

Tristan is a quietly spoken person who demonstrates the capacity to deal with many issues and processes at once. An unusual talent in the male species some may say! Given his passion for the work he does and his ability to work well with people, he is the ideal man for the job. He is both supported and encouraged by Michelle. They represent both the present and the future of this parish.

The Symposium on Church Architecture

held in Grace Hall on 20th June, created a real buzz in the parish and was very well received, upskilling us all. It was very well attended - the hall was full, in fact.

We first shared our vision of “church” in small groups, which was very fruitful.

One of the speakers, Mark Southcombe, was an architect with church building experience, the other, Mark Richards, was an expert on ecclesial matters. We were told that the essential elements of a church were (in order of importance)

1. a Sanctuary
2. an altar
3. an ambo (i.e. lectionary),
4. space for the congregation,
5. tabernacle and
6. baptismal font.

Where the tabernacle and baptistry were placed was debatable, as was whether the font was full immersion or not.

We were left with some answers, lots of ideas, and much to be decided as a parish. The consensus seemed to be that we had to trust those chosen to be the design team to put our ideas into practice.



Prayer – The Essential Element

Parishioners are invited to pray for our parish in this time of transition and development. One of several ways of doing this is by coming along to the new site (20 Milne Dr, P’rm) on Sundays (except 26th July) at 11.30 for a 20 minute period of prayer.

If you prefer to have prepared prayer, there is the parish prayer and also the following prayer, prepared by parishioner Cynthia Scott.



Lord Jesus, send your Holy Spirit to fill the parish of Our Lady of Kapiti with your love, that we may be one as You are one with the Father and the Father is one with You. So, being one with You, we can ask and believe that our prayer for the building of our new church and school will be filled with the power of your Holy Spirit and bear good fruit. We ask this for Your Glory. Amen.



Progress Report #3

It's been an extremely active and very satisfying few weeks since our last edition. Two signature events – the “Building a Church” symposium and the site blessing were held over consecutive weeks and it was hugely satisfying to observe the attendance at and participation in both events by parishioners from across the parish and across the demographics. Mark Southcombe and Mark Richards were inspired choices to lead the symposium and attended at considerable personal inconvenience given the appalling weather and road closures that weekend. Anna Ryan did a superb job chairing the event, given that the programme had to be led “off the cuff” given the circumstances (a more detailed account of the event is in this issue).

The site blessing saw nearly 300 gather – starting in brilliant sunshine. Fr Michael led the ceremony together with Koro Tuki Takiwa and Koro Aki Taiaki. The beautiful prayers (see elsewhere in this edition) were also shared by Sister Breda, school principal Martin Elms, and students representing each class at the school. While the weather deteriorated, the spirits remained high throughout the ceremony and bodies were warmed afterwards by the sausage sizzle organised by the parish men's group. The ceremony was reported in “Kapiti News” and will also feature in the August edition of Welcom.



South Pacific Architecture have been busy exploring parish history as part of their preparation for the design. Representatives from SPA will be in attendance at all Masses on the weekend of 25/26 July to background their work thus far and present a concept plan for the layout of the site.

The Prayer Group have commenced their weekly Sunday gathering on site – as the weather improves and the concepts grow closer to realities they look forward to an increasing participation in this vital element.

And a “Let's Build a Church” fundraising Ball at Southwards is planned for the 19th September – put the date in your diary.

Your Queries & Answers

Questions, comments, suggestions are welcome – and encouraged. Questions will be answered, comments and suggestions will be forwarded to the relevant team for their attention. Please email yours to ladykapiti@gmail.com or drop them into (or post them to) the parish office at 29 Parata Street Waikanae 5036.

The following are specific questions, and responses to them, since the last issue of “Project on a Page”.



Q: I wanted to ask about the plans, if any, to house our parish Priest. With the new church building and school plans and documentation, there has been nothing noted or mentioned as to how we could address this. I am aware that the land purchased is for the new church and relocated school, but I would like to see something noted in the timeline of the future of the project to cater for our parish priest.

A: There are several options currently “on the table”. Most likely the parish will simply buy a suitable house. Where that will be is yet to be determined but it’s unlikely that it will be on the site at Milne Drive. Current practice and thinking is that a parish priest simply lives in the parish. The issue will be advanced once it’s clearer about the sale of the existing presbytery which quite probably will be packaged with both school and church.



Q: I don’t understand what’s said from the pulpit at church except an occasional word out of context. I wonder if I am the only one in that situation. In picture theatres, some churches, auditoriums, etc. audio loops are installed for those of us who have the latest hearing aids with pickup coils to receive the electro-magnetic emissions. Maybe this installation could be considered for the projected new church at Milne Drive?

A: We will have one in the new church – already on the “must haves” list.



Q: Could you please explain what “cultural integrity and sensitivity” means in relation to the “integrated design and use of land across the site”? What would be the cultural factors affecting the use of the land.

A. We are guardians of the land we have purchased and wish to protect and sustain its natural resources for ourselves and future generations. We have asked the architects to ensure resource sustainability wherever possible in their use of the land. We will seek to reflect the history of the land in the context of Kapiti and our own heritage. We would like to see recognition of our history from Pukekaraka in the North to Paekakariki in the South in the positioning of buildings, use of land contours and natural light across the site.

Also, in the Build Vision Statement we said that:

“We are a pilgrim people of faith under the inspiration and protection of Te Whaea Tapu o Kāpiti”. The architects will develop the concept of the protective mantle or kakahu (cloak) of Our Lady as they design the position of buildings and layout of the site.



Q: We can see that cultural integrity and sensitivity will certainly be very important in considering the design and layout of the church and school buildings. These will need to be welcoming and open to the various cultures that make up our Parish and our wider community. We should be striving for an underlying design that seeks to unify these cultural themes and achieves a welcoming presence to all. So what is likely to be the process that engages with and obtains the ideas of the various groups and individuals in our Parish community?

A: This engagement process has already started with the inclusion of members of various groups in the Liturgy and Building Design Team which produced the Build Vision Statement.

Various parish groups and individuals have submitted a list of design wishes and needs both directly to Design Team members and through the ladykapiti email address. These groups include:

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|----------------------|---------------------------|
| † Children's Liturgy | † Men's Breakfast |
| † Youth Group | |
| † Prayer Groups | † Catholic Women's League |
| † SVDP | † Young Mothers |

The design process includes a number of review points, not only with the Design Team but also with the wider parish community. Currently these are planned to occur at the end of Concept Design, Developed Design and Detailed Design stages.

A number of suggestions have been received about church design and planning. They have included thoughts on kitchens, ramp access to the altar, fundraising, pre-schools, the elderly and many links to specific overseas churches that have impressed.



Introducing People Involved – TRISTRAM McDONALD – Project Manager

Tristan and his wife Michelle have been in the parish for four years. They have two pre-schooler daughters, Willow and Flox. The couple are very excited about the new church and school and Tristan expressed his wish to be involved from the beginning. Both of them hale from Levin and have been involved in parish life at Saint Joseph's, where they were married. Tristan's parents, and his aunt, were married at OLOF in Waikanae. Tristan's grandfather was an architect and worked on many church-building plans, which the family have kept.

Tristan has a Bachelor of Building Science from Victoria University in Wellington and worked on building sites for a year during his varsity holidays. He is employed by RCP (Resource Co-Ordination Partnership) and has recently worked on the New World build and the Airport Redevelopment project. RCP operates nationally and have worked on the Sky City and Mt Eden Redevelopment projects.

