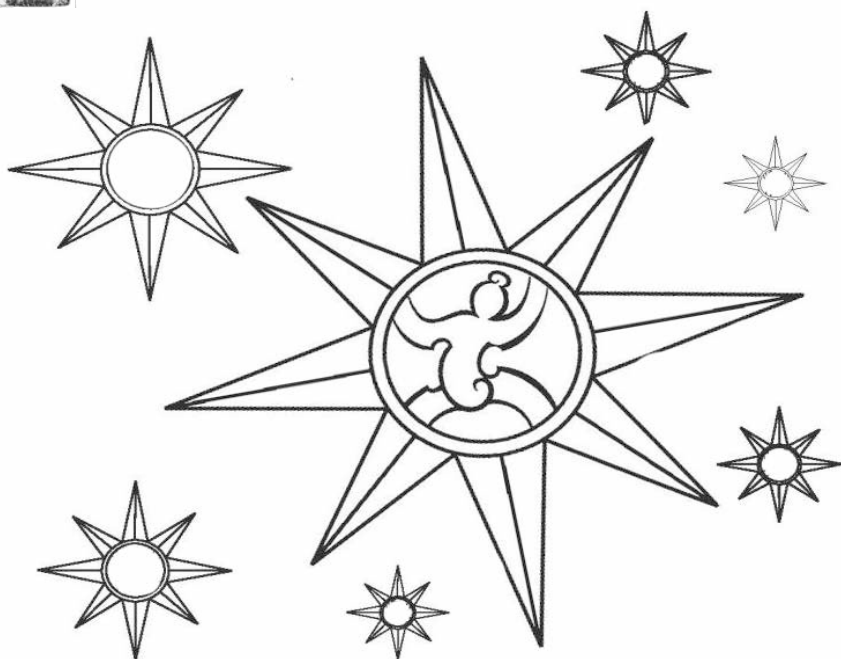


Pastoral Pages

Parish of Our Lady of Kāpiti

Te Whaea Tapu o Kāpiti

Winter 2017



Matariki

What's Inside

A Day in the Life of Fr. Michael
Women's Retreat
New owners of St Pat's

EDITORIAL



A missing person, a retreat, words from Pope Francis, feast days, a day in the life of, – there should be something of interest for every parishioner in this full and varied issue. We also hope that you have been able to join in some of the activities that are reported on.

We are part of a wonderfully vibrant community of believers who are all doing the best we can to answer God's call in our lives. If that means I disagree with someone else's take, then that probably means that their call is different from mine – it's not wrong, just different. Be generous and gracious and 'in all things give thanks'.

Remember to keep the directory (last couple of pages) handy for the next three months so you know who to contact within the parish.

Anna and the Editorial Team.

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Copy for next issue closes **11th August**. 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

The next three months in the Liturgical Year

Pentecost – 4th June (Acts 2:1-11)

It is easy to under-estimate the importance of Pentecost, the arrival of the Holy Spirit as Jesus promised.



It was the birth of the Church, because the disciples went out from the upper room, fearless, confident, and took the risen Christ to the world. It was the first appearance of the Holy Spirit amongst Jesus' followers. With the realization of the gifts that the Holy Spirit gives those who truly believe, the disciples worked miracles and spoke so everyone understood them in their own language. But most of all, they received courage and confidence. What gifts has the Holy Spirit given you?

The Most Holy Trinity – 11th June

(John 3:16-18)

On retreat long ago, we were asked "Who is God the Father to you?" A man I respected said He was like his real father who would hold his hand when he needed Him. Then we were asked "Who is Jesus to you?" I didn't know,

but a woman who was like an island of peace said He was her life. I wanted what they had, and it was given to me, through the Holy Spirit. Some say the Holy Spirit is the product of the love between Father and Son. I say the Holy Spirit enables me to have a personal relationship with the Father and Son. What do you say?

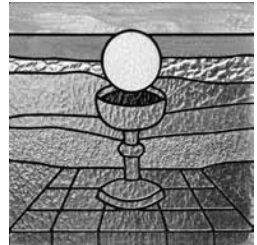
Corpus Christi – 18th June

(John 6:51-58)

Recently I was researching stained glass windows of the Last Supper and Eucharist, and found one from King Island, Tasmania. It was a very

simple window - a chalice and host against a background of altar, land, sea and sky.

As I looked at it, the chalice



and host seemed to grow and take over the scene. That reminded me that as I grow older in my retirement, the daily Eucharist, the Body and Blood of Christ, is becoming more and more necessary to me. It is as if I have a hollow part of me that only the Eucharist can fill. How important is the Eucharist to you?

Sacred Heart of Jesus – 23rd June

(Matt 11:25-30)

For most of my life I have taken the Sacred Heart of Jesus for granted. It was a statue in the right-hand corner

of the sanctuary. Of course Jesus loves me. Love comes from the heart. So of course Jesus' heart is sacred. But think about it a bit more. Jesus said in part "For I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls." Looking at this day has made me realize I should never take Jesus or His Sacred Heart for granted. I hope you don't either. Do you?

St Martha – 29th July (Luke 10:38-42)

We all know the story of Martha and Mary. Martha was the worker and Mary sat at Jesus' feet. Martha complained and Jesus told her that Mary had chosen the better thing to do. Both women wanted to please Jesus – Martha by preparing a meal, Mary by spending quiet time with Him. Too often the Mary in me gets put aside for the tasks Martha needs to do. It's a question of priorities I suppose. Have I got my priorities right? How can I strike a better balance between spiritual and temporal needs?

Transfiguration – 6th August

(Matthew 17:1-9)

When Jesus was revealed in all His glory on the mountain, Peter, James and John cowered in fear. I suspect they were awestruck at the time and they only worked out what had happened later. But what they had suspected was true – Jesus was the Son of God, the Messiah that had been promised. Put yourself in their place – how would you feel to have the Son of God revealed in front of your very eyes? Would you fall on your knees in fear or adoration?

