

Pastoral Pages

Parish of Our Lady of Kāpiti

Te Whaea Tapu o Kāpiti

Summer 2017



What's Inside

Reflections on Christmas
The Forbidden Topic

EDITORIAL



Do you fancy a trip to Medjugorje? Will you help make the 2018 Women's Retreat another success story? Do you tithe? Have you ever been a character in the Christmas story?

All will be revealed inside these pages. As you consider your New Year resolutions, we would encourage you to think about how you can play your part in making this parish even more vibrant than it already is. What giftings do you have that you could/should

share with us all? God didn't give you these talents just for fun. They're to be used!

May God bless you and all your loved ones over this Christmas and holiday season.



Anna, Glen, Margaret, Ishbel, Judith

Cover Image: The window on the cover is in the Methodist church in Remuera. It was designed by Beverley Shore Bennett. She designed over 350 stained glass windows in NZ, including all those in St Pat's Silverstream chapel, St John's Trentham and St Paul's Cathedral ambulatory. Beverley is now retired, living in Charles Fleming.

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Copy for next issue closes on 7th February. Keep those reports and photos coming in so we can tell the rest of the parish what they have missed out on!

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Reflections

Synod

“Haere, tukuna. Go You Are Sent to...”

See Mary Cook's report, two documents from the Synod and recordings of the delegate presentations made at masses, on our parish website:

kapiti-catholic.org.nz/?sid=1338.

It is worth the time to read and to ponder and perhaps to consider our own response as individuals and as a parish.



Our Synod is over, and now the work begins...

Go, you are sent: to live your life gratefully, to give God thanks always.

Go, you are sent: to do your job well.

Go, you are sent: to enjoy this life's pleasures and promises. Yes, and even more.

Go, you are sent: to heal the earth of polluted waters and poisoned skies.

Go, you are sent: to resist the purchase of military armaments with money that could buy milk or books for children.

Go, you are sent: to nurture and protect life, from conception to natural death.

Go, you are sent: to make sure that the sick have adequate healthcare, regardless of their ability to pay.

Go, you are sent: to welcome the immigrant, to embrace the foreigner.

Go, you are sent: to forgive the one who has wronged you and to seek forgiveness from those you have wronged.

Go, you are sent: to love, and to love some more.

Go, you are sent. You are sent. You are sent.

Thanks be to God.

Cardinal John Dew

The Christmas Season

I know that the focus of Christmas is the birth of Christ, but spare a thought for the people involved. Try putting yourself in some (or all) of their shoes.

Joseph had taken on responsibility for a girl who was pregnant with someone else's child. Presumably Mary had told him about the angel and her reputation would have been

unsullied up to that point. But he must have felt doubtful of the wisdom of his action. Then the census resulted in him having to take a very pregnant betrothed from Nazareth in Galilee to Bethlehem in Judaea on a donkey. What about if there wasn't a midwife there? A pretty risky exercise I would have thought.

Mary was very young and nearly full term with a child she thought was from God. It couldn't be otherwise since she was a virgin. She was betrothed to a much older man, chosen because lilies suddenly grew out of the end of his walking staff. How weird was it all? Then she had to endure days stuck on the back of a donkey with accommodation primitive at best. There is no mention in scripture of a midwife, so she must have just had Joseph to deliver the child. Presumably it was a normal birth for the times – how long was she in labour? Did she have the baby clothes and enough nappies with her? If she wasn't perfect, she might have given Joseph a hard time!



The Bethlehem villagers were probably fed up, having to accommodate all the men and their families gathering for the census. Some of the visitors were probably unwelcome, having left a long time, even generations, ago. What about family feuds being revived? The inns would have been full. And now here comes that very pregnant woman, unclean, according to the Torah. Send them to lodge with the animals!

The shepherds must have been terrified. There they are, peacefully minding their sheep in the deep of night, when suddenly the place becomes brighter than day. A heavenly creature tells them a weird tale about a Saviour and the heavenly orchestral choir blasts away before peace reigns once more.



They wisely decided to go to the village to check it out. Did they tell Mary and Joseph about their vision? They certainly told everyone else who would listen!

The three kings,
or wise men, had
an altogether
different
experience,
travelling from
afar on what
could have
been pretty
flimsy evidence.

Brought before
the local king,
they were quizzed aggressively about
his potential rival. What did they think
when they found such a humble scene
underneath the bright star that had
been guiding them? And let's not forget
to mention the weird dreams that told
them to go home another way.

How did Mary and Joseph feel
when these three rich men, kings



even, suddenly appeared at the
stable entrance, offering gifts and
worshipping their baby? That on top of
the shepherds, too. Joseph then had to
believe in the dream in which an angel
told him to flee to Egypt, a good few
day's travel across inhospitable desert,
and persuade a maybe grumpy post-
natal Mary with her new baby, to go
with him. Try doing that today!

How jealous was Herod to order the
killing of all babies in Bethlehem just
in case one of them was a future king?
How did his soldiers feel, killing them?
What about the victim's families? It
doesn't bear thinking about.

The Christmas season has much to
celebrate, and also much to ponder.

