

Pastoral Pages

Parish of Our Lady of Kāpiti

Te Whaea Tapu o Kāpiti

Autumn 2018

✚ FORTY DAYS OF PRAYER ✚

MERCY
REPENTANCE



PENANCE
FASTING

LENT

✚ CHARITY REFLECTION ✚

What's Inside

Reflection on Lent

Lots of news and things you need to know

EDITORIAL



Lent will be upon us already as this issue of Pastoral Pages is published. This is a time to take stock and think 'What are my plans for making this Lent the best preparation for Easter yet?' To help, we include some commentaries. We hope they provide some thought provoking reflections for you.

The demise of the parish gala is

explained. It has been a parish institution for a very, very long time and is very close to many parishioners' hearts. The article explains how we can continue supporting this wonderful work undertaken by 'our' Sisters.

Ladies, we include news of the parish women's retreat, so you can put that into your calendars for later in the year, we introduce the new school principal, keep abreast of some of the happenings for our Filipino Community, bid farewell to two parishioners and Sr Barbara says thank you.

Enjoy.

Anna, Glen, Margaret, Ishbel, Judith

Contributions to: office@ryanpublications.co.nz or phone 04 902 6330.

Copy for next issue closes on 10th May. 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

Lent

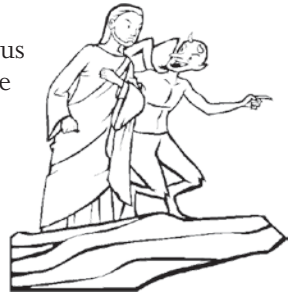
1st Sunday of Lent

Today's Gospel reading shows us the first thing that Jesus did after his baptismal anointing in the Jordan River: he wrestled with temptation.

Sunday February 18 Genesis 9:8-15 Ps 25:4-9

1 Peter 3:18-22 Mark 1:12-15

His baptism had marked the moment of his complete surrender to the Father's will. As he arose from the water, he began a new life of ministry.



The Father responded by telling him that he was very pleased, and the Holy Spirit filled his humanness. Jesus, as God, already had the Holy Spirit (he and the Spirit were the same God), but Jesus, the fully human Son, now came fully alive in the Spirit. We can imagine how this experience in the Jordan River gave him the feeling of an elated spiritual high. And the next thing that happens is an attack of the devil.

The same pattern repeats itself in our lives. As soon as we experience new growth in our faith, or a new calling to do the Father's will, we run smack into a situation that tests the strength and sincerity of our faith. However, if this didn't happen, how would we find out that we've spiritually matured? How would we know that we are ready to make a significant difference for the kingdom of God? Sometimes, without consciously thinking it, we decide that if we're going to be tested and we might lose, wouldn't it be better not to start something new? Well, that's another temptation!

Lent is the perfect time to examine the temptations that we face every day and turn them into new growth that will strengthen our faith.

Every time we face a sin and seek God's forgiveness, we become stronger. And if we take it a step farther by walking into the confessional with it, we also receive powerful graces directly from Jesus, through the priest, that will render temptations much more powerless.

And this makes us more useful to God in the mission of conquering evil in the world and helping his kingdom spread into the lives of the people around us.

Think of temptations as blessings in disguise: Use them as opportunities to become more like Jesus and grow powerful in the faith.

Reflection:

1. How well do you recognize temptation?
2. How quickly do you rely on the faith that God has given you to say no to the devil's tricks?

3. Think of a time when you experienced a spiritual high and then faced a strong temptation. How did you handle it?

5. What role did (or will) Jesus play in overcoming this temptation?

2nd Sunday of Lent

Think of a "mountaintop experience" you've had. What generated it? Did it change your life forever or was it just a momentary high?

Sunday February 25 Gen 22:1-2,9-13,15-18 Ps 116:10,15-19

Romans 8:31b-34 Mark 9:2-10

In Biblical symbolism, a mountain represents getting close to God. Did your mountaintop experience bring you closer to God?

It was at the top of Mount Tabor where Jesus revealed the glory of his Godliness to his closest friends. Called a "high mountain" in scripture, Mount Tabor is, in reality, not huge. What was huge is the event that took place there – and why.

The three disciples who witnessed Christ's transfiguration greatly benefited from seeing his glory revealed, because someday they would be commissioned to take over his earthly ministry.

The Father told them, "This is my beloved Son; listen to him." As we listen to Jesus, it is we who are now transfigured.

Lent is meant to be a mountaintop experience for each of us. If we follow Jesus up the mountain, his light will consume any darkness within us. The more we listen to his teachings and apply them to our daily lives and ministries, the more we become like him. And the more we become like Jesus, the more our lives



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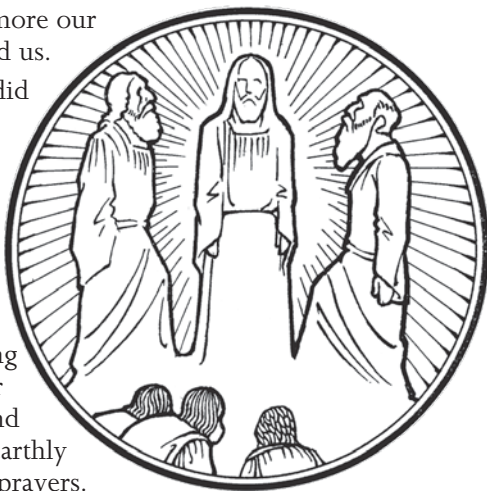




are transfigured by his light, and the more our lives then transfigure the world around us.