Glen McCullough



Matariki

[Ed: In the next few months we start to see the star cluster known as Matariki or Pleiades. This marks the Maori New Year. During this time of Matariki we continue the building process as well as prepare for the Archdiocesan synod. During our discussions together, let us be mindful of our past, the stories of those who built our communities and have gone before us, and of the struggles that the changes, needed to bring about our communities, require.]

Matariki is the Maori name of the Pleiades star cluster, otherwise known as the Seven Sisters. The rise of the stars marks the start of winter and the traditional Maori New Year.

When Matariki rises in mid-winter, Maori believe the sun has gone on its journey as far north as it can go. Matariki goes to collect the sun and to tell him it's time to come back to earth and bring the warmth.

During Matariki we celebrate our unique place in the world. We give

respect to the whenua on which we live, and admiration to our mother earth, Papatūānuku.

Throughout Matariki, we learn about those who came before us; our history, our family, our bones.

Matariki signals growth. It's a time of change. It's a time to prepare and a time of action. During Matariki we acknowledge what we have and what we have to give.

Matariki celebrates the diversity of life. It's a celebration of culture, language, spirit and people.

He aroha, he honore, he whakaaro pai nga tangata katoa. Let love, mercy and goodwill be gifts each one brings to our gathering, and that every heart may know the peace you promise. I a Hehu Karaiti. Amene.

*Karen Holland, lay pastoral leader 2013
in St Anne's, Newtown, parish newsletter.*

Matariki:

- is made up of several hundred stars
- only seven of the stars that make up the cluster can be seen
- is also known as Pleiades
- returns in June
- appears before dawn
- when winter land lies cold and dormant
- means the new cycle of life
- is the Maori New Year
- is a time for remembering people you have lost
- is a time to prepare for learning
- is celebrated with education
- new celebrations are held on the sighting of the next New Year
- is celebrated by Polynesians with kites
- if the stars are not seen clearly it means the year ahead will be a cold one
- is translated as the tiny eyes of god

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Define H2O and CO2.
*H2O is hot water and
CO2 is cold water.*



Pope Francis Creates Six New Beatitudes

During a Mass in Sweden on the Solemnity of All Saints, Pope Francis called the beatitudes the Christian's "identity card" and added six new beatitudes to the list.

If there is one thing typical of the saints," the pope said, "it is that they are genuinely happy. They found the secret of authentic happiness, which lies deep within the soul and has its source in the love of God."

"That is why we call the saints blessed," he explained. "The Beatitudes are their path, their goal towards the homeland."

He then turned to the Gospel account of the eight Beatitudes (Mt 5:1-12) which he called "the way of life that the Lord teaches us, so that we can follow in his footsteps."

He continued, "The Beatitudes are in some sense the Christian's 'identity card' because 'they identify us as followers of Jesus,' he told the crowds. "We are called to be blessed, to be followers of Jesus, to confront the troubles and anxieties of our age with the spirit and love of Jesus. Thus we ought to be able to recognize and respond to new situations with fresh spiritual energy."

Pope Francis went on to create six new beatitudes:

1. Blessed are those who remain faithful while enduring evils inflicted on them by others, and forgive them from their heart.
2. Blessed are those who look into the eyes of the abandoned and

marginalized, and show them their closeness.

3. Blessed are those who see God in every person, and strive to make others also discover him.
4. Blessed are those who protect and care for our common home.
5. Blessed are those who renounce their own comfort in order to help others.
6. Blessed are those who pray and work for full communion between Christians.

"All these are messengers of God's mercy and tenderness, and surely they will receive from him their merited reward," he said.

He concluded by reminding the congregation that the Lord's call to holiness is for all of us and must be received in a spirit of faith. "The saints spur us on by their lives and their intercession before God, and we ourselves need one another if we are to become saints. Help one another to become saints!"

<http://www.womenofgrace.com>



Find creative ways to proclaim the gospel of joy!

The Sermon on the Mount (Matt 5-7) is a good example of this. We don't really want to turn the other cheek when someone hurts us. We don't want to lose the court battle when

we're sued, let alone give away more than what's been demanded from us. We don't want to give our money to those who didn't earn it. We don't want to increase our donation to the Church, because we might need that extra money to buy more clothes or a newer car, a bigger house, or a fantasy vacation. And how quickly we reduce the amount when the pastor or bishop or someone else in the Church does something wrong!

The extreme generosity that's necessary for holiness becomes easier when we understand why Jesus wants us to be holy. The reason is mercy. Think of love as the front door to people's hearts. When they close it, mercy is the love that sneaks in through the back door. Mercy succeeds where love fails.

Jesus raised us above the Old Testament's "eye for an eye" spirituality, which gets so easily warped into revenge-seeking. Basically, he said: When others hurt you, be merciful and love them (forgive them, do good to them, pray for them, etc.). This is how we stay united to God and in this unity,

he turns our problems into blessings and produces a greater good.

People hurt us without understanding that they're actually hurting themselves. By sinning, they close the door to God's love. But if we love them, we give God to them; he reaches them through us (we become the back door to their hearts). If we refuse to give them mercy, we are refusing to give them God, and we are also closing our own doors to God and to his love.

If someone strikes out at you verbally, don't strike back; give love. If someone tries to steal from you, you can't stop his sin of greed but you can stop him from sinning against you by freely giving to him what he's taking.

Being merciful isn't always fun.

However, think of a time when you didn't deserve God's love or act of kindness. What did it feel like when you realized that he cared about you anyway? How did it change you? This is what your mercy can do for those who sin against you.

For a Study on the Sermon on the Mount, visit wordbytes.gnm.org/holy-living-1.



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Fr Jim's Been Thinking

157 or 2017



St Justin, Martyr, an early Apostolic Father, described the Eucharist in about 157AD. In summary he said

Only those who believe in what we teach may partake of the Eucharist: they are to be baptised for the remission of sins and then live according to the principles imparted by Christ. We do not take Eucharist as we would common bread and drink. We have been taught that as Jesus Christ, our Saviour, became a man of flesh by the power of the Word of God, so also the food that our body assimilates for its nourishment becomes the flesh and blood of the incarnate Jesus by the power of his own words contained in the prayer of thanksgiving.

