



# Pastoral Pages

Catholic Parishes of Kapiti

St Patrick's, Paraparaumu

Our Lady of Fatima, Waikanae

Autumn 2012



## *What's inside*

Lots for you to think about and reflect upon during Lent



## Editorial

Welcome to our Autumn 2012 issue. We trust there is something of interest in it for you.

Most of us are aware of the huge tasks facing the councils as we all struggle with the changing face of our parishes and Pastoral Area. Fr Jim and some of the articles continue this theme of change that has been a feature of our Reflection pages for some considerable time now.

A secondary theme that has emerged as we were putting this issue together,

is marriage as reflected in the superb Valentine's Day mass (see the report, reflection and photos starting on p18) and in the book review.

The school year seems to have begun well (I have a grand-daughter there now so I keep a pretty close watch!) and youth are their usual inexhaustible selves! Many of the subcommittees have not yet met this year, so have nothing to report.

You are invited to become fully involved in the life of our parishes. Remember that if there's something on in the 'other' parish that you fancy, you are always most welcome to come along.

May this Lenten Season be a fruitful time of reflection and growth for us all as we prepare for Easter.

- Anna and the Editorial Team.

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# Reflections

These articles are offered to you by invited contributors and parishioners for thought and reflection. Sr Anne invites us to take a moment or two, there's a mediation on Holy Week, Glen brings Jesus to Kapiti and Michelle helps us to see God in the ordinary happenings of our Sunday liturgy. We also continue our look at some of the history of our Pastoral Area as Maureen traces the roots of the Good Shepherd Community.

## Grace

A warm wind is worrying the curtains  
rattling flax  
blowing grace  
all over the place.

Grace  
falling from sky  
healing earth  
lapping on shore  
glowing in eyes  
dawning Christ.

- Choose a quiet place to sit. Listen for your breathing or the birds, the hum of traffic, sounds of children or sea. With each breath, imagine you are breathing in the

presence of God. Read this poem slowly, as a prayer. Think about the images. Let them lead you more deeply into the poem.

- Think about where or how you have “met Christ” over this summer. Give thanks for this.
- Try writing your own poem using some of these words, and your own words, to tell of how you’ve experienced the presence of Christ, the Goodness and Grace of God, this summer. Or where you have struggled to “meet Christ”.

- Anne Powell, Cenacle Sisters

## Let us love one another during Holy Week

Let us resolve to make this week holy by claiming Christ’s redemptive grace and by living holy lives. The Word became flesh and redeemed us by his holy life and holy death. This week especially, let us accept redemption by living grateful, faithful, prayerful, generous, just and holy lives.

Let us resolve to make this week holy by reading and meditating (on) holy Scripture. So often, we get caught up in the hurry of daily living. As

individuals and as families, reserve prime time to be with Jesus, to hear the cries of the children waving palm branches, to see the Son of Man riding on an ass’ colt, to feel the press of the crowd, to be caught up in the “Hosannas” and to realize how the cries of acclamation will yield to the garden of suffering, to be there and watch as Jesus is sentenced by Pilate to Calvary, to see him rejected, mocked, spat upon, beaten and forced to carry a heavy cross, to hear the echo of the

hammer, to feel the agony of the torn flesh and strained muscles, to know Mary's anguish as he hung three hours before he died.

We recoil before the atrocities of war, gang crime, domestic violence and catastrophic illness. Unless we personally and immediately are touched by suffering, it is easy to read Scripture and to walk away without contacting the redemptive suffering that makes us holy. The reality of the Word falls on deaf ears.

Let us take time this week to be present to someone who suffers. Sharing the pain of a fellow human will enliven Scripture and help us enter into the holy mystery of the redemptive suffering of Christ.

Let us resolve to make this week holy by participating in the Holy Week services of the church, not just by attending, but also by preparing, by studying the readings, entering into the spirit, offering our services as ministers of the Word or Eucharist, decorating the church or preparing the environment for worship.



Sr. Thea Bowman RIP

Let us sing, "Lord, have mercy," and "Hosanna." Let us praise the Lord with our whole heart and soul and mind and strength, uniting with the suffering church throughout the world -- [in Christchurch, the Middle East, Asia, and Africa].

Let us break bread together; let us relive the holy and redemptive mystery. Let us do it in memory of him, acknowledging in faith his real presence upon our altars.

Let us resolve to make this week holy by sharing holy peace and joy within our families, sharing family prayer on a regular basis, making every meal a holy meal where loving conversations bond family members in unity, sharing family work without grumbling, making love not war, asking forgiveness for past hurts and forgiving one another from the heart, seeking to go all the way for love as Jesus went all the way for love.

Let us resolve to make this week holy by sharing holy peace and joy with the needy, the alienated, the lonely, the sick and afflicted, the untouchable.

Let us unite our sufferings, inconveniences and annoyances with the suffering of Jesus. Let us stretch ourselves, going beyond our comfort zones to unite ourselves with Christ's redemptive work.

We unite ourselves with Christ's redemptive work when we reconcile, when we make peace, when we share the good news that God is in our lives, when we reflect to our brothers

and sisters God's healing, God's forgiveness, God's unconditional love.

Let us be practical, reaching out across the boundaries of race and class and status to help somebody, to encourage and affirm somebody, offering to the young an incentive to learn and grow, offering to the downtrodden resources to help themselves.

May our fasting be the kind that saves and shares with the poor, that actually contacts the needy, that gives heart to heart, that touches and nourishes and heals.

During this Holy Week, when Jesus gave his life for love, let us truly love one another.

*Dictated from her deathbed by the late Sr. Thea Bowman, a well-known educator, evangelist & gospel singer, and Published in National Catholic Reporter (<http://ncronline.org>)*

## Lenten Programmes:

If you'd like to join one of these groups, contact the leader for details of time and place.

