, NZ Catholic Bishops invite us to consider the needs of the poor through the work of Caritas. Money raised through the Bishops' Lent Appeal helps to fund both development and emergency relief work around the world. Lenten envelopes are available in the parish foyer. Please return your donation envelopes during the parish offertory collection. Alternatively you can give through <https://caritas.org.nz/donate>

CARITAS LENTEN REFLECTION PROGRAMME For this season of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, Caritas have produced a booklet which can assist us to probe more deeply into the meaning and challenges of Lent, through the reflections offered on the Sunday Gospels. The theme for Lent 2021, is **A NEW WAY FORWARD**, a phrase taken from Pope Francis' environmental reflection Laudato Si. The program is available from the [CARITAS](https://caritas.org.nz) website.

We also have copies available at the back of the Church for personal use in the church, or a limited number available for purchase - \$2 each. If sufficient interest is expressed a group will be formed to use the material in the booklet as a basis for discussion.



RANGIAOWHIA COMMEMORATION - SUNDAY 21ST FEBRUARY - POSTPONED!

The planned service with the people of Ngati Apakura for the commemoration of the 1864 invasion of Rangiaowhia and the Catholic and Anglican missions has been postponed for Covid related reasons.

Nevertheless, this anniversary will still be recalled.

Bishop Steve will be leading a short service at the Catholic Urupa (Cemetery) on Rangiaowhia Road at 7.30am. All are welcome



SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM



This term we will be running a course for our students interested in Baptism. A letter has been sent home from St Patrick's and those interested need to hand the form in to the school office next week.

Parents of those children must attend a parents course so we encourage your attendance at

Baptism Programme for Parents - 23rd February

7.30-9pm, St Patrick's Parish Lounge.

For parents with children (of all ages) getting ready for this sacrament.

Please ring Anita 027 259 1330 to register.

For a series of short educational videos that are designed to kick off a deeper discussion on Baptism. Visit cdh.org.nz/baptism-program

HOUSE FOR RENT - 22 Seddon Street, Te Kuiti (next to the Catholic Presbytery). Four bedrooms, weatherboard, recently renovated and compliant with insulation standards, electric heating, single garage attached at rear of house, adjacent to Church and School, easy flat walk to shops. All initial enquiries to John Whyte 021 949 101.

WORLD DAY OF PRAYER - Friday 5th March. Annual Prayer Service prepared this year by women of Vanuatu. Join people of all Christian denominations and others of good will for this time of prayer at Saint John's Anglican Church at 11am. All are welcome for morning tea in the Saint John's Church Lounge at 10.30am.

PARISH SCHOOL COMMUNITY MASS - Saturday 13 March, 5pm, Saint Patrick's Church

SAINT VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY - meets on the second Sunday of the month. Contact Allan 027 936 5986.

FOOD BANK - We need items for the food bank and assistance delivering food parcels from the food bank to clients' homes. Please contact Ian McLauchlan (suemclauchlan@xtra.co.nz) if you can help.



NEW BEGINNINGS MASS AND BBQ FOR YOUNG ADULTS - Sunday 7 March
Cathedral of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Hamilton East

Ring in the new year with our annual welcome event for young adults in the Diocese! Come to the 6pm Mass on Sunday 7 March celebrated by Bishop Steve with a special blessing for young adults, followed by a BBQ, games and chances to win spot prizes, all for FREE! Also, if you bring a friend, you will be in the draw to win a double pass to Heaven Come (at least one of you or your friend must not have been to Heaven Come before)

CURRENT OF GRACE, HAMILTON DIOCESE, SERVICE OF COMMUNION - 11th March, 7pm
Invite you all to Mass with Bishop Steve, Praise & Worship, Prayer Ministry and Hospitality at the Cathedral of the Blessed Virgin Mary



WAIKATO MARCH FOR LIFE - Sunday 14th March at Memorial Park on River Road, Hamilton.
Stalls and family friendly events will be present from 12.30 and the march will commence at 2pm.
Bring your family and friends and join us as we march to be a voice for the voiceless

CATHOLIC FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES 2021 GALA - Saturday 20th March. Music, stalls, hangi, fun, food.
Te Ara Hou Village Green, 100 Morrinsville Road, Hillcrest

NZ CATHOLIC BISHOPS URGE EVERYONE TO HAVE A COVID-19 VACCINE

Our bishops have issued a strong statement in support of all people getting a Covid-19 vaccine when it becomes available. Their statement addresses both the moral and health issues involved including from where the vaccines are derived, and the dangers of people rejecting vaccinations (the "anti-vax" movement). Pope Francis strongly endorses getting vaccinated. Read the statement online:

<https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/bishops-support-covid-vaccine/>

COVID 19 UPDATE "As a Church we must be conscious of the needs of the vulnerable as Christ himself was"

- ★ If you are unwell stay home
- ★ Sanitise and use the Covid Tracing App or sign in
- ★ Maintain social distance
- ★ Greet people before/after Mass and at the Sign of Peace with a smile, nod or bow
- ★ Holy Water is removed from stoups and fonts
- ★ Holy Communion will not be distributed from the chalice
- ★ Holy Communion is only distributed by hand, not on the tongue



"I am grateful to those who have embraced this condition graciously. I know for others, this restriction remains a trial. Let us remember that the matter of primary importance is RECEIVING THE LORD, not how WE physically receive the Lord"

DONATIONS TO YOUR LOCAL PARISH - If you wish to make a payment, one-off or regular, to your local Parish, here are the bank accounts. (Kawhia money is deposited into the Otorohanga Parish account.).

Ref: Donation. If you would like a receipt, email the parish office with your details.

R C Bishop of Hamilton - Parish Account Te Kuiti 02 0342 0050032 004;

R C Bishop of Hamilton - Parish Account Otorohanga 02 0342 0050016 021;

R C Bishop of Hamilton - Parish Account Te Awamutu 02 0342 0050032 003

Our Churches are Open for Private Prayer and Devotions

Saint George's Te Kuiti: 9am – 5pm

Saint Patrick's Te Awamutu: Mon-Fri: 8am – 5pm; at other times, please enter numbers into keypad

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Otorohanga: Wednesdays 5pm for Stations of the Cross and Rosary
or by arrangement - please ring Deacon Brian Whitlow, 07 873 7722