As the first reading tells us, Abraham did not withhold his son from the Lord; God the Father did not withhold his Son from us.

Likewise, we must not withhold the Son from the people we encounter. Whether it's by an evangelizing word or a helping hand or a compassionate and attentive ear or the generous giving of mercy and forgiveness or money or time, we are Christ's hands and feet and voice in the world today. We are his earthly body. We are the answers to people's prayers.



We have been empowered through our baptisms to shine with the glory of Christ's love. We have all been commissioned to continue his earthly ministry. May the experience of Lent take us to new heights of union with Christ and his mission!

Reflection:

1. Identify one area of your life that you would like Jesus to transfigure. What do you need to do to repent of it? How do you need to change (with God's help) so that others see more of Jesus?
2. Think of a time when you let Jesus change you. How difficult was it to be transfigured? Why did you want to make the change?
3. How did it impact others?

3rd Sunday of Lent

The final paragraph of the Gospel reading is very revealing: Jesus did not "trust" himself to the converts whose faith in him was based on the signs and wonders that he had done. The reason: He did not want anyone to testify (i.e. spread the faith) about the limitations of human nature.

Sunday March 4 Exodus 20:1-17 Ps 19:8-11 1 Corinthians 1:22-25 John 2:13-25

Faith based on signs and wonders is human nature: It's easier to put faith in what we can humanly see, touch, and hear than to believe in a God who is invisible and who usually sounds very silent. There is nothing supernatural about this kind of faith, but God is very supernatural.

What happens to our faith when we pray and pray for God's intervention and there are no signs indicating that we'll get what we want? Our reaction to unanswered prayers is an indicator of how natural or supernatural our spiritual life really is.

Jesus knew that his physical presence was the greatest sign of all, but it would soon be taken away. Don't we sometimes wish that Jesus would appear in front of us and make himself audible to our human ears? We think it would make our faith stronger.

Typically, we base our faith on many signs: prayers being answered, love being evidenced, peace and happiness filling our hearts, etc. But what happens to our faith when we enter the dark night of trials and difficulties? Do we continue to trust God when we can no longer see or feel signs that he cares?

The kind of faith we need when faith matters most comes from trusting God for who he really is and how much he really cares, rather than on what the evidence seems to say.

To succeed in this, we need supernatural faith. When we're united to the divinity of Christ, we join ourselves to his faith. We then trust him so much that we don't need signs.

Remember this the next time you receive Jesus in the Eucharist. Not only are you consuming his body, you are also uniting yourself to his divinity. And he is uniting himself to you! What he wants to give you most of all is HIS ALL.

Reflection:

1. What signs do you rely on to believe that God truly cares?
2. How do you feel when those signs are taken away? Are these feelings based on the reality of God's love or on fear?
3. Have you ever wished that Jesus would appear to you? Why? Did God provide what you needed some other way?
4. How do you remind yourself that God cares during those difficult times when you can't see it or feel it?

4th Sunday of Lent

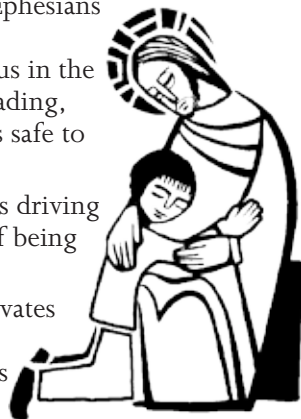
Why do we prefer to conceal our sins rather than face them and go to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and speak about them out loud?

Sunday March 11 2 Chron 36:14-16, 19-23 Ps 137:1-6 Ephesians 2:4-10 John 3:14-21

It's Jesus who meets us in the confessional, appearing to us in the form of a priest who's sworn to secrecy. In the Gospel reading, Jesus assures us that he did not come to condemn us. It is safe to come into the light where our sins are exposed.

However, we don't like going to Confession when guilt is driving us deeper into the darkness of low self esteem, the fear of being unlovable, or an inability to forgive ourselves.

Guilt is a good motivator for repentance, and regret motivates us to change, but low self esteem triggers shame, which says that we are undeserving of forgiveness. Shame makes us even more afraid to face the truth about our sins.



However, God's image of you is not poor: He sees what is wonderful about you. He says you do deserve forgiveness. He wants to replace shame with joy. What keeps you from repenting? Perhaps you would benefit from a therapist or spiritual director who helps you heal from low self esteem. Whatever opportunity will help you get into the confessional, this is where your healing begins.

Jesus completes the healing by curing your spirit with forgiveness, mercy, and unconditional love through the words of absolution that he speaks to you through the priest.

In today's Gospel reading, Jesus points out that whoever lives the truth (whoever is honest about themselves) "comes to the light" to be rescued. When we admit our sins, speaking it out loud to the ears of one of Christ's servants, we are rescued by Jesus. We hear Jesus minister to us through the vocal chords of the priest, and we receive from Jesus the power to resist the same sins in the future. Why suffer any longer, hiding in the darkness of fear and a poor self image? Jesus has come to rescue you!

Reflection:

1. What do you feel ashamed about? Have you taken this to the Sacrament of Reconciliation? If not, what are you waiting for? Blessings and healing await you!
2. Why does admitting our sins and receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation set us free to live in joy and peace?
3. Think of a time when you lived in darkness; how did Jesus bring you into the light?

