

The Episcopal Ordination of
The Most Reverend
John Lewis Adams
Third Bishop of the Catholic Diocese
of Palmerston North



Cathedral of the Holy Spirit • 30 September 2023 • 11.00am



Episcopal Coat of Arms

My coat of arms follows a traditional structure being cloaked by a gold cross, a green biretta, with twelve tassels (six a side) which are standard for a diocesan bishop. The colours and symbols of the shield depict something of my family background along with other symbols indicating some spiritual and theological priorities for me.

Red, yellow and green are the colours of Ireland and Italy the two countries from which my Catholic heritage arises. The open scriptures and the Greek Alpha and Omega indicate the central importance of Divine Revelation, for as the Second Vatican Council teaches "that by hearing the message of salvation the whole world may believe, by believing it may hope, and by hoping it may love." (DV 1) The scriptures are also the symbol for education and evangelisation.

The chalice with the sacred host issuing radiant above reminds us of the greatness of the Holy Eucharist and the importance of Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament to my priesthood.

The Olive branch is a symbol of the country of Italy, and the symbol of peace, so important as each of us seek to discern more clearly the call of the Lord in our lives. The Tau cross, whilst often associated with the great Franciscan charism, is, in my case, the symbol of St Anthony of the Desert my Confirmation Saint and spiritual companion.

The blue and white 'waves' seek to depict the great river of the Catholic spiritual tradition in which I hope to immerse myself in. It is also a reminder of my baptism and an acknowledgment too of my love for the natural environment, including the Manawatu river which flows through Palmerston North, and the mystical power of the waters of the Whanganui river. In the midst of these waters can be found the twelve stars, recalling the presence of Mary, the first and the greatest of the disciples, and the mother of priests.

The verse 'show us your light and your truth' is taken from psalm 43, and is prayed in the hope that, as the psalmist implores, they will lead us "...to **Your** holy mountain, to the place where You dwell..."

Principal Celebrant

The Most Reverend Bishop Stephen Lowe DD
Bishop of Auckland

Co Consecrating Bishops

The Most Reverend Bishop Michael Dooley DD
Bishop of Dunedin

The Most Reverend Bishop Michael Gielen DD
Bishop of Christchurch

The Most Reverend Peter Cullinane DD
Bishop Emeritus of Palmerston North

The Most Reverend Owen Dolan DD
Coadjutor Bishop Emeritus of Palmerston North

The Most Reverend Colin Campbell DD
Bishop Emeritus of Dunedin

Apostolic Nuncio to New Zealand

His Excellency Novatus Rugambwa DD

Master of Ceremonies

Reverend Father Marcus Francis

Choir

Combined Choir Palmerston North Diocese
Members of Christchurch Cathedral Choir

Cantors

Paul Lyons & Ken Joblin

Organists

Christopher Mawby & Alison Stewart

Conductor

Alison Stewart

Kaikaranga

Debi Marshall-Lobb & Korty Wilson

Asperges

Kyrie from Mass for Four Voices by Byrd

Gloria

(Mews)

Glory to God in the highest, and on earth
peace to people of goodwill.
We praise you, we bless you, we adore you, we glorify you,
we give you thanks for your great glory,
Lord God, heavenly King, O God, almighty Father.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Begotten Son,
Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us;
You take away the sins of the world, receive our prayer,
you are seated at the right hand of the Father, have mercy on us.
For you alone are the Holy One, you alone are the Lord,
you alone are the Most High, Jesus Christ,
with the Holy Spirit, in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Liturgy of the Word

First Reading

(in te Reo Māori)

Isaiah 61: 1-3 - Phil Gunn

The spirit of the Lord has been given to me.
He has sent me to bring good news to the poor,
to bind up hearts that are broken,
to proclaim liberty to captives,
freedom to those in prison;
to proclaim a year of favour from the Lord,
a day of vengeance for our God
to comfort all those who mourn
and give them for ashes, a garland
for mourning robe, the oil of gladness
for despondency, praise.

Psalm 42/43

Cantor - Paul Lyons

Response:

Like a deer that longs for running streams, my soul longs for you,
my soul longs for you, my soul longs for you, my God.