Glen McCullough

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Reflection for Annual Mass of Remembrance

Flor McCarthy, well-known Irish Salesian priest, says that liturgies of remembrance provide us with a threefold blessing:

- through the proclamation of the Scriptures they announce the good news of eternal life won for us by the death and resurrection of Jesus;
- they remember our deceased loved ones and allow us to pray for these brothers and sisters of ours; and
- they address our need for grieving and understanding the process of grief.

Most insightfully he then says, 'There are lots of things mourners are unable to hear on the day of the funeral.

Perhaps they can hear them now...'

That is what we do today.

When a loved one dies we experience the powerful emotions associated with grief: we may want to be near them and spend a lot of necessary time visiting their grave, their resting place, and reliving their last days and weeks. We may want to be by ourselves and, in our deep pain, don't want anyone to come near us because we feel estranged, isolated and so very alone.

That's what the apostles must have felt like in today's Gospel John 20: 19-29. Here we find them behind closed doors, locked away, cut off and afraid. They wanted to be alone. So did Thomas – he cuts himself off from the apostles, at least initially, and chooses to be by himself.

And, then, notice how Jesus takes the initiative. He breaks through the

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**Some minds are like
concrete - thoroughly
mixed up and
permanently set.**

barriers that they had created for themselves; he comes to them. He understands their desire to be alone but, as they take the risk of welcome, and because they do, Jesus is able to leave them with renewed hope. He is risen. His death is not the end of the story that they thought it was.

How reassuring is Thomas?! In his stubbornness, born of grief, Thomas tells it like it is.

And then he returns to the family and is there when Jesus visits the apostles again – notice they are still locked away in their grief. Thomas has raw faith, the faith that tells it like it is, the faith that gets things wrong, the faith that starts over again and again. And, nowhere does Thomas show us the depths of his faith more than when he places his hands into the wounds of Jesus and prays, ‘My Lord and My God.’

Thomas teaches us a powerful lesson. As we experience the wounds of our grief, we discover the source of renewed grace and compassion. The late Irish poet and priest, John O’ Donohue, says:

‘Wounds are not sent to make us small and frightened; they are sent to open us up and to help graciousness, compassion and beauty take root within us.’

That’s what you do today by coming here, by taking the risk of faith, by acknowledging our deep human need for hope and by reminding us all that it is love that makes the difference and love that makes God visible.

As we honour your loved ones in prayer and continue in this Mass of Remembrance, we pray eternal rest for them. We also pray healing for you and your loved ones.

God bless you.
Michael McCabe

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

John

Graham

Rodney

Merryn & Andrew Malcolm

Diane

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There in Times of Need

The Forbidden Topic

As Catholics, we don't do much talking about charitable giving, in any form. We know other denominations where tithing is a focal point of teaching and often seems, to our Catholic eyes, to be over-emphasised.

I wonder if we have erred too much in the opposite direction and am writing this article in the hopes of starting people thinking and, perhaps, talking.

To check 20 biblical verses about tithing, you can visit this website: <https://echurch.com/20-bible-verses-about-tithing/>.

Of course, this is tithing in the days before welfare states, GST and income tax – so what about today?



According to "Catholic Answers"
<https://www.catholic.com/qa/what-is-the-churchs-position-on-tithing>

"Although the Church teaches that offering some form of material support to the Church is obligatory for all Catholic adults who are able to do so, it doesn't specify what

percent of one's income should be given. Remember, tithing was an Old Testament obligation that was incumbent on the Jews under the Law of Moses. Christians are dispensed from the obligation of tithing ten percent of their incomes, but not from the obligation to help the Church.

The key to understanding how God wants us to give to the Church is found in 1 Corinthians 16:2, "On the first day of the week [Sunday] each of you should set aside whatever he can afford," and in 2 Corinthians 9:5-8:

So I thought it necessary to encourage the brothers to go on ahead to you and arrange in advance for your promised gift [donation], so that in this way it might be ready as a bountiful gift and not as an exaction. Consider this: Whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each must do as already determined without sadness or compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. Moreover, God is able to make every grace abundant for you, so that in all things, always having all you need, you may have an abundance for every good work.

To paraphrase: God doesn't demand a fixed amount of money from us; he wants us to give from the heart. If people are forced by their church to give a certain percent of their income, that's extortion. If they give

freely and cheerfully the amount they are able, that's a gift."

This seems clear enough – we know that we need to support our pastors and our church; but how does it fit in with other charitable giving, whether that be through the Catholic Church or through other agencies?

As I write this, I come to understand why we don't hear much about it from the Catholic Church – I keep coming up with more questions than answers! So perhaps I should continue this article with questions.

1. We live in a welfare state and I pay my taxes honestly. Why should I give any more?
2. If I do decide I would like to give to charities – how on earth do I decide which ones I should support? There are so many needs – people starving and dying through famine and natural disasters all around

the world, lack of proper drinking water in so many countries, women being marginalised and oppressed, kids in New Zealand going to school with inadequate food and clothing, cancer patients and researchers, animals being mistreated ... how can I prioritise my giving?