5th Sunday of Lent

In our desire to trust God and follow Jesus wherever he leads us, it's not a sin to feel troubled about it.

Sunday March 18 Jeremiah 31:31-34 Ps 51:3-4,12-15 Hebrews 5:7-9
John 12:20-33

Yes, we do have to be willing to lose our lives (i.e. our own agendas, our own desires, our own ideas on what we should do with our time, etc.) so that we can unite ourselves to Christ and his mission. However, we don't have to like the loss.

The Gospel reading shows us that Jesus felt troubled by the sacrifices he would have to make. Yes, even Jesus himself felt troubled! And the Father glorified him. Jesus came to earth to reveal God's ways and God's love and lead us to heaven. Now we, his followers, are called, commissioned, and prepared by the Sacraments to reveal God's ways and God's love to those around us, so that Jesus can lead them to heaven. That is the mission, the purpose of being Church, for all of us – laity as well as clergy.

The Sacrament of Baptism initiates us into this calling. Confirmation commissions us to do it. Confession enables us to do it better. Marriage and

Holy Orders give us a venue for perfecting it. The Anointing of the Sick converts our illnesses into opportunities to bear witness to Christ's Passion. And the Eucharist unites us so fully to the Passion of Christ that we become what we are called to do.

This is our everyday ministry of evangelization: we love others as Jesus loves them, we do for them what Jesus would like to do for them, and we spread the good news about this as a continuation of the ministry of Jesus.

Often, this involves making sacrifices and doing good to those who reject us and scourge us and crucify us or in any other way cause us to suffer. This is our unity with Christ, our Passion. We're not supposed to like it, but we are supposed to do it.

The Father honours us for this. Just like he glorified Jesus, he honours us with his compassion, his rewards, and his approval.

It's okay to feel troubled by the challenges we face in our mission. What keeps us going is knowing that God is raising us up. There is always resurrection after crucifixion.

Reflection:

1. What troubles are you facing? Where is Jesus in this? Is he ahead of you, leading the way? Are you following him?
2. How do you feel hearing Jesus admit, "I am troubled now"?
3. When you make sacrifices for others, how does this connect you more closely to the human heart of Jesus?
4. How does the Father honour you as you serve in Christ's mission?

Passion (Palm) Sunday

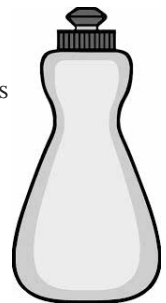
Today begins a week of focusing on the Passion of the Cross – the sufferings and death that Jesus endured because of his tremendous love for us. But first let's take a look at the passion of the woman who anointed Jesus with perfume.

Sunday March 25: Entrance Procession: Mark 11:1-10 or John 12:12-16

Readings for Mass: Isaiah 50:4-7 Ps 22:8-9,17-20,23-24
Philippians 2:6-11 Mark 14:1--15:47

In those days, when people made perfumes, they created a mixture of oils and herbs, then let it sit in a jar to ferment. The longer they stored it, the more potent – and valuable – it became. For the perfume in today's scripture to be a "costly" gift for Jesus, it must have been fermenting for a long time.

When we want to give someone a gift, we usually go to the store to buy something new. But our most precious possessions are those that have been



important to us for many years. Giving them to others feels like a very huge sacrifice.

What do you hold onto because it means so much to you? What has been fermenting in value because you've had it for such a long time? Can you imagine giving it away? Most of us couldn't do it unless we feel very passionate about the person to whom we give it. The giving has to be more valuable than the keeping. This happens only because of love.

How passionate do you feel about Jesus? What's so precious to you that it's hard to let go of – something that he'd appreciate receiving from you? Are you willing to sacrifice this because of the love you feel for him? Do you feel that much love for him?

In other words, what's in your alabaster jar? Are you ready to pour it out to Jesus, freely and generously?

Think about what he poured out for you so generously. Think about this all week, at Mass on Holy Thursday, and on Good Friday, and in the tomb-like quiet of Holy Saturday.

And again, ask yourself: “What's so precious that it's hard to let go of - something that Jesus would appreciate receiving?” And then give it to him before the weekends; he will give you a new victory on Easter.

Reflection:

1. What gift can you give Jesus as a thank-you? What's so precious that anointing Jesus with it will be a gift of sacrificial love?
2. What's in your alabaster jar? What talents or treasures or wisdom have you stored up, saved, protected, and developed, or what have you put on a shelf and forgotten about?
3. As we prepare for Good Friday, come up with ideas on how to offer these saved-up gifts to Jesus. Why are these gifts like perfume to Jesus?

Easter Sunday

Celebrate! Today is the anniversary of the Great Surprise, and just as the first disciples were surprised to find the tomb empty, so too does God have some resurrection surprises in mind for you!

Readings: Sunday Acts 10:34a, 37-43 Ps 118:1-2,16-17,22-23 Col 3:1-4 or 1 Cor 5:6b-8 John 20:1-9 or Mark 16:1-7 or Luke 24:13-35



In the Easter Gospel reading from John 20:1-9, there's a lot of scurrying around and excitement and reporting some amazing news that no one yet understands. Even though Jesus had given them advance notice that he would rise again after being put to death, God's plans took them by surprise. They did

not expect a resurrection. They didn't understand that it was a necessary part of the Messiah's mission.

God's plans often take us by surprise. In so many situations of our lives, we don't understand that hard times are going to produce wonderful victories. We fail to realize that the empty tombs in our lives (the losses we grieve) are beginnings of important new growth. We cannot imagine how Jesus is going to redeem bad times into great blessings.