The apostles tell us through the gospels what Jesus' commanded them to do: He took bread and said This is my body then a cup and said This is my blood. Ever since then we have reminded ourselves and each other of these things. The rich among us help the poor and we are always united.

During our Sunday meetings, we have readings from the gospels or prophets after which the presider speaks to us, urging us to imitate the examples of virtue we have heard from the readings. Then we stand and pray after which, bread, wine and water are brought forward: the presider offers prayers and gives thanks to the best of his ability and we respond Amen. The Eucharist is distributed, everyone present communicates and the deacons takes it to those who are absent.

The wealthy, if they wish, contribute an amount they decide. This collection is placed in the custody of the presider who uses it to help the orphans and widows and all who for any reason are in distress; whether because they are sick, in prison or away from home. In a word, he takes care of all who are in need.

The more we change the more we stay the same!

Rest Home Services Appeal Responses

Catherine Englert has had offers of help from a couple of people who have joined her group but she still needs more volunteers.

Catherine is very grateful for the generous response to her appeal in

the newsletter for crosses to distribute to rest home residents, who loved receiving them.

Wullie Grant is very encouraged by the response for people to join the Millvale group - We have been able to double our numbers. Two very prayerful and joyful visits since the numbers increased - long may it continue."

Reports and Updates from Parish Groups

Youth

The Youth Ministry year is well underway as we race through Term 2.

In mid-April, Susan, Matalena and I attended the National Catholic Conference for Youth and



Young Adult Ministers in Christchurch with 140 other delegates from around NZ. The theme was 'Alive and Well'. The conference was not aimed to produce a set of magic answers to solve all our dilemmas but it did provide the opportunity to share experiences,

discuss possibilities and youth ministry in our areas! The workshop contents were not always what we expected, however they provided many insights and possibilities on how we can further minister to the young people in our region. As it takes a community to raise a child, it also takes a faith community to support a young person on their faith journey.

By the time this article goes to print, we'll have run our annual 24 hour Caritas Challenge. The Caritas Challenge is an annual event for schools and youth groups around New Zealand to demonstrate solidarity with



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those living with poverty or injustice. Caritas Challenge 2017 focused on our neighbours in the Pacific and the challenges they face as a result of climate change. All funds raised during the nationwide Caritas Challenge in 2017 go towards supporting the people of Kiribati. The youth experienced missing out on the creature comforts of home as they slept on the floor of St Patrick's Hall, went to bed late and got up early to bake biscuits to sell at a carwash outside Placemakers to raise money for Kiribati.

It's not uncommon to hear that young people today spend most of their time on social media and are concerned about themselves only. But we know from experience that our young people are passionate and generous about helping others and about making a positive difference in this world. Thank you to all those who support Youth Ministry as we endeavour to support our young people on their spiritual journey.

Jacqui McLaughlin

Our Parish School

We have now successfully completed our first term in the new school.

So what have been the highlights... from the teachers' point of view:

- my classroom makes me happy. 😊
It is warm, light, comfortable, used in multiple ways and very peaceful.
- the break out rooms have been incredibly valuable for use by teacher aides with groups and by students for quiet or collaborative work.
- the courts and field allow for many more fitness opportunities and so far we have only scratched the surface of possibilities.
- the hall is the right size, accommodates children and parishioners beautifully and is functional for games and events. It is also just a beautiful space which is equally suited to the solemnity of the stations of the cross and the buzz of an Andrew Chin show.

- the staff room and utility rooms are large, user-friendly and support regular staff interactions.
- the library is lovely and the 'hub' is a great place (air conditioned!) to hold meetings.
- the children love their school. The adventure playground is well-used, as are all of the shared spaces.

..and from the children's' point of view:

- the space. Plenty of places to go with others or just be by yourself.
- break out rooms, own space to work with a group or by ourselves.
- classrooms. Warm and comfy. Able to work on floor. Lovely on a rainy day to be warm and cosy inside.
- the hall. Spacious great place to use.
- modern colours.

The Architects commissioned some professional photographs of the school. © Andy Spain Photo & Film Wellington. Used with permission.



Who can enroll as a Catholic 'preference student'?

Our roll has grown with Catholic enrolments from within Kāpiti and from people moving into the region. This has secured us our 6th classroom teacher.

The Criteria for Preference of Enrolment in Integrated Catholic Schools - NZ Catholic Bishops' Conference is:

5.1 The child has been baptised or is being prepared for baptism in the Catholic Church.

5.2 The child's parents/guardians have already allowed one or more of its siblings to be baptised in the Catholic faith.

5.3 At least one parent/guardian is a Catholic, and although their child

has not yet been baptised, the child's participation in the life of the school could lead to the parents having the child baptised.

5.4 With the agreement of the child's parent/guardian, a significant familial adult, such as a grandparent, aunt or uncle who is actively involved in the child's upbringing undertakes to support the child's formation in the faith and practices of the Catholic Church.

5.5 One or both of a child's non-Catholic parents/guardians is preparing to become a Catholic.

Our non-preference roll is now full for the next 4 years. Applications are being accepted for the waiting list.

Currently there are limited vacancies for children to start in 2022 and beyond.

Martin Elms, Principal

Introducing Parish Groups & People

CWL

[Ed: The Catholic Women's League is celebrating 70 years.]

Milestones for Catholic Women's League Paraparaumu

- 70 years since inception
- 70 years of mission support
- 50 years since we commenced the Mass for the Sick and Elderly (Anointing Mass)
- 44 years since forming SPUC in Paraparaumu (Voice for Life)
- 36 years since instituting the Prayer Chain
- For many years now we have provided hospitality after funerals.

Of course we haven't been idle in the years since then! From day one we have supported our parish priests, Presentation Sisters, parish, school and wider community. In changing times, we continue the League ideals of Faith and Service, endeavouring to provide spiritual, educational and social support for women.

Beginning with the sending of food and clothing parcels to war torn Europe after WW11, we have always supported two missions, one at home and one usually in the Pacific. We even sent an 84-year-old member to Mauke, Cook Islands to check our mission station!