3. What about my church? How much should I support it? Once again there are so many factors to consider: the regular running of our parish so that are priests and parish workers are paid justly and that our existing "plant" is maintained. Then we are in the midst of planning and building a new parish church. What should I be giving to support this?
4. But hang on We are not a "single parish Church". There are many parishes in the Archdiocese that are much poorer than we are. There are many, many churches throughout



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the world that are much poorer than our Archdiocese. We have supported other churches in Papua New Guinea and South America through our parish gala supporting the work of the Presentation Sisters. We have people in our parish supporting the work of the church in Botswana. Am I called to do any more?

5. Is giving to our parish, including the building programme, charitable giving or is it “membership costs”? I don’t mean to imply that the parish should lose its charitable organisation status, or that there should be an “annual subscription” to belong. I do mean that if we use our parish facilities – our priest, our lay ministers, our buildings, etc. – then surely there is a question of

justice that we should contribute our fair share towards these costs, just as we would to the sports club we wanted to be members of. The “fair share” is up to each person to work out.

So, you can see, I don’t have any blanket answers to these questions. Anna and I revisit them for ourselves fairly regularly and we adjust our responses depending on our own circumstances and on what we perceive to be the areas that most call on our generosity.

All I can do, as a “person in the pews”, is suggest that these are questions for us all to consider, knowing that we will never come up with a final, right, answer.

Peter Ryan

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The Next Three Months in the Liturgical Year

The Immaculate Conception – 8th December

Mary was conceived without original sin, which is that part of our nature that makes us tend not to do what is right. That grace enabled her to say “yes” to becoming the mother of our Saviour. I don’t have that grace so I tend to be a sinner. The difference is that Jesus, the Son of God, died and rose again so that I, with His help, can overcome my sinfulness, if I try. Are you the same?

The Nativity – 25th December

Let's celebrate this Christmas. Christ the Saviour is born!

The Holy Family – 31st December & Mary, Mother of God – 1st January

Luke's Gospel says “Meanwhile the child grew to maturity and he was filled with wisdom; and God's favour was with him.” Over the centuries our imaginations have run riot about his childhood but I suspect he had the sort of childhood the only son of a poor carpenter and a perfect mother would have had in a Jewish hill village in Palestine - loved and apprenticed. A very human upbringing.



The Epiphany - 7th January

The three kings came from afar, braving all sorts of trials and tribulations, bearing gifts and announcing that the Saviour had come for all, not just the Jews. Halleluiah!

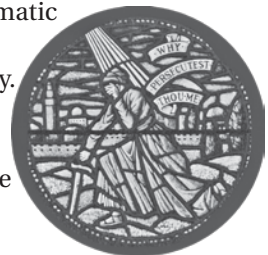
The Baptism of the Lord – 8th January

By becoming baptized by John, Jesus authenticated our own baptism. But more importantly, it seems to me is that, if Jesus didn't already know he was the Messiah, he did after the voice from heaven told Him He was after His Baptism by John in the Jordan. He knew exactly who He was. Do you?



The Conversion of St Paul – 25th January

Read Acts 9:1-22 for the full story of the most dramatic turnaround in Christian history. Briefly, though, Paul was on his way to persecute the Christians in Damascus when he was struck off his horse and blinded by Jesus, who told him to go



on into Damascus where the Holy Spirit arranged for his blindness to be taken away. Paul needed something dramatic before he came right with God. How about you?



The Presentation of the Lord – 2nd February

Eight days after Jesus birth he was circumcised. After 30 days Mary and Joseph took him to Jerusalem and presented Him to God in the Temple (The Redemption of the First-born), buying Him back with five shekels. At the same time, Mary was purified after childbirth at the sacrifice of two pigeons. While this was going on, Simeon and Anna made their famous prophesies, recognizing the babe as Messiah. What a momentous day!

Ash Wednesday – 14th February

Lent starts today. From now to Easter week we get the chance to look at ourselves and prepare to recognize Jesus' sacrifice on our behalf. He died and rose again to give us the chance of eternal life. Let's get ready to take it.

Glen McCullough



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Fr Jim's Been Thinking

The Promise of the Beatitudes



Matthew is a great storyteller and in his Gospel (5:3-10) he offers eight verses often misidentified as a menu for “correct behaviour”. These verses introduce the main themes of Jesus’ teaching and which are included in chapters 5, 6 and 7. They are eight blessings which were not enunciated as a way of living, but to tell us that those who have at least some of these virtues are in very good shape.

Jesus is not suggesting that these are timeless truths about the way the world should behave. If he was, he was wrong. Mourners often go uncomforted, the meek don’t inherit the earth, those who long for justice frequently take that longing to the grave. We live in a topsy-turvy world and Jesus says that his way will provide a right-way-up world. And Jesus is saying that with his work it’s starting to come true. This is an announcement, not a philosophical analysis of the world. It’s about something starting to happen, not a general truth of life. It is gospel: good news, not good advice.

The word for ‘wonderful news’ is often translated ‘blessed’ in part because this is God’s wonderful news. God is acting in and through Jesus to turn the world upright again, to turn Israel upright, to lavish his ‘blessings’ on all who now turn to him and accept what he is doing. But Matthew does not offer a list of the people God normally blesses: he is announcing God’s new covenant.

When will all this happen? Christians are tempted to answer, “after death, in heaven” which is another misunderstanding. Heaven is God’s space, principally otherworldly, but close to our earthly existence, dovetailing with it. Eventually, the two will mesh together for ever and our true reality, at present out of sight, will be unveiled.