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Considering the Sunday readings in a variety of ways -  
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## And Christ stopped by the Waikanae River

*God chose Palestine about 2000 years ago as the time and place for the incarnation of His Son; He could also have chosen today as the time, and New Zealand for the place. Here is one version of how it might have happened.*

Jesus stopped by the Waikanae River the other day. Everyone was saying that he could perform miracles, that he was a great teacher, that he could even be the Messiah we had been promised so long ago. My curiosity got the better of me and I went to have a look.

He was sitting on a bench at Otaihangā quietly telling stories to

about me, my bad side as well as my good. I almost turned and ran. But I stayed because I was already beginning to suspect that this man had the answer to the hunger and unrest that had been with me for so long.

Suddenly there was a disturbance at the back of the crowd - three men carrying someone in a wheelchair towards Jesus through the crowd packed around the bench. They persevered, putting the wheelchair down in front of Jesus. The crowd went very quiet, expectant, almost like they were all holding their breath at once. The person in the wheelchair

was Harry, the cerebral palsy boy we had all laughed at when we were at school.

He put out that funny, misshapen arm of his towards Jesus and made that peculiar sound that should mean something but doesn't. Jesus told Harry in a clear, ringing voice that his faith had cured

him and ordered him to get out of his wheelchair and walk. Harry sat up straight, got out of his wheelchair, stood up and walked. "I can walk" he shouted for all of us to hear. Now, I believed the stories about the miracles Jesus was supposed to have done.



some children. I couldn't mistake the look of adoration they had on their faces. Once he looked up at the large crowd around him and, for a split second, his eyes met mine. They were clear, penetrating eyes, and I felt that he knew everything there was to know

I had also heard, that he was forgiving sinners. Would he forgive me, if I asked him?

Then he began to speak to the crowd with real authority. He seemed to talk for God, rather than about him. He obviously enjoyed a close personal relationship with God – almost a father/son relationship. When he quoted scripture, it wasn't to prove a point but to explain its meaning, and in one place even to claim that it was being fulfilled today. I thought this man could well be the Christ, the Messiah, the Son of God promised to us. He never said he was in so many words ... He just left me to wonder, to decide for myself.

His message was clear. God is love.

God loves us without reservation. God's love is unique in this day and age ... it is free for the taking, with nothing asked in return. But acceptance of that love would involve me in a radical change. I would have to put aside everything that stood between me and God's love. Money, material possessions, selfish desires of all colours and shades, even family loyalty would have to go if I was to accept God's ridiculous offer of everything I need in this life. I would have to change.

Then he looked straight at me again and invited me to go with Him. So I got on the bus with Him and His followers.

- Glen McCullough

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## A Gospel Without Words



We waited.

What was happening?

We witnessed Community in action as the word was passed that Peter from our L'Arche Community would be heartbroken if he missed receiving Jesus but Holy Communion was already dispensed and no Peter.

We waited.

After some two or three minutes Peter approached the Special Ministers and devoutly received Communion.

The Community reacted with love. All was well and all manner of things were well.

The notices were read and the Music Group played "Happy Birthday" to Julie and Margaret and, after a brief speech by Julie and a rendition of "Edelweiss", Fr Michael called for those taking Communion to the sick and blessed us all and we went forth.

We went forth with the words of Michael's homily ringing in our ears "Community, Solitude, Purpose".

So often during my active ministry in a L'Arche Community I would be moved to tears by actions mostly accompanied by few, if any, words. This Sunday so close to Waitangi Day I am grateful to be part of this parish community.

- Michele Ness



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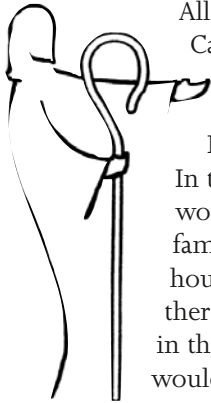
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## Good Shepherd Community


Easter 1980 - four couples from St Pat's prayer group got together to see if their ideas about living in community were similar. We wanted to live more closely together so that we could encourage one another in our faith, to support each other in developing our gifts and in our work in various Church ministries, and to help each other. Two years later, through God's grace, we bought a block of land and began building houses. Like the apostolic community described in Acts 2: 43-47, we sold our houses, pooled our money, shared what we had and prayed together every day.



All the couples were Catholic, involved in the charismatic renewal and in Marriage Encounter. In the early days, there would often be two families sharing one house. By the time there were six families in the community there would often be over twenty children around the place!

Reactions to our choice of lifestyle ranged from "Wonderful" to "Rather you than me" and out to the lunatic fringe. Thirty years on, we're still here and the Good Shepherd Community is still the right place for us to be.

- Maureen Borkin



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## *Fr Jim's Been Thinking - A Time of Change*

The Pastoral Area of Kapiti is undergoing radical change at the present time and we do not like it. The public liturgies we celebrate are also undergoing a radical reversal to older modes of expression despite opposition from many quarters.



Change is something that we all dislike, particularly when it upsets the even tenor of our days. The sixteenth century Anglican theologian, Richard Hooker, put this dislike in a nutshell when he said:

*Change is not made without inconvenience, even from worse to better.*

But, in fact, change is one of the constants of creation and is a constant for of each of us. About the year 170 the Roman Emperor Marcus Aurelius wrote:

*The universe is change; our life is what our thoughts make it.*

Why then do we assume that we invented change? I suppose that in those areas of our lives where we are encouraged to think for ourselves we ignore the possibility of different views, preferring to hold with views we have held since childhood. This means that a great many refuse the invitation to expand their faith which would allow them to become more mature adults. I find it curious that we can often adopt fresh ideas and inventions proposed by the marketing prophets of our economy while ignoring revelations offered by God. (*Revelation did not end with the death of the apostles – as I was once taught!*)

But even in the midst of the social upheavals within our parishes we need to recognise the plight of others struggling with physical upheavals as evidenced by the Christchurch quakes. Just because something has not changed for centuries does not mean that it will always be as it is now. Fifty years or so ago Bertolt Brecht the German Marxist playwright wrote:

*Because things are the way they are, things will not stay the way they are.*

A couple of other quotations to emphasise the reality of change:

*Still ending, and beginning still.*

William Cowper, *The Task* (1785),

*Bodies are slow of growth, but are rapid in their dissolution.*

Tacitus, *Agricola*, II.

