

19 APRIL 2026
3RD SUNDAY OF EASTER

ST. THERESA'S PLIMMERTON

210 St. Andrew's Road, Plimmerton

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Office Hours: Mon, Thurs, Fri 9am - 2pm



EVENTS IN OUR PARISH THIS WEEK

*Fr. Noel is available for reconciliation
after Mass - Monday to Sunday*

If you seek reconciliation following
Mass please approach Fr. Noel to let
him know.

Monday | 20 April

9:30am Mass followed by Adoration

Tuesday | 21 April

9:30am Mass

Wednesday | 22 April

9:30am Mass

7:00pm Prayer Group meet in the
hall

Thursday | 23 April

9:30am - School Powhiri and Mass

Friday | 24 April

9:30am Mass

10:15am SVdP meeting in the hall

Saturday | 25 April

9:00am Mass followed by Adoration

6:00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday | 26 April

4th Sunday of Easter

9:30am Mass

3rd Sunday of Easter

Luke 24:13-35

“When I first read Homer’s *Odyssey* as a teenager, one scene captured my imagination: Odysseus finally returning home after 20 years, yet no one recognized him. Disguised as a beggar, he speaks with his wife, his son, and even his enemies. He is fully present, yet hidden. Only at the right moment does he reveal himself, and everyone realizes he has been with them all along.

I was struck by the mystery that he could be so close to his loved ones, and yet they simply could not identify him.

A similar mystery is at the heart of today’s Gospel.

Two disciples walk the road to Emmaus with Jesus, but “their eyes were prevented from recognizing him.” (Luke 24:16)

He listens, teaches, and eats with them, yet they remain blind until he breaks the bread. Suddenly their eyes are opened — and at that very moment, he vanishes. His disappearance is not absence.

Rather, it is revelation.

The Risen Lord is now present in a new way, in the breaking of the bread and in the life of His Church. Faith is this shift of vision.

Instead of searching for a visible Jesus as if he were absent, we learn to recognize him unveiled in hidden ways — in Scripture proclaimed, in the Eucharist, in the sacraments, in the very life of the Church.

And what is true of him is true of us. Just as he disappears into the mission of his Body, we too are meant to be hidden in him.

When we live hidden in Christ, we are seen for who we really are.

Fr John Muir

Help Close The Gap - Support St Theresa's Parish

Thank you for being part of our parish community at St Theresa's Catholic Church, Plimmerton. We are very grateful for your ongoing generosity and support throughout the year.

Like many communities, rising costs and inflation have significantly increased our operating expenses. While regular contributions help sustain the parish, they are no longer enough to fully cover the yearly costs of running our church, ministries, and facilities.

As a result, our operating budget shows a cash shortfall of approximately **\$17,280**, and our cash reserves are becoming too low to comfortably cover ongoing expenses

Understanding the shortfall

The key number to focus on is this cash shortfall, as it reflects the actual gap we need to cover to keep the parish running day to day. You may notice a larger deficit shown in the table, but that includes depreciation, which is simply an accounting way of spreading the cost of our buildings and equipment over time. It is not money we need to pay this year, so it has been excluded from the funding ask.

It is important to understand how parish giving is shared. Approximately 50% of all parish giving is passed on to the Archdiocese of Wellington (ADW) to support clergy and wider pastoral ministry across the region. This means that for every dollar given, around half remains to directly support St Theresa's Parish operations. Because of this structure, to fully close our local cash shortfall of approximately **\$17,280**, the equivalent increase in total parish giving would be around **\$34,560**.

Without action, the parish will continue to face ongoing pressure on reserves and limited flexibility in planning for the future.

What this means in practical terms

There are approximately 75 families (around 272 parishioners) in our parish community. On average, if the shortfall were shared evenly across the parish this equates to:

an additional \$8.90 per week per family.

We recognise that every family's circumstances are different, and for some this may not be possible. This is simply to illustrate how small, regular contributions can collectively make a meaningful difference.

There are many different ways to assist and information will soon be provided about opportunities to use your own time and talents to support the Parish. This includes seeking those with great fundraising ideas to bring the community together, have fun and help fund the gap.

Why we are asking for support

The Resource Committee is inviting parishioners who are able to consider small increases in regular giving (such as automatic payments or weekly contributions). This will help provide more stable and predictable support for the parish.

The current shortfall reflects ongoing cost pressures and existing giving levels, and it is likely to continue without change. Small, sustained increases in regular giving will help reduce this gap and support more effective planning for parish life and operations.

Thank you for your generosity, faith, and continued support of St Theresa's community.

St Theresa's Resource Committee

2026/27 Financial Position

Category	Annual Total (2026/27)	Notes
Income	\$201,310	Includes collections (Automatic payments, cash, envelopes, other donations) and rental income.
Operating Expenses	\$218,591	Covers clergy support, pastoral ministry, salaries, insurance, property costs, and general running expenses.
Loss (before depreciation)	-\$17,280	Operating shortfall before depreciation.
Depreciation	-\$16,548	Non-cash accounting charge from property, plant, and equipment.
Deficit (shortfall)	-\$33,828	Overall shortfall for the year, after depreciation.