After all, verse 5 says that the meek will inherit the earth and that can hardly happen in a disembodied heaven after death.

Reports and Updates from Parish Groups

Youth



The year is rushing towards Christmas with many of our youth on study leave for NCEA exams. Good luck!

Our young people have had a busy few months, not only with youth group but also with helping at various parish events especially the High Tea held in St Patrick's Hall. The girls put their aprons on and poured tea, cleared plates and brought cakes to the gorgeously laid tables with wonderfully dressed people. Lots of fun with service in action.

We are currently planning for our November Gravitare Camp at Palm Grove. Our theme is based on the Synod message *Go You are Sent*. It's a great chance for youth to mix fun and purpose over the weekend. Youth will explore the gifts and talents they've been given and where this leads them after camp. Our campers will also be providing morning tea after 8.30am mass as a thankyou for the support the parish gives youth ministry.

Not to be forgotten are the Christmas parties for J-Team on Friday 1st December and for Fun Time on Friday 8th December.

We wish you all a wonderful Advent and Christmas season.

Jacqui McLaughlin

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Our Parish School

Last month I announced my retirement as Principal effective from the end of term 1 next year.

After 30+ years of Principal and school leadership I have decided the time has come for me to step aside and hand the school on to the next generation of Catholic school leaders. I have timed my retirement to allow the Board sufficient time to prepare for, advertise and appoint a replacement Principal. Please join me in praying for wisdom and discernment for the Board as they work through the process of appointing my successor - someone who can continue the legacy of the Presentation Sisters. This is a decision that will have ongoing impact on the school, parish and the Catholic faith community for many years to come.

Mission Day – the legacy continues by maintaining the tradition of Mission Day. This year's dress-up theme was heroes. This year the children raised



\$1650 for missions. Their task is now to decide which missions will benefit from their hard work and the generosity of those who supported the event.



In November we welcomed 17 new students during our welcome assembly. The school roll continues to grow with new enrollment inquiries every week.

Martin Elms, Principal



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I thank the Lord for Lois.

Trish McQueen

Catholics Women's League - Paraparaumu Branch

An abbreviated Annual Report for 2017

Our membership remains stable although one or two long serving members have resigned. We are always sorry to lose members and thank them for their service over the years. New members are always welcome.

As a contribution to Hospice Awareness week the branch organised a 12-hour prayer vigil in Our Lady of Fatima church. We provided a prayer leaflet and information about the hospice movement and there was a steady number of people in the church during the day.

A Mother's Day raffle raised over \$500 which, along with the money earned from funeral hospitality, enabled us to send money to the Presentation Noviciate in Papua New Guinea and the various local charities we support,

namely 'Pillars', a group that works with children of prisoners', St Vincent de Paul, St Patrick's School, Wellington Free Ambulance, Life Flight Trust, Caritas, WUCWO, Nathaniel Centre, the Edgumbe Flood Relief and Viard College for hygiene packs for female students.

We continue to provide hospitality after funerals and we are always looking for new volunteers who can help us with this work.

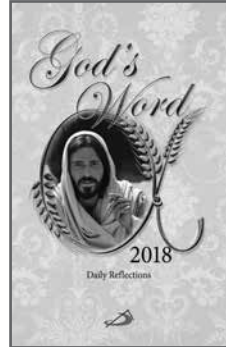
The highlight of our year had to be the celebration of our 70th birthday in July. Forty-plus past and present members, along with some of the Archdiocesan Council, enjoyed a lovely lunch at D4 Café in Raumati. A delicious cake was baked and beautifully iced by Brenda McCarthy. Memories were shared

and friendships renewed. Branch members, past and present, can be very proud of the achievements of the past 70 years!

It has been a year of ups and downs. Our parish church has been sold and we have had to adapt to different Mass times and venues. Change is not always easy but if we can leave the future to God and concentrate on the present we will be all right. The League is facing uncertainty but I think we can survive another year if we all pull together.

Yours in Faith and Service
Fay Doyle, President

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Recent Events

Volunteers' Day

What are we doing? Where are we going?
How do we celebrate who we are?

One Sunday afternoon in October, representatives of about 40 of the groups and ministries in the parish gathered to share information and discover what was happening in Our Lady of Kāpiti Parish.

Organised by Parish Council members Jacqui McLaughlin and Carmel Leonard, it was an opportunity to discover the reach of the various groups within the parish and the wider community.

"The work of about 30 groups was spoken about. It was really inspiring to see how many people are out there who just get on and carry out their ministry whether it is a prayer or liturgy group or people carrying out

service in the wider community. The people who arrange the baptisms and funerals, home visits, youth groups, serving people in need, people in rest homes, the Men's Group – there are parish groups providing ministry from the cradle to the grave," Jacqui said.

The other aspect was the many prayer, praise and Scripture study groups, each with its focus, providing spiritual nourishment and support for the work of the Lord.

For new members of our parish community, or anyone who wishes to find a group to belong to, there is a Parish directory in this publication and phone numbers are published in the Church notices. Pick up the phone and call. There is always a need for more labourers in God's vineyard.

Retreat Reunion

On Sunday 17th September some of the ladies who had attended the retreat at El Rancho this year, and some newbies, met to catch up with each other.