Second Reading

2 Timothy 1: 6-14 - Darren Wijeranthna

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia Alleluia Alleluia Alleluia
Go to the ends of the earth, teach all peoples my gospel;
I am with you to the end of the earth.
Alleluia Alleluia Alleluia Alleluia

Gospel

John 15: 9-17 - Deacon Tevita Faka'osi

Rite of Ordination

Presentation of the Elect

- Monsignor Brian Walsh: Most Reverend Father, the holy Catholic Church, our Mother, asks you to ordain this Priest, John Adams, to the responsibility of the Episcopate.
- Bishop Stephen Lowe: Have you a mandate from the Apostolic See?
- Monsignor Brian Walsh: We have.
- Bishop Stephen Lowe: Let it be read.

*The Apostolic Letter of Appointment,
the official document in which Pope Francis has appointed John Adams,
is read by His Excellency Novatus Rugambwa.*

All: Thanks be to God.

Homily

Bishop Stephen Lowe

Creed

I believe in one God, the Father almighty,
maker of heaven and earth, of all things visible and invisible.
I believe in one Lord Jesus Christ, the Only Begotten Son of God,
born of the Father before all ages. God from God, Light from Light,
true God from true God, begotten, not made,
consubstantial with the Father; through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation he came down from heaven,
and by the Holy Spirit was incarnate of the Virgin Mary,
and became man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate,
he suffered death and was buried, and rose again on the third day
in accordance with the Scriptures.
He ascended into heaven and is seated at the right hand of the Father.
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead
and his kingdom will have no end.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son is adored and glorified,
who has spoken through the prophets.

I believe in one, holy, catholic and apostolic Church.

I confess one baptism for the forgiveness of sins
and I look forward to the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come.

Amen.

Invocation of the Holy Spirit

Veni Creator Spiritus

Promise of the Elect

In the ancient tradition of the Church the Bishop-elect is questioned in the presence of the people on his resolve to uphold the faith and to discharge his duty.

Litany of the Saints

Cantor - Ken Joblin

The Bishop-elect prostrates himself while the litany is sung.

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| Lord have mercy | Lord have mercy |
| Christ have mercy | Christ have mercy |
| Lord have mercy | Lord have mercy |
| | |
| Holy Mary, Mother of God | Pray for us |
| St Michael | Pray for us |
| Holy angels of God | Pray for us |
| St John the Baptist | Pray for us |
| St Joseph | Pray for us |
| (continues) | Pray for us |
| All holy men and women | Pray for us |
| | |
| Lord, be merciful | Lord, save your people |
| From all evil | Lord, save your people |
| From every sin | Lord, save your people |
| From everlasting death | Lord, save your people |
| By your Incarnation | Lord, save your people |
| By your Death and Resurrection | Lord, save your people |
| By the outpouring of the Holy Spirit | Lord, save your people |
| | |
| Be merciful to us sinners | Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer |
| Govern and protect your Holy church | Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer |
| Keep the Pope and all the ordained in faithful service | Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer |
| Bless this chosen man | Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer |
| Bless and sanctify this chosen man | Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer |
| Bless, sanctify and consecrate this chosen man | Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer |
| Bring all peoples together in peace and true harmony | Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer |
| Comfort all the troubled and afflicted with your mercy | Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer |
| Strengthen us and keep us in your holy service | Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer |
| Jesus, Son of the living God | Lord, we ask you, hear our prayer |
| | |
| Christ hear us | Christ hear us |
| Christ graciously hear us | Christ graciously hear us |

Bishop Stephen Lowe: Graciously hear our petitions, O Lord, and pour out upon these, your servants, the power of your blessing, flowing from the horn of priestly grace. Through Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

Laying on of Hands

The laying on of hands has been a traditional and distinctive rite in the ordination of bishops, priests and deacons. This gesture also emphasises the collegial nature and character of the Episcopal order.

Imposition of the Book of the Gospels

The open Book of the Gospels is held over the head of the Bishop-elect to symbolise the primary duty of the bishop to preach the Gospel.

Anointing of the Head

Bishop John kneels and is anointed with holy chrism.

Handing on of the Book of the Gospels

Bishop Stephen Lowe: Receive the Gospel and preach the Word of God with all patience and sound teaching.

Investiture of ring, mitre and crozier

The insignia are signs of fidelity, holiness, governance, and pastoral care of God's people.

Seating of the Bishop

The new Bishop is led to his Cathedra, the Bishop's chair.

The Kiss of Peace

Bishop John Adams receives the kiss of peace from all the Bishops.