Accept the need for change but work to ensure the change gives our Pastoral Area the ability to grow in faith.

- Fr. Jim

# Pastoral Area News

## Kapiti Pastoral Area Council



One of the major considerations which will face the Pastoral Area Council over the next few months is the question of insurance of parish buildings in the pastoral area. Initial assessment of the state and condition of these buildings reveals that while most of them are satisfactory earthquake risks there are two that will require further investigation and possibly remedial work. In addition, the cost of insurance has increased dramatically and while the Archdiocese is meeting that additional cost this year, it cannot do so indefinitely. The repercussions for individual parishes are that their premiums may increase by as much as 100%, and how such increases are to be met, if at all, will be the subject of much debate.

The other matter which will occupy the minds of Kapiti Pastoral Area Council members more and more will be the possible extension of the Pastoral Area to include Otaki and Levin, if those two parishes are disposed to consider the question.

- Interim Chair Michael Dodson



## Our Lady of Fatima PPC



At its February meeting members welcomed the proposed Liturgy programmes for Lent and Easter. These programmes feature joint services in one or the other of the two parishes, though there will still be some individual services in both parishes. The programmes herald changes that will follow later in the year which will be tailored to conducting more and more services and activities jointly.

The Parish Pastoral Council has been discussing the differences between the role of the Kapiti Pastoral Area Council and the roles of the two Parish Councils. While there are activities which are pertinent to one Parish only, and will remain so, there are other areas which require joint planning and joint discussion. It may be that there is little need for duplication of meetings in both Parishes to discuss the same issues and activities.

The debate will be on-going and will include questions such as, "Are we going too fast?" and "How does each Parish preserve its identity?" and "What is a Parish?"

The views of each Parish Council and of the Kapiti Pastoral Area Council will be sought in answering these questions.

-Michael Dodson - Chair

## St Patrick's Parish Pastoral Council

Tena koutou Parish family



A warm welcome to the new year, although it seems to be marching on very fast. Firstly, a big thank you to the Liturgy Team, all of your work was reflected in the great Christmas Liturgies and I know that you are already planning for Easter. This is in addition to the more day to day work that you do for all of us. Thank you.

As we pass the first anniversary of the February 2011 Christchurch earthquake, it is timely to pause for a moment and reflect on the devastation that it caused, those that lost their lives, and the families who for whom life will never be the same

again. Despite the destruction and damage of many Church buildings (including the iconic Cathedral), Church still continues and is a salient reminder to us that what makes the community of Christ is more important than the building we meet in to worship together. The impact is not just contained down south; our Archdiocese is facing a major challenge with significant numbers of earthquake prone buildings. While a challenge, it provides great opportunities for us to be looking ahead from our helicopter, putting aside buildings, highways and rivers, and focussing on how best we create the loving faith community of Christ in Kapiti/Horowhenua.

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The school drama group presents *Hamlet* in the Church hall on Friday at 7pm. All are invited to attend this tragedy.

The priority for this year will be to continue this helicopter role, and continue to grow the collaboration across our parishes, in particular St Patrick's and Our Lady of Fatima. We made great progress last year, building on the years before and a real tribute to the leadership of Fr Michael and your willingness to focus on what is truly important. Specifically, we will be looking to reduce duplication and streamline some of the administrative tasks done across the two parishes, collaborating and sharing more in the liturgy space, and changing mass timetables to be sustainable in the long term with just one Parish Priest.

Please contact us if you have any questions, keep an eye on the notice board for minutes of our meetings and we look forward to working with you as we continue the journey.

- Richard Ward

## Our Pastoral Area School



The new school year has started with plenty of energy and enthusiasm.

We have already enrolled and welcomed a number of new students throughout the school.

We have lots of 5 year olds due to start during the year and expect to finish the year with more students than last year. Our non preference (non catholic) roll is now full for the year. This is a really positive start to 2012.

The opening school mass was celebrated by Fr Michael, with St Patrick's parish, led by the children's music team.



**The School Music Group at the School Mass**

Our theme for the year is “How can we be ‘salt’ to those around us. Fr Michael talked about how the children sharing their gifts and talents is one way of being salt to those around us.

To quote from Archbishop John’s opening newsletter to schools: ‘Our years seem to be busier and busier, and the days fuller and fuller, and the challenge to live the Gospel is just as urgent.

As we think about the year ahead we remember that all that we do is not just a task or a function; the reason for all that we do is that we may all be “the living Gospel for all to hear”.

Once again this year we are holding our special twilight St Patrick’s Day event on Saturday 17th March from 4 – 7pm. All things Irish plus. There will be lots of food, entertainment , quick fire raffles and things for the kids. Brings the kids and grandkids, have a night off cooking and enjoy a good old fashioned family time.

We appreciate and value your on-going support and prayers for the staff, children and families.

God Bless

- Martin Elms, Principal

### **St Patrick’s School Twilight Event**

St Patricks Day, Saturday March 17th  
4 – 7pm. Tongariro  
Street Paraparaumu

A family night of food  
and entertainment.

All thing Irish plus!



## **Youth**



St. Patrick’s Youth Ministry has some changes afoot including a name change.

We are now St. Patrick’s Child and Youth Ministry. This name better reflects the demographic we cater to from preschoolers with Fun Time to older youth with Senior G.U.Y.S. We have also had a room change for the Child & Youth Office which is now located in Room 1 at St. Patrick’s School. The office is open every Wednesday during term time and school hours, so feel free to drop in.

2012 will see Child and Youth Ministry introduce a new youth group and alter the age groups that each youth group caters for.

