



Catholic Parish of Christchurch North

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Kia Ora!

As we approach the end of another year of Youth Groups, we wanted to take the time to inform you all of the changes that will take place for our Youth Ministry at the start of next year.

Since the merge of our former Parishes to the Catholic Parish of Christchurch North, Fr Alister, our young adult leaders and myself have worked on a slow merging of our Papanui and Burnside Youth Groups through our monthly combined meetings. We know that these separate youth groups over the years have been places of healthy fellowship and journeying together in faith, and therefore it was important to begin the process of merging slowly so to give it the proper amount of time—especially in a year of massive uncertainty and changes—to say goodbye to the existing youth groups, while being able to begin the new parish ministry.

As a team, we have decided that the end of 2020 will see the conclusion of these two separate youth groups. The plan, moving forward, is that a two new youth groups will be formed at the start of 2021. One youth group for Years 7 – 8 and one youth group for Years 9 – 13.

These new youth groups will follow a completely new timetable, being **anchored** around the **5pm Sunday Mass**. Because of this, the 5pm Mass is part of both Youth Groups and is something which the families of the youth ministry are all encouraged to come along too, as well as our Parishioners.

Attached to this letter is the timetable on how the two youth groups will run. In short, the youth groups are as follows:

Year 7 & 8 Youth Group // 4:00 – 6:30 pm (Sundays during term time)

Year 9 – 13 Youth Group // 5:00 – 8:00 pm (Sundays during term time)

Both youth groups will be at the St. Bede's College Performing Arts Centre (PAC)

This is exciting as we have a perfect opportunity to renew our Youth Ministry in our parish and wider community.

One of the new things that you will see is the parent's session from 6 – 6:30 pm. Over the years Fr. Alister and I have noticed that there often is a disconnect with the parents and with youth ministry. It is here that we will go through what topic we have covered with the Year 7 & 8's, and what topic we will cover with the Years 9 – 13. This allows Parents to have those conversations with their children in the car ride home and allows them to be involved with the discussions well after youth group has finished.

These youth groups will be facilitated by myself with the help of high school student leaders (for the Year 7 & 8 Youth Group) and young adult leaders (for the Year 9 – 13 Youth Group). If you know of any high school children are keen to serve the parish in this way, please let me know. This is a great

opportunity for these high school students to learn valuable leadership skills, as well as serve in our ministry.

Our plan for 2021 is to focus on continuing to build community among our young people of the North Parish which we have begun. Part of this community building will be our **Parish Youth Camp for all students in Years 7-13 on March 12-14 2021 at YMCA Wainui Park Camp.**

For now, we are asking you to save the date. More details on registrations will come in the new year.

Thank you so much for the support that you have shown our Youth Ministry over this challenging and strange year. We ask you all to continue to keep our Youth Ministry in your prayers over the Christmas break, as we will keep you all and your families in ours.

Please never hesitate to contact Fr Alister or myself if you have queries or concerns. My work cell phone number is below or flick me an email.

Many thanks and God Bless,



Kaelyn Graham
Youth & Young Adults Coordinator



Fr Alister Castillo
Assistant Priest

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NORTH PARISH YOUTH GROUPS

YEARS 7 & 8 // YEARS 9 - 13

3:30 PM

SET UP

Highschool student leaders & Youth Coordinator arrive at St. Bede's to set up and get ready



4:00 PM

YEARS 7 & 8 ARRIVE

Our year 7 & 8 students arrive for their youth group at St. Bede's College.

(Snacks will be provided to allow them to have sufficient energy to last until dinner)

5:00 PM

SUNDAY MASS (YEARS 9 - 13 ARRIVE)

All years 7 - 13 students who come to our Youth Group participate in the 5pm Sunday Mass at St Bede's College. Parents are encouraged to participate at Mass as well.



6:00 - 6:30 PM

DINNER

All students head to the St Bede's PAC for dinner while parents head with the Youth Coordinator for the Parent's Session. (Years 7 - 8 can go after dinner)



PARENT'S SESSION

Parents are guided through the youth group topic of the week so that parents know what their children are exploring. This helps with conversations with their children during the week.

6:00 - 6:30 PM

6:30 PM

YEARS 9 - 13 YOUTH GROUP STARTS

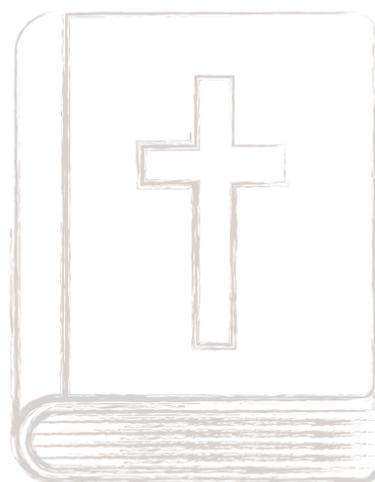
The Year 9 - 13 Youth Group starts. This is facilitated by the Youth and Young Adults Coordinator and a group of young adult helpers

8:00 PM

SUPPER

The year 9 - 13 students enjoy supper, while their parents come and pick them up from the St. Bede's College PAC.

Once the young people have left, the pack down and clean up begins.



youth ministry
NORTH PARISH