This year our At Home Support is for PILLARS, a national charitable organisation which aims to break the



cycle of crime and secure a positive future for the children of prisoners.

Our overseas support goes to the Presentation Sisters' Novitiate in Papua New Guinea. Whilst studying, these young women are providing pastoral care in areas where the villages are isolated and roading is very inadequate.

Our involvement is also worldwide with membership in WUCWO – the World Union of Catholic Womens Organisations. This Union fights for the rights of women around the world who have none, and for those suffering very inhumane treatment.

Sound like hard work? Come and celebrate our 70th birthday with us in July and see that we have lots of laughs and comradeship too.

Even better – why not join League? We would love to see some fresh faces, get fresh thoughts and ideas.

We really do need you – we only have thirty years to our Centenary!

Moreen Isaacs

I'm sure many parishioners miss the voice of a tenor vocalist/soloist. This voice (and of course the singer) would bring parishioners to tears, apparently touched by the renditions either of the Responsorial Psalm or during special occasions such as the final Sunday mass held at St. Patrick's Church in Hinemoa Street.

Who else am I referring to but Milan Lucenara, who blessed us for three years with his gift of music? Where is he now? The timbre of his voice, his heartfelt singing, are the ones left in our memories.

I'm fortunate to have had the chance to interview him (virtually, thanks to technology) for this article, ask for his wisdom and reflection on sharing his Ts (Talent, Time and Treasure), and then allow him to answer our curious questions.

Milan shares his Ts:

"God gave me, like any other person, a special gift. In my case, He blessed me with the gift of singing. I guess He also loaned me a gift of dancing, but I'm more inclined to using the former. I just feel that among the three Ts - Talent, Time, Treasure (Money) - I can share more Talent most than the two other Ts. I share with others this gift of singing especially in Church activities. For me, sharing my singing talent is sharing what God has blessed me with. I know that this talent is merely a "loan," a borrowed talent, and in His own perfect time, I will have to



Milan with his wife Kaye and Fr Michael at the Filipino concert.

return. While I can still use it, I share it with as many people and as many occasions as possible. My way of "paying it forward" is to pay it back to the Church choir, concerts, and on special occasions. While in Kāpiti and in New Zealand, I have been a member of two choirs and trainer of choir members for both secular and religious purposes. With these groups, I always think of how to pay back this God-loaned present. Foremost in my mind is the reason why God has blessed me with this talent.

For as long as I still have the voice, I aim to sing for Him and for when my talent is needed most."

Where is Milan now? Why did he leave New Zealand? Is he still planning to come back to New Zealand? How is he? These are the specific questions that were asked by parishioners.

Right now, Milan is with his family back in Davao in Mindanao, in southern Philippines.

J: What are you doing these days?

M: I'm a full time househusband and dad. Since it is school holidays here, I'm with my kids most of the day. I have just recently headed the production assistants of a local production, [Something Wonderful Something Musical 3]. I am also a full-time driver to take my wife to the different hospitals where she is working. I'm currently looking for a day job which would suit my dad duties... hehehe...

J: Why did you leave Kāpiti/NZ?

Milan: ITs a family reason. My wife will be training to become OB-Gynecologist for the next 5 years. I had to come home to look after our two kids since my wife will be at the hospital most of the time.

J: Do you have a plan to come back to NZ?

M: We MIGHT go back to New Zealand in the future, but, as of the moment

our plans are focused on Kaye's training.

J: You must be missing (and not missing) things in NZ.

M: I miss so many things in New Zealand... the very warm people and community, especially in Kāpiti... the weather... the very organized roads and drivers (driving here always requires a bit of an adrenalin rush).... the queues in the banks and offices (here, iTs queueueueueueueueueues all the time)!

What has happened to the Barangay Assumpta Choir and the Seven7One4 without Milan?

Answer from the Choir members:
"We're still intact, still singing and sharing our Ts. Many have volunteered or responded to the invitation to join the Choir. Truly, blessings are overwhelming. We believe that Milan's energy and enthusiasm have been a big inspiration."

Milan Lucenara was interviewed by
Judith Salamat



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The New Owners of Old St Patrick's

What would it take to see a community transformed by God, a city won for Jesus, a nation again called God's own? Those are some inspiring questions that form a vital part of what makes Kapiti Impact Church 'tick'.

Kapiti Impact Church, formerly known as Paraparaumu Family Church, was established in Paraparaumu in 1984. We are part of the Acts Churches NZ Denomination. We are a Protestant, Pentecostal church. In essence, we believe all of what orthodox Christian theology teaches. In practice, we are a contemporary church that actively seeks to fulfil Scripture by living it out, in freedom, everyday, through the power and presence of the Holy Spirit.

We are so excited to have bought St Patrick's property off the Catholic Church – to be able to continue the work of God's Kingdom that the people of Our Lady of Kāpiti Parish have been involved with over the last 50 years. We are so grateful to the people from the Parish involved in helping us settle on the property – Father Michael, Carol Lamain, Ted Wypych, David Sowry, Michael Gaffaney and the Property Committee – your longsuffering and grace was enormous! Thank you.

Our vision for the property is to build an environment where people come, are accepted, belong and have any needs they may have, met. We will use the main church building for our church services but we want it to be available for the community to use also. For example, in March, we hosted

Kāpiti Community Centre's Fusion Multicultural Festival. This event had over 2000 people visit over the day – it was fantastic!

Our plan for the rest of the property is to be able to use it for programmes and ministries that meet the needs of the Kāpiti Coast community, particularly focusing on children, young people and families. We believe we are called by Jesus to be salt and light in this place; to love people unconditionally by meeting them where they're at.

One of our key verses from Scripture is Jeremiah 29:4-7:

This is what the LORD of Heaven's Armies, the God of Israel, says to all the captives he has exiled to Babylon from Jerusalem: "Build homes, and plan to stay. Plant gardens, and eat the food they produce. Marry and have children. Then find spouses for them so that you may have many grandchildren. Multiply! Do not dwindle away! And work for the peace and prosperity of the city where I sent you into exile. Pray to the LORD for it, for its welfare will determine your welfare."

