

Social Justice Week 2023 Liturgy Guide

Te Aratohu Rārangi Karakia mō
te Wiki Whakaritenga Tika ā-Pāpori 2023



LITURGY GUIDE

Imagine Peace for All: Peace Begins with You!

**Pohewatia te Rangimārie mō te Katoa: Ka tīmata
tonu te rangimārie i roto i ā koe!**



SOCIAL JUSTICE WEEK
TE WIKI O TE WHAI TIKI
3-9 SEPTEMBER



The Catholic Agency for Justice, Peace & Development

Acknowledgements / Ngā Whakamihi

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What is Social Justice Week?

He aha tēnei mea te Wiki Whakaritenga Tika ā-Pāpori?

Social Justice Week/Te Wiki o te Whai Tika was established by the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference in 1997. It serves as an ongoing commitment in the Catholic calendar to consider, reflect and act on a particular current social justice issue, in light of Catholic social teaching.

This year we are introducing a new structure for Social Justice Week. As decided by the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference, our focus on peace and conflict will span three years, with the resources each year expanding on the previous year's material. This year, as the first year, we will be introducing the key ideas, and encouraging reflection on building inner peace through Christ as a starting point towards building peace in families, workplaces, communities, and nations.

Why Peace?

He aha i whāia ai ko te Rangimārie?

Catholic social teaching sees the pursuit of peace through justice, as a key part of the teaching of the Church. Together with human dignity and the pursuit of the common good, Catholic social teaching calls for a transformation of social structures and systems that perpetuate violence and injustice, and for the promotion of a culture of peaceful encounter that values dialogue, reconciliation, and nonviolent conflict resolution. Inner peace with ourselves and with God is the first step on the path to building peace in our communities and in the world.

How to use this booklet

Me pēhea te whakamahi i tēnei pukapuka

This booklet is to help parish priests, parish leadership and liturgy committees include the Social Justice Week theme in their Sunday celebration and activities during and beyond the week.

We understand that parishes will choose to take some ideas and leave others or come up with new ones entirely. Ultimately, we hope that each parish can continue to share the gift of the Church's social teaching with their community – both in formation but more importantly in action.

We urge you to use and read this Liturgy Resource in conjunction with the associated Reflection Booklet for Social Justice Week 2023. The Reflection Booklet provides in-depth resources to pray, consider and act on our understanding of peace and conflict and being in right relationship with God.

For more resources on the theme and on Catholic social teaching, please visit our website at **www.caritas.org.nz/parishes/social-justice-week**. These resources can be used for prayer, discussion groups, social justice groups, and personal use.

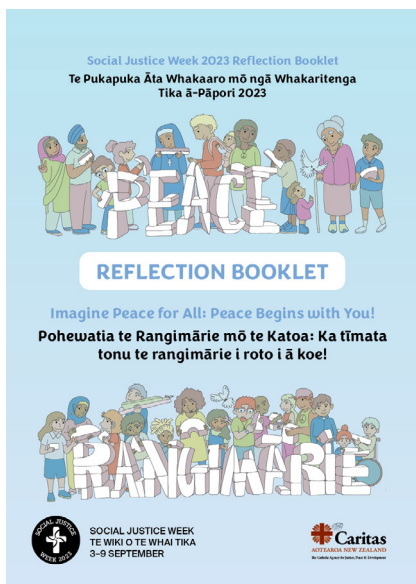


Resource Overview

Tirohanga Whānui ki te Rauemi

We invite you to put the Social Justice Week 2023 poster up two weeks before Social Justice Week, which takes place on the 3rd – 9th of September this year. The poster can be used from 2023–2025, as our theme ‘Imagine Peace for All’ will remain the same. There is also a ‘brick’ with the 2023 sub-theme ‘Peace begins with you!’ that can be attached to the poster in the marked space, and a new brick with a different sub-theme will be sent each year.

The Social Justice Week Reflection Booklet focuses on the theme ‘Peace begins with you!’, providing a seven-session study guide on building personal peace and seeking the peace of Christ in all that we do. We have supplied two sample copies of our Social Justice Week Reflection Booklet to your parish for use by individuals or groups.



More copies can be ordered by phone: 04 496 1742 or email: caritas@caritas.org.nz.

Digital copies can be downloaded from our website: www.caritas.org.nz/parishes/social-justice-week

Statement from the Catholic Bishops of Aotearoa New Zealand

He Puakitanga nā ngā Pīthopa Katorika o Aotearoa Niu Tīrene

Peace can be a complex concept, and achieving peace often seems impossible. When we think of peace, many of us may envision global harmony, goodwill between countries, and everybody living in community with one another. But how do we get to this place, which often feels unattainable? With ongoing conflicts at the forefront of our minds, such as the horrific war in Ukraine being waged by the Russian military, and the societal divides across Aotearoa New Zealand that seem to have only increased, our world can feel extremely far away from the peace that God wants for us.

