

## Death of the Most Reverend Owen Dolan, Emeritus Coadjutor Bishop of Palmerston North

It is with deep sadness that the Diocese of Palmerston North announces the death of the Most Reverend Owen John Dolan, Emeritus Coadjutor Bishop of Palmerston North. Bishop Owen passed away peacefully in hospital after a short illness. He was 96 years old. Born in Palmerston North on 30 September 1928, Bishop Owen was raised in Hāwera following the early death of his mother. After schooling at St Joseph's Primary School, Hāwera High School, and St Patrick's College Silverstream, he pursued his priestly formation at Holy Cross College, Mosgiel, and was ordained a priest in Hāwera on 21 July 1954.

Throughout his ministry, Bishop Owen served across many parishes in New Zealand, including Petone, Wairoa, Patea, New Plymouth, Inglewood, Feilding, Upper Hutt, and Waitara. In 1973, he responded to the call to missionary service in Peru, working alongside the Columban and Maryknoll Fathers among some of the most impoverished communities in Lima and Arequipa. His time in South America made a profound and lasting impact on his priestly life.

On returning to New Zealand, Bishop Owen continued his service in parishes across Wellington and Stokes Valley, and held leadership roles including Vicar General of the Archdiocese of Wellington and National Director of the Pontifical Mission Societies. He was ordained as Coadjutor Bishop of Palmerston North on 10 December 1995, at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit. Upon reaching retirement age in 2004, he became Emeritus Coadjutor Bishop.

A coadjutor bishop is appointed to assist and eventually succeed a diocesan bishop, often when the bishop is nearing retirement or experiencing ill health. Bishop Owen was appointed at a time when Bishop Peter Cullinane was seriously unwell; however, Bishop Peter made a remarkable recovery. As a result, Bishop Owen served alongside Bishop Peter until his own retirement in 2004, with Bishop Peter still in office. The two bishops developed a close friendship that continued over the years, staying in regular contact even after their retirements.

Bishop John Adams, current Bishop of Palmerston North, reflected:

"I personally valued Owen's counsel and sought it often. His wisdom stretched back generations. He had a great love for the poor, never losing his connection with those he served in South America. Even in his later years at Metlifecare, people lined up to visit him, drawn to his kindness, humility, and deep faith."

Even in retirement, Bishop Owen continued his ministry, celebrating Mass and offering pastoral care at Metlifecare on Fitchett Street, just three blocks from his birthplace in Palmerston North.

Please keep Bishop Owen, and all those who mourn him, in your prayers.

*Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon him. May he rest in peace*

## Details for the funeral and related arrangements for Bishop Owen Dolan, who passed away on the evening of Monday, 28 April, are as follows:

### From Thursday 1 May | 3.00pm until Monday, 5.00pm

Bishop Owen's coffin will lie in **Our Lady's Chapel** at the **Cathedral of the Holy Spirit**, beneath the stained-glass window dedicated to the memory of his parents.

This is a time to spend and honour Bishop Owen.

### Monday, 5 May | 11.00am – 5.00pm

A Day of Prayer. The lid of Bishop Owen's coffin will be removed to allow family, friends, parishioners, and visitors to pay their final respects.

### Monday 5 May | 5.30pm – Vigil Service

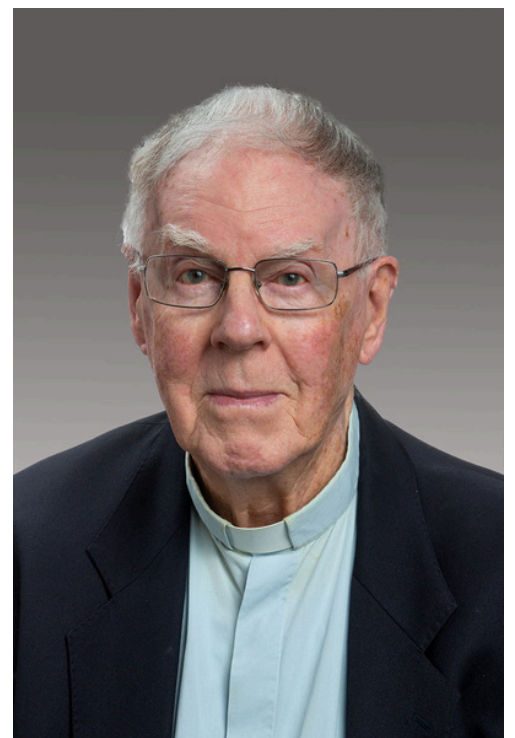
Held at the **Cathedral of the Holy Spirit** – a time of prayer and remembrance.