Michelle Ness led us in prayer and shared the story of a beautiful cloth belonging to her mother which she had placed on the altar.

It was an absolute pleasure to listen to an excellent talk by Anne Lovell on her recent trip to Medjugorje. Anne had some wonderful photos which showed how much it has grown over the years

whilst still keeping its simplicity. She spoke of the visionaries and the welcome they give to pilgrims and the generosity they show in sharing their time to tell their stories regarding the visions and messages they receive from Our Lady.

Preparations are underway for next year's retreat at El Rancho again in May. This is a gift from the Lord that keeps on giving. We look forward to seeing you there.

Nicola Curtis

Dove's Inaugural Meeting

With prayer and praise,
anointing and hymns,
the 10th current
Dove Fellowship of
New Zealand had its
beginnings on the Kāpiti
Coast in early October.

The Kāpiti Dove Fellowship Team consists of June, Anna Ryan, Pauline



Pauline McGlinchey, Kathy Hutchison,
Anna Ryan, June Brunton

McGlinchey and Kathy Hutchison. Anne and Andy Lovell were appointed advisors and Fr Manus Lyons stepped in as chaplain.

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Anna Watson spoke of the history of Dove in New Zealand and her personal experiences.

“Dove in New Zealand is a Catholic fellowship born 30 years ago out of Aglow, the multi-denominational prayer movement for women. Meetings generally consist of four parts – praise and worship, a speaker, prayer ministry and fellowship.” She said it was a safe place for women to pray and be prayed for.

Her own life journey had seen her live in a number of South Island parishes and seek out, or establish, a Dove Fellowship.

Sheila Phillipps echoed the feelings of a number of women in the gathering who had been members of Dove in previous parishes and had prayed for a fellowship in Kāpiti, proclaiming the new venture as answer to those prayers.

Then, led by the talented group of musicians, Pauline, Bridget O’Shanassy and Matalena Vaeluaga, under the

leadership of Nicola Curtis, there was a time of praise in song – voices raised in hymns described by some who were there as “spirit-filled” and “anointed”.

About 25 parishioners attended the initial meeting and were privileged to be joined by Dove fellowship members from other fellowship groups in the North Island.

All women are welcome to take part in Kāpiti Dove Fellowship gatherings which will be held on the second Tuesday of each month at St Patrick’s Hall, Paraparaumu.

Margaret Irvine



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Gleanings From Grainne Moss At The Women's Breakfast 21st October "Swimming, Sharks and Spirituality"



Grainne Moss is the CEO of the Ministry for Vulnerable Children, Oranga Tamariki

"It's not about money. It's about drive, motivation and willingness to put in the time and effort"

"Waiting for the perfect day is a false economy-you'll miss the perfect opportunity"

"There is limited value in looking back-you can't change the past and need to look to the future"

"Not achieving is not the end but the beginning of another journey"

"Don't expect applause from anyone but God when you use your talents for your betterment and for others"

"Recognising the team that support you is important particularly those that

tell you the truth. Allow others to do the job that is theirs to do"

"[Grainne's] biggest achievement is a solid marriage and a happy family"

"Shared faith with your husband makes for a good team but you need to invest time and put in the hard work"

"Recognise the forces of evil - trusting God is important"

"Be mindful of egos including your own"

"Failure teaches you more than success"

"There are no shortcuts for success and it is not all glamour - take the good with the bad".

Many thanks to the men for organising such an inspiring speaker!

Nicola Curtis

Old Ducks



The Old Ducks celebrated their 12th anniversary with a shared lunch.

This group meets every Tuesday morning after 9:30 Mass.

See the Parish Directory on page 30 for contacts.

Jesus 4 Real Junior Camp, October 2017

(Jesus 4 Real concluded their 29th year of operation with the Junior Camp which took place from October 4 -8. Forty-two Years 8 – 10 campers, 19 Cabin Leaders, 10 Senior Leaders and Father Kevin Connors, our Chaplain, attended. This is one Cabin Leader's reflection on the camp.)



I walk into a room of grinning, now familiar faces, so happy to be reunited, and ready to do God's work! A room filled with the strong presence of the Holy Spirit. My decision to take a leap of faith and go to Jesus 4 Real Senior Camp last year, where I didn't know anyone, was well worth it, and now I have just led at my first Jesus 4 Real Junior Camp. I thought I knew what to expect, yet my expectations were once again surpassed! It was amazing to see the campers grow in confidence and joy, from being shy to becoming great friends, passionate and outgoing in their shared love for God - simply having a great time! Through the group activities and free time, continued during Reconciliation, prayer with the Leaders and Adoration, there were so many opportunities for campers and Leaders alike to encounter God's presence, as many did. Even if people came to camp initially for the social aspect, they quickly came to discover the sense of belonging, of standing among like-minded others, those strong in their faith and those not as much, comfortable due to the respect and encouragement given regardless

of where each individual is in their faith journey, and everyone's listening, understanding presence. This safe environment is key to why many young people's faith was taken to new levels over the duration of camp as they were healed, reached new revelations and grew in a deeper appreciation of God. Not only that, but unforgettable memories and lifelong friends were made in the process. This support of the Jesus 4 Real community that extends after camp, enables many young people who go to these camps to cope with the challenges they face as youth in everyday life. I can safely say that I wouldn't be where I am in my relationship with God if it wasn't for Jesus 4 Real camps and the camp "brothers and sisters" I've been reunited with - the second family I never thought I'd have. I have truly experienced God's joy in our presence and His infinite love for each one of us at Jesus 4 Real camps, and I know that even through the laughter and tears God will be even more present in my life than the brothers and sisters I've made in the Jesus 4 Real community.

