

CHAPEL REBUILD

CARMELITE MONASTERY ~ CHRISTCHURCH ~ NEW ZEALAND

3 January 2026

Feast of the Holy Name of Jesus

Dear Friends and Supporters,

Christmastide and New Year greetings on this feast day of the Holy Name of Jesus! We hope you enjoyed a holy and blessed Christmas and, for our friends in the Southern Hemisphere, a delightful summer break.

Yesterday, we had the joy of welcoming our Bishop, Michael Gielen, to celebrate Mass and visit with our community afterwards. He once again expressed his encouragement for our Chapel Rebuild project. In a generous gesture, he recorded a brief video for us to share. You can watch Bishop Michael's one-minute video [here](#). We are truly grateful for his support.

In other exciting news, our new fundraising video, shared for the first time at the end of November, has ignited a wave of interest and support! For many viewers, it was their first introduction to the Chapel Rebuild project. Some have shared their intentions to contribute in the future, while others have responded with incredible generosity. We are thrilled to report that we have raised an additional \$217,000 bringing our total to nearly \$500,000 from 165 donors! This remarkable progress puts us well on our way towards our fundraising goal of \$3 million for the Chapel. We thank God, through the intercession of St. Joseph, for the support and generosity of so many.

We will continue to keep you updated as plans progress!

Wishing you every blessing for this New Year of 2026 and assuring you of our prayers,

Your Carmelite Sisters in Christchurch.