- J-Team – for children in school Years 5 to 7. The sessions will run monthly, generally on the last Friday of the month.
- Junior G.U.Y.S. – for youth in Year 8 through to Year 10. They will meet monthly on the last Sunday of the month.
- Senior G.U.Y.S. - caters to Years 11, 12 and 13.

We have made these changes after consultation with the youth and Youth Group Leaders. Experience has shown that as our children move through Year 8 they are ready to move away from the activities that J-Team offers as these cater more for the younger children. When they are old enough to attend G.U.Y.S. in Year 9, they begin a year with huge changes involving the



move to college, new opportunities for sport and clubs and the link to the youth group is lost. By giving them the opportunity to be involved with Junior G.U.Y.S. we hope to cement the link which will keep them involved with the youth group and cement some older relations which will assist them as they transition into college. We have split off the older youth in Year 11, 12 and 13 as they too need a programme that caters to their age and needs which are quite different from the younger teenager. By providing a programme that is age appropriate, we hope to encourage the youth to retain their connection with their faith as they head into adulthood. To assist with the change the Year 11 students are welcome to attend the Junior G.U.Y.S. Youth Group as due to

current low numbers of older youth there will not be a formal Youth Group for them to attend in 2012. There will however be other activities to keep them involved.

In 2012 there will be 3 camps – one for the Junior G.U.Y.S. in March, one for Senior G.U.Y.S. in July, and a combined G.U.Y.S. camp in December. Youth Music, Bible Study and monthly events which youth from both G.U.Y.S. Youth groups can attend will continue to run.

With this framework, we will continue to build a strong foundation where our youth will thrive in their faith through fellowship, fun & learning.

All enquiries to  
kapiti.youth@gmail.com

- Jacqui McLaughlin

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# Recent Events

## Presentation Sisters Celebrate Jubilee

On Sunday 13th November 2011 our Pastoral Area celebrated the 60th Jubilee of the arrival of the Presentation Sisters in N.Z.

We were joined by past pupils, teachers and long standing parishioners, some of whom knew the Sisters from the early days.

Fr. Michael McCabe celebrated the Mass with Fr. Jim Kershaw. In his homily Fr. Michael focused on the commitment the Sisters had made in following their foundress, Nano Nagle, and he thanked them for all their years of dedication and hard work in the communities in which they have worked.

Mass was followed by morning tea and the cutting of the jubilee cake by Sr. Celine, a founding Sister. The

Jubilee cake featured the Sisters' Presentation badge and the Lantern, two symbols of Nano Nagle. During the cup of tea a D.V.D. showed highlights of significant events of the past 60 years in Paraparaumu. These featured the original film showing the opening of the school at the Bluemoon Ballroom, the opening and construction of the school on its present site, the dedication by Cardinal McKeefrey of Our Lady of Lourdes Statue on the hill, the novitiate at Orowharu, the Blessing of the Animals by Fr Darroch and also highlights of the 50th Jubilee Weekend.

This celebration was part of a pilgrimage the Sisters were making to mark the 60 years. They began in Dunedin on the weekend of 5/6 November, moving to Paraparaumu on 9 November, and the weekend of 11/12 November was spent between Taita, Naenae and Eastbourne.



Sisters ( from L to R) Regina, Celine and Noreen cutting the Jubilee Cake



Offertory procession with globe & lamp, symbols representing the Presentation Sisters

Tuesday 15 November they travelled north to revisit Oruwahara, the place of their once novitiate, and from there they visited Manaia, New Plymouth and back down to Jerusalem where they ended their pilgrimage on Sunday 20 November.

Stewart Homan, an Associate, made a Waka for the Sisters to gather symbols of some of the places they visited. There is an Albatross from Dunedin, boats from Eastbourne and the statue

of Our Lady from Paraparaumu engraved on the Waka.

The pilgrimage was a very joyous and prayerful occasion for the Sisters; an occasion neither they nor those they shared with along the way, will forget.

On the next page are some photos of the Pilgrimage activities in Paraparaumu. They are of the function in Grace Hall where the school greeted the Sisters on this part of their pilgrimage.



Presentation Sisters, associates and some staff of St Patrick's in Grace Hall with the Waka



St Patrick's School children with the Presentation Sisters' icon

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## A Happy Kapiti Valentines Day

Our Lady of Fatima Parish Waikanae hosted a St Valentines Day Mass on the Tuesday 14th February for the Kapiti Pastoral Area with liturgy and music put together by members of both parishes. Some 140 people attended as well as a small contingent from Otaki parish. Mass was followed by coffee, beautifully prepared desert and wine provided by Waikanae parish [*Thanks Kathy!*].

There were many couples present with more than 40 and 50 years of marriage behind them, as well as recently married couples. The offertory was taken up by two widows and one of them described attending as a thanksgiving for her years of marriage and made her feel emotional.

Fr Jim Kershaw was the celebrant and one parishioner described that fact as “the icing on the cake”. Fr Jim referred to his former state of matrimony and talked about the need to work hard at fulfilling the wedding vows we made to each other throughout our lives together.

Judging by the enthusiastic response to this event, we believe that many

parishioners will support the Archbishop's initiative in the cathedral by attending similar events in the outer archdiocesan pastoral areas. The profile of Marriage can only be improved as a result.

*Hanley Hoffmann*

### **Reflection and Wonderment of St Valentine's Day Marriage Celebration Mass**

We had a great time, it was better than staying at home and watching TV or going to the movies. You may well ask *How could that be?*

Well it was a great time we had with a bunch of people who also went to the Marriage Celebration Mass at Our Lady of Fatima Church Waikanae on St Valentine's Day. It was a good Mass, reflective, humorous, social, and spiritual time meeting people from Waikanae, St Mary's Otaki, and St Patrick's Paraparaumu. The music was excellent (Wes Brown, Organist, St Luke's) and some pointers of spiritual, and practical challenge and humour





gifted to us to choose and use by Father Jim Kershaw.

