



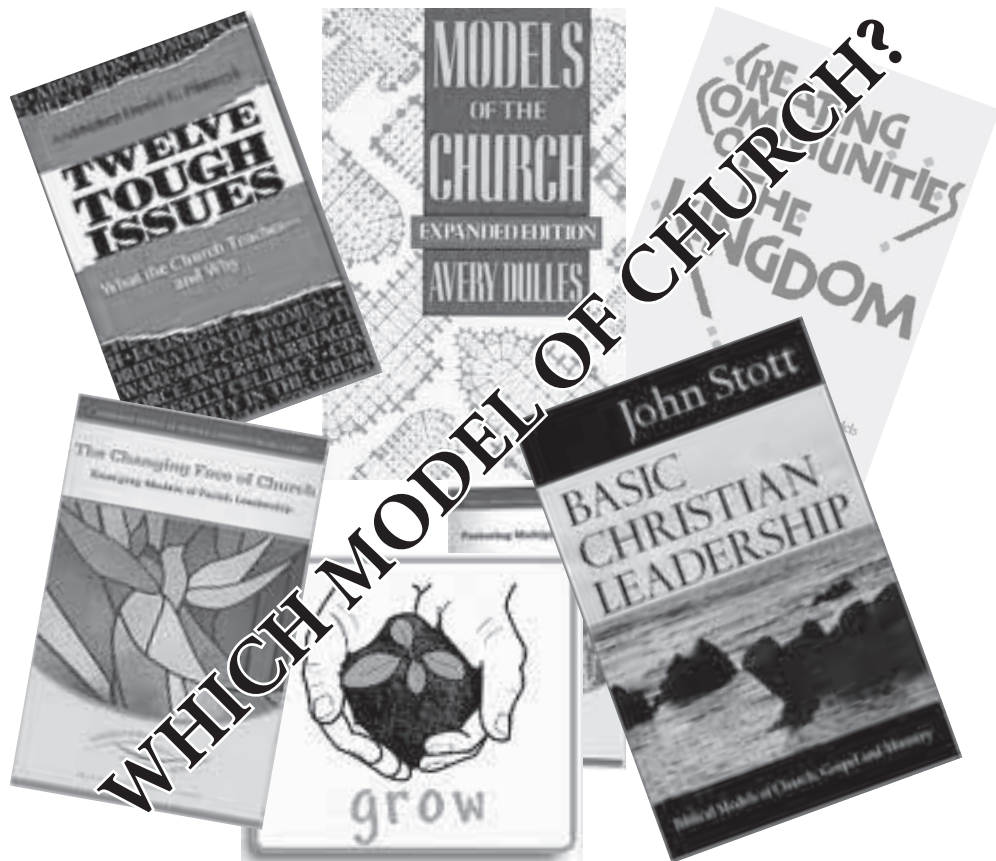
Pastoral Pages

Catholic Parishes of Kapiti

St Patrick's, Paraparaumu

Our Lady of Fatima, Waikanae

Spring 2011



What's inside

Without a parish priest – contributors consider issues related to the priest shortage





Editorial

Welcome to the Spring 2011 issue of Pastoral Pages. WE hope you enjoy it. With Fr. Owen's retirement, this issue takes a look at 'Where to from here?' A number of contributors, including Fr Michael, our Parish Pastoral Council chairs, parishioners, a Lay Pastoral Leader, and a Parish worker consider some of the implications and offer some thoughtful reflections. This is to be a major consideration for our Pastoral Area over the next few

months and it is important for us to be as informed as we can be.

The usual Pastoral Area groups provide us with reports, including a back ground article on the Mission Gala which is so very well supported by both parishes, and we introduce a parish group and a parishioner.

We have a few funnies for you as well to lighten the mood.

A reminder - if you have any recent events you'd like included, please send a report together with any photos of the event, to the editor. Similarly, you can advertise any parish based future events as well.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all those who have contributed to making this issue such a full and thought provoking one.

God Bless – Anna & the Editorial Team.

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Message From the Kapiti Pastoral Area Council



Dear Parishioners,

As we enter the third month of our new Pastoral Area arrangements, we would like to take this opportunity to thank you for your response, to inform you of recent developments and to encourage you to be involved as we look to the future.

Just over eighteen months ago the Kapiti Pastoral Area Team was well served by three Priests: Fr Owen Sinclair, Mons. John Carde and Fr Michael McCabe. Today, the Team is one Priest. As you know, we have a temporary and short term arrangement in place with a roster of retired Priests supporting Fr Michael to deliver a very similar level of services to those we have been used to.

These temporary arrangements are only manageable in the short term and were put in place until the Archdiocese advised us of Priest availability for 2012 and beyond.

On your behalf, the Chairs of both Parish Councils wish to thank Fr Michael and the roster of retired Priests for their efforts and commitment over the past few months. In particular, we acknowledge the large support provided by Fr Jim Kershaw and Cardinal Tom Williams. We would also like to thank you, our Parishioners, for the way you have accepted the change and continued to Minister and support each other.

Last week the Archbishop advised the Kapiti Pastoral Area Council that a second Priest will not be appointed

to our Pastoral Area Team for 2012, noting the shortage of Priests across the Archdiocese. The Archbishop also asked if we would like him to start the process of appointing a Lay Pastoral Leader to join Fr Michael as the Pastoral Area Team for next year (the appointment process normally takes about 6 months).

Being aware that this is an important long term decision, we have advised the Archbishop that we would like to take some time to discern, pray and discuss this further with our Parishes. We are aware that there are a number of different models or ways that Pastoral Area Teams are made up and how they operate. We would like to take the time to determine what the needs of our Pastoral Area are and what is the best arrangement or model for us going forward. We have committed to providing the Archbishop with a preliminary response by the end of October.

Between now and the end of October we will be leading a consultation and discernment process. We urge you to take the opportunities to be involved, to reflect on the strengths of our Pastoral Area and on what is really important for us to carry forward, to think about what our spiritual, sacramental, liturgical and pastoral needs are, and how we might meet those needs in a different way.