Social Justice Week 2023 marks the beginning of a new structure – a three-year focus on building peace. This year, as we begin on this journey together, we need to first look inward at how we experience personal peace. How can we imagine and build peace in a way that each of us can be part of, rather than picturing it as something that can only happen in a perfect world? In John 14:27, Jesus tells us *“Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid.”* Pope Francis notes that the peace that is given to us is a peace from Jesus’ meek heart; a heart inhabited by trust, a heart that we should all be seeking. *“For no one can leave others peace if they do not have it within themselves. No one can give peace unless that person is at peace”* (Pope Francis at Regina Caeli, 22 May 2022). Trusting in the peace that Jesus gives to each of us is the first step in building peace in the world around us. For Social Justice Week this year, we encourage the Church to take time to seek the peace of Christ and reflect on how to be a ‘peacebuilder’ in action.

Caritas has produced a promotional poster, a liturgy guide, and a reflection booklet for Social Justice Week 2023. The reflection booklet can be used for individual and group study, and may be helpful for Parish Leadership teams, Liturgy Committees, Social Justice groups, Diocesan Justice, Peace and Development Commissions and the wider community. We strongly endorse the use of these resources within parishes and community groups throughout Aotearoa New Zealand, and we hope that people will continue to engage with these resources each year of this three-year project, learning and growing together. Building personal peace is a journey that looks different for everyone, and the resources that Caritas has created will help us to walk together on this journey, finding the peace of Christ in all areas of our lives. This Social Justice Week, we should all ask ourselves if we are actively building peace according to Jesus' example. The peace of Jesus begins as a personal peace, a peace that we must each work to build within ourselves before we can hope to share it with others. As Pope John XXIII wrote in his encyclical *Pacem in Terris* (1963):

“The world will never be the dwelling place of peace, till peace has found a home in the heart of each and every man [and woman], till every man [and woman] preserves in himself [and herself] the order ordained by God to be preserved.”



✠ **Stephen Lowe**, Bishop of Auckland, Apostolic Administrator of Hamilton and NZCBC President

✠ **Paul Martin SM**, Archbishop of Wellington, NZCBC General Secretary

✠ **Michael Dooley**, Bishop of Dunedin, NZCBC Vice-President

✠ **Michael Gielen**, Bishop of Christchurch

Celebration: Ideas for Mass

He Rā Whakanui: He Whakaaro mō te Miha

Welcome

Nau mai

Suggested text that the person welcoming people to Mass may wish to use:

This Sunday marks the beginning of Social Justice Week, a time when the Catholic Bishops of Aotearoa New Zealand ask us to reflect and act on a particular social issue in the light of Catholic social teaching. This year, the New Zealand Catholic Bishops encourage us to reflect on how we can each be a peacebuilder and imagine peace for all. This peace starts as a personal peace, seeking the peace of God in all areas of our lives.

Readings and Gospel Reflection

He Āta Whakaaro mō ngā Pānui me te Rongopai

22nd Sunday Ordinary Time Year A

- **First Reading – Jeremiah 20:7-9:** “But then it becomes like fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones; I grow weary holding it in, I cannot endure it.”
- **Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 63:** “My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.”
- **Second Reading – Romans 12:1-2:** “Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect.”
- **Gospel – Matthew 16:21-27:** “For whoever wishes to save his life will lose it, but whoever loses his life for my sake will find it.”



Homily notes for Gospel and readings for Social Justice Week Sunday

He Tuhinga Whakaaro mō ngā pānui Rongopai me ngā pānuitanga mō te Rā Tapu o te Wiki Whakaritenga Tika ā-Pāpori

Provided by Msgr Gerard Burns, Vicar-General Archdiocese of Wellington

A wonderful prayer and hymn, known as the ‘prayer of St Francis’, has the line: ‘Make me an instrument of your peace...’. In this prayer/hymn we are offering ourselves as instruments of God’s peace to others while putting aside our own comfort (‘...grant that I may not so much seek to be consoled as to console...’). This is a noble thing to pray for and certainly follows the example and teaching of Jesus. Parents are called on to do it for their children, and spouses for each other at times, but that effort and service is certainly not easy to sustain over a long period. In the Gospels at Easter the risen Jesus brings peace and speaks peace to his disciples (e.g., John 20: 19, 21, 27). But while the Lord brings them peace, neither they, nor we as disciples, missionary disciples, are promised an easy life.