### Tuesday, 6 May | 1.00pm

Bishop Owen Dolan's Requiem Mass will be celebrated at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Palmerston North.

Following the Mass, hospitality will be offered before Bishop Owen is taken to Kelvin Grove Cemetery for his interment.

If you are planning to bring a group from your parish or school on **Monday, 5 May**, between **11.00am and 5.00pm**, to spend time in prayer with Bishop Owen, please notify Nick Wilson by emailing [nwilson@pndioocese.org.nz](mailto:nwilson@pndioocese.org.nz).





## BISHOP'S OFFICE

DIOCESE OF PALMERSTON NORTH  
TE ROHE PĪHOPA O TE PAPAIOEA

22 April 2025

Dear Members of the Palmerston North Diocesan Community

You will be aware by now of the news of the death of Pope Francis. Please join with me as we begin the traditional nine days of mourning for him – praying for the repose of his soul. I hope you will agree that Pope Francis engendered a tremendous amount of personal affection amongst the Roman Catholic population during his time as the Bishop of Rome. Even among those who found his preparedness to speak freely unnerving, few can fail to recognise the beauty of his writing and the courage of his apostolic work. I believe that the breadth of admiration for Francis was as a direct result of his genuine care for those who suffer. Francis was unafraid to engage with those on the margins of society, hence his death has rightly been greeted with universal sorrow.

I had the chance to meet with Pope Francis in Rome last year when I attended 'bishop's school' in September. I was struck by his joyful countenance and the intensity with which he engaged with people, all this while clearly suffering from ill health himself. When it came time for me to have a short conversation with him, I told him that I brought good wishes from the people of Palmerston North, New Zealand. He responded with a broad smile and by making a whistling sound acknowledging the vast distance between Rome and New Zealand, although, at that moment, his thoughts and prayers were with us here in this country.

How might we respond now as a Catholic community to the death of Pope Francis? Liturgically his name will no longer appear in the Canon of the Mass as "...Francis our Pope...", but we ought to pray, as we do for all our deceased, for the repose of his soul. Let's also contemplate the gifts he shared with the Church and even the controversies his 'free speaking' temperament sometimes provoked.

Of course, we now begin to pray in earnest for a new pope to become the next Successor of Peter. As Catholics we not only give thanks for the particular personality of the Bishop of Rome, but we also trust that the Holy Spirit will keep intact that line of succession that keeps us in touch with St Peter, the first Pope of the Church, to whom Jesus himself entrusted the 'keys of the kingdom'.

+ John Adams  
Bishop of Palmerston North

Te Rau Aroha, Diocesan Centre  
PO Box 5279, Terrace End  
Palmerston North 4441, New Zealand

T +64 6 357 1980  
E [bishop-pa@pndiocese.org.nz](mailto:bishop-pa@pndiocese.org.nz)  
[www.pndiocese.org.nz](http://www.pndiocese.org.nz)



### Requiem Mass in Memory of His Holiness Pope Francis | Sun 4 May

The New Zealand Catholic Bishop's Conference has arranged the celebration of a Solemn Requiem Mass for the eternal repose of His Holiness Pope Francis, at the **Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Palmerston North, 6pm Sunday 4 May**. This sacred liturgy will be presided over by His Excellency, the Most Reverend Archbishop Gábor Pintér, Apostolic Nuncio to New Zealand. All welcome.

There will be a retiring collection after Mass, with proceeds going to the St Vincent de Paul Society to support their work with those in need. The Mass will be livestreamed – visit [www.pndiocese.org.nz](http://www.pndiocese.org.nz) or Central Catholic NZ on Facebook and Instagram for the link.

DAY	TIME	
<b>Saturday 3 May</b>	7:30 – 8.45am	Adoration with morning prayer and Benediction
	9.00am	Mass (no reconciliation)
	9.30am	Apostolic Visit (Syro-Malanka)
	5.30am	Saturday Vigil Mass – Our Lady of Lourdes
<b>Sunday 4 May</b>	7.30am	Mass followed by first Sunday of the Month hospitality
	9.30am	Mass followed by hospitality
	6.00pm	Requiem Mass of Pope Frances followed by hospitality for the travellers
<b>Monday 5 May</b>	7.30am – 8.30am	Adoration
	9.30am	Funeral Mass for Patrice Finlay (RIP)
	11am	Bishop Owen will be moved to the Nave. Coffin will be open for viewing and prayer.
	12.05pm	Mass presided by Bishop Richard Laurenson (Bishop Owen's coffin will be closed during the Mass)
	12.35pm	Bishop Owen's coffin will be opened again for viewing and prayer
	5.00pm	Bishop Owen's coffin will be closed.
	5.30pm	Vigil Liturgy
<b>Tuesday 6 May</b>	<i>Please note – there will be no Adoration or 12.05 or 5.30pm masses</i>	
	1.00pm	<b>Requiem Mass for Bishop Owen Dolan</b>