This issue of Pastoral Pages is very timely and has a number of very relevant articles and reflections that we encourage you to read. Thank you

for your willingness to continue this journey as we build the body of Christ on the Kapiti Coast.

God bless

Fr Michael McCabe

Parish Priest & Administrator

Michael Dodson

Chair, Our Lady of Fatima

Parish Pastoral Council

Richard Ward

Chair, St Patrick's

Parish Pastoral Council

Waikanae Farewells its Beloved Parish Priest

On Pentecost Sunday the parishioners of Our Lady of Fatima Parish, Waikanae, farewelled its retiring Parish Priest, Fr Owen Sinclair. Fr Owen took responsibility for pastoring his 13th parish in February 2003 and over the succeeding eight and a half years endeared himself to his parishioners as a gentle, caring priest who loved celebrating Mass.

There were two farewells, one after the vigil Mass with wine & cheese, the other after the Sunday Mass. At the latter, valedictories were given by both the present chairman of the Parish Council (Michael Dodson) and the immediate past chairman (Jim Power). The chairman of the Finance Committee (Brian Byers) presented Fr Owen with a retirement gift and Fr Owen cut a beautiful cake made in his honour. Everyone then enjoyed the sumptuous morning tea!



Fr Owen will spend his well-earned retirement living in Waikanae. Until February 2012 Fr Michael McCabe, PP of St Patrick's Paraparaumu has been appointed Administrator and the sacramental life of the Kapiti Pastoral Area will be provided by Fr McCabe and a roster of retired priests who live in the area. As Fr Owen will be on the roster, it will be a somewhat "claytons" retirement for him.



Fr Owen accepting his farewell gift



Parishioners singing a version of "Now is the Hour" specially written by Mary Dorrington



Part of the gathering enjoying morning tea

Theme: Models of Church

What is Local Church?

What is a “local church”? In strict terms it means a diocese. For most of us our worshipping community has been our parish. How will we worship as a community on the Kapiti Coast in 2031, 2041, 2051?

Parishes developed in Europe around the local village, creating a model of local church below the diocese – the church was within easy travelling distance and the priest(s) lived close by, providing pastoral care and teaching.

New Zealand church history has seen another model. Early Catholics did not have resident priests within their communities. This did not mean that there was no faith community – there was, and they were very strong.

Today, in South America and many African countries, there are many local faith communities with no resident priest. He visits a few times a year and baptises, marries, says Mass, hears confessions and then moves on. Yet the faith continues to grow and develop.

Today, in New Zealand, many Protestant churches have “house churches” - small groups gather weekly to pray and share and then group together as a “community of communities” for Sunday worship.

As Kapiti Coast Catholics we have made some moves in this area: we have PFM groups, men’s groups,

women’s groups and other faith-sharing groups in both parishes.

Without a Parish Priest?

At the beginning of 2008, St Bernard’s Parish, Brooklyn became one of the many parishes around the country with a Lay Pastoral Leader and no Parish Priest. We are part of a Pastoral Area consisting of St Mary of the Angels, St Joseph’s and ourselves.

The transition has been relatively trouble-free but it is my impression that the other parishes, and maybe a large proportion of St Bernard’s parishioners, do not regard themselves as part of a wider group and effectively the parish has continued to function as a separate entity.

Although there is clearly an extra workload placed on the Lay Pastoral Leader and others involved in liaising with the other two parishes, this has not adversely affected the wider parish community. Indeed, I feel that we have gained a lot since our new status. We have had a formally selected Pastoral Council for the first time in many years and more significantly, when half of us stood down at the end of two years, sufficient good parishioners put themselves forward as replacements.

I attend the 9.30 Mass on Sunday and our numbers there have increased since the changeover in 2008 and we have a large number of younger family groups. The Children’s Liturgy group flourishes and we would have 20+

children taking part most weeks. The advantage of a smaller parish is that we do have a family atmosphere and this has definitely strengthened over the last three years. I can only comment on the Sunday Mass as I would have only attended the Vigil Mass on two or three occasions over that time.

Overall, I feel very positive about the future of the Parish – for as long as we have sufficient priests to say Masses.

*Derek Smith, parishioner since 1970,
involved in parish administration*

So I Leave My Boat Behind

I would like to share with you part of my recent (4 yrs) journey as a Lay Pastoral Leader in a small parish. After completing a Diploma in Pastoral Leadership, while working fulltime as a registered nurse, I was appointed by Archbishop John to our Pastoral Area but with particular responsibility for my own parish where I had been a parishioner since 1983. I was well supported by the parishioners who walked with me as we made the transition to a parish without a resident parish priest. Being well known was a bonus but, for me, also had its down side as I had to step up to a leadership role from being one of the congregation. Not an easy position sometimes.

We have a dedicated, hard working Leadership Group (incorporating PPC and Liturgy) and a strong Financial Committee. With the support, encouragement and assistance these, and the whole community, give me,

the parish has thrived and grown.

I work closely with the priests of the neighbouring two parishes and we meet very 2-3 weeks to see how the Parishes are doing and what we can do to assist one another. It hasn't always been easy and no doubt there will be challenges ahead, just like life itself, but I am loving every moment of the journey God has called me to walk. There isn't enough space here to go into detail of my role but I do all that a Parish Priest does except for the Sacraments. I also assist in the neighbouring parishes as needed.

Most of us try to resist change but it's the one thing we can rely on and, hopefully, most of us can see this new way of being Church as an opportunity for growth through the change. Remember, take small steps, slowly and always with respect and love for one another.

Mary-Anne Peetz, Lay Pastoral Leader

Sacred Space Holy Ground My Role as Parish Worker

I am contracted to St Patrick's Parish under the title of Parish Worker, responsible for baptism preparation and funeral planning.

