

Pastoral Pages

Parish of Our Lady of Kāpiti

Te Whaea Tapu o Kāpiti

Autumn 2015



Our Lady of Fatima's's mural at the Otaki Mass, with St Joseph's (Levin) in the background

St Patrick's mural at the Otaki Mass, with St Mary's (Otaki) in the background

91.8% of our respondents give the go-ahead

These are the results from the survey conducted at all Masses last weekend: Total number of respondents = 764.

Option	Number	Percentage
Support	643	84.2%
Neutral	58	7.6%
Oppose	63	8.2%

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EDITORIAL



Wow! We own a huge piece of dirt! What are we going to do with it? The answer seems to lie with all of us, as John O'Sullivan pointed out when he spoke at all masses a couple of weeks ago. We print John's address in this issue as well as excerpts from Fr Michael's letter to Archbishop (now Cardinal) John. A number of our other articles address the new church and, no doubt, this topic will feature in a large number of issues to come. Watch

out for other updates in the weekend newsletters and elsewhere as well as we journey together.

We also print Justin du Fresne's farewell to Fr Dennis. We have some thoughts on Palm Sunday and reports on past events, including the very successful Otaki Pastoral Area Mass. We introduce you to some parishioners and offer some light hearted thoughts at the end. Remember, too, that the directory is reprinted each issue with the names of people to contact for the various ministries and groups.

Lent has started. May this be a time of spiritual growth for us all.

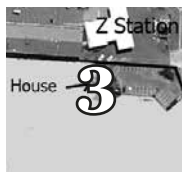
Anna, Bill, Glen, Ishbel, Margaret

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Copy deadline for next issue : 13 May 2015

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Reflections

(Ed: Please note that these articles were written BEFORE the survey and Justin's update last weekend 28 Feb/1 March)

We own the land!

This is the text of the talk John O'Sullivan, Chair of the Development Committee, presented at all masses three weeks ago.

Father Michael has asked me to give you an update from the Development Group today. The letter from Cardinal John Dew is attached to your newsletter this week. It gave us permission to purchase the land at 20 Milne Drive located two minutes off the Kapiti Road off-ramp on the new expressway and five minutes' drive from the Te Moana Road off-ramp.

The tender price was \$4.1 million and a deposit of \$500,000 was paid from Parish reserves last Monday 26 January 2015. The Quotable Value New Zealand valuation was \$4 million while Bunning's parent company – the vendors – valued this land at \$6.5 million.

Final settlement is on 26 June 2015. The balance of the cost of this land will be paid for from the sale of Parish properties. You will note though, from his letter, that Cardinal John has offered bridging finance to the Parish so that we might obtain the best possible price for these sales.

As part of our due diligence we did consider alternative sites in Te



Roto Drive, Ihakara Street, as well as in Otaihanga and in Te Moana Road opposite Melt Café. We also considered having the school at one end of the parish and church at the other however Cardinal John Dew wanted both school and church together on the one site. The goal of the future and present is unity as a parish and he feels that this is best achieved on a single site and we agree.

We are very grateful to Cardinal John and his advisors for their courtesy, advice and encouragement and to Cardinal John for his enthusiasm and leadership in this project. We feel he has listened to our due diligence and has made his decision which we accept.

Now the work begins!

The Archdiocese will lead the planning, funding and building of the new Parish School in partnership with the School Principal, Board of Trustees and school families. While the parish of Our Lady of Kāpiti owns all the land and assets at its current and new sites, the School buildings and School assets are owned by the Archdiocese and Catholic Education. The Parish will need to build a new Church and Parish Centre and will investigate what parts of these buildings, such as the hall, can be shared with the school. This will mean a sharing of costs in their construction.

We envisage that this year will be taken up with a lot of careful planning and continued listening to parishioners. This will require partnerships that explore, for example, Church and liturgical design, fundraising, the sale and use of our assets to fund our new Church and also to fund ministry in the future. We also need to strengthen the prayer focus of this project and continue to explore ways we can unite the Parish as well as strengthen the faith communities and groups that make it up.

On Wednesday members of the Parish council, Finance Committee, Liturgy Committee, Development Group and

other parish leaders will meet to begin this process.

We will then hold a series of full Parish meetings to discuss all aspects of the project – design, timing, detail, and so on. At the end of these meetings we will be asking for full Parish commitment and acceptance of the plans without which we will not proceed. This will be a Parish decision by majority. Please do not presume your voice has been heard even if you are in favour.

If we do not have a majority decision to proceed we do have a backup plan. Before we decided to go unconditional we researched other exit strategies for the site – and we are confident of realizing all outgoings with no financial cost to the Parish. We paid 2.5million under Book Value and prices for land along the Kapiti Road area are increasing as the expressway progresses.

Thank you for listening and please keep the Parish and our future in your prayers.

John O'Sullivan, Chair, Development Group

(Ed: As John mentions, there will be a series of meetings throughout the process so it is up to each of us to 'front up' if we want our voice to be heard.)