In the last few days we have continued the reflection around those pointers within our relationship.

The beginning of our relationship, before marriage evolved for us, was more about “being in love” or “falling in love”, and as time moved on we found that experience to be a normal human, temporary state.

The Mass raised for us about being able to receive and give love, but more importantly the “commitment” we originally made and “words we said and meant” now can be seen as a critical part of our marriage love relationship.

We see this in Jesus as he “made a commitment” and “words said and meant” to carry his relationship with God the Father.

*In my father's house there are many mansions..(Jesus said) ..  
I go to prepare a place for you - Saint John 14 vs 2*

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Sometimes Jesus required solitude, sometimes for him it was stressful. Yet Jesus was still also able to share his commitment to the relationship in a public way for all to enjoy and learn. Doesn't that sound like us - solitude, commitment, love, being an individual and yet be part of unity, "meant words" to create our relationship.

Jesus' relationship journey helps us to understand each other and what commitment to marriage means.

The message of sustenance for us being the love of God the Father for his Son Jesus and Jesus' love and commitment to God his Father; Jesus' love and committed love relationship for us all; our love and commitment to Jesus and his teaching and hence God the Father; and our parallel love and commitment and meant words to our partners.

The Marriage Mass last Tuesday, the social gathering after mass, the sharing of experiences (funnies, highs, lows, each other's strengths), the lively spirit of the mass, the mass being in our own backyard so to speak, the food and refreshments, and the humour among the people, ALL were most enjoyable.

Congratulations to Our Lady of Fatima Church, Waikanae for hosting the first of these St Valentine's Day Celebration Masses and to the Pastoral Area People who made it happen.

A great number turned out and a wonderful moment was had, and is still continuing after the event.

See you all and others next year for this great way to refresh and revitalise ourselves and our relationship.

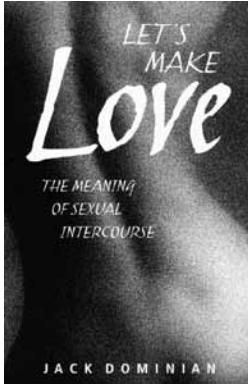
God bless

- Doug & Mary Fake





# Book Review



Let's Make Love opens the windows and lets the fresh air in on the theology and spirituality of sex and sexuality. Jack Dominian writes unashamedly

in the spirit of Vatican II. He writes clearly and with authority.

He traces the history of Jewish, Greek and Christian attitudes to the body and to sex. We found this historical treatment very helpful in explaining some of the attitudes to the body and sex (to "the flesh") that we absorbed in growing up as New Zealand Catholics fifty years ago.

Dominian argues convincingly that Church teaching has moved from seeing procreation as the primary end of marriage to a view that understands marriage as a community of love: "Every time we make love, we are in the presence of God".

He argues for the sacredness of sex in these challenging words:

The couple, in the process of making love, are expressing the central liturgy of the domestic church. They are the couple in prayer, and sexual intercourse is the central and recurrent act of prayer of the couple ..... It culminates in the trinity formed

by two people becoming a third, single being in one union...

Marriage and sexual intercourse are the people of God in prayer. (p 80)

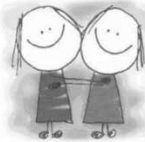
He believes that the world has trivialised sex and that authentic Christian teaching reveals the magnificence of God's gifts of sex and sexuality, not only as shown in the Book of Genesis and in the Song of Songs but also affirmed in the wedding feast at Cana, the writings of Hosea and the imagery of the Church as the Bride of Christ.

Dominian is not entirely orthodox in his book. He challenges Humanae Vitae and he explains carefully on what grounds he challenges it.

We have certainly found reading this book very helpful in expressing and celebrating love-making within current Catholic theology.

- Peter & Anna Ryan

This book is available from Pleroma or can be borrowed from Peter & Anna



To all my friends and relatives who have sent me best wishes, chain letters, angel letters or other promises of good luck,

**NONE OF IT WORKED!**

Could you please just send cash, vodka, chocolate, Italian food, wine or airline tickets instead?

Thank you!

# Upcoming Events

## Retreat in Daily Life

The Kapiti Coast Pastoral Area will be holding a Retreat in Daily Life this year. It will be held from 6-11 May and will be hosted by St Patrick's. This is a first for the pastoral area as previously each parish had a retreat on a bi-annual basis. There will be a promotion for these retreats on 14<sup>th</sup>/15<sup>th</sup> April at Waikanae and 21<sup>st</sup>/22<sup>nd</sup> April in Paraparaumu.

*What is a retreat in daily life?* It is a retreat based in the Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola, held over six days and is gospel based.

*How does it work?* A team of professionally trained prayer guides are in the Parish for one week and host the retreat. In this area they are conducted by the Cenacle Sisters along

with the help of others. All material required for the retreat is provided by the team.

*What do I have to do?* Come to a group session at the beginning and end of the week, and from Monday to Friday come to the parish to have a half hour individual meeting with a prayer guide. Also it is asked that you spend a half hour in prayer each day at home.

*Why should I do a retreat?* All of us need at some time in our lives a chance to talk about our faith journey. It is also a good way of having a 'top up' in our spiritual lives. The beauty of this retreat is that it starts just where you are right now. There is no need to worry about what has gone before

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in your life or what the future might hold. It is a good chance to strengthen your relationship with God and with others around you at home, at work, in the Parish.

There will be more reminders about this retreat in Parish newsletters in the future.

However, for more information or to enter your name for this retreat, please phone Merle Whiteman 904 1855

### **Charismatic Prayer Group**

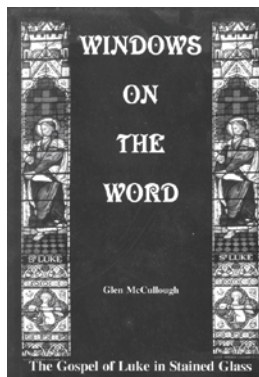
meets every 2nd & 4th Wednesday  
at 7:30pm in the Foyer of Our  
Lady of Fatima church in Parata St,  
Waikanae.