Baptisms: There is now a small team of people in the baptism group. This took longer than I expected to get up and running as the people I approached were already in 'over load' mode. During this year however this group has worked well. An initial phone call comes to me and I follow it up and then assign one of the team

to visit the family concerned. The programme currently being used is a combination of our own material and material gathered from other parishes. Archdiocesan Pastoral Services have run evenings for this programme which three of our group have just completed at the Catholic Centre.

Baptisms are held monthly either during Mass or at 11.30am, other times may be negotiated. With one Priest covering the whole pastoral area we need to be mindful of his work load.

Funerals: - my role here is to assist in the planning after a death has occurred, helping families with either a Requiem Mass or a funeral service, selecting readings, prayers of the faithful, music, hymns, etc. Sometime a priest will be present, sometimes not.

I also help with vigils and rosaries. For me this is a special and graced time as a death in a family is a most vulnerable time and it is amazing to me how grief portrays itself in many of these situations.

I am part of the liturgy committee because of the above ministries and out of liturgy has come taking Holy Communion to the sick and housebound and leading the Service of the Word with Holy Communion. Reporting to the Parish Priest by way of a fortnightly team meeting is included in what I have been asked to do and this has proved very beneficial.

I am reminded of a Frank Anderson antiphon. All of life is holy, all of life is holy.

So it is for me. To be part of the lives of those who wish to have their child

Breaden McCardle Chubb
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baptised, to hear the reasons and belief of why parents want our faith for their child, to help parents in their understanding of what it truly means to live the gospel and instill gospel values into the lives of their little ones, this is sacred space.

To enter the lives of those who have lost a loved one, to be with them in their vulnerability and fragility and their laughter and tears as I help prepare a funeral or farewell, to hear the stories, and journeys of others is a privilege and is standing on holy ground.

Outside the parish, as I work with those who take part in Retreats in Daily Life around the diocese, I am constantly amazed how open and willing others are to share their pilgrim journey however hard that

may be. This is their sacred space and I am with them on holy ground.

Yes, all of life is holy from every human being to every blade of grass from every sun to every moon. We too can look around us and see all of life is holy, we share sacred space and holy ground.

In this newly established Pastoral Area it is vital to be able to keep this model of church working as lay leadership emerges more and more. To enable our clergy to function sacramentally, it is imperative we do all we can to ease the burden on them.

We, as lay people, can continue to fulfill the role that has evolved from Vatican II, to serve one another in faith.

Merle Whiteman, Parish worker, St Patrick's



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Being Local Church in a New Era

Just over five years ago the people of the Archdiocese gathered with our Archbishop to do some serious envisioning for the future of our Local Church. Among the many points raised and the challenges laid down was Archbishop John's plea to us to become more like the Church of Acts — a community of action focused on hospitality, healing, holiness and helping. He called us to 'transcend ourselves', to reach out to others in a spirit of generosity and service. Five years later we are now really beginning to get down to the detail of just how we will be such an outward looking community into the future — the very near future!

The 2006 Synod, priests and people together, noted that in our planning we need to be thinking carefully and selflessly about the implications of our ideas for neighbouring parishes. So much so, in fact, that the Synod participants committed themselves to working collaboratively with neighbouring Catholics in forming Pastoral Areas that strive to better understand the needs of the broader community while making the best use of available resources. In all of this, as in any such 'rethinking' in society, it is the smaller and more vulnerable that we must not fail to hear.

As the Kapiti Pastoral Area begins to fire on all cylinders, this concern for the bigger picture and the smaller players is more critical than ever. From the models of ministry developed

and engaged through to the shape and purpose of the plant and facilities created and maintained, the concern for the other must remain front and centre. We all have hopes and dreams for what might be possible within the parish we know and love but the measure of our plans remains our willingness to listen to all of those around us... especially those with the quietest of voices.

Chris Duthie-Jung, Adult Educator, Catholic Institute of Aotearoa New Zealand

Protecting the Priesthood of the People

Recently I saw *Agora*, a film set in Alexandria beginning in 391 AD. It was a time of conflict among Christians, Jews and Pagans as the temporal power of the Church began to grow. The story follows the sack of the city's great library and the later murder of the brilliant pagan female scholar Hypatia, by Christians.

A detail captured my attention. As the priests processed onto the altar to say Mass, high gates closed behind them, shutting the people out and making them mere spectators. Over the centuries the gates became low, gated rails; but, until Vatican II, access to the altar was still forbidden to all but priests and authorised servers.

Where does the tradition of separating the ordained priesthood and the priesthood of the people come from? Authorities generally agree it has its roots in ancient symbol. The area where the people sit—the nave—represents earth. The altar area—the

sanctuary—represents heaven. The altar gates divide the two realms.

In 2009, the Vatican announced the refurbishment of the Pope's private Pauline Chapel. The altar rails removed by Paul VI have been restored, as has the pre-Vatican II altar—placed just out from the wall so Mass can be said facing either way. Is this reversion designed to start a trend?

I find the symbolic separation of the people from heaven troubling. Baptism into Jesus confers on us a share in His role as “Priest, Prophet and King”. While having a deep reverence for our ordained priests, lay people cannot accept that we should be symbolically separated from heaven.

St. Peter declares:

“But you are a chosen race, a royal Priesthood, a consecrated nation, a people set apart ...” 1 Peter; 2: 9.

This letter is addressed to the ordinary Christians of Pontus, Galatia, Cappadocia, Asia and Bithynia who knew the Old Testament had promised: “I will count you a kingdom of Priests, a consecrated nation.” Ex: 19:6.

This kingdom of priests is the body of Christ; everyone in the Church. It is our responsibility to keep our priestly heritage alive.