Catharina

Fundraising Events

Ballentynes Fashion Show

On Wednesday 18 October over 70 ladies met at Ballentynes, Paraparaumu for a night of fun and laughter.

We had a wonderful evening where we were shown the latest Spring/Summer fashions modelled by Marie-Louise Blockley, Sr. Barbara, Audrey Lotsu, Lorraine Foubister, Jackie McLaughlin, Marie-Therese Lemmon and Martha Stuart-Beresford.

These ladies entertained us for a good hour showing us their latest antics in modelling. We were impressed with the variety of clothing worn along with hats, shoes and jewellery.

A lovely supply of drinks and nibbles provided by Clare Reiher, Lorraine Foubister, Sr. Barbara, Velma Knight, Lorraine Gaffney and Mary Cook helped the evening flow.

Our thanks go to the staff of Ballentynes who spent time helping the models select their outfits and assisting on the night. This event raised \$1428.38 towards the church Building Fund.

Many thanks for your support of this event and God Bless.

Carole Hutchings & Mary Cook



High Tea with St. Patrick



It's a rare treat to get to enjoy a High Tea among friends, let alone High Tea en masse - a novelty on two counts - which explains why the recent "High Tea with St. Patrick" piqued so much interest, with tickets sold out well ahead of the event and participants travelling from as far south as Wainuiomata.

There is something delicately appealing about fine bone china teacups, saucers and plates (even an eclectic collection pulled from the cabinets of a handful of friends), vintage silverware cutlery and napkins folded into origami pockets to hold teaspoons and dessert forks. The attention to detail and creative flair which thirteen hostesses from our parish, Marie-Louise Blockley, Theresa Cook, Vicki Devane, Lorraine Foubister, Kathy Hutchinson, Lyn Jarden, Erin Kelly, Lynare Lower, Catherine Mettrick, Bridget O'Shanassy, Sharyn Pearce and Kathleen White, achieved when dressing their tables hours

before the event, was a work of art and hospitality that warmed their guests even more than the peppermint, raspberry and 'English breakfast' brews.

Both young and old made this grand-scale tea party a grand event, with a team of youth working from the hall's kitchen and OLOK students as young as ten years old carrying teapots to tables, transforming former fantasy play of pouring tea, into a service of real class. They were composed, courteous and keen. Not one of them allowed any of the dozens of 3- and 2-tier plates, packed with delicate sweets, to topple as they carefully transported these to tables.

True to expectations, the selection of sweet and savoury bites were indeed tasty treats, due to the collective baking efforts of Velma Knight, Margaret Ricketts, Pauline McGlinchey, Anna Upton, Colleen King, Carol Lamain, Callista Reardon, Delia Milson, Louise Kelleher and Kathy Campbell.

The afternoon's order of events proceeded as smoothly as cream cheese, thanks to Anna Ryan holding the M.C. 'spreading knife'. As the O'Shanassy sisters' quartet sang barbershop, "Blue Bayou", and a church song, "Going Home", one wondered how many family sing-alongs had fermented those developed, harmonic voices. Awarded best neckwear, by Fr. Jim, was Ron Cook whose dapper purple-rimmed black top hat and neck tie was as impressive



as Fr. Jim's very smart purple cravat. The recipient of best fascinator, Juvilla Seddon, judged by ever-fashionable Martha Stuart- Berrisford, was a clear, 'black-and-white' winner.

While the finery and atmosphere of this tea party seemed like a celebration of sorts, we were reminded by Claire Reiher that this gathering was a springboard for promoting and gathering resources for the "Seasoning Kapiti" recipe book.

At my table, as both seasoned and young mothers enjoyed light-hearted conversation in this hospitable setting,

it struck me just how much I was relishing this opportunity to finally sit down at table, a first for some of us, and spend some quality time with my guests of mostly school mums. I was also buoyed to see so many husbands and wives, not only building ties with the wider parish community but also spending special time together as a couple, and in so doing, strengthening their marriages.

Beyond a doubt, this fundraiser was a feel-good, fun-raising, community-building event. And while there were many chefs and many acts of service from parishioners, there were a few good women - and their husbands in support - who were the real master-minds and master-chefs behind this event. Well done Claire Reiher, Anna Ryan, Carole Hutchings and Velma Knight; this "High Tea with St. Patrick" was a rare pleasure.

Catherine Mettrick

Upcoming Events



Keep the date free!

El Rancho will be the venue once again.

Theme – Seasons.

Come To Medjugorje In 2018!

We have been asked to lead a pilgrimage to Medjugorje in Bosnia Herzegovina from June 3-20 in 2018.

We have had some local interest and now that we have a definite date we would like to know whether any Parishioners are interested in joining the group before we publicise it more widely.