All are welcome to come, praise &  
worship and be blessed.

Contact Billie 902 3868  
or Glen 2931747

## **Windows on the Word**

**The Gospel of Luke  
illustrated with images of  
stained glass.**



**\$15 with 10% going to  
"Grains of Hope" charity.**

**Call Glen McCullough  
2931747 for your copy**

## **Christian Meditation Group**

It has been said in recent times that the Church of the future will be contemplative. This makes sense, for we are overfed with electronically communicated information. The cell phone never stops, nor the texting thumbs, not to mention TV and the internet. Meditation is keeping up with the times, not just picking up where the early Christians left off.

We need to communicate with God too. It is good to turn off all this technology and be ourselves once or twice a day. To turn off our thoughts and overactive egos and let God take over "let go and let God". Allow the

stillness within become one with the stillness with which the Spirit dwells within us. It benefits mind body and soul.

Meditators meet Tuesdays at 4pm in the Waikanae Parish meeting room, for support and growth. Christ is present where people meet in His name. The weekly 'togetherness' is uplifting. Anyone of any age or Christian denomination, is welcome. I am willing to start an evening group for those who find Tuesday afternoon not suitable.

Contact Carla Tollenaar ph. 902 2456

# Saints

## St Patrick of Ireland 387-461



St. Patrick of Ireland is one of the world's most popular saints.

Along with St. Nicholas and St. Valentine, the secular world shares our love of these saints. This is also a day when everyone's Irish.

There are many legends and stories of St. Patrick, but this is his story.

Patrick was born around 385 in Scotland, probably Kilpatrick.

His parents were Calpornius and Conchessa, who were Romans living in Britian in charge of the colonies.

As a boy of fourteen or so, he was captured during a raiding party and taken to Ireland as a slave to herd and tend sheep. Ireland at this time was a land of Druids and pagans. He learned the language and practices of the people who held him.

During his captivity, he turned to God in prayer.

Patrick's captivity lasted until he was twenty, when he escaped after having a dream from God in which he was told to leave Ireland by going to the

coast. There he found some sailors who took him back to Britian, where he reunited with his family.

He had another dream in which the people of Ireland were calling out to him "We beg you, holy youth, to come and walk among us once more."

He began his studies for the priesthood. He was ordained by St. Germanus, the Bishop of Auxerre, whom he had studied under for years.

Later, Patrick was ordained a bishop, and was sent to take the Gospel to Ireland. He arrived in Ireland March 25, 433, at Slane. One legend says that he met a chieftain of one of the tribes, who tried to kill Patrick. Patrick converted Dichu (the chieftain) after he was unable to move his arm until he became friendly to Patrick.

Patrick began preaching the Gospel throughout Ireland, converting many. He and his disciples preached and converted thousands and began building churches all over the country. Kings, their families, and entire kingdoms converted to Christianity when hearing Patrick's message.

Patrick by now had many disciples, among them Benignus, Auxilius, Iserninus, and Fiac, (all later canonized as well).

Patrick preached and converted all of Ireland for 40 years. He worked many miracles and wrote of his love for God in Confessions. After years of living in poverty, traveling and enduring much suffering he died March 17, 461.

He died at Saul, where he had built the first church.

Sourced from [www.catholic.org/saints](http://www.catholic.org/saints)

# *Points to Ponder*

## *or maybe something amusing for your delectation*

### The Cross in Our Bodies

This is a pretty neat story and an interesting thing that few of us know.

A couple of days ago I was running (I use that term very loosely) on my treadmill, watching a DVD sermon by Louie Giglio... And I was BLOWN AWAY! I want to share what I learned....

He (Louie) was talking about how inconceivably BIG our God is... how He spoke the universe into being... how He breathes stars out of His mouth that are huge raging balls of fire... etc. etc. Then he went on to speak of how this star-breathing, universe creating God ALSO knitted our human bodies together with amazing detail and wonder. At this point I am LOVING it (fascinating from a medical standpoint, you know).

And I was remembering how I was constantly amazed during medical school as I learned more and more about God's handiwork. I remember so many times thinking 'How can ANYONE deny that a Creator did all of this?' Louie went on to talk about how we can trust that the God who created all this also has the power to hold it all together when things seem to be falling apart; how our loving Creator is also our sustainer.

And then I lost my breath. And it wasn't because I was running my treadmill, either!!!

It was because he started talking about laminin. I knew about laminin. Wikipedia describes them as *a family of proteins that are an integral part of the structural scaffolding of basement membranes in almost every animal tissue*. You see, laminins are what hold us together, literally. They are cell adhesion molecules. They are what holds one cell of our bodies to the next cell. Without them we would literally fall apart. And I knew all this already. But what I didn't know is what they looked like. But now I do.

If you look up laminin in any scientific/medical piece of literature, this is what you will see....



Now tell me that our God is not the coolest!!! Amazing. The glue that holds us together - ALL of us - is in the shape of the cross. Immediately Colossians 1:15-17 comes to mind.

'He is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. .... All things were created by him and for him. He is before all things, and in him ALL THINGS HOLD TOGETHER.' Colossians 1:15-17

Call me crazy. I just think that is very, very, very cool. Thousands of years before the world knew anything about laminin, Paul penned those words. And now we see that from a very LITERAL standpoint, we are held together, one cell to another, by the cross.

You would never in a quadrillion years convince me that is anything other than the mark of a Creator who knew EXACTLY what laminin 'glue' would look like long before Adam breathed his first breath!!

### **Does this strike a chord with you?**

I had boxed God into a small idea. In my brain, I limited who he is and what he can do and what he wants to do, based on my human experiences. I was praying to my own idea of God, my own created image of him.