Martin H Work's commentary to the Decree on the Apostolate of the Laity in The Documents of Vatican II opens: “Although a “lay apostolate” has existed in the Church since the days of our Lord in Jerusalem, it was not until the second Vatican Council that the Church's official thinking on the

matter was stated in a conciliar decree. As one layman put it pungently, “The lay apostolate has been simmering on the ‘back burner’ of the Church's apostolic life for nearly two thousand years, and finally the Fathers of this Council moved it up onto the ‘front burner’ and turned up the heat all the way.” Everyone hopes it will ‘come to a boil’ soon because so much of the Church's mission depends on an apostolic laity.”

Let's keep the lay apostolate on the front burner and on the boil.

When John XXIII opened the windows of the Catholic Church, he effectively flung open the altar gates as well. They are not just elegant décor. We must make sure they do not slam shut on us again.

Nova Eller, parishioner

One Possible Model for the Future

At the most individual level we have the Christian person, praying and living a good life. This one person might relate in a number of ways to small faith-sharing groups – through family, shared interests or geography. The next level is the sacramental level – Mass in particular. How many active priests will there be in the Wellington Archdiocese in 2031? Five? Even if it is as low as that, we've been there before and the Church flourished – and that was without modern transport links. Perhaps, then we have a “mega-church” level with weekly Mass at the Stadium and a Kapiti Coast

The challenge is to listen to the Spirit moving in the Church here on the Kapiti Coast. The model I have proposed is only one of many

Peter Ryan, Parishioner

The following rhetorical questions were posed to me recently:

1. What are you (we) doing to build church?
2. How are you (we) preaching the Gospel in the world today?
3. What happens to those joining the church today? Such a fuss is made at the time of entry and then what?

1. For years as individuals we have been asked to turn up and sign up but few of us can see what sort of difference our contribution or our presence can make – to anything! Years ago I heard about a fellow who went to borrow his neighbour's mower. By the time he arrived next door he had thought of so many reasons why the neighbour would say "No" that after he knocked on the door he greeted the neighbour with "You can keep your *** mower" and stalked off home. I too can talk myself out of "doing". How much more ready I am to do something, go to something, start (or finish) something when a friend is alongside encouraging me.



2. We are preaching the same way as we always have ... through the way we live our lives. I hear amazing eulogies of wonderful lives at funerals. Elsewhere I hear comments everyday about people who are "just lovely", or

"warm-hearted and generous". These people are preaching without words. We are often encouraged: "Don't wait until they are dead to tell people how important they are to you, or how much of a difference they make, or how inspiring their lives are (or have been)."

3. Welcomed at Easter and what at Pentecost? We do involve people in committees and other practical options - yet people already have a "ministry" e.g. sports coach, receptionist, nurse, even golfer or fisherman! So at Pentecost? I suggest the ministry of receiving and offering unconditional friendship and lots of affirmation in what they do already!

My answers to the questions? Affirmation! Affirmation! Affirmation!- and a great dollop of friendship!

Michele Ness Parishioner



On a Lighter Note....

My husband was driving when he saw the flash of a camera.

He figured that his picture was taken for exceeding the limit even though he knew he wasn't speeding.

Just to be sure, he went round the block and passed the same spot driving even more slowly. But again the camera flashed.

He began to think this was amusing, and drove past three more times, each

time at a slower speed, laughing as he crawled past the last time when the camera flashed.

Two weeks later, he got five tickets in the mail for driving without a seat belt.

You can't fix stupid..



Fr Jim's Been Thinking - God with Us!



Over the last couple of months a small group of Paraparaumu and Waikanae parishioners have been studying the Prophet Jeremiah with me and each week we have found gems in this prophet's work which are highly pertinent to present times. Sometimes what we notice is not of an immediate concern to us here in New Zealand but often enough we can relate the prophecies to our own condition. Also there have been many occasions when we have discussed events within the Church which appear to deny the message of Jeremiah.

The principal message in Jeremiah's poetry is that the covenant people, especially those living in Jerusalem, have turned away from obedience to the covenant and that Yahweh/God is about to turn away from them. The people did not heed Jeremiah preferring to follow a "warped" understanding of covenant.

The Jewish people were being led by a "Royal/Temple" ideology which was patently concerned with reminding God of what he had promised them without paying any attention to obeying him. Jeremiah told them repeatedly that their behaviour revealed that they considered that the Covenant gave them licence to do what they liked and that as long as they maintained the rituals of their worship they would be alright.

How can the situation we find ourselves in today be related to that which the Jewish people experienced just prior to the Babylonian invasion

and the subsequent deportation? The faith sharing group agrees there are major similarities but then wanted to know how it all fits with Jesus' promise in Matthew:

And remember, I am with you always, to the end of the age (v 28:20b).

In view of all the parallels between our time and Jeremiah's we need to do some thinking and some praying! How could it be that Jeremiah could tell the people of his time that their disobedience was displeasing to God and that God was running out of patience with them and then, some 26 centuries later, we find that we too could be making the same basic error? Often we seem to rely on God to stay with us always while continuing to disobey him. But then have the cheek to expect that God's love will overlook our transgressions as we make no real effort to repent?

In checking the reference in Matthew we find that Jesus' promise to his apostles was preceded by the directive to go out to the nations:

.... teaching them to obey everything that I have commanded you (v 28:20a)

It is dangerous to rely on any promise while ignoring the full context in which it was given. Just as for the Jewish people of old, it is an imperative that the Church, its leaders as well as laity, obey the commands of God if we are to rely on Jesus' continued presence with us!

Pastoral Area News

Updates from Our Councils

There are no specific Council updates for this issue. We refer you to the letter from Fr Michael and both Parish Council Chairs on p3.



Our Pastoral Area School

St Patrick's Primary School

Dear Parishioners,

I am pleased to be back at school after my term away on sabbatical. I learnt that we have a great little school, a positive Catholic heart and well developed learning and teaching programmes that engage the children in learning.

I would like to thank Fr Michael and the parish for sponsoring me to spend a few days on retreat with Fr Alan Roberts in Blenheim. Apart from the glorious weather it was a very special time of contemplation and spiritual renewal.



