



Catholic Parish of  
Christchurch North

# YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS UPDATE

*"So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation:  
everything old has passed away; see, everything  
has become new!" -2 Corinthians 5:17*

Kia Ora!

**I hope this letter finds you and your families well!**

Even during a trying and difficult time of this worldwide pandemic, there are blessings to be found. For myself, the Christ the King Youth Council and Fr Alister, these last two months have given us the time to properly discern and plan for the future of the Youth and Young Adults Ministry for the Catholic Parish of Christchurch North.

As Fr Rick announced in his Pentecost letter, part of this planning has seen the hiring of myself as the Youth & Young Adult Coordinator for the new Parish.

I have had the blessing of being the Youth Coordinator and Pastoral Assistant for the former Parish of Christ the King since the beginning of January 2018, and I am very excited about the opportunity this new role brings!

Firstly, I would like to take the time to say a huge thank you to the many people who have made Youth Ministry in our former parishes possible. Many thanks go to Lizzy and Jerome O'Sullivan, Nathan Burtenshaw (the youth leaders for the former Papanui Parish), Christ the King Senior and Student Core Teams, and the Christ the King Youth Council.

The Youth Ministry in our former Parishes of St Joseph's and Christ the King would not have been possible without their continual yes to the Lord, and our young people have benefited from this!

I know you'll have some questions, so here are some answers to a few of those questions.

## WHAT WILL YOUTH & YOUNG ADULT MINISTRY LOOK LIKE NOW?

Over the past two months Fr Alister, Lizzy and Jerome, the CTK Youth Council and I have given a lot of thought as to how the Youth & Young Adult Ministry will look for the rest of this year. Our hope was to have our youth groups begin to merge before Pentecost, however due to COVID -19, this was not able to happen.

Therefore, we have made the decision for Youth Groups to remain at both the Burnside and Papanui sites until the end of the year, and these groups will be open to **all** young people within (and beyond) the North Parish. We plan to also have monthly combined gatherings so that all of our young people have the opportunity to slowly get used to transitioning to one youth group.

Our Sunday, Monday and Friday Youth Groups have now recommenced, however we are making sure that we are sticking to the Government regulations for Level 2, for the safety of our young people and all our community. I will continue to keep you informed of any changes that may impact us regarding the lockdown.

## WHAT ABOUT YOUTH LED MASSES?

At the moment, due to the restrictions on numbers for gatherings, we will not be having any of our monthly youth led Masses. However this will change once restrictions have been lifted, and you will be notified of this. One of our aims for youth led Masses is to allow more of our young people to take part in the different roles in the Mass i.e. readers, cantors, musicians etc. Not only will we provide them with the opportunity to be involved, we will make sure training and formation is provided.

We will be advertising these sessions soon.

## WHAT ABOUT YOUNG ADULTS MINISTRY?

We are still in the planning stages of a new young adults group for our new parish. As there hasn't been an established young adult ministry in any of our former parishes for the past few years, this is something that we are having to begin anew. This is an exciting venture which we really want to establish in our parish, so that our young adults feel like a welcome, integral part of our Parish community.

More information will come soon for Young Adult Meetings, so you will be informed!

YOUNG PEOPLE,  
DO NOT LET THE WORLD DRAW YOU  
ONLY INTO THINGS THAT ARE WRONG AND SUPERFICIAL.  
LEARN TO SWIM AGAINST THE TIDE,  
LEARN HOW TO SHARE JESUS AND THE FAITH HE HAS GIVEN YOU.  
- Pope Francis, *Christus Vivit* #176

## WHAT WILL HAPPEN TO THE CHRIST THE KING YOUTH COUNCIL?

As we have become a new parish, the Christ the King Youth Council no longer exists. However, I am still working with the members of the youth council in this interim period to help with the strategic planning of the ministry.

Moving forward, we will not have a youth council but will have a 'Youth & Young Adults Advisory and Support Group.' They will continue to provide support and advice to me as the Youth & Young Adults Coordinator, as well as help with making sure the ministry with youth and young adults are well resourced and supported.

I will be asking people to join this Youth and Young Adults Advisory and Support Group in good time – once I have scoped out potential members from our former three parishes. I will be looking for people who are passionate, prayerful and are open with the Bishop's vision especially with ministry with youth and young adults.

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I'm sure you have many other questions and thoughts on Youth and Young Adults Ministry and I would very much like to hear from you.

Feel free to get in touch with me through email or phone (contact details below).

Keep these ministry in your prayers, as we move into a new and exciting adventure as the North Parish!

Many thanks and God Bless,

*Kaelyn Graham*



Catholic Parish of  
Christchurch North

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# YOUTH GROUPS



## **Youth Group @ Papanui**

### **Year 8 Students**

Sundays (During School Terms)

6pm-7.30pm

### **Years 9-13 Students**

Sundays (During School Terms)

7pm-8.30pm

**St Joseph's Parish Centre**

**133 Main North Road**

## **Senior Youth @ Burnside**

### **Years 9-13 Students**

Mondays (During School Terms)

7pm-8.30pm

### **Junior Youth @ Burnside**

### **Years 5-8 Students**

Fridays (During School Terms)

3pm-5pm

**Christ the King Parish Centre**

**90 Greers Road**