**Please find below the link to the livestream of the Solemn Requiem Mass for Pope Francis on Sunday, 4 May at 6.00pm**

The stream will go live 15 minutes prior to the commencement of the Mass:

[https://youtube.com/live/DI-RNOA\\_hQQ?feature=share](https://youtube.com/live/DI-RNOA_hQQ?feature=share)

**Please find below the link to the livestream of the Solemn Requiem Mass for our beloved Bishop Owen Dolan.**

The livestream will begin 15 minutes prior to the commencement of the Mass:

<https://youtube.com/live/oGzofe9v7NM?feature=share>

**World Day of Prayer for Vocations and Seminary Appeal  
Sunday, 11 May 2025**

On the Fourth Sunday of Easter, 11 May 2025, we are invited to pray especially for those called to the priesthood. This day also marks the beginning of National Vocations Awareness Week.

We are greatly blessed by the generosity and enthusiasm of our men training and following their call to priestly service.

At present, we have two seminarians, Zung Manh Phan and Sy Nguyen, studying at Holy Cross Seminary in Auckland.

Zung is in his third year of formation and has a special interest in pastoral care and parish ministry.

Sy is in first year and brings a strong passion for youth outreach and community service.

Last year, Lam Van Nguyen and Hung Van Nguyen returned to Vietnam to continue their studies and improve their English.

Hung returned to Vinh City and, with great joy, we share that he has recently passed his IELTS exam. He plans to return later this year to prepare for seminary. In the meantime, he is actively assisting in a parish and teaching English to local children.

Lam, now back in Saigon, is preparing for his English test. Please keep him in your prayers as he works toward this important step.

We are also encouraged by the growing interest in vocations – eight young men have expressed a desire to begin seminary formation next year.

With a cost of \$60,000 per seminarian per year, along with \$20,000 per year to cover the fixed costs of running the Seminary, your support is more important than ever. We invite you to support our seminarians both prayerfully and financially. Your contribution, no matter how small, makes a significant difference. Specially marked envelopes are available in the church foyer.

Alternatively, you may give via direct credit to **Cathedral of the Holy Spirit - 02 0630 0288037 01**

Please use your name as the payee and 'Seminary Appeal' as the reference.

*To our young people: priesthood is always a beautiful and courageous option for your life. If you are thinking about it, please feel free to speak with any of our diocesan priests.*

*Parents: if your children show interest in a vocation to the priesthood, we encourage you to support them with love, openness, and prayer.*

For any enquiries and support, please contact our Diocese of Palmerston North Vocations Director, Fr Trung Nguyen on 022 062 6726 or email [vocations@pndioocese.org.nz](mailto:vocations@pndioocese.org.nz)

Thank you for your continued support and prayers for vocations!

## Readings

### 1st Reading

Acts 5:27-32, 40-41

### 2nd Reading

Apocalypse 5:11-14

### Gospel Reading

John 20:19-31

### Responsorial Psalm

"I will praise you, Lord, for you have rescued me"

### Eucharistic Acclamation

"When we eat this Bread and drink this Cup, we proclaim your Death, O Lord, until you come again."

## Important Dates

**3 - 4 May** - Jubilee of Workers

**5 May - 29 June** - Confirmation Programme

**10 - 11 May** - Jubilee of the Eastern Churches

**17 - 18 May** - Jubilee of Seminarians

**23 - 25 May** - Divine Mercy Conference. Auckland

## Giving

### Online Banking

Cathedral of the Holy Spirit  
02 0630 0288037 01

Reference: Surname, Initial

**Tap machines in the church foyer  
Donate at the Parish Office**

### Our Initiatives

Ministry and Formation  
Liturgy and Resource  
Staffing  
Repairs and maintenance

## Fatima Rosary

Pray the rosary to commemorate the apparition in Fatima in 1917.

Join us at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit at 3pm on Sunday 11 May.

## 50th Anniversary of Priestly Ordination | Monsignor Brian Walsh

Parishioners and friends are invited to join Mons. Brian to celebrate a Thanksgiving Mass followed by afternoon tea on Sunday 18 May, 2.30 pm at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Palmerston North. All are welcome, no RSVP required.

## St Vincent de Paul Society

Our basic food item needs are: cereals, tea bags (30s), instant coffee (90g), jam, peanut butter, baked beans/spaghetti, rice, pasta, canned diced tomatoes/ fruit/ mackerel/ veggies. Donations to our bank account: Westpac 03-0718-0047377-000 are also always gratefully appreciated. Thank you very much for your continued donations.