We suffer through the hardships, just trying to cope, waiting for an opportunity to finally walk away from our crosses. Meanwhile, Jesus wants to give us an Easter morning because of the crosses. How can we recognize the glory of God when we're depressed? How can we realize our resurrections when we're cursing our crosses? It's impossible!

To be the Easter people that we're supposed to be, we have to learn how to see the hope of resurrection in the pain of the cross. We have to trust that Jesus is always there, working a plan to redeem bad into good. We have to allow ourselves to be surprised by God.

Reflection:

1. What trials are you still enduring? What cross are you still carrying? Are you still being nailed for something you did not do? Which of your desires or dreams are dying?
2. Ask the Father to use your sufferings for the glory of his kingdom. What new life is this creating for you?
3. What are some of the ways in which God has surprised you?
4. How is this an experience of resurrection?

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The Next Three Months in the Liturgical Year

The most important series of feasts in the next three months is, of course, Palm Sunday, Holy Week and the Easter Triduum. Enough is said about them, so that anything here would be superfluous.

March 17th St Patrick

March 19th we celebrate **St Joseph**. St Joseph was the husband of Mary, foster-father of Jesus. He is sometimes pictured with a wooden staff with lilies spouting from the head. Supposedly when Mary's betrothed was chosen, the elders asked for a sign and lilies sprouted from Joseph's staff. Whether that was true or not, this window of St Joseph, from St Pat's Silverstream shows the staff without the lilies, but he is holding a lamp to show us the way.

Joseph must have been a saint to take responsibility for a pregnant girl and raise the child as his own, relocating to Egypt with them temporarily. He has earned our devotion.



On **April 9th** we remember the **Annunciation**, when Mary said "Yes" to God. I can imagine the scene, a young virgin being told by a fearsome archangel that she is to mysteriously conceive a child of God. Perhaps this extract from a window in the Lady Chapel, St Paul's Cathedral, Wellington influences my imagination. I would probably have been awestruck. Mary could have said "No way!" but didn't. The Holy Spirit asks us to do things every day, if we are listening. Do we say "Yes" or "No"?

May is full of important feasts – The **Ascension** (13th), **Pentecost** (20th), **Trinity Sunday** (27th) which should be familiar because they always fall on Sundays. I am sure Fr. Michael will have three great sermons on the days.

But almost hidden away on the **31st May** is the feast of the **Visitation**, shown in this companion window to the one above. I love this feast, when the unborn John the Baptist leapt for joy in his mother's womb, and Mary said the words we recall in the Magnificat

*My soul does magnify the Lord
And my spirit has rejoiced in God my Saviour.
For He who is mighty has done great things
and Holy is His name."*

When I sing that song, I feel the joy of knowing Jesus.
How about you?

Glen McCullough



Who's Been Thinking ?

[Ed: While Fr Jim continues his recuperation, we offer you this famous person's thinking.]

Mother Theresa's Thinking on Humility

1. Speak as little as possible about yourself.
2. Keep busy about your own affairs and not those of others.
3. Avoid curiosity about things that don't concern you .
4. Do not interfere with the affairs of others.
5. Accept small irritations with good humour.
6. Do not dwell on the faults of others.
7. Accept censures even if unmerited.
8. Give in to the will of others.
9. Accept insults and injuries.
10. Accept contempt, being forgotten and disregarded.
11. Be courteous and delicate even when provoked by someone.
12. Do not protect yourself behind your own dignity.
13. Give in, in discussions even when you are right.
14. Choose always the more difficult task.



*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

Reports and Updates from Parish Groups

OLOK Parish Build Project Steering Group Update February 2018

Design

Following initial positive discussions, and a visit to our parish by 2 of the designers of the Stella Maris Church in Broadbeach, the Steering Group requested that the architects (Patrick McGuinness, Lee & Sandra Dunne) produce a concept design based on the Stella Maris Church template which would be appropriate to our needs in Our Lady of Kapiti Parish.

This unusual request (design and build a church in New Zealand to local standards using local materials based on a successful Australian project) meant that much work was required to establish robust working relationships and processes between

the Australian architects and a local architectural practice. This culminated in the engagement of DLA as the local architects who will be responsible for taking the Australian architects' design from concept through detailed design and ultimately to successful build. Patrick and his team will lead the concept design phase and continue to be involved as consultants through to build completion to ensure the integrity of their initial design while DLA will take the Australian concept



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through the rest of the project to ensure compliance with New Zealand Standards and conditions. DLA have also been asked to come up with a design for our Administration Centre.

We have appointed a Project Manager (Barry Posseneskie) and a Quantity Surveyor (David Monastra) as part of our team – they were both key members of the team which designed and built our Parish school.

We were presented with an initial concept design by Patrick and his team just before Christmas and following some initial suggestions for improvement, this design is now being costed so that we can assess its affordability before presenting it to the Parish for review and sign off some time in February. We will then be in a position to proceed to the next approval step with the archdiocesan management team.

Fund Raising

AskRight Consulting (through David Powick) completed a pledge campaign feasibility study, which included interviews with some 22 parishioners, to determine how we should proceed with our campaign to



raise the significant funds which will be required to build our new church and admin centre.

David's report was discussed by the Parish Leadership Group (Pastoral Council, Finance Committee, Steering Group etc) who concluded that the report contains a number of valuable insights and recommendations for a funding campaign and improvements in project development processes.