Ideally we would prefer to keep it to members of Our Lady of Kāpiti Parish but we are open to friends and family. Group size will be limited to around 15 pilgrims.

Price is approximately \$6,000 (TBC) per person, which covers all airfares (ex Auckland), meals (excluding lunch) and accommodation in Medjugorje, sightseeing and local guides.

We will possibly have a Priest traveling with the tour. This is to be confirmed.

If you are interested, please contact us for further information.

Contact Anne and Andy Lovell. Anne: 027 481 8160 Andy 027 661 0227

Book Review

Morning and Evening - New Zealand at Prayer

Morning and Evening – New Zealand at prayer was written over a two-year period by Nancy Hill.

Her initial inspiration was to write something accessible to New Zealanders, as she found a lack of prayer books available in NZ for New Zealanders. She has considered the fast pace of modern life and provides a simple, clear and concise path for prayer. She also honours our Catholic prayer traditions by including things like the sign of the cross, lighting candles, etc. This book is suitable for any age or for anyone who may have trouble reading for long periods of time.

The book follows a two-week prayer cycle, divided in to morning and evening prayers. Each morning or evening prayer time takes about 10 minutes to read at a minimum, but also allows for reflection and individual prayer either during or after each segment. The content delivers the psalms and scripture as well as reflections and prayers from scholars, the clergy and other authors.

Prayer books (\$30) can be ordered through Bridget O'Shanassy on 027 3165641 or by emailing her at bridget.oshanassy@kc.school.nz.

Profits go to OLOK Building fund.

A Bit of This and a Bit of That

Pray for Tourists

*Found by a parishioner
in Catholic Church,
Richmond, Tasmania*

Heavenly Father, look
down on us your humble,
obedient tourist servants,
who are doomed to
travel this earth, taking
photographs, mailing postcards,
buying souvenirs and walking around
in drip-dry underwear.

Give us this day Divine Guidance in
the selection of our hotels, that we may
find our reservations honoured, our
rooms made up, breakfast included
and hot water running in the taps.

We pray that the telephones work and
that the operators speak our tongue.

Lead us, dear Lord, to good,



inexpensive restaurants
where the food is superb,
the waiters friendly
and the wine served
complimentary.

Give us the wisdom to tip
correctly in currencies
we do not understand.

Forgive us for undertipping out of
ignorance and overtipping out of fear.
Make the locals love us for who we are
and not for what we can contribute to
their worldly goods.

Grant us the strength to visit the
museums, the cathedrals, the colonial
houses, national parks and convict
goals listed as "must see" in our
guidebooks.

Amen

How to Reach Heaven

A Reflection on: Matthew 19:16-22

The young man in the Gospel reading
thought he was doing everything right,
yet something made him feel uncertain
about it. Something made him ask
Jesus how to gain eternal life.

When I pose the question to Catholics,
"Do you know if you're going to
heaven?" many say no, they hope so,
but they're not sure. These are good
Christian Catholics, not pew-sitters
who show up at church only out of
the fear of hell, unaffected by the
transforming power of the Eucharist,
doing little during the week to grow

closer to God. These are people who
dearly love the Lord, confess their sins,
and happily serve the Church with
their gifts and talents.

When I ask if they mean they'll
probably stop in purgatory first, they
usually reply that they just don't
know. Purgatory is not the problem.
What if -- this is what they ask me --
what if, before they die, due to their
imperfections they turn away from
Jesus?

Notice that Jesus didn't tell his young
questioner that he wasn't going to
reach heaven unless he became

perfect. Keeping the commandments was enough, but to add treasures to his home in heaven, he would need to detach himself from earthly possessions.

Jesus wasn't concerned about the guy having too much. He was concerned about his priorities. Here was a good lad who dutifully obeyed all the laws. Why? So that he could gain something (everlasting life). Notice that it was all about Self: What do I get out of it?

The real treasures of life are the ones we share with others. Consider which commandments Jesus quoted on this occasion. He left out the ones that focus on our relationship with God. He listed only those that deal with how we treat people. Jesus gave him a challenge that, if he worked on it and wrestled with it and accepted it, would help him outgrow his selfishness.

Terry Modica, Good News Ministries.

Are you interested in developing your understanding of the daily scriptures? These websites do just that, but please note that most of them are American so the readings may be slightly different – see parish newsletter for the correct references. Most of the sites offer you the opportunity to have the reflections sent to your email address every day

- <http://www.acatholic.org/>
- <http://gnm.org/>
- <https://mycatholic.life/daily-reflections/>
- <https://catholic-daily-reflections.com/daily-reflections/>

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Technical Support



Dear Tech Support,

Last year I upgraded from Boyfriend 5.0 to Husband 1.0 and I noticed a distinct slowdown in the overall system performance, particularly in the flower and jewellery applications, which operated flawlessly under Boyfriend 5.0.

In addition, Husband 1.0 uninstalled many other valuable programs, such as Romance 9.5 and Personal Attention 6.5, and then installed undesirable programs such as NEWS 5.0, MONEY 3.0 and CRICKET 4.1.

Conversation 8.0 no longer runs and Housecleaning 2.6 simply crashes the system.

Please note that I have tried running Nagging 5.3 to fix these problems, but to no avail.

What can I do?