We pray that God will bless your parish, that His amazing grace will fill your hearts, that his Holy Spirit will guide you into all he has for you, that His peace that passes all understanding will rest on your lives and that God will strengthen you with joy.

Lawrence Kirby, Senior Pastor

Recent Events

Women's Retreat The Journey Within – Mercy and Me

A call for women of Our Lady of Kāpiti Parish to gather in the pleasant surroundings of El Rancho in Waikanae for a weekend of prayer and fellowship was answered by 60 women of Waikanae and Paraparaumu, and some visitors.

Participants undertook a journey of exploration of their prayer life and their relationship with God, their spirit-filled gifts and their need to nurture themselves and minister to others.

There were times of silence in shared silent prayer, in guided meditations, and in listening to powerful testimonies.

There was the opportunity to sit by oneself in the presence of The Blessed Sacrament and Father Michael offered

an anointing Mass on Saturday afternoon.

However, anyone expecting a fully silent retreat with contemplative prayer and hushed whispers might have been surprised by the vibrancy of the conversations, the animated laughter and the raising of song to the heavens – plus the very loud bell calling us to sessions.

Cleansing tears fell and God's stand-up comediennes brought forth many laughs. In the optional self-care sessions we learnt to develop our





celebrating the life of those we have loved

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Caption: Thanks to, from left: Kathleen White, Anne Lovell, Michele Ness, Kathy Hutchison, Marcella Gregan, Nicola Curtis, Ishbel Cuncliffe (obscured), Susan Handisides, June Brunton, Lois Kunac, Anna Ryan. Abs: Marie-Louise Blockley.

creativity in journaling and artistry and to care better for our personal health.

The over-arching impression seems to have been one of a growing strength of sisterhood within Our Lady of Kāpiti parish.

Some comments: “a wonderful way for the women of Waikanae and Paraparaumu to get together and enjoy a real feeling of friendship and warmth.”

“Just as women are the heart of the kitchen and the heart of the village, women are the heart of the parish.”

“We talk, we share and as long as it’s guided it can be enlivening and help us all to work together in what can be difficult tasks.”

“I was moved by the deep sharing of the testimonies.”

“I’m keen to see the relationships, built during the retreat, continue on and extend through the parish.”

Women were asked to wear their name tags to Mass for a few weeks to build inclusive relationships and there was a call for a “reunion” gathering so the prayer, joy and new friendships were not left behind at El Rancho’s gates on Sunday afternoon.



Playdough? Really?



A good time to chat!

The Women’s Retreat was the culmination of many hours of planning and thanks are due to the convenors, prayer teams, presenters, pianist, self-care providers and book table manager - Anna Ryan, Nicola Curtis, Anne Lovell, Michele Ness, Kathleen White, Marie-Louise Blockley, Marcella Gregan, Susan Handisides, Lois Kunac, Kathy Hutchison, Ishbel Cuncliffe, Chris Todd, June Brunton, Lorraine Gaffaney, Di Smith, Joan O’Dea, Judith Salamat and Val Roberts.

Musika at Kultura Concert - A Showcase of Filipino Culture - held to fundraise for the Church building project

Hosting the 'Musika at Kultura' Concert stemmed from the Barangay Santa Maria Assumpta's (BSMA's) commitment to share something with the Our Lady of Kāpiti Parish Community. "What better way was there than coming up with something that would showcase our Filipino culture through a musical/dance concert?" remarked Mayie Pagalilauan, one of the founding members of the 7Seven1Four group*, the 8-member secular singing group of BSMA.

The concert, on Saturday, 25th of February, at the Paraparaumu College Auditorium in Paraparaumu, Kāpiti, gained lots of admiration and praise from parishioners of various ethnicities, as well as other guests from the wider Kāpiti and Wellington communities: "It was fabulous..!" "It was fantastic....!" "That

was stunning!" "You could see the passion and emotion of the Filipinos in the show... even how the conductors would move their arms showed the people's emotions..." These were a few of the many impressions expressed after the concert.

The concert included various groups from as far afield as Palmerston North and Motueka, Nelson. The Wellington Filipino Community Choir, as well as the Wellington Filipino Chaplaincy Choir and Palmerston North Rondalla Group, joined local groups, 7Seven1four, the Waikanae Filipina Group, and the Munting Bayanihan Dance Troupe to showcase songs, rondalla, Malong dance. The Munting Bayanihan danced the Tinikling and enjoyed the "hands-on" (feet-on?) Tinikling participation from the audience.

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This concert was another example of the bayanihan spirit of Filipinos in



doing things together for a good cause. The performers shared their talents, treasures, and time (three Ts) for free.

This spirit, however, was also shown by most of the parishioners, as many of them helped to make the concert a success. Worth mentioning here were the remarkable ticket sales as well as Carol and Chris Lamain who offered their home and resources to the dancers from Motueka, who spent a night at their place. Many other parishioners shared their Ts for the concert - the free ticket printing, providing the venue's equipment, the musical instruments, the props men, the scriptwriter and concert host/s, among others.

Milan, considered to be the man behind 7Seven1Four and this concert, thanked on behalf of their group, and sang an

emotionally charged song, "I'll Never Ever Say Goodbye," as he would soon be leaving NZ for the Philippines together with his wife, Kaye, who was on a two-week holiday here. (Incidentally, Milan and Kaye got married in church rites the following day, Sunday, 26 February, with Fr. Michael McCabe officiating and with the Wellington Filipino Community Choir singing romantic songs during the rites and the wedding reception.)

As Evita (McGuire) shared on the night of the concert, it was most fitting that the group that had evolved from the Filipino Church's choir had done something for the Church not only in terms of fun, entertainment and showcasing Filipino culture and music, but had also made some monetary contribution to its building fund. The 7Seven1Four turned over \$ 4,000.00, as the proceeds of the concert, to the Committee in late February.

**founded on 7/7/14, hence the name*

Judith Salamat

Lenten Groups

Some 63 parishioners joined 8 Lenten Groups across the parish for 6 meetings during Lent. Below is some of the feedback from a number of the groups:

What was positive?