Liturgy of the Eucharist

Preparation of the Gifts

Bishop John's family

I Was Glad

(Parry) Combined Choir

Holy Holy Holy

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Memorial Acclamation

We proclaim your Death, O Lord,
and profess your resurrection until you come again.

Bishop John: Through him, and with him, and in him, O God,
almighty Father, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory
and honour is yours, for ever and ever.

The Great Amen

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever.

Lamb of God

Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us.
Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, grant us peace.

Holy Communion

Communion Hymns

Ave Verum Corpus, Eat this Bread, Bread of Life

Thanksgiving Hymn

Tama Ngākau Mārie

Prayer after Holy Communion

Bishop John Adams: Complete within us, O Lord we pray, the healing work of your mercy, and graciously perfect and sustain us, so that in all things we may please you. Through Christ our Lord.

All: **Amen.**

Thanksgiving Blessing

Bishop John will then impart his blessing on the people during which a triumphant organ fanfare of thanksgiving will play.

Organist - Ken Joblin

Notices

Reverend Monsignor Brian Walsh

Address by Bishop John Adams

Bestowal of the Korowai

Kaikaranga - Debi Marshall-Lobb

Waiata: Te Rau Aroha

Palmerston North Diocesan Staff

Concluding Rites

Solemn Blessing

Bishop John Adams: O God, who care for your people with gentleness and rule them in love, endow with the Spirit of wisdom those to whom you have handed on authority to govern, that from the flourishing of a holy flock may come eternal joy for its shepherds.

All: ***Amen.***

Bishop John Adams: As in your majestic power you allot the number of days, and the measure of our years, look favourably upon our humble service and confer on our time the abundance of your peace.

All: ***Amen.***

Bishop John Adams: Give a happy outcome to the tasks that through your grace you have laid upon me, whom you have raised to the rank of Bishop; make me pleasing to you in the fulfilment of my duties, and so guide the hearts of people and pastor, that the obedience of the flock may never fail the shepherd nor the care of the shepherd be lacking by the flock.

All: ***Amen.***

Bishop John Adams: And may almighty God bless all of you, who are gathered here, the Father, and the Son and Holy Spirit.

All: ***Amen.***

Recessional Hymn

Alleluia! Sing to Jesus

Organ Voluntary

Suite Gothique by Boellmann

Organist - Reverend Father Nicholas Dillon

A Note from Bishop John

Can I begin by offering my sincere thanks to all of you for your presence today, especially those who have made great effort to travel considerable distances to be with us. Several members of my family are with me here today, my mother Joan and my brother and his wife, one of my nieces, my aunty and several of my first cousins and their families. What a joy it is to share this day with them.

Becoming a bishop means I also inherit a new family, the priests and people of the Palmerston North Diocese. The past few weeks have been a busy but hugely reassuring time for me due to the warmth of the welcome I have received from the people of this diocese. I thank you all for this. I want to acknowledge our two retired bishops Peter and Owen who have been outstanding in their support for me, their presence in the diocese is a great consolation. It has been a long wait for a bishop here in Palmerston North, during that time many people have stood up to help guide this diocese. I acknowledge my brother priests especially Msgr Brain Walsh and Fr Craig Butler who have acted as diocesan administrators, who, along with our very good diocesan team lead by Liam Greer, have allowed this diocese to function well during this period of 'Sede Vacante'.

I also leave behind the family I had expected to serve out my days within Christchurch. Led by Bishop Michael Gielen, my brother priests from Christchurch, many of whom are with us today, have been nothing but gracious in their farewell to me. A sign of this graciousness being this crozier I hold - a gift from them. Thank you brothers.

The great treasury of Catholic music has nourished my faith for many years. My thanks for our local musicians who have contributed to the liturgy today, and to my Christchurch musician friends who have travelled here, led by Don Whelan, to not only sing today but to make my first mass as a Bishop in the Cathedral tomorrow a musical feast.

I have served in several parishes and chaplaincies in Christchurch, each have been formative for me, but particularly my last four years in the parish of St Peter Chanel, in the Waimakariri, which has been a great joy and blessing, and a time of great anointing. As a parish we have set about the great adventure of parish renewal. Many parishioners have made the journey north to be with us today - I am hugely grateful for their example of faithfulness and a preparedness trust in the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

Finally I acknowledge my friends who have come today simply to show their love and support - is there any greater gift than a friendship that help us deepen the greatest of all friendships - our relationship with Jesus Christ.

+ John Adams
Bishop of Palmerston North