Anonymous



Dear Madam,

First, keep in mind, Boyfriend 5.0 is an Entertainment Package, while Husband 1.0 is an operating system.

Please enter command:

ithoughtyoulovedme. and try to download Tears 6.2. Do not forget to install service pack Guilt 3.0 update. If that application works as designed, Husband 1.0 should then automatically run the applications Jewellery 2.0 and Flowers 3.5.

However, remember, overuse of the above application can cause Husband 1.0 to default to Silence 2.5 or Beer 6.1. Please note that Beer 6.1 is a very bad program that will download the Snoring Loudly Beta.

Whatever you do, DO NOT under any circumstances install Mother-In-Law 1.0 (it runs a virus in the background that will eventually seize control of all your system resources.)

In addition, please do not attempt to reinstall the Boyfriend 5.0 program. These are unsupported applications and will crash Husband 1.0, who might utilize sharedrive Girlfriend 1.1.

In summary, Husband 1.0 is a great program, but it does have limited memory and cannot learn new applications quickly. You might consider buying additional software to improve memory and performance.

We recommend: Cooking 3.0.

Good Luck Madam!

(Editor has tongue firmly in cheek!)

Parish Directory November 2017

This directory is as accurate as we are able to make it.
Please let us know if there are any errors or omissions on these pages.

Our Lady of Kapiti Parish Administration

Parish Priest & Presbytery	Fr Michael McCabe	902 5815
Parish Office and Secretary	Marie Lemmon/Maureen Jones	902 5815
29 Parata St, Waikanae Mon-Fri 9am-12.30pm kapitiparishoffice@gmail.com		
Finance Committee Chair	Michael Gaffaney	905 2402
Parish Finance Secretary	Karen Scott	902 5815
Pastoral Council Chair	Bob Houston	293 3390
Website (www.kapiti-catholic.org.nz)	Lafaele Vaeluaga	238 2454

Church Worship Support

Liturgy Committee	Prm	Maureen Borkin	904 7464
	Wae	Sr. Barbara Henley	904 6112
Altar Brass & Linen (Prm)		Nan Lewin	905 6388
Altar Servers (Prm)		Maureen Borkin	904 7464
Anointing Masses		Colleen King	905 5913
Baptisms & Funeral Preparation		Merle Whiteman	904 1855
Children's Liturgy		Jenny McGlone	(06) 364 3908
Church Flowers	Prm	Velma Knight	299 1539
Communion to the Sick	Prm	Pauline McGlinchey	904 0243
	Wae	Pat Fouhy	293 1140
Liturgy Rosters		Parish Office	902 5815
Music - Guitars	Bill Borkin	904 7464	Wullie Grant 293 8702
	Wae Organists	Maria Vink	905 9190 Kathy Hutchison 297 3097
		Doreen Hoffmann	904 3276 Patricia Beasley 293 7964
Sacramental Programme		Parish Office	902 5815

Other Parish Groups

Adult Faith Enrichment	Anna Ryan	902 6330
Bereavement Support	Annette Corban	021 264 4567
Catholic Women's League	Fay Doyle	902 3017
Cenacle Sisters		293 8344 & 905 7213

Family Ministry		June Brunton	298 6266
Justice and Peace		Wullie Grant	293 8702
Kapiti Carers	Prm	Marie-Louise Blockley	298 3810
Living Aloners	Jan Dowd	905 4633	Zelda Masterton 905 9248
Maori Mission		Wai Stewart	902 4909
Men's Group	Nick Maher 298 8475	Pat Haughey 905 4467	Glen McCullough 293 1747
Mission Gala Convenor		Sr Breda Ryan	905 3420
New Parishioners and Home Visits		Joyce Haughey	905 4467
Not Your Usual Sunday Readings	Wed aft Michele	298 7378	Thurs evg Josephine 974 0629
OLD DUCKS Prayer & Scripture Group		Lyn Jarden	905 2588
Meets 10am Tuesdays		or Vicki Devane	902 2688
Passionist Family Groups	Prm	John & Corrie McCardle	904 1823
	Wae	Jenny & Mark McGlone	(06) 364 3908
Pastoral Pages	Editor: Anna Ryan	office@ryanpublications.co.nz	902 6330
Prayer Chain	Gill Doran	902 1074	Nan Lewin 905 6388
Prayer Groups (Wae)	Monday Afternoon		Lorraine Gaffaney 905 2402
	Christian Meditation (Tuesdays)		Wanda Sager 293 2441
Presentation Sisters			905 3420
Presentation Associates		Margaret Bevin	299 6825
RCIA	Fr Michael	902 5815	Eddie Doran 902 1074
St Vincent de Paul		John Reardon	293 6079
Waikanae Rest Home Liturgy Services		Catherine Englert	293 2978
Widowed, Separated, Divorced		Annette Corban	021 264 4567
Women's Guild		Sharyn Pearce	902 2571
Youth Co-ordinator		Jacqui McLaughlin	0226757357
Trust		John McCardle	904 1823

Our Lady of Kāpiti School

Office	Kate Bertham	298 6780
Principal	Martin Elms	298 6780
Board of Trustees Chair (Acting)	Isabel Carberry	021 620 516

B.O.T. meets at School 4th Wednesday monthly

What do you see? Each image is made up of two words



Ray White.

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