Being familiar with the following Sunday's Gospel was very beneficial. We used the programme as a catalyst for further discussion. This was seen as a positive step by the group.

Sharing, fellowship, meeting new parishioners, sharing aspects of the Catholic Church. We found the booklet to be clear and compact and easy to

follow. It was a great preparation for next Sunday's readings.

We found *The Encounters with Christ* by Caritas brought the Gospel into our lives today.

How did participation in the programme affect your group or your personal behaviour?

It made us ask ourselves what more we can do for Christ? What Christ wants you to do. '40 Days for Life' through 'Prayer in Action'. We are to be disciples bringing Jesus' love to everyone every day.

Living with Christ. We are the disciples and carry God's work daily throughout our lives.

Finally, sharing our Faith with each other enriches our own faith and we are given strength to do more. We think about how we are living and are encouraged to do more.

All participating were grateful once again to have the excellent Caritas Lenten Reflection programme to give guidance and meaningful preparation for Easter. Living with and through Christ in the Gospel each week urged us to 'look for the face of Christ' in the people we met each day. At times very humbling and thought provoking.

We agreed more time to share after reading the Gospel a second time (before the Reflection and discussion) would be more valuable. Personal accounts/expressions seemed to relate to the Reading at that point.

Fashion Show



We hope to bring you details of this in the next issue. Timing was just a bit tight to get it into this edition.

Men's Breakfast



Hon. Jim Bolger's talk at the Men's Breakfast was such a good one that it bears reporting to a wider audience. See his take on leadership starting on page 26 .

*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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A Bit of This and a Bit of That

A Day in the Life of Fr. Michael

'We would really like something a bit more personal – what a typical day might look like for you as a priest...'

When I replied to Anna Ryan, 'something like scrambled eggs' she responded 'write about that!' So let me then write just about yesterday...

The day began early and, after prayer and the requisite coffee, I drove to Wellington for a breakfast meeting with John Kleinsman, Director of the Nathaniel Centre. John replaced me as Director of New Zealand's Catholic Bioethics Centre and I am very proud of the way he has grown the centre and made it into what Pope Benedict called 'a courtyard of the gentiles', that is, a place where people can meet to discover common ground around all the issues that concern the gift of life from its beginning to its end.

Cardinal John's Council of Priests meets quarterly and is frequently followed by a College of Consultors' meeting. As a member of both advisory bodies I attended these meetings. We always begin with an hour's prayer and theological reflection which helps to focus our discernment and discussion. I find it helpful and timely to be reminded of the bigger picture – immigration, affordable housing, social justice, the care and welfare of our retired priests, the building of a future full of hope, preparations for our Archdiocesan Synod in September, etc.

Post-meetings, I journeyed out to Lower Hutt to meet with the family of

Joe Kusel, a former parishioner from Kotare Street with his late wife Rose, and more recently from the Charles Fleming Village in Waikanae.



Joe's funeral is tomorrow. Three of the four children Erich, Robert and John are surgeons, while Anne, their sister, is a chemist. All of them were registrars/interns during my time as hospital chaplain thirty-plus years ago... all have been good friends over the years.

It was a very full day. I could not make the Ballantyne's Fashion Show fundraiser – my offer to be a model was declined... to round off the day, I finished the Cryptic Crossword, by calling Father Jim Kershaw at the help-desk...

[Ed: And that's a day when he's not in the parish – imagine a day 'at home' when he visits the sick, says mass(es), attends meetings for the new build (often a breakfast meeting) or Parish Council or Liturgy Committee or ..., prepares a homily, answers phone calls from you or me – and he hasn't even been into the office to deal with issues there. Phew – no wonder it's scrambled eggs. I have trouble keeping track of the eight balls I have in the air at any one time! Please remember to pray for Fr Michael – we want to keep him!]

Grains of Hope

The Trustees of the Grains of Hope Trust are pleased to be able to report that we are now caring for 40 orphans and vulnerable children, all of whom live in the dusty townships and villages surrounding the Metsimothlabe Township just outside Gaborone in Botswana.

The project is well established and being run very efficiently by Sister Paulina, who is well supported by the very good teachers we have on the staff.

The lives of these little kiddies are transformed when they start attending the pre-school. They are surrounded by similar aged children, they receive two nourishing meals a day, have lessons in basic skills in the classroom and also receive a healthy injection of faith-based activities as well.

When last at the pre-school, we were delighted to hear the children recite

The Lord's Prayer, the *Hail Mary*, and the *Glory Be*. They also sang several songs like *Telephone to Jesus*. It is so sweet to see them with their faces alive with excitement and hope.

Many of the children are picked up and dropped off as they live too far away from the pre-school to be able to walk. The vehicle we bought a number of years ago is still in use and still looks in quite good condition, notwithstanding the rough conditions it travels every day.

Sister Paulina, a determined and dedicated nun from Bali in Indonesia, is a real star - a saint in the making for sure. She never lets up and she communicates often and well with the trustees.

This is the message we received after we sent the last term's fees and another amount to pay for a number of tablets.



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Sister Paulina is as keen as mustard to give the children a chance to learn 'stuff' digitally. We thought it was a great idea.

*Dear Mike, Dear Grains of Hope,
Loving greetings from Lesang bana Children and staff. I hope all of you are fine.*

We were having a hail storm at Kgale and some places at Gaborone but not at Metsimothabe. My first time to see ice on our yard. Thank God nothing bad happen.

I would like to extend my deep gratitude for the money sent to our account. We received P62,030.85. We are grateful for your support for Lesang Bana Children. We will have graduation on 18th November. Actually 23 children will be graduated. Some of the children are still under age to go to primary school and they will remain with us for next year. We are busy practicing. The weather are so hot. This make also the children got sick. The temperature reach 41 or 42 degrees. The children are finish writing the last exams and next week is open day for parents to take the report and see the work of the children.

I have ordered the tablet through Fr. Slwawomir SVD who is based at Francistown. When they are coming I will take picture of them and send them to you.

We finish only 2 beds of vegetable garden, the third one is being done. We raised them as Mike and Vero suggested. We did not yet plant anything because the children are going for holiday. When the time is right, we will make seedling and let the children water them. I will take picture of the garden later.