Experience of a lifetime

Thank you for your ongoing prayers and support for the school

God Bless

Martin Elms, Principal

Youth

We are now more than halfway through the year.



Fun Time for our preschoolers has moved to Fridays 10.30 – 11.30am at Grace Hall.

Bible Study is running regularly each fortnight on a Sunday evening, where youth gather together for an hour to break open the readings for the following week. With Bible Study and G.U.Y.S. running on alternate weeks, our youth have the opportunity to gather weekly.

As many parishioners will be aware, the parish now has a **Youth Music Group** (Year 8 and college age youth) who meet weekly on a Monday night with the aim of leading music worship at mass on the last Sunday of each month. The two masses



Service with a smile

they have provided music for have been well received by the parish community and we look forward to this continuing.

Our youth continue to meet with the **Ecumenical Group** on the Kapiti Coast. This group of local Christian churches runs one to two events each term for youth, attracting 70 – 80. The last event was Friday 26 August at El Rancho.

Finally, we are busy planning a Leadership Retreat for 17/18 September in Otaki. The theme is *Leadership in Discipleship*. This retreat is aimed at those involved in leading youth ministry plus our young adults and older youth. It's an opportunity for them to recharge their leadership batteries with a weekend of fellowship & prayer with fellow leaders in ministry.

All enquiries to Debbie
kapiti.youth@gmail.com

Jacqui McLaughlin

Adult Faith Exploration

Upcoming events:

e-conference:

Topic: "Following Jesus through Matthew's Gospel".
"I don't know why more people don't support this. It's really great material."

12.00 Tuesday 6th September, Our Lady of Fatima Church, Waikanae.

Please eat lunch before you come.
Please bring a plate.

What is an e-conference? Presenters are 'beamed out' from Australia via the marvels of modern technology



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and are received live on a TV screen at OLOF where YOU can watch together with others. After each presentation, a person at our local venue will facilitate a discussion amongst those gathered, on the presentation just viewed.

Previous e-conference material can be accessed on-line at
www.bbi.catholic.edu.au/

CaFÉ: (Catholic Faith Exploration)

An opportunity to gather together in a pretty informal way, watch a DVD and then have a chat about it over a cuppa. These are programmed to start 7.15 Tuesday 13th September and will be held in the Our Lady of Fatima church foyer, Waikanae. See advert later in this issue.

Te Wairua Kotahi (Maori Spirituality)

We take this opportunity to explain the beginning rites of the Miha so that parishioners can gain a better understanding of the Maori Spirituality that lies behind them.



Te Timatanga o te Miha *The Beginning of Mass*

The Leader welcomes the congregation and reads the theme of the Gospel

Te Karanga: *The call of welcome*

A Kuia, (female elder) standing in front and to the rightside of the aisle in the church, welcomes the procession. This is a call of welcome to the Word of God, the Ministers of the Eucharist and Liturgy, altar servers, the Priest and other clergy, into the House of God. Those people who are with the Priest represent the congregation.

As the procession enters the church, a karanga acknowledging the call is made in response by a kuia accompanying the Priest.

Te Mihi: *The Greeting*

The Parish Kaumatua (male elder) delivers a personal greeting to the Celebrant, Priests and Sisters, visitors and other ethnic groups on behalf of the congregation. Commemoration of special occasions or deaths may be included in his mihi.

Pukekaraka Group

Another Pukekaraka Day is planned for Saturday 13th November. Again this event will aim to build links between the parishes of our Pastoral Area and will be held in St Mary's Parish, Otaki – the founding parish of our Pastoral Area. More details about this later



Social Justice

Social Justice Week 2011

The theme this year is "On a level playing field". We are asked to consider whether we give everyone in New Zealand a "fair go".

This is shaping up as an important issue in this election year.

The dates for the Social Justice Week (11-17 September) fall right at the start of the Rugby World Cup. Will there be enough "head space" and "heart space" for us to think about the challenge laid down for us by our New Zealand Catholic Bishops as they write:



February 22 [the day of the deadly Christchurch earthquake] was also a day in which significant welfare reforms were proposed by the government Welfare Working Group. Unfortunately that has resulted in a different kind of outpouring – of resentment, blame and even hatred of many of our most vulnerable citizens, many of whom rely on benefits as a consequence of personal, rather than national, tragedy.

Suffering and poverty can come in unattractive packages. Sometimes we want to distance ourselves but the face of Christ is to be seen in the 'least' of our brothers and sisters. Justice and charity are not only for when times are good, but for all times of life.

Pope Benedict calls us back to our deep Scriptural and Catholic social teaching traditions when he asks us to

strive for the common good, which is the good of all of us, the good which includes but also reaches beyond our individual needs and desires to the good of all the people, families and groups that make up our society.

An excessive emphasis on individual self-sufficiency leads to resenting our inter-dependence, and too easily judges that when people sometimes have to depend on others – whether through disability, illness, unemployment – they are unworthy or undeserving of our collective support. (New Zealand Catholic Bishops in "On a level playing field" page3, published by Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand.)

Planning is underway in both parishes for Social Justice Week. Leave room in your heads and hearts.

Peter Ryan, co-ordinator, St Patrick's

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Mission Gala

What is it and why do we do it?



Every year the Kapiti Pastoral Area of Our Lady of Fatima and St Patricks comes together for the Mission Gala in September. This has been happening for more than 25 years now, so it is probably timely to reflect and refresh our understanding of why we do this.

The Presentation Sisters came here over 50 years ago, to establish and run our Parish school, St Patricks. Since then they have educated several generations of Kapiti Coasters and have served our community in many other ways.

About 30 years ago, the Sisters were invited to work in some very deprived communities in slum areas of Santiago, Chile and then in Quito and Lima in South America, and a few years later in remote villages in northern PNG.

Here the Sisters worked with the local communities to provide basic health care, education, nutrition and parenting and work skills. This was to enable the local people to improve their own communities in a sustainable way.