The report confirms our own view that our parish is capable, with the good will of parishioners, of building our new church within a reasonable timeframe and so, over the next few months, we will be putting our own funding campaign in place.

*John O Sullivan, Mary Cook, Wullie Grant,
Michael McCabe*

Mission Gala - A Thank-you, Reflection and Farewell

The Mission Gala began 35 years ago to fulfil a need. In answer to a request from the Bishop of Chile, the Presentation Sisters in NZ sent 4 Sisters from our small group here in Kāpiti to start a new mission in Chile. Not only that, we had to build a house and support them. Sr Vianney took up the challenge and started the Gala. In

the early years it was held in the field beside where the Council offices now stand in Rimu Road.

When Sr Breda went to Papua New Guinea in 1986, some of the Gala proceeds were directed to the PNG mission, where your hard work and





generosity helped in so many ways; in health, education and pastoral care and in basic facilities to support the mission work, such as:

- building a health centre and ward
- installation of water tanks and concrete paths
- purchase of a 4WD truck for the Mission
- dressing and feeding mothers and children
- paying school fees
- educating our PNG Sisters and training them as nurses, teachers or pastoral workers to work among their own people.

The Sisters here and overseas are most grateful for the support given to the Gala by the Parish and Parish priests over the years and by the dedicated

and hardworking individuals and groups. Year after year you turned up and did it all again. You collected and cluttered your houses with stuff and sorted it, and, on the day, you so proudly turned it all into money. We estimate that we must have raised over \$400,000 over the 35 years (more if inflation is taken into account).

Thanks to everyone involved: the stall holders and helpers, the drivers, the lifters and shifters, those who donated good money and goods and bought on the day. Whatever your part was, it was a vital part in the cog in the wheel of Mission Gala and you kept it turning.

It has been a wonderful Parish and community mission project, but now it is time to let it go, as soon there will not be any Sisters here to keep it going.





There is also the need to raise funds for our new church and it is the same people involved.

The work and needs of the missions still continues though, so please continue to pray to the Lord for blessings on their work. If you want to continue to support the mission work in material ways you can donate to the Presentation Sisters Provincial Account. Details of how you can do this are below.

Mission Donations may be made to:

Presentation Sisters Provincial Account (Charities Registration # CC 31053).

Bank account: 030531 0147386 00.
Internet banking details 'Missions'
If a receipt is required, please email Sr. Frances Nicolle, frannicolle@xtra.co.nz. Alternatively, donations may be sent to Sr Fran Nicolle, Bursar, 29 Milne Cres, Taita.

Nano Nagle Charitable Trust
(Charities Registration # CC41124)

Donations may be deposited directly to: Westpac Bank: 03 1736 0513225-00
Alternatively, they may be sent to: Nano Nagle Charitable Trust, c/o 86 Church Street, Mosgiel 9024. Further information contact Sr. Veronica Casey 03 489 8120

There is also the Nano Nagle Charitable Trust which supports NZ children unable to attend Catholic schools because of financial hardship.

Both of these are eligible for the tax rebate.

Thank you everyone for your generosity and giving spirit over all these years.

Sr Breda and Tony Bevin

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Youth



Kapiti Catholic CHILD AND YOUTH Ministry Welcome to 2018!

Kāpiti Catholic Child and Youth Ministry (“KCCYM”) runs a number of youth programmes aimed at pre-schoolers right through to young adults. These groups are open to all youth on the Kāpiti Coast and not just those at Our Lady of Kāpiti School so feel free to come along and bring a friend too.

J-Team

Starting Friday 16 Feb

God, games and friends, for children in school years 5, 6 and 7.

Fridays at 3.30 – 5.00pm (and then every 1st and 3rd Friday of the month) @ St Patrick’s Hall at Our Lady of Kāpiti School. \$2 donation (afternoon tea provided).



Starting Friday 16 Feb

Gravitate is the youth group for the year 8 – college age youth.

Time for God, fun, fellowship and of course pizza.

Fridays at 5.30-7.30pm (and then every 1st and 3rd Friday of the month). In the Library at Our Lady of Kāpiti School. \$2 donation.

Youth Music Jam

Starting Thursday 8 Feb

If you can play an instrument, sing or just hum a tune, come along and have some fun at Music Jam. For everyone in year 5 upwards. The aim is to have some fun with the instruments first and then learn a few songs for the youth masses later in the month. **Thursdays each week during term time from 7- 8pm** in the Library at Our Lady of Kāpiti School.

Pre-School Music Fun Time

Starting Friday 9 Feb

And of course something for the wee ones ... Open to all pre-schoolers on the Coast with their parents/grandparents/caregivers. Pre-school music is where we sing, dance, move and make music followed by morning tea. **Every Friday morning during term time 10.30-11.30am** at St Patrick’s Hall at Our Lady of Kāpiti School. \$2 donation

Our Lady of Kāpiti School

2018 has started purposefully and peacefully, beginning with a wonderful staff retreat facilitated by Sr Regina, community leader of the NZ Presentation Sisters. It was a valuable time looking at the charism, virtues and history of the Presentations and making links with the school's charism. The heritage of Nano Nagel is an important part of our school. We are looking forward, as a school, to sharing in the 300th anniversary celebrations of the birth of Nano Nagel.

