

5 August 2022

Dear Parish Priests and Leaders,

Tēnā koutou, greetings,

This year the dioceses of New Zealand will celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, our National Patronal Feast, on Sunday 14 August.

It has come to our attention that there has been some confusion about the date this year and we are writing to provide clarity. The NZCBC will discuss this date for future years when we next meet.

This year we will dedicate St Mary of the Angels Church in Wellington as the National Shrine to Mary, Mother of God, Assumed into Heaven. We look forward to joining with you in person or via the live stream in celebration (visit our website, catholic.org.nz, for more information).

The National Liturgy Office has prepared resources for parishes for the Solemnity which can be found at nlo.org.nz.

We thank you for your ministry in the service of the Lord.

Yours sincerely in Christ,



✠ **Stephen Lowe**
Vice-President & Secretary – NZCBC / Bishop of Auckland
Te Huinga o ngā Pihopa Katorika o Aotearoa