Monthly Planned Giving Payment



Scan to donate



ANNIVERSARIES - MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

David Day, Charles Bokany, Maurice Harris, John Abbott, Michael Fitzsimons, Dorothy Shea, Michelle Turley, Roy Spencer, Erich Sperl, James Cowie, Geoffrey Pryor, Anne Conroy, Leoni Williams.

Those who are sick:

Richard Gibbs, David Wootton, Jocelyn Bryant, Luca Ashworth, Patricia Maher, Helena Quinn, Eleanor Dyne.

Join us in Prayer for Vocations

"The harvest is plentiful but the labourers are few" (Luke 10:2)

This will be a Holy Hour of Adoration and Prayer, seeking the Lord to send labourers into his harvest.

Date: Tuesday, 28th April

Time: 7:00pm - 8:00pm

Location: St Theresa's Church

Saturday Vigil time

A few weeks ago, we invited our Saturday Vigil congregation to vote on whether an earlier Mass time during winter would be preferred. The response was overwhelmingly positive, and we're grateful to everyone who shared their feedback.

Since then, the Liturgy Committee has been consulting with members of our various ministries to explore what would be needed to make this change possible. One key requirement is additional support across our Vigil Mass ministries.

If you feel called to serve, we would love to have you involved. Angela Cole will be available in the foyer after Mass to chat with anyone interested in signing up or learning more.

Together, we can make this a positive and sustainable change for our parish community.

Women Alive Retreat

Date: Monday 27 April, 2026.

Time: 10:30am-4:30pm

Location: St Theresa's Catholic Parish Hall.

See the poster in the foyer for details.

To register email Sarah Pinto Nazareth at pintosarahann@gmail.com by 23 April

Update from Jocelyn

Thank you so much for your continued prayers for me and our family. I have completed 22 immunotherapy rounds which is amazing but unfortunately they have had to discontinue this treatment as my lungs are no longer coping.

Last week we had the news that I now have tumours in my brain. Another hard part of this roller coaster ride but your prayers and care mean so much to us so thank you.

From Jocelyn Bryant

April birthdays and wedding anniversaries

If you are celebrating a birthday or wedding anniversary during April please join Fr Noel at the end of mass for a special blessing.

Archdiocesan position on Palestine

The Archdiocesan Ecology, Justice and Peace Commission has released a position paper on Palestine drawing on the diplomatic positions of the Holy See (permanent observer status at the UN), recent Popes and Christian voices within the Holy Land.

Among the points in the paper is this note supporting Aotearoa New Zealand recognising Palestine as a state:

"We consider that even though the form of a Palestinian state (institutions, political system, etc) has yet to be defined by its people, this recognition will enable more just treatment of the Palestinian people and more accountability by all involved. The ultimate goal is not only a Palestinian state but a just and lasting peace and equality for all who dwell in the Holy Land."

The full statement can be read at https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/adw_community/wellington-archdiocesan-catholic-commission-for-ecology-justice-and-peace-position-on-palestine/
For more information contact Deirdre Meskill, d.meskill@cadw.nz

St Theresa's Youth Group

The Youth Group this Sunday is a Talent Quest for the youth. Parents of children are invited to attend.

Date: Sunday, 19th April

Time: 3:00pm - 5:00pm

Location: St Theresa's Parish Hall

Rosters

Please find below this weekends roster.

All future rosters are now available on our website for your convenience.

Rosters are available at <https://tinyurl.com/sttheresas2>

Service Rosters for Saturday 18 th April & Sunday 19 th April		
3 rd Sunday of Easter		
Mass Time:	6:00 pm	9:30 am
Sacristan	Angela Reiher	Veronica Young
Greeters	Margaret & Grant Baker	Alwyn Kelly & Gary Calderwood
Welcomer /Prayers of Faithful	Noemi Thomas	Hamish Baker
Altar Servers	Volunteer	Volunteer
Proclaimer of The Word	Margaret Baker	TBC
Children's Liturgy		N/A during holidays
Karanga		TBC
Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Kelly Ross, Mary Cruz	Walter Dempsey, Sef Truyens, Richard Barraclough
Hospitality		Janet & Peter McClean
Altar Society		Maureen Wilmshurst
Sound Desk		Dan Blank

Y	S	A	E	D	E	M	R	O	T	RICH	PURPLE	LINEN
N	O	D	O	N	A	S	U	P	N	SORES	ANGELS	TORMENT
O	E	U	R	T	S	E	U	S	E	BOSOM	FLAMES	AGONY
G	O	N	H	C	I	R	D	R	M	BROTHERS	WARNING	DEAD
A	S	F	I	E	P	O	E	E	R			
F	A	L	M	L	I	S	R	H	O			
F	L	A	E	S	S	R	O	T	T			
D	A	M	S	G	M	O	S	O	B			
I	A	E	L	E	N	I	B	R	O			
M	G	N	I	N	R	A	W	B	E			