Due to all our new enrolments, we have started our second class in two years. Mrs Jacqui Fargher has been employed to join the team fulltime. Jacqui previously taught at St Teresa's School, Featherston before moving to Kāpiti.

This term we are focusing on Turangawaewae (Our Place to Stand), looking at the history and place of Kāpiti - Kāpiti Island, Nga Manu, Māori history, the coming of the missionaries, immigration and our place as Catholic Christians.

We value and appreciate your ongoing prayers as we continue to establish ourselves as Our Lady of Kāpiti school.

Martin Elms, Principal

The Board is delighted to announce that Ms Viv Conroy has been appointed as the new Principal of Our Lady of Kāpiti school effective from the start of term 2.

Ms Conroy is already a member of our Parish and is currently Deputy Principal of Kāpiti School. She is an experienced educator with a wealth of practical knowledge about teaching children.

She is looking forward to continuing her career in the Catholic Education system where her Catholic faith will be an integral part of her role as Principal.

We ask the Parish community for your ongoing prayers of support as she takes up this opportunity to lead our school into its next phase of growth and development.

Isabel Carberry, BOT chair



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Introducing

Our school's new principal

As work progressed on the building for Our Lady of Kāpiti School, Vivien Conroy watched with interest, thinking "Oh that's nice; they're building me a school."

The daughter of staunchly Catholic parents who had migrated from England to a new life in Porirua, she recalls the family approach to Sunday worship.

"We were up and out by 6.30 am to catch the train from Porirua into Wellington for 7.30 am Mass at St Mary's for a number of years. Then we started to go to Holy Family church where the parish priest was Father – now Cardinal – Tom Williams. Another priest in the parish during my growing-up years was the late Fr Brian Fletcher."

Vivien was educated at Porirua East Primary School, Brandon Intermediate and Mana College and says she had always wanted to be a teacher.

She worked for the BNZ for a year, which was a most positive experience and served her very well in her studies and in her teaching career, giving her a greater appreciation of life in the workforce.



Viv then went to Teachers' Training College doing all her placements in Porirua Schools before getting married and taking time to travel.

Her husband went into the Air Force and through the next few years the family travelled to Auckland, Manawatu and Wellington.

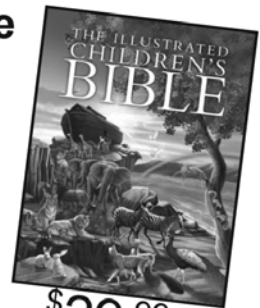
"Being a teacher, when we moved I could always find work but I couldn't have managed without Mum. She was there all the way looking after the family and when we travelled she came

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with us. “ Her mother was with the family until her death, early last year and was aware of Viv’s interest in Our Lady of Kāpiti School – “so I have kept my promise to her.”

For the last 15 years Viv has been a teacher at Kāpiti Primary School and says she owes a great deal to her mentor, Marion Patterson-Green, who saw her potential and encouraged her to look at senior roles. Viv become assistant principal with responsibility for the junior school, then deputy principal where she has been in the acting principal’s role on a number of occasions.

With her appointment as principal of Our Lady of Kāpiti School, Viv

also brings her experience of being a parishioner for 17 years, a parent to Tara (22), Keelin (20) and Fionn(16), many links to the local teaching community and a dedication to her profession.

Board of Trustees chair, Isabel Carberry, says Viv will be a real asset to the school. “When she came for her interview she had prepared herself incredibly well. She had used the parish prayer and broken it down into sections to demonstrate how she would apply it to her role. We look forward to welcoming Viv and working with her.”

Viv Conroy takes up her appointment as Principal of Our Lady of Kāpiti School on the first day of term two.

Filipino Chaplaincy Pastoral Council Commissioned

Two Barangay Santa Maria Assumpta (BSMA) leaders from Our Lady of Kāpiti Parish, Kapiti, were commissioned by His Eminence Cardinal John Dew as members of the Filipino Chaplaincy Pastoral Council (FCPC) servant leaders - **Bernie Velasco**, overall coordinator of the BSMA, and **Evita McGuire**, Treasurer. Their commissioning was held at the Sacred Heart Cathedral during mass on Sunday, 21 January 2018 celebrating the Feast of Señor Santo Niño or the Child Jesus.

The FCPC was established in response to the Papal encyclical *Erga Migrantes Caritas Christi* (The love of Christ towards migrants) published by the Vatican in May 2004, for the pastoral care of the Filipino migrant community in the Wellington Archdiocese.

Erga Migrantes Caritas Christi affirms:

“The responsibility of diocesan bishops ... [with regard to the pastoral care of migrants] is unequivocally reaffirmed, both for the Church of origin and the Church of arrival” (no. 28). Thus, while it is the task of the Church to offer pastoral care to all the faithful in its territory, it is important for migrants to be accompanied by priests and/or other pastoral agents who are from or have carried out missionary work in their country of origin.

The vision of the FCPC is to have a “vibrant and living Catholic Community witnessing and celebrating our faith, mindful of our Filipino spiritual values and traditions, with a distinct Marian character, while fully and responsibly participating in and enriching our respective parishes.”

Bernie Velasco

Recent Events

Fundraiser

Barangay Santa Maria Assumpta (BSMA) sponsored a fundraiser for the Our Lady of Kāpiti Building Fund on 9 December. It was a Christmas Dinner fundraiser entitled “Paskong Pinoy sa Kapiti” (Filipino Christmas in Kāpiti). The objective was to introduce snippets of traditional Filipino Christmas practices in the form of food, song and dance. A huge spread of Filipino main dishes, especially the adobo (braised chicken and pork), and desserts were served. Keeping in mind the Kiwi tradition, ham and pavlova were also included.