Once more we say thank you so much for your kindness and may God bless you abundantly.

With Love and Prayers,

Sr. Paulina on behalf of Lesang Bana Day Care.

Any assistance or prayers for our work in Botswana will be really appreciated. Many of our Parishioners do support us and indeed it is only through their great generosity and compassionate hearts that we are able to continue with the commitment to the kiddies.

Mike Redman for Grains of Hope Trustees

The Lord's Prayer - Politically Correct Version - Really?

Our parental unit or legal guardian (single, married, divorced, or participant in an alternate lifestyle choice), who resides in a place different from (but not necessarily morally better than) our current spiritual plane, may your name be honored, unless it is an Anglicized version of an ethnically-diverse surname changed at Ellis Island to avoid persecution and racial slurs from the angry white males of this country.

Your government for the people each according to his or her needs and abilities come, your counseling intervention strategies be done, on Gaia as it is in the place different from (but not necessarily morally better than) our current spiritual plane.

Give us this day our daily nutritional requirements of vegetarian, low-fat, low-salt, low cholesterol, organically grown foods (after, of course, a portion of which has been removed to provide for the NEA, the Department of Education, and the Department

of Health and Human Services), and forgive us our no-interest loans guaranteed by the federal government as we forgive the greedy, money-grubbing businessmen who steal from the poor and take food from the mouths of children.

Lead us not into temptation, but realize that if we falter, it is not our fault but a predisposed genetic condition beyond our control or a result of the dysfunctional relationship we had with our parents, but deliver us from the acts judged to be wrong by the moral authority of the day, even though we would see these acts as perfectly acceptable from a morally-relative viewpoint if we only took time to study and understand other cultures.

For thine is the commune, the cooperation, and the mutual affirmation until something better comes along.

Apersons.

Kevin M. Carr



**Truth is the hardest substance in the universe.
It's unchangeable, undentable, unbreakable.**

Some snippets to ponder:

- Instead of wondering where your next holiday is, maybe you should set up a life that you don't need to escape from.
- Balance isn't about working less; it's about loving what you do.
- Get even with those that help you; never the ones that hurt you.
- Before you judge someone, make sure you are perfect yourself.
- Learn to say no without explaining yourself.
- Busy is a choice. Stress is a Choice. Joy is a choice. Choose well.
- Sometimes silence is a really good answer.

Dalai Lama.

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Jim Bolger : Be Prepared to Lead

This is adapted from Jim Bolger's talk to the Men's Breakfast on 11th March.

Good morning and greetings.

I always find it difficult to know where to start and what to say on occasions where we are talking about issues of faith and beliefs and how they fit in or influence an individual's actions and reactions to the world around them.

Personal faith is not based on democratic decision making—it's what you believe, you can't hide behind a majority vote, it's what you believe.

I will draw on examples of moral leadership, pose some questions for you to reflect on, and invite you to reflect on how and where you personally might lead, in your daily lives.

Sometimes it only requires you to say 'no' at the right time. In the city of Montgomery on 1st December 1955 Rosa Park, a seamstress who had had enough of being pushed around because of her colour, got on a bus. After her arrest a committee was formed and the young Baptist Pastor Martin Luther King Jr was elected to lead. And, as they say, 'the rest is history'.

... be prepared to say no when you hear casual racism, sexism or other derogatory remarks that should not be accepted. Silence in the face of wrong is, in effect, agreement.

I don't believe, on judgement day, that saying I was waiting for someone else to take the lead will 'cut it'.

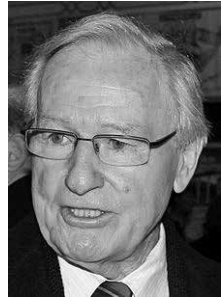
When Jesus walked the earth the approach that stands out for me in

layman's terms, was his generosity in forgiving those who transgressed the mores of the time and his courage in standing up for what was right; a willingness to

confront authority when needed to protect the marginalised and poor.

[Let me lead you on] a gentle roam through various aspects of how my faith has provided opportunities to observe issues and gain insights on how the world we live in is being shaped by people of faith. My parents came to New Zealand during the Great Depression with little but a willingness to work very hard, and their deep faith, which they instilled in their five children and was the cornerstone of their lives.

A few years back I picked up a book entitled "For the Love of God – The faith and Future of The American Nun". The author tells us in her introduction that she belonged to no faith and had no religious training, but was intrigued by the life and commitment of sisters of religion. She was explaining her lack of belief to the very old nun she was about to interview, when the old nun looked at her and said in a very quiet voice 'I just can't imagine that'. The nun then wondered aloud to the author, 'how do you comfort yourself in hard times, where do you find the strength to get up in the mornings without faith and with no belief in the



great beyond, how do you view your inevitable death?’

Like that nun, my faith is important to me and I can't imagine my life without it. Faith has informed me and influenced the values I hold to be important.

Faith is much more than externals, but, that said, the simple effort of attending Sunday Mass in different cities and countries has been an enriching experience. You gain much by sharing worship with others. Some of it is spiritual and some of it is the fascinating window it provides into the values and development of different peoples and societies.

For much of the two millennium that the Christian Church has carried the message of salvation to the world, the Church was essentially seen through European eyes and values. With the decline in the practice of Christianity in the European West and with rapid growth in Asia and Africa then it is inevitable that some shift in emphasis and practice will occur and that will challenge the faith of those wedded to traditional views and practice. My advice - prepare for change on the scale of Vatican II.

The changing population of the US was very evident when Joan and I attended mass in Dallas, Texas. We arrived a little early and found a full church, but that was for the mass in Spanish. For the service in English that followed, there were only a handful in attendance. Another example of the church in rapid change, this time through immigration.

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From my perspective we gain much from immigrants and they add new insights and vitality to our church here in Kapiti. The question is, do we embrace them or see them as strangers amongst us? Should we do more to invite them in and make them feel part of our community?