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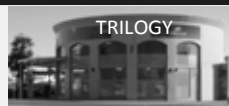
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Where to now? A school's perspective



For a while now, the one thing that keeps being asked is 'how will this change affect us?'

The change everyone keeps talking about has been looming for a while. For those who have been involved with the parish, we have watched priests retire and two parishes in our area become one parish.

The move to a new site and the building of a new parish church will be a much needed change as our school children will now be able to participate in Mass held in a church building. This is something that we haven't been able to do since the earthquake reports around three years ago. For some of our children being at St. Patrick's school has been the only contact that they have with the church.

The parish school has been struggling with buildings and facilities that need upgrading, a roll that is half what the maximum roll is meant to be and people's perception of what has been. On the plus side, we have a fantastic teaching team, all of whom are helping to shape our children's future

in a positive way.

I am pleased that our Cardinal-elect has said that the school must be co-located with the parish church. This will be great for us, as the school has had a better relationship with the parish over the past three years and being on one site will continue to strengthen this relationship.

What this means for us now is that we continue to do what our school mission and vision states; "to achieve excellence through embracing the gospel values" and going forward, "to be the school of choice for Catholic families in the Kapiti area." Ultimately, as written in the document of New Zealand Catholic Bishops conference 2014, "parents should not have to choose between the best academic standards and a catholic education," and I think our school does both superbly.

Please continue to pray for our school.

Martha Stuart-Berrisford,
Board Chair-person

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Suggested Timeline for Sale of Parish Real Estate

Now that the land for a new Parish Centre and School has been bought in Milne Drive, the focus is on how best to realise existing parish real estate. The expressway does not open until 2017. The timeline and order for the construction of the various buildings is yet to be determined.

The **current** thinking is that the parish real estate would be sold in stages. The following timeline is being considered, **once the approval of the parish has been given.**

1. Paraparaumu Hall and adjoining vacant paddock

2. Any surplus land at Milne Drive
3. Paraparaumu Church and Presbytery
4. Paraparaumu School
5. Waikanae Church - it is envisaged that Our Lady of Fatima church will most likely remain in use until the new church is opened.

The preferred method of sale is by way of public tender. St Patrick's School cannot be vacated until a new school is ready.

*Michael Gaffaney,
Chair, Parish Finance Committee*

Excerpts from Fr Michael's letter to Archbishop John (prior to purchase of the land):

Our thinking and discernment has continued to develop and mature and we sense a growing excitement among parishioners as we consider a future full of hope here in Kāpiti.

To build something beautiful for God in such a way that facilitates the consciousness people have for the sacred is to build a place where God is more accessible and we are more open to the working of God's grace both personally and communally. Such places transform lives and communities and become – over time, and under God's grace – beacons of hope, living embodiments of the good news of the gospel.

Very simply that is what we seek to do here at Our Lady of Kāpiti right in the very centre of our parish boundaries.

We wish to build a place where all are welcome, a place where all can come to know Jesus... We wish to build a place that nurtures and sustains our Parish ministries as well as the mission of the Church. We wish to do this in a way that builds upon our rich and grace-filled traditions and we wish to do this in a way that is new and fresh and exciting for our Parish and, equally, for our Archdiocese of Wellington.

We know there are gaps in our thinking. We know we have not covered every detail you and your advisors may have wanted us to, and we know we will have to do so as this project progresses. We simply ask for your faith, for your trust and for your wisdom – all in partnership, of course, with our Parish community.

Archbishop John replies

I wish to thank you and the parishioners for the way you have readily embraced my request to build a Future Full of Hope, and for the manner in which you have seriously considered the future building

requirements of the parishioners of Our Lady of Kāpiti parish.

(Ed: To see the full text of Archbishop John's letter, refer to the reprint attached to a previous newsletter.)

Our Lady Of Kāpiti Parish – Two Challenges For Us

At the outset, the merging of the Kapiti parishes seemed a fairly straight-forward proposition. Such decisions were the only realistic answer to the ageing shortage of priests caused by a lack of vocations in the increasingly self-centred approach to modern living.

At the same time, there are very real feelings of loss for the two churches which have been spiritual homes to both communities. These feelings of loss of identity and resistance to change are inevitable.

As is natural enough, the temptation is to “shoot the messenger” – in this case Father Michael. In reality the decision was, of course, taken at Archdiocesan level, leaving Father Michael with the challenging responsibility of making it work.

The important thing at this stage is to avoid negative feelings gathering momentum and to look at the very positive progress we have made with the creation of Our Lady of Kāpiti parish.

The decision to choose a new site is the most practical answer in the new

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circumstances. Both existing churches fail to meet higher earthquake safety standards and both fail to cater for the increased congregation of the new parish. With the building of the new expressway the new site is within a few minutes' drive from both ends of the parish from Paekakariki to Waikanae. It also provides the opportunity to create a parish complex with provision for more modern communication facilities, accommodation for a widened scope of parish activities and improved facilities for Catholic education.