To break free of this, I did a spiritual exercise that you might find helpful, too. I pictured a box inside my head. I imagined opening that box to let God burst out of it. I "saw" him expanding to a much, much larger size – he grew larger than the universe, larger than my imagination could stretch to contain, and even larger than that. Then I prayed to THAT God. Wow! The difference in my faith was awesome! I could trust a God who was that huge and powerful.



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or 902 6330 (hm)



### **Bequests**

Are you thinking about or planning a bequest?

A gift to your Parish's building and development fund would help to secure the future of our churches here in Kapiti.

For help or more information contact the Parish Office:

Waikanae: 293 1386

Paraparaumu: 902 5815

## The Lord's Prayer

Our Father Who Art In Heaven.

Yes?

Don't interrupt me. I'm praying.

*But - you called ME!*

Called you? No, I didn't call you. I'm praying.



Our Father who art in Heaven.

*There - you did it again!*

Did what?

*Called ME.*

*You said, "Our Father who art in Heaven". Well, here I am. What's on your mind?*

But I didn't mean anything by it. I was, you know, just saying my prayers for the day. I always say the Lord's Prayer. It makes me feel good, kind of like fulfilling a duty.

*Well, all right. Go on.*

Okay, Hallowed be thy name .

*Hold it right there. What do you mean by that?*

By what?

*By "Hallowed be thy name"?*

It means, it means . . . good grief, I don't know what it means. How in the world should I know? It's just a part of the prayer.

By the way, what does it mean?

*It means honoured, holy, wonderful.*

Hey, that makes sense. I never thought about what 'hallowed' meant before.

*Thanks.*

Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven.

*Do you really mean that?*

Sure, why not?

*What are you doing about it?*

Doing? Why, nothing, I guess. I just think it would be kind of neat if you got control, of everything down here like you have up there. We're kinda in a mess down here you know.

*Yes, I know; but, have I got control of you?*

Well, I go to church.

*That isn't what I asked you. What about your bad temper? You've really got a problem there, you know.*

*And then there's the way you spend your money - all on yourself.*

*And what about the kind of books you read?*

Now hold on just a minute! Stop picking on me! I'm just as good as some of the rest of those people at church!

*Excuse ME... I thought you were praying for my will to be done. If that is to happen, it will have to start with the ones who are praying for it.*

*Like you, for example ...*

Oh, all right. I guess I do have some hang-ups. Now that you mention it, I could probably name some others.

*So could I.*

I haven't thought about it very much until now, but I really would like to cut out some of those things. I would like to, you know, be really free.

*Good. Now we're getting somewhere. We'll work together - You and ME. I'm proud of You.*

Look, Lord, if you don't mind, I need to finish up here. This is taking a lot longer than it usually does.



Give us this day, our daily bread..

*You need to cut out the bread. You're overweight as it is.*

Hey, wait a minute! What is this? Here I was doing my religious duty, and all of a sudden you break in and remind me of all my hang-ups.

*Praying is a dangerous thing. You just might get what you ask for. Remember, you called ME - and here I am. It's too late to stop now. Keep praying. ( pause ... ) Well, go on.*

I'm scared to.

*Scared? Of what?*

I know what you'll say.

*Try ME.*

Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.

*What about Ann?*

See? I knew it! I knew you would bring her up! Why, Lord, she's told lies about me, spread stories. She never paid back the money she owes me. I've sworn to get even with her!

*But, your prayer. What about your prayer?*

I didn't ... mean it..

*Well, at least you're honest. But, it's quite a load carrying around all that bitterness and resentment isn't it?*

Yes, but I'll feel better as soon as I get even with her. Boy, have I got some plans for her. She'll wish she had never been born.

*No, you won't feel any better. You'll feel worse. Revenge isn't sweet. You know how unhappy you are. Well, I can change that.*

You can? How?

*Forgive Ann. Then, I'll forgive you; and the hate and the sin will be Ann's problem, not yours. You will have settled the problem as far as you are concerned.*

Oh, you know, you're right. You always are. And more than I want revenge, I want to be right with You . . (sigh). All right, all right . . I forgive her.

*There now! Wonderful! How do you feel?*

Hmmmm. Well, not bad. Not bad at all! In fact, I feel pretty great! You

know, I don't think I'll go to bed  
uptight tonight. I haven't been getting  
much rest, you know.

*Yeah, I know. But, you're not through  
with your prayer, are you? Go on.*

Oh, all right.

And lead us not into temptation, but  
deliver us from evil.

*Good! Good! I'll do that. Just don't put  
yourself in a place where you can be  
tempted.*

What do you mean by that?

*You know what I mean.*

Yeah. I know.

*Okay. Go ahead. Finish your prayer.*

*For Thine is the kingdom, and the  
power, and the glory forever. Amen.*

*Do you know what would bring me  
glory? What would really make me  
happy?*

No, but I'd like to know. I want to  
please you now. I've really made a  
mess of things. I want to truly follow  
you. I can see now how great that  
would be. So, tell me, how do I make  
you happy?

*YOU just did.*



**menALIVE**

## **Men's Weekend**

**for Archdiocese of Wellington men**

**28th & 29th April**

**Otaki Bridge Lodge**

**Come.....Listen.....Live**

**Contact Glen 293 1747**





# Parish Directories November 2011

Please let us know if there are any errors or omissions on these pages.