There is nothing to equal the sheer joy of the congregation who attend Saint Augustine's Catholic Church in Washington. It is the African American church for the Washington area and the congregation is about 70% black and 30% everyone else. There is an energy in that church that I have never experienced before. There is a sense of faith and belief that humbles you to witness. Such is its power that the two hours plus that Sunday mass takes there, seems to pass too quickly. You are carried along by the power and joy of their music, by the open and joyful expression of belief. Their faith was in the open for all to witness and draw strength from.

For me meeting and reading about people of faith, provides powerful reinforcement of my own beliefs.

[Will we] ever have women preachers in the Catholic Church or women Priests or married Priests? Will the Church relax its rules to permit divorced and remarried Catholics to receive Holy Communion? I raise these issues because we must all reflect on them; the church wasn't only established for theologians. The one thing that is certain is that while some changes will certainly be made, the core message of Christ will remain: **love one another**. Looking out on the world we clearly find that a difficult command to live up to.

When I reflect on my time in public life I recall the many times that an interviewer would ask what influence my Catholic/Christian upbringing had on my approach to political issues or the decisions I reached. My short hand answer was along the lines that having been exposed to the demanding exhortations of the Christian message on core issues like the intrinsic worth of every individual, since as far back as I could remember, it was inevitable they influenced my views and decisions.

They influenced my determination to seek a fair resolution to issues like Treaty Settlements.

Near the end of the Land wars in New Zealand the village of Parihaka on coastal Taranaki where Joan and I grew up, became something of a home for those Maori displaced, refugees if you like, from earlier battles.

Parihaka was led by Tohu Kakahi and Te Whiti o Rongimai. It was a thriving community and influenced by the teaching of Christian Missionaries, became a focal point for radical new thinking, passive resistance, long before either the great Mahatma Gandhi or The Rev Martin Luther King Jr.

Unfortunately the new settlers, supported by the Colonial Government, wanted their land but instead of fighting, Tohu and Te Whiti encouraged their people to engage in various acts of non-violent passive resistance, which the Colonial authorities found both puzzling and unacceptable. Their response in 1881, was to march a very large contingent of troops through the night to attack

Parihaka at daybreak. Instead of the battle they had expected, they were greeted by children dancing and playing games and the women brought out freshly baked bread for the troops.

Te Whiti said, in effect, to the assembled leaders of the invasion, which included the Minister of Native Affairs on his white horse, 'why do we fight; there is enough for all to share'.

This approach was beyond the mind-set of the Colonial Authorities who worked on the assumption that what they wanted they got, so they arrested both Tohu and Te Whiti and, without trial, imprisoned them in cold caves in Otago. Eventually they were released and returned to Parihaka, but their lands were gone and their people scattered.

That is a very shortened history of a community whose philosophy should be studied if the world truly wants peace. First they accepted large numbers of refugees, and then, instead of fighting, declared there was enough for all. If the world embraced that philosophy we would at last be moving towards peace.

The most frightening thing about the Trump hysteria is that so few in authority are speaking up to oppose. I don't see reports of the churches speaking up to condemn the blatant racism that is at the core of the policy. I don't hear them speaking up when Trump proposes to take health care away from the poor.

The irony is that the wealthy developed nations, who fear the movement of the poor, will soon desperately need more

people to help them cope with rapidly ageing populations.

Realistically we should see the willingness of people to uproot their lives and move as part of the solution not as a problem.

The challenge for all of us is to do what is right and be prepared to lead.

I am an optimist and my faith leads me to believe that leaders will emerge that have the wisdom to see the need for a new approach. One such leader was Nelson Mandela. His haunting words are a powerful reminder of an underlining truth. He said: "No one is born hating another person because of the colour of their skin or their background or their religion. People must learn to hate and if they can learn to hate they can be taught to love".

We all need to heed that message and go forth and offer love to those on the margins for we know from our faith, that we who have much have an obligation to hear the cry of refugees and those with nowhere to go.

Faith is personal while also universal. It is part of everything I do.

If I might, I will end on a lighter note by quoting the 13th Century King of Spain, Alphonso X the Learned, who said: 'Had I been present at the creation I would have given some useful hints for the better ordering of the universe'.

Ed: Jim also cites examples from Russia, Nazi occupied France and Trump's America. Read the full talk on the parish website.

Parish Directory May 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 | Carol Lamain/Maureen Jones | 902 5815 |
| 29 Parata St, Waikanae Mon-Fri 9am-12.30pm ourladyofkapiti@paradise.net.nz | | |
| Finance Committee Chair | Michael Gaffaney | 905 2402 |
| 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 & Bereavements | | Merle Whiteman | 904 1855 |
| Bereavement Mass | | Maureen Borkin | 904 7464 |
| Children's Liturgy | | Jenny McGlone | (06) 364 3908 |
| Church Flowers | Prm | Velma Knight | 299 1539 |
| Communion to the Sick | Prm | Eddie Doran | 902 1074 |
| | Wae | Pat Fouhy | 293 1140 |
| Liturgy Rosters | | Parish Office | 902 5815 |
| Music - Prm | | Bill Borkin | 904 7464 |
| Wae Organists | Judith Wheeler | 293 1129 | Maria Vink 905 9190 |
| | Doreen Hoffmann | 904 3276 | Patricia Beasley 293 7964 |
| Guitars | | Wullie Grant | 904 8702 |
| 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 | 904 8702 |
| 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 |
| Old Ducks Prayer & Scripture Group | Lyn Jarden 905 2588 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 |
| Scripture Study Groups | Wae Clare Borst 293 6262 or Pat Belgrave | 902 3995 |
| | Not Your Usual Sunday Readings | Wed aft Michele 298 7378 |
| | | Thurs evg Josephine 974 0629 |
| St Vincent de Paul | John Reardon | 293 6079 |
| Used Clothing | Child (enquire Parish Office) | Adult Joy Woodham 298 7802 |
| 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 |

St Patrick's School

| | | |
|-------------------------|--------------------------|-------------|
| Office | Kate Bertham | 298 6780 |
| Principal | Martin Elms | 298 6780 |
| Board of Trustees Chair | Martha Stuart-Berrisford | 022 0625738 |

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