



# Jubilee 2025



## Jubilee of Youth

28 July – 3 August 2025

This week, we celebrate the Jubilee of Youth, giving thanks for the energy, passion, and hope that young people bring to our communities. We honour their dreams, their vision for a better world, and their commitment to living out their faith with courage and enthusiasm.

Youth are a vital force in the life of the Church, inspiring us all with their creativity, determination, and desire for justice and peace. As we celebrate them, we recognise the importance of nurturing and supporting their growth, guiding them on their journey of faith. May they continue to be filled with the Spirit, boldly shaping the future with love, compassion, and a deep commitment to Christ.

## Prayers

### Example prayers of the faithful

For our young people: That the Holy Spirit nourish their dreams, and aspirations. May they open to listen and follow God's call. **E te Ariki ...**

For young people seeking purpose: That they may find strength in their faith, courage in the face of challenges, and guidance in their journey towards discovering God's plan for their lives. **E te Ariki ...**

For the mentors and role models of youth: That they may inspire the next generation with their example of faith, love, and dedication to Christ, encouraging young people to grow into their fullest potential. **E te Ariki ...**

## Other prayers for Young People

### A Prayer for our Young People

Ko mātou, ngā taiohi, me ngā rangatahi Te Rohe Pihopa o te Papaioea.

We are the young people of the Diocese of Palmerston North.

Different peoples, yet united as one in You, our Loving God.

You have gifted us with our lives—now we offer them back to You.





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Through Jesus, we know we belong, for we are infinitely lovable and infinitely loved by You.

We recommit ourselves to working for justice and peace. Stir us to recognize the needs of others and respond with both servant-heartedness and leadership. Let Your Kingdom transform us and become our reality today.

Wairua Tapu, kuhu mai. Nau mai ki konei. Wairua Tapu, arahi. Kōrero mai anō.

Holy Spirit, welcome. You are welcome here. Guide us, Holy Spirit. Speak to us again.

*Written by Nick Wilson*

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## **Prayer from Pope Saint John Paul II**

Turn your loving gaze, O God, upon young people.  
They carry in their hearts a great hope:  
make them strong and pure,  
so that they can build their tomorrow with confidence.

Let them receive freely the gift of faith,  
accept it with gratitude,  
and develop it with generosity.

Mother of Christ, and our Mother,  
help them to be now and forever faithful  
to Christ and the Church.

Amen.

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Dear Lord,  
help our young people to find faith in the midst of the chaos. Give them the desire and ability to see you, hear you, talk to you, and give thanks to you. We pray that they will draw nearer and nearer to you all their lives.  
Amen.

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Come Holy Spirit of Youth,  
fill the hearts of young people  
with the hope and love of Jesus Christ;  
enliven our parish





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with the creativity, energy, and joy of youth;  
guide us together  
as we strive to offer God's mercy  
to those who feel abandoned or outcast.

*From [the Parish of Our Lady of Sorrows – St Anthony](#)*

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You can find a wonderful collection of prayers for young people and their parents in the **Teen and Parent Prayer Booklet** available at <https://holycomforterparish.org/wp-content/uploads/2012/01/Teen-and-Parent-Prayer-Booklet.pdf>

## Reflection on the Jubilee of Youth

*Read the following reflection out during Mass/within your faith communities over the week of 28 July – 3 August 2025, or distribute for personal reflection.*

We should celebrate our young people! They see and engage with the world differently from us. We can never truly see ourselves, the world, or even the Church as young people do. Perhaps our prayer should be that God the Spirit gift us the humility to both ask and be told what they see. Ultimately, we have the ability to understand others' perspectives and motivations, which deepens our relationships and broadens our worldview.

Our Vatican II kaupapa is grounded in dialogue, especially with groups and individuals who experience things differently from us. Maybe this dialogue should begin at home with our young people, so we can more fully share the faith journey we've embarked on together, through our common baptism. Until we do this, they will never understand what we hold dear, and we'll never understand what they are willing to let go of in the faith space. I suspect we have much to learn from each other.

*Nick Wilson*

*Diocese of Palmerston North Young Catholics Team Leader*

## Suggestions for celebrating this Jubilee in your communities

- **Use the Provided Prayers of the Faithful or Write Your Own**  
Tailor prayers to reflect the energy, potential, and aspirations of young people. Pray for their growth in faith, wisdom, and strength to navigate the challenges of life.





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- **Host a Youth Mass or Liturgy**  
Organise a special Mass or liturgy focused on the youth of your community. Invite young people to participate in the service through readings, music, and other roles, highlighting their importance in the Church.
- **Organise a Youth Retreat or Day of Reflection**  
Hold a retreat or a day of reflection to encourage young people to deepen their relationship with God. Include times for prayer, reflection, discussions, and activities that build community.
- **Encourage Youth-Led Service Projects**  
Empower the youth to organise and lead service projects in the community. This could include outreach to the elderly, environmental cleanups, or assisting with parish events. This will help them live out their faith in action.
- **Organise a Youth Talent Show or Open Mic Night**  
Provide a platform for young people to showcase their talents, whether through music, drama, poetry, or dance. This can be a fun and supportive way for youth to express themselves and share their gifts with the community.
- **Host a Prayer Chain for Youth**  
Organise a prayer chain specifically for the youth of your community, lifting them up in prayer for their spiritual growth, well-being, and future. This can be a powerful way for the broader community to support the younger generation.
- **Recognise Youth Leadership in the Church**  
Celebrate the young people who are actively involved in ministries and leadership roles in the Church. Highlight their contributions during Mass or a community gathering and encourage others to follow their example.
- **Involve Young People in the Planning of Jubilee Events**  
Encourage youth to take an active role in planning and organising events for the Jubilee. This gives them ownership of the celebration and helps them feel more connected to the community.
- **Encourage Young People to become involved in the life of the Church**  
Inspire youth to get involved in the various ministries of the Church, whether it's altar serving, youth group leadership, music ministry, or volunteering. Help them understand the importance of contributing to the life of the Church as a way to grow in faith and service.