A group of Filipino singers, the 7714, rendered Filipino and time-honored



Christmas songs. Another group also performed two dance numbers in tune with the Christmas spirit. The penultimate part of the programme

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was community singing of Christmas songs that was warmly welcomed by the attendees.

The event raised the amount of \$3,158. The BSMA was very pleased with the success of the fundraiser, not only in view of the proceeds raised, but also the fun enjoyed by the greater parish community.



Sister Barbara Henley Golden Girl 1968-2018

What a celebration...fifty years a Sister...thanks for helping celebrate such a joyful and fulfilling era in my life!

I made my First Profession as a Sister of Our Lady of the Missions fifty years ago on the feast of the Epiphany at our Novitiate in Ferry Rd Christchurch. I was given the name Sr Dominic Savio because I loved the story of that Italian altar boy!

However along came Vat 2... and the sixties when society, church, education, music, culture, habits all changed! I embraced it, loved it, helped make it happen.

We learned new teaching methods at Loreto Hall, Remuera and full of enthusiasm and knowledge, I was ready to convert the world!

I wasn't the best teacher, but my students say I was the most fun. I liked to teach creatively and encouraged self-discovery and self-expression. I taught in



primary and secondary schools in the North Island and also in Samoa for five years. I taught the curriculum while my students taught me their beautiful, colourful culture.

I went to India for a 'Mission Experience' and discovered the God within, the sacredness of the temples, other religions and how millions of people live together in deep respect for one another.

Our Foundress, Euphrasie Barbier wanted life to be an adventure...and it has been that for me!

I loved my Jubilee! I was surrounded by family: my rndm family, which stretches round the world, my Henley family and Walsh relatives, whose proud heritage and genes I have

inherited, Eltham school friends present along with past-pupils, old friends, new friends and you, my parish family, with your support and affirmation.

Now I look to the future with hope. My jubilee cake had a rainbow decoration, always one of my favourite symbols, reminding me of the presence of God protecting and surrounding us always.



Sister Barbara

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Kāpiti Catholic Men's Group

Our parish men's group aims to help men grow spiritually. We do this as Catholics and in unity with the Anglican parish as well.

At our last breakfast for the year we had a very inspiring and challenging talk from Jon Hartley, who runs a "cyber parish" of some of New Zealand's leaders in business and politics - uniting them so that they can apply gospel principles to their decisions and relationships.

Our next breakfast will host Martin Sloman, a local counsellor. In July we will again host a day of reflection led by Fr Brian Cummings SM. We will continue to work closely with St Paul's Anglican parish and invite their men to all events.



Videos of some of the past breakfasts are posted on our parish website:
<http://www.kapiti-catholic.org.nz/?sid=1558>

If you have not attended a men's breakfast yet - perhaps this is the year for you!

Upcoming Events

Women's Retreat

Calling ALL women of the parish. Come and join us on retreat this year. Treat MUM to a VERY SPECIAL Mother's Day this year – send her on retreat.

- Speakers
- Workshops
- Quiet, reflective time
- Someone else cooking the meals
- Option of sleeping on site or at home
- Cost – what you can afford
- Opportunities to sponsor someone
- More details later, through the newsletter

Last year was hugely successful. Come and be part of it all again this year.

Our Lady of Kāpiti Parish



**women's
retreat**

MAY 11 – 13, 2018

Keep the date free!
El Rancho will be the venue once again.
Theme – Seasons.

Ladies Who Lunch - a new church fundraising activity

Time marches on but February seems to stimulate many of us into action again.

2017 was such a successful year of activity for our Lunch Clubs that it is with a good deal of enthusiasm we begin again this month.

The combined clubs' Christmas lunch last December was really enjoyable – held on a hot fine day outside under sun umbrellas, and the large number attending appreciated an opportunity to meet up with new faces and old friends.

We warmly welcome ladies of the parish who would like to join one of our

teams. Once a month the teams hold a simple lunch at a member's home and donate \$10 each which adds to the new Church Building fund. They are held in different areas and days of the week, making it easier to suit most members. Once a choice is made, one becomes

a member of that team and is contacted each month as a reminder.

So, it's a simple, relaxed outing which mixes our parish community and helps to make our new church become a reality.

If you would like to join us or find out more, please call

Velma Knight Ph. 299 1539



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Ladies, don't forget the rummage sale. It's a chance to get rid of those things not worth keeping around the house. Bring your husbands.

Obituaries

Jim Power 1933-2018

Jim wouldn't have wanted this, because he didn't like fuss, but here it is anyway.

Jim was born and raised in Palmerston North, started a varied career as an instrument technician with National Airways, then as a watchmaker, then in retail/wholesale with the predecessor to Briscoes, and finally as a traveller for a Hamilton-based hardware manufacturer.

Always a faith-filled man, Jim met his wife Phyllis at a Catholic Youth Movement camp. Phyllis was a New Plymouth girl, so the courtship was a very travelled one until they married in 1959. They were blessed with "bookends" – first a boy, four girls, and then at last another boy - who gave them 13 grand-children.

Jim always loved Waikanae and they finally moved here in 1989, nearly

thirty years ago. In his retirement he loved working with his hands. He played golf and later was a stalwart in the Waikanae Croquet Club.