Those first witnesses to the risen Jesus were surprised, consoled, and overjoyed by his renewed presence, but the peace he breathed on them was to get them moving, not to put them to sleep. They became restless to make known the reign of God. The peace of God is a peace that enlivens, brings joy, and builds unity and common purpose, enables us to face adversity.

In the readings of this Sunday, we have Jeremiah lamenting that his mission as a prophet has meant he has had to warn his people and their leaders of coming violence and doom. This has brought him rejection and derision from those people. Yet God has taken hold of him in a way that prevents him giving up his mission, even in his

weariness. He cannot preach a false peace; he has to keep telling the truth. His only consolation is in knowing that God has called him to do this. The psalm reminds us that our peace will only come through seeking the living God. Paul in the letter to the Romans similarly says letting ourselves be transformed in mind and body by God will bring us true peace.

And in the Gospel Jesus – who has just congratulated Peter for his declaration of faith in Jesus as the Son of the Living God – upsets Peter's peace by telling him his understanding of the Messiah is wrong. Peter does not want to hear of a suffering Messiah. He seemed to want a glorious, powerful Messiah, a worldly king perhaps. We all want an easier life, success, perhaps wealth also. Jesus does not promise us this. He calls us to follow him, to take up our cross with him. His promise is to be with us, till the end of time. There will be a deep peace and fullness of life in being his disciples, but not an easy peace.



Prayer of the Faithful

Ngā Īnoi a Te Hunga Whakapono

Feel free to choose any of the suggested intentions below. Adapt or supplement them to reflect the needs of your community.

We pray...

For the leaders of our nation, and all nations of the world: for peace and unity across barriers. We pray for elected and appointed leaders, stretching from the Holy land all the way to Aotearoa New Zealand, that they would work to free the oppressed and serve the common good. Unite the human family in bonds of love.

E te Ariki. Whakarongo mai rā kia mātou.

For our Church, that we may celebrate and welcome the diverse faces of Christ in our worship, our ministries, and our leaders.

E te Ariki. Whakarongo mai rā kia mātou.

For ourselves, our families, our friends, and our communities. May we all seek the peace of Christ in everything that we do, and work to share this with each other.

E te Ariki. Whakarongo mai rā kia mātou.



Parish Newsletter/Notices

Ngā Nūpepa Pārihi/Pānui

You may wish to use this text as a notice in your newsletter or bulletin:

Social Justice Week: 3–9 September 2023

Imagine Peace for all: Peace begins with you!

Pohewatia te Rangimārie mō te Katoa: Ka tīmata
tonu te rangimārie i roto i ā koe!

“Every human being desires communion and peace. Everyone needs peaceful co-existence. But this can grow only when we also build inner peace in our heart.” Pope Francis

Each year, the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference lead us in Social Justice Week to consider an issue of social justice in Aotearoa. This year marks the beginning of a three-year focus on building peace and responding to conflict. We hope people will begin their journey by reflecting on their own personal peace and how to seek the peace of God in all areas of their lives.

For resources and more information visit **www.caritas.org.nz/parishes/social-justice-week**.



Liturgy of the Word with Children

He Ritenga o te Kupu mā te Tamariki

Key Message

Te Kupu Matua

Pope Francis encourages us to look back over the past few years and to consider what we have learnt and more importantly what we can do differently. He reminds us that it is time to build a better world and that we need one another to do this. When there is unfairness, inequality, or injustice in the world, this leads to conflict, fighting and at times a sense of hopelessness. Pope Francis asks us to think about how we can make the world a better place. How do we make sure that everyone is cared for, that everyone is treated fairly, that we live peacefully and care for creation? When we can do this, he reminds us that we will be active participants in building God's kingdom.

[Take some time for silent reflection here]

Peace begins with you! And through the peace of Christ, we have the power to transform the world.

Praying for peace

Te Īnoi mō te Rangimārie

As we go about our day Lord,
As we strive to walk with Jesus in a world of peace,
Remind us that we are the minds, hearts, and hands of Christ,
Who is with us always.
May your grace, mercy, and peace,
Bless us, keep us and transform us.
This day, now and forever.
Āmene

Possible Liturgy Songs Ētahi Waiata Karakia

Make Me a Channel of Your Peace – Prayer of St. Francis, adapted by Sebastian Temple

<https://youtu.be/ihhvm6eLWZI>

He Hōnore – Nape Waaka

www.youtube.com/watch?v=mAaBu5puEGc

Peace for all time – Michael Mangan

www.youtube.com/watch?v=FwRIlBQnSt8

Further prayers and activities to help children engage with Social Justice Week are available at:

www.caritas.org.nz/schools/social-justice-week





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