We recognised that the Sisters would need some regular financial support so that they had the cash necessary to obtain medicines, pay school fees and other critical facilities, in societies that had very little access to money. Sisters Breda and Teresa both went to PNG as nurses and one major achievement, using money we had raised, was the building of a "Sik Haus" or clinic in the hill village of Ningil in PNG.

The Sisters' work has led to the establishment of a team of local Sisters trained as teachers, pastoral workers and nurses. These young women are now able to continue and extend the work of the expatriate Sisters in their own communities, providing leadership and inspiration. However they still need and value the prayer and financial support that we can give them so that they can continue to develop their own capacity to provide these basic services. This year we will have Sr Fran, a local Sister from PNG, with us at the time of the Gala. This will give us a wonderful opportunity to hear firsthand how our Parishes' support has helped her people.

So, thank you all for your support over many years and we are looking forward to your support again. If you can help or contribute in any way please contact the list of stall holders which was distributed with the Parish newsletters a few weeks ago or see the notices in the Churches. Remember it takes only a small contribution from each of us to make the Gala a roaring success!

Thank you,

Sister Breda and Tony Bevin, convenor

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**Waikanae Charismatic
Prayer Group**
meets every 2nd & 4th Wednesday
at 7:30pm in the Foyer of our
church in Parata St. All are
welcome to come, praise &
worship and be blessed. Contact
Billie 902 3868
or Glen 2931747



Computer woes – enjoy these Japanese Haiku


The website you seek
Cannot be located,
But countless more exist.

Chaos reigns within.
Reflect, repent and reboot.
Order shall return.

Programme aborting
Close all that you have worked on.
You ask far too much.

Yesterday it worked.
Today it is not working.
Windows is like that.

Your file was so big.
It might be very useful.
But now it is gone.



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Introducing Parish Groups and People

St Patrick's Family Ministry Marks 10 Years

September marks the tenth anniversary of the St Patrick's Family Ministry. In those years hundreds of parishioners have been personally assisted by Ministry volunteers.

Founded with the objective to "assist in creating a loving and caring parish," on the principle "Love one another", a survey was conducted to learn of the ways where help was most needed. It showed a lack of "family-type" love and concern towards the lonely, the bereaved, the sick, new arrivals, those living alone, as well as those needing general family support.

The Ministry was structured with volunteer groups providing personal support in these areas. Today there is a committee of 13 leaders in each area of support, with 45 volunteers backing them up.

The Chairman of the Ministry, Phil Lawton, says volunteers have personally helped hundreds of parishioners with budget advice, providing transport to Mass, welcoming new arrivals, visiting the lonely, sick and bereaved, supporting new mothers with clothing and baby garments and providing faith instruction for pre-schoolers.

"We see the family including all members of the parish – parents or single parents, grandparents, married couples, engaged couples, singles, separated and divorced individuals and those living alone."

Children's Liturgy

Our Lady of Fatima - Jenny McGlone

I have always been a Wellingtonian living in Miramar, Upper Hutt and Kelburn. I became a Christian in 1967. We have four girls and two boys and presently 8 grandchildren, all of whom live in the Wellington region, fortunately for us.



I have loved being a Christian Religious Education (the old Bible in state Schools) teacher since 1991. At about this time I joined the newly formed Children's Liturgy team at Our Lady of Fatima, Tawa. In 1995 we moved to Redwood, Tawa and I became Team Leader of CRE at Redwood School. We held a whole-school concert each term and had singing, a Bible reading and commentary and our daughter Mandy did a very popular themed act with her puppet Dan the Seal. She had over 450 kids transfixed with his antics!

Since moving to Waikanae in 2005 I have been part of the CRE teams at Kapanui and Kapiti Schools. I am team leader of OLOF Children's Liturgy and have seen excellent growth in numbers and support in the last few years. After teaching Christianity in the schools, what a piece of cake talking to the converted!!

In the last 20 years there have been lots of changes to CRE and with state schools opting for the safe choice

of having no Religious Education, new ways of reaching our children with God's message are happening. As I have seen this decline, I always thought God would not let go of his beloved children so easily through PCism and indifference and I have recently been inspired by Tauranga group Cool Bananas. They run a fun-filled weekly values-based Christian programme in state schools which are queuing up for them!! We may adopt this type of session in our Wgtn area over the next few years. All very exciting, I am looking forward to being part of it.

Children's Liturgy is presently re-evaluating our programme and presentation, looking to improve its content and effectiveness in a more united and informed way in the whole Wellington district.

My husband Mark and I had a bach for many years in Waikanae Beach and we used to take the children mostly to

St Patrick's in Paraparaumu when we were up from Tawa. When we moved here in 2005 we decided to choose OLOF for our local church worship and we have been very pleased we did. Here is a very welcoming, warm community of people, very active in their church community. We are very proud to be part of it and look forward to being part of whatever form it takes in future.

Life can suddenly present us with the most appalling challenges and we have had our share. The death of our youngest son Ben to cancer, when he was just eight, and the effect this has had on individuals within our family, was the most difficult for us. Through all this my being with lots of children at CRE and Children's Liturgy lifted me up at times when I felt really low. I just love 'feeding the lambs' and cannot imagine life without this special involvement. It is a privilege and I am honoured that the Lord has entrusted them to my care.

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**Next weekend's
Fasting & Prayer
Conference in
Whitby includes
all meals.**

Recent Events

Youth Ministry Thank You Event

On Saturday 18 June 2011, St Patrick's Youth Ministry hosted a dinner to thank all those who have supported Youth Ministry in the last year. Guests included youth leaders, members of our parish councils and parish groups, people working behind the scenes and people who assist financially.

Approximately 40 gathered after mass in Grace Hall for dinner, with photo display boards displaying the various groups, people currently involved in youth ministry and some of the activities of each of the youth groups. Members of the Support Group and some of our older youth were there to inform guests about what is happening in youth ministry now and their plans, hopes and aspirations for the year ahead.