Always active in his faith, Jim was a member of the Parish Council at various times. He was its chairman when Our Lady of Fatima Parish celebrated its Silver Jubilee in 2005 and was the inaugural chair of the Pastoral Area Council, before our two parishes amalgamated and became Our Lady of Kāpiti. He and Phyllis were also conveners of the Passionist Family movement in Waikanae at the time.

Jim was a man of deep faith, a gentleman and a great example to us all. He is missed.



Sr. Teresa Tierney

Sr Teresa made the decision to up sticks at 82 years of age and leave her home in the Southern Hemisphere and to settle back in Presentation Convent Tuam once again. Perhaps one answer was "Nil aon tinteán mar do thinteán féin" a deireann an seanfhocal! There's no hearth like your own hearth! - a widely known Irish proverb.

On a spiritual level it's easier to see what God was at. Remember this woman, inspired by the great Nano Nagle, dedicated her life to the Lord at

nineteen. Sister Teresa qualified as a nurse and midwife; qualifications so expertly used in New Zealand and PNG, where she missioned for 43 years.

Teresa was a perfectionist and used this for the benefit of all her patients. Teresa was known for the warmth of her smile, gentleness, prayerfulness, serenity and generosity.

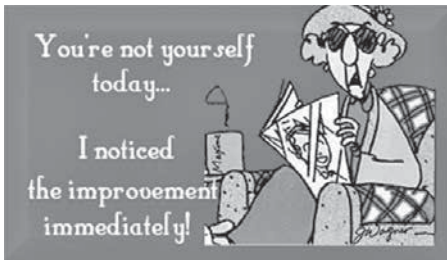
May Sr. Teresa's gentle soul rest in peace. Amen.





God doesn't give you the people
you want,
He gives you the people
you NEED.

Never Give up, LOOK up!



You're not yourself
today...

I noticed
the improvement
immediately!



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A Bit of This and a Bit of That

Novena in Honour of Mary Who Unties Knots

We all have some “knots” in our lives... and Mary can untie them!

The devotion to Mary, Undoer of Knots has become more popular ever since Pope Francis encouraged the devotion in Argentina, and then spoke about it during his first year as pontiff. The theology of the devotion actually goes back to the second century. Saint Irenaeus wrote that, “The knot of Eve’s disobedience was untied by the obedience of Mary; what the virgin Eve bound by her unbelief, the Virgin Mary loosened by her faith.”



Mary’s faith unties the knot of sin! So we pray that the Blessed Virgin Mary will intercede for us all, to untie the knots of sin in our lives – so that we may be purified and ever closer to God.

Unlike other devotions, this one is based on a painting commissioned as ex-voto (an offering of thanksgiving for a favour received. The icon/reproduction of the Blessed Mary shows her “untying” the white ribbon with “knots”, while angels are on her two sides. The head of the serpent is shown being crushed by Mother Mary under her foot.

To pray this novena, prayers and format can be found at www.praymorenovenas.com/mary-undoer-knots-novena/

Thanks to the Cenacle Sisters who introduced Barangay Santa Maria Assumpta to this novena in honour of Mary Undoer of Knots.

adapted from an article written by Judith Salamat

A Blood Donor’s Prayer

A blood donating session in Easter week generated this reflection.

My thumb is sore, Lord,
Where the nurse jabbed it with the tiny blade
To check the haemoglobin level –
How did you feel after being thrashed with jagged hunks of metal?
And goaded up to Calvary by spear-points?
I wonder what your blood group was –
It must have been the same as your mother’s.
They stripped you –
I rolled up a sleeve.
You were stretched on the rough wood –

I had a comfortable bed.
For you six-inch spikes and a hammer –
I had deft nurse, anaesthetic spray, sterile needle.
You were offered gall –
I was given coffee and iron tablets.
My offering a carefully measured 300 millilitres – yours – total, every drop.
My blood to aid one man, woman or child –
Yours, eternal salvation for every person ever born.
There is utterly no comparison.
And yet in the minutest way,
I have shared in your self-giving.
Thank you for the privilege.
Bless the nurses, technicians and doctors
Who deal with our blood, your gift of life to me.
Heal the person who receives it,
And as they are transfused with physical strength,
Transfuse them too with strength, peace and holy
Of your Risen Presence.
Amen. Alleluia!

Trish McBride from 'Faith Evolving: A Patchwork Journey' – with permission

Sistine Chapel

Fancy your own tour of the Sistine Chapel – without the crowds?

http://www.vatican.va/various/cappelle/sistina_vr/index..html

This is amazing.....technology at its best....

To view every part of the Michael Angelo's masterpiece just hold down the left button and drag your arrow in the direction you wish to see.

In the low left, click on the plus (+) to move closer, on the minus (-) to move away. Choir is thrown in for free if you remember to turn the music on.



Hold down the left clicker on your mouse to rotate the picture and you will see every part of the chapel.

This virtual tour of the Sistine Chapel is incredible. Apparently done by Villanova at the request of the Vatican.

(You may need to download Adobe Flashdrive – this is free. It will automatically come up on your screen and tell you.)

Parish Directory February 2018

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

Parish Garden Party

Hosted by the Passionist Family Groups

Sunday 11th March from 2pm

At McGlone's, 38 Totaranui Road, Te Horo



All welcome - bring the kids!

Hat competition!



It's a great way to meet your fellow parishioners, have afternoon tea in lovely garden surroundings and just have a great afternoon!



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