## Our Lady of Lourdes Guild:

May is our birthday month so we'll celebrate with lunch at: Manawatu Golf Club Wednesday 7th May at 12.30 p.m. RSVP Rose 021 153 4810. All welcome.

## St Vinnie's Op Shop

We still need volunteers for 3 hour shifts on the counter especially on Tuesday and Wednesday afternoons. Currently our customers are after bookcases, tallboys, single beds, queen beds, chests of drawers and bedside cabinets, along with kitchenware, menswear and mens shoes. Also yellow empty ice cream containers (now have enough blue and white - thanks). Thank you for your continued kind donations. Please phone: 06 357 6779.

## Hope and Renewal Summit

Is there more to parish life than just Sunday Mass? Yes—so much more. The Hope and Renewal Summit is a national gathering for Catholics across Aotearoa who are ready to rediscover the vibrant, Spirit-filled life of the Church beyond the pews. Whether you're a parish volunteer, a parent, a young adult, or someone who simply wants to see their faith community come alive—this Summit is for you. 2-4 October 2025 (for Clergy), 3-4 October (for everyone) at the Awapuni Racecourse, Palmerston North. Join clergy, parish leaders, and lay people from around the country as we ask bold questions, explore real answers, and learn how to build thriving parishes where faith is lived, shared, and grown.

**Registrations now open!**

**For more information and to register: [hoperenewalsummit.com](https://hoperenewalsummit.com)**



## Prayer Ministry

### Recently Departed

Bishop Owen Dolan (28/4), Patrice Finlay, John Philip Dorn (22/4), Ian Anthony Shaw (19/4), Patricia Harvey (Auckland), Margaret (Peggy) O'Donoghue (1/4), Bannie Mwambwa Lombe, Patricia Curran (26/3), Fr Harry Costello (16/3), Heather Symon (17/3), Bob Te Mika (Christchurch) (14/3), Paul Darbyshire (New Plymouth)

### Anniversaries

Easton & Bailey Family, Rose Jorgensen (8/3), Ellis Carde (3/3), Fr. Peter Carde S.M. (3/3), Karen Quin (7/3)

### Those who need our prayers

May Young, Marie Van Rooyen, Kathleen Sheridan, Bishop Owen Dolan, Harvey Gunn, Belinda Blackler, Nicky Burmeister, Ann Toomey, Patricia Lowe, Janet Anderson, Maurice McDonald, Mikulas Oros, Rod and Mary Bennett, Betty Donaldson, Sr Helena Fouhy

Stay connected through Tūmanako, the newsletter of the Diocese of Palmerston North. Tūmanako—meaning "hope"— shares stories of faith, highlights the work of our communities and ministries, and provides resources for spiritual growth. Read and Subscribe by heading to [tumanako.pndiocese.org.nz](https://tumanako.pndiocese.org.nz). To send a submission for Tūmanako, contact [communications@pndiocese.org.nz](mailto:communications@pndiocese.org.nz).

## Contact Us

[pncathedral.org.nz](https://pncathedral.org.nz)  
06 357 2891  
[office@pncathedral.org.nz](mailto:office@pncathedral.org.nz)

### Bishop John Adams

[bishop-pa@pndiocese.org.nz](mailto:bishop-pa@pndiocese.org.nz)

### Fr Vui Hoang

[v.hoang@pncathedral.org.nz](mailto:v.hoang@pncathedral.org.nz)

### Monsignor Brian Walsh

[bwalsh@pndiocese.org.nz](mailto:bwalsh@pndiocese.org.nz)

### Monsignor David Bell

[d.bell@pncathedral.org.nz](mailto:d.bell@pncathedral.org.nz)

### Parish Manager - Steph

[manager@pncathedral.org.nz](mailto:manager@pncathedral.org.nz)

### Pastoral Coordinator - Donna

[pastoral@pncathedral.org.nz](mailto:pastoral@pncathedral.org.nz)

### Youth Minister - Louise

[youth@pncathedral.org.nz](mailto:youth@pncathedral.org.nz)

### Account Department - Wendy

[accounts@pncathedral.org.nz](mailto:accounts@pncathedral.org.nz)

### Office Administrator - Cindy

[office@pncathedral.org.nz](mailto:office@pncathedral.org.nz)

## Newsletter Submissions

To include articles in the newsletter, please contact [pncathedralmedia@gmail.com](mailto:pncathedralmedia@gmail.com). The cutoff time for content is Wednesday 3.00pm. Late submissions will be considered for the next issue. Because of space constraints, Parish and Diocesan events will take precedence.