The evening was our way of acknowledging the commitment of all those involved in youth ministry as, without the help of so many in so many ways, youth ministry would not be as successful as it is in our Parish. The simplest analogy to use is that of a drop of water, so small and sometimes so isolated yet when all

those drops join together, rivers, lakes & oceans form. Each time we pray and contribute our individual drop we add to the whole and our youth ministry grows. With the will and backing to build a sustainable, flexible ministry for our youth, we have the opportunity to build God's youth for the future.

Jacqui McLaughlin



Thanks Youth.

We all look to the youth as our future. It gives us a sense of hope. By investing in our youth we invest in the future of the Church. So, when invited by the Youth Committee recently to attend a dinner evening, it was an opportunity for us to learn of the wonderful work that this committee is doing in building relationships with our young people and integrating them into the life of the church.



During the evening Debbie Matheson, Jacqui McLaughlin and Deborah Gedye and supporters provided warm hospitality and a most delicious hot meal. During speeches we learned of the work of the Youth Ministry Team as well as of their vision for the future. Following this we spent time mixing and mingling, and enjoyed the photographic display posted on the walls. As we did so we came to appreciate even further the work of this dedicated group.

Throughout the year the Youth Committee have put considerable time and effort into working with our young people and their families. They have learned of their hopes and aspirations, as well as of the activities they would like to see happening in the Pastoral Area. As a result, our youth have enjoyed such vibrant

activities as 'Jesus 4 Real' Camps, Ecumenical Youth Gatherings, a Young Catholic Leader Camp, a Leadership Camp, Bible Study and Youth Groups.

Looking to the future, plans are already in place. It is very encouraging to see so much being invested in the youth of our Pastoral Area and this evening certainly showed the wonderful work being done by the Youth Team. It was a great way for parishioners to meet with the youth of our parishes and was also yet another example of relationship building that is occurring across the Pastoral Area.

Well done and thank you!

Sue McGlone

(Ed: if you would like your event featured here please contact the editor.)

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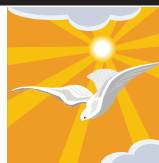
Our Lady of Fatima Church Foyer, Waikanae

Join Us

Registrations would be appreciated, available after Mass, 27/28th August & 3/4th September

ALL WELCOME!! Consider bringing a friend!

Contact: Kathy 9047655 or Patrick 9054467



Upcoming Events

See the Adult Faith Exploration Report for details of the e-conference and the CaFÉ programme (pp 14, 15 and opposite).

If you have an event you would like published in the next issue, please let the editor know.

Saints

Parents of Thérèse, beatified in France



The Venerable Louis and Zélie Martin, the parents of Saint Thérèse of the Child Jesus of the Holy Face, were beatified on Mission Sunday, October 19, 2008, in the basilica dedicated to their daughter at Lisieux in France. They are the first parents of a saint to be beatified, also the first spouses in the history of the Church to be proposed for sainthood as a couple and the second to be beatified together.

Zélie and Louis are an inspiration to the families of today. Each owned a small business and worked hard while raising a large family. In the 19th century this two-career couple faced the challenges we face in the 21st: finding good child care, achieving professional excellence, operating a profitable business, caring for aging parents, educating a special-needs child, forming their children in the faith, finding time to pray and to be active in their parish.

Devout Catholics, they saw Christ in the poor and worked for a just society.

In 1877 Zélie died of breast cancer, leaving Louis a single parent with five daughters to bring up. Later Louis was diagnosed with cerebral arteriosclerosis and spent three years in a psychiatric hospital.

Like us, Louis and Zélie could not control their circumstances. Life came at them unexpectedly, just as it comes at us. They could not prevent their tragedies: the Franco-Prussian war, when they had to house nine German soldiers, the infant deaths of four of their nine children, one from abuse by a wet-nurse, their painful diseases and Zélie's premature death. Nor could they escape their responsibilities as business owners, caregivers, spouses, and parents. Their genius lay in how they accepted what happened to them: they accepted their own powerlessness, that God might be all-powerful in their lives.

They taught the same radical openness to their youngest daughter, Thérèse, now a doctor of the Church. Zélie and Louis were not declared "blessed"



because of Thérèse. She became a saint because of them. They created an environment that invited her to holiness and she responded freely to the invitation they offered her. They offer the same invitation to us.

We know many “married saints,” but most canonized saints have not been married. In recognizing Louis and Zélie as a blessed couple, the Church points to the mystery of the vocation of marriage, the way of life in which most people are called to reach the common goal of all Christians: sainthood. Engaged unreservedly in the responsibilities of daily life, Zélie and Louis became saints in the fabric of their marriage.

They epitomise the words of Pope John Paul II: “Heroism must become daily, and the daily must become heroic.” They are the heroes of the everyday life.

This article first appeared in Marist Messenger

Published with permission — Maureen O’Riordan: www.thereoeffisieux.org

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Contact the editor on 902 6330 or ryanfamily@paradise.net.nz.

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

A black and white photograph of five people (four men and one woman) standing in front of a coastal landscape with hills and water. They are all smiling and dressed in professional attire. The names 'John', 'Andrew', 'Diane', 'Graham', and 'Robert' are written below each person. The text 'Kapiti Coast Funeral Home' is prominently displayed in the center, with the address '9 - 11 Hinemoa Street, Paraparaumu' below it. At the bottom, it says 'There in Times of need' and provides the telephone number '04-2985168' and the website 'www.kapiticoastfuneralhome.co.nz'.

For Personal Reflection

(Ed: The following four reflections, based on the readings of the day, are by Terry Modica and taken from <http://gogoodnews.net/DailyReflections>. You can sign up for FREE.)

Who is Jesus to you?

“Who do you say that I am?” This question in Matt 22:1-14 is what Jesus asks each of us. We especially need to answer this whenever our relationship with him needs to improve. Oh – isn’t that every day?