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Area Pastoral Council Acting Chair	Michael Dodson	293 1624
Area Pastoral Council Sec	Anna Ryan	902 6330
Pastoral Pages ed. Anna Ryan	office@ryanpublications.co.nz	902 6330
St Patrick's School		
Office	Val McCall	298 6780
Principal	Martin Elms	298 6780
Board of Trustees Chairman	Dave Meyer	298 6780
B.O.T. meets at School 4th Wednesday monthly		
Our Lady of Fatima Parish		
Administrator	Fr Michael McCabe stpatrickskapiti@paradise.net.nz	902 5815
Parish Office	Secretary: Mary Maloney Hours Mon, Wed, Fri 10:30-1:30 our.lady@xtra.co.nz Newsletter deadline Wed. pm	293 3767
Parish Council Chairman/Secretary	Michael Dodson	293 1624
Finance Committee Chairman	Brian Byers	293 7368
Website	www.waikanae-catholic.org.nz Glen McCullough	293 1747
Church Worship Support		
Liturgy Committee	Sister Barbara Henley	904 6112
Church Flowers	Barbara Ratcliffe	904 1321
Communion to the Sick Co-ordinator	Mary Byers	293 7368
Rosters Co-ordinators	Mary Malony	293 3767
Music Organists	Judith Wheeler 293 1129 Maria Vink 905 9190 Doreen Hoffmann 904 3276 Patricia Beasley 293 7964	
Guitars	Wullie Grant	904 8702
Sacristans	Carla Tolenaar 902 2456 Martha Westerbeke	904 2757
Children's Liturgy Coordinator	Jenny McGlone	904 7451
Sacramental Programme 2011	Fiona Green	293 1778
Other Parish Organisations		
Rest Home Liturgy Services	Faith Outreach Convener Nonie Hoggard	293 3328
Women's Guild	Barbara Henley	904 6112
Meets every 2nd Monday of every month except January		
St Vincent de Paul President	Martha Westerbeke	904 2757
Meets 2nd & 4th Wednesday of every month except January		
Passionist Family Groups	Phyllis & Jim Power	293 2985
Justice and Peace	Des Horan	904 8086
Prayer Groups Monday Afternoon	Sandra Bater 905 2774 Billie Watson	902 3868
2nd & 4th Wednesday Evening Group	Glen McCullough	293 1747
Christian Meditation (Tuesdays)	Carla Tolenaar	902 2456
Scripture Study Group Thursdays	Mary Dorrington	904 7390
Youth Group	Sr. Helen O'Sullivan	904 6112
Faith Exploration	Sue McGlone	293 8536
Bereavement Support (SVDP)	Martha Westerbeke	904 2757
Communications & Pastoral Pages	Glen McCullough	293 1747

St Patrick's Parish				
Presbytery	Fr Michael McCabe			902 5815
Parish Office	Kathleen Beaumont			902 5815
Pastoral Council Chair	Richard Ward			905 4675
Finance Committee Chair	Dave Diggins			902 1328
Youth Co-ordinator	Debbie Matheson			0226757357
Trust	John McCardle			904 1823
Presentation Convent	Sister Celine			905 3420
<b><u>Church Worship Support</u></b>				
Liturgy	Marie Huxford			299 0650
Liturgy Roster	Tony Whiteman			904 1855
Children's Liturgy	Alison Boyle			904 6834
Music	Bill Borkin			904 7464
Altar Servers	Rene Barker			905 1736
Eucharist Ministers for the sick	Eddie Doran			902 1074
Masses of Anointing	Colleen King			905 5913
Church Cleaning Roster	Parish Office			902 5815
Church Flowers	Joyce Haughey			905 4467
Sanctuary & Brass	Nancy Lewin			905 6388
Bereavement Mass	Marie Huxford			299 0650
Reconciliation/Eucharist/Confirmation	Kath Garton			904 9341
Engaged Couples (Foccus)	Doug & Mary Fake			904 6290
Baptisms & Bereavements	Merle Whiteman			904 1855
<b><u>Other Parish Organisations</u></b>				
St Vincent de Paul	Rebecca Thomson			905 4675
Maori Mission	Wai Stewart			902 4909
Intercessory Prayer Group	Karen Huxford			299 4307
Cath Women's League	Fay Doyle			902 3017
NCRS & RCIA	Fr Michael	902 5815	Eddie Doran	902 1074
Used Clothing	Adult Joy Woodham	298 7802	Child Joanna March	904 7350
Mission Circle	Jean Beaumont			902 1446
Passionist Family Groups	John & Corrie McCardle			904 1823
Living Aloners	Jan Dowd			905 4633
Widowed, Separated, Divorced	Susan Harwood			905 7077
Family Ministry	Phil Lawton			905 4439
Bereavement Support	Jennifer Lawton			905 4439
Men's Group	Frits Bergman	297 0777	Pat Haughey	905 4467
Justice & Peace	Peter Ryan			902 6330
Mission Gala Convenor	Tony Bevin			299 6825
Faith Exploration	Anna Ryan			902 6330
Parish Library	Robyn Cranshaw			299 0589
Prayer Chain				
	Margaret Butterfield	902 8596	Gill Doran	902 1074
	Nan Lewin			905 6388
Statue & Pilgrimage	Neil Garton (sound)	904 9341	Geoff Mettrick	904 2623

Ladies Remember ... a layer of dust protects the Wood beneath it. A house becomes a home when you can write 'I love you' on the furniture



I used to spend at least 8 hours every weekend making sure things were just perfect - 'in case someone came over'. Finally I realized one day that no-one came over; they were all out living life and having fun!

NOW, when people visit, I don't have to explain the 'condition' of my home. They are more interested in hearing about the things I've been doing while I was away living life and having fun.



If you haven't figured this out yet, please heed this advice. Life is short. Enjoy it!

Dust if you must  
but wouldn't it be better to paint a picture or write a letter, bake cookies or a cake and lick the spoon or plant a seed, ponder the difference between want and need?



Dust if you must, but there's not much time . . . . .  
with wine to drink, rivers to swim and mountains to climb, music to hear and books to read, friends to cherish and life to lead.



Dust if you must,  
but the world's out there with the sun in your eyes, the wind in your hair, a flutter of snow, a shower of rain.  
This day will not come around, again.



Dust if you must, but bear in mind, old age will come and it's not kind.....



And when you go - and go you must - you, yourself will make more dust!

It's not what you gather, but what you scatter that tells what kind of life you have lived.