This is a personal retreat from <http://wordbytes.org/SpirGrowth/names-retreat.htm>

Miracles that lead to ruin

In Matt 11:20-24

Jesus prophesies against those who experience miracles but refuse to reform their ways. Miracles abound in our Church, including at every Mass in the Liturgy of the Eucharist. Do we go home unchanged?

Where else have you witnessed or experienced God’s supernatural actions? If we don’t use these opportunities to grow spiritually, our church activities will ultimately ruin us! We will be judged by the events that should have purified us and increased our holiness.

Are we miracle chasers instead of truth seekers? Do we wear Marian scapulars only because of the promises

they carry (what Mary can do for us) instead of promising God that we will grow in holiness using the example of Mary? Do we bury St. Joseph as a statue (upside-down no less) to sell our house instead of asking St. Joseph to help us become a holier family, whether the house sells or not? Do we ask God to rescue us from difficulties to make our lives easier instead of thanking him for the hard times because they’re helping us become holier?

Are we changed each time we witness the miracle of bread and wine becoming the body and blood of Christ at Mass?

God works miraculously for us every day. The evidence is there, but we can’t see it when our expectations are different from his or when we’re not paying attention. Spend more time recalling his mighty deeds. Why is he involved in your troubles? Is it to make your life easy and pain-free? No. It’s to help you overcome obstacles on the road of ever-increasing holiness.

Repenting and reforming are never easy, but this is what keeps our faith alive and growing.

Passing the tests

Using Matt. 13:1-9, let’s compare the different types of soil to the tests we face on our faith journeys. Like the farmer sowing seeds, God is always trying to bring about new growth in us, and he does everything possible to help us to become richer soil so that our lives produce an abundant



harvest for his kingdom. But rich soil is fertilized soil, and you know what fertilizer is made of? Oh how stinky it smells!

The natural fertilizers that hit the proverbial fans in our everyday lives can enrich our soil



For example, when we're so busy that we don't take enough time to sit quietly with the Lord and pray, life gets harder. Things go wrong. Mishaps bump into us – or rather I should say, we stumble into mishaps because we're not paying attention to God's directions. How stinky must life get before we slow down and listen to the Lord?

Sharing in Mary's glory and grace



Mary, the Blessed Mother of our Saviour, lived a life full of God's grace. At the Feast of the Assumption we celebrate the fact that she never lost this grace.

Mary was graced in a very powerful way so she could become pregnant with Jesus. Mary remained full of this special grace so that she could care for Jesus and guide him as he matured. Then she relied on it to care for the first Christians, a continuation of her

ministry to Jesus. And she continues this caring support even now in her ministry to us. Mary is our sign of what being a holy Christian – a grace-filled Christian – really means.

Therefore, we can ask her to share with us the grace that helped her to resist sin.

The fifth Glorious Mystery is the Crowning of Mary as Our Queen. As our queen, she intercedes for us to the King. From this, much grace flows.

A Cup of Sunshine of a Wintry Day

One day, when the wind whistled around the corners and rain pelted the windows with water that was almost frozen, the door bell chimed and on the doorstep stood a friend. She was as warm hearted as Summer itself - one forgot about the driving rain and the sharp smack of the wind. She came inside and handed over a bag and said this is a gift for you, turned on her heel and out into the wet, cold, chilly day. Somehow the room was filled with an inner warmth that lasted a long while.

Peering into the bag with eagerness, my eye lit on the object inside. Drawing it out carefully into the light, I became aware that it was a small flower, all wrapped up in a green mantle. I thought it was some kind of

lily, but as the days progressed I realised it was a cup of sunshine. It was a tulip which unfurled itself slowly. First a tiny splinter of colour appeared on the top then, as it grew, it slowly showed



its shape. The petals unwrapped themselves, then the stalk pushed the cup of sunshine up and up and the beautiful green mantle gave way to the grace of unfolded leaves.

There it was, standing in its pretty terracotta coloured pot, heralding the sun for all to see. Oh the pleasure of God's created beauty, the gift of

God's love for the friend that gave it to me and the thankfulness of my heart for the wonderful gift of love and friendship which caused the heart to sing praise to the Lord. It is truly amazing just how the coldness of Winter can be changed into the warmth of Spring.

Judith Salmon, parishioner

New Books in St Patrick's Library

– with thanks to the Parish Faith Exploration Team for providing these. All books were purchased through Pleroma Christian Supplies.

1. Guided discovery for groups and individuals over six weeks of study, by Kevin Perrotta. Great material for group discussions or personal reflection.

Job - A Good Man asks Why

Luke - The Good News of God's Mercy

2. Get insight into the social and cultural background to the Bible.

Essential Guide to Biblical Life and Times by Martin C Alb

3. Do you have questions about our faith and what it means to be Catholic?

What Catholics Believe – Exploring our Faith Today by Joan Pahl Morris. Has helpful discussion questions at the end of each chapter to help reflect on what's been read and to apply to the individual's situation.

A Catholic Handbook – Essentials for the 21st Century by William C. Graham, publisher Paulist Press.

4. For men – a small group guide.

Fuel – Catholic men living the faith by Steve McCoy, Publisher Thompson & Randy M Haykin

5. Do you have hopes for our Parish and the Catholic Church?

Dreams and Visions by Bill Huebsch

6. Get up close and personal with the encyclical that affirms the value and dignity of human life.

Choose Life – workshops on the encyclical Evangelium Vitae (The Gospel of Life)



Parish Directories August 2011

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

Kapiti Pastoral Area Council		
Area Pastoral Council Chair	John Butterfield	902 8596
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
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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
<u>Church Worship Support</u>					
Liturgy	Marie Huxford				299 0650
Liturgy Roster	Margaret Butterfield				902 8596
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
<u>Other Parish Organisations</u>					
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
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Family Ministry	Phil Lawton				905 4439
Men's Group	Frits Bergman				297 0777
Justice & Peace	Peter Ryan				902 6330
Missions	Fundraising for Presentation Sisters		Sister Breda		905 3420
	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

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