The responsibility for taking advantage of the new opportunities of the combined Our Lady of Kāpiti parish belongs to all of us parishioners. An unfair proportion of individuals actively involved in parish ministries have passed their "use-by" date". As these ministries are currently being brought together there are openings for younger volunteers to come forward. Let us all move forward together.

Name withheld

Another View

After a meeting attended by various representatives of the many committees, groups and interested parties within our parish, I want to state clearly that now is the time for all of us to step up and take total ownership of this exciting concept and hopefully turn it into a project.

Now is the time for all the various groups including the Youth group, the Liturgy group, St Vincent de Paul, the school Board of Trustees and

the key church leadership groups to stand up and take ownership of this concept and drive it hard. The current Development Group can be rejigged to reflect those who want to stand down as there is an abundance of talent, experience and qualification within our parishioners.

We have the Archdiocese, headed by Cardinal John Dew, completely on our side.

Hopefully in time we can even win over the small group of disenchanted parishioners so that they can see the absolute need for change going forward over the next 50 – 70 years on the Kapiti Coast.

We all now need to speak with one positive voice as this is our school and church concept and the result that will be inherited by our children long after we have gone.

David Meyer

*Instructiones Fabricae et
Suppellectilis Ecclesiasticae
by St Charles Borromeo (1577).*

Borromeo recommends the use of the number three because of the Trinity, five because of Pentecost, seven for the sacraments, and twelve for the apostles. Here is what Borromeo suggests for the site of a church:

Quote "It is particularly important that the location of the church, wherever it is built, should be up high. If this location is completely level, it should at least be sufficiently prominent so that access to the church will be by three or at the most five steps. If the

topography is such that there is no more elevated part, then the church should be built on a base so that it will be raised and rise up over the plain, and the floor will be reached by means of those three or five steps.

So that there will be greater veneration in the church and to keep it, insofar as possible, far from all noise which might disturb the divine offices, care must also be taken in choosing the site that it be far from muddy and dirty areas, from all kinds of filth, stables, sheep pens, taverns, forges, shops, and markets of all kinds. Places of this kind should also be far from the surrounding areas of the church.

Care must also be taken in choosing the site for the church that the building will appear as a separate block, that is unconnected to and separated from the walls of the surrounding buildings by a space of several paces, as will be explained

further on with regard to the street, as established by the ancients and required by correct criteria.”

Fr Merv Duffy sm,
(Reprinted from March Marist Messenger)

(Ed: Let us hope we have moved on a little since then – no filth, stables and sheep pens to contend with, although there will be shops close by!)

Loss as the Gateway to Growth

When Cardinal Tom Williams planted a lone olive tree at the site dedication of Petone’s third church early on the morning of 21 September 1996, he did so on the site of the old bell tower of Petone’s second church. It was a simple ceremony that marked the need we all have for hope in the power of God to provide for the future.

Nearly 20 years later, on Sunday 1 February 2015, I was invited to concelebrate the evening Mass



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together with Father Michael Stieller and Father Albano Da Costa SVD. The Mass marked the end of the Parish of Sacred Heart, Petone as a unique parish because, after 112 years, it was merging with Waiwhetu Parish (68 years), Eastbourne (109 years), and Wainuiomata (55 years). This new Parish, named The Parish of the Holy Spirit – Te Wairua Tapu - had its inaugural Masses on Sunday 8 February 2015.

In front of the altar was a table with 112 tea-light candles - each representing a year of the Parish's life. While there was an obvious sense of sadness, there was equally a palpable sense of hope. As Father Albano said so powerfully, 'Tonight's celebration of praise and thanksgiving represents acknowledging and celebrating our past and moving ahead into the future

full of hope.'

He continued by saying, 'The farmer can't predict his harvest from just planting seeds. And someone who knows nothing about mustard plants can't possibly imagine how they will grow from such small seeds. But that's the point. It's often the case that when we're working on one thing, God is doing something else in our hearts, creating something new that we can't recognise until we look back and see it.'

I found the Mass so very affirming – the seed of faith that generations of Petone's parishioners had helped to nurture was indeed growing, but it was totally different to what anyone of us imagined just twenty years ago.

Building for a future full of hope is like that - it is all God's work.

Fr Michael

As the more practical steps are being taken to bring our new parish church into reality, ALL parishioners are asked to pray for guidance and discernment from the Holy Spirit and that parishioners will be willing to use their God-given talents to help in developing a parish we can all be proud to be part of.



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Palm Sunday

*“Rejoice greatly, O daughter of Zion!
Shout for joy, O daughter of Jerusalem!
For see, your King is coming, just and
victorious, humble and riding on a
donkey, on a colt, the foal of a donkey.”
Zechariah 9:9*

Matthew quotes this prophecy when narrating Jesus’ entry into Jerusalem. The crowds were gathering in Jerusalem to celebrate the Festival of Passover, one of the most important festivals of the year. It was customary for crowds to wave palm branches and chant “Hosanna!” as they travelled to Jerusalem to celebrate their great Festivals and remember the goodness and guidance of God throughout their 40 years in the desert.

Hosanna means “save now”. Originally a prayer, now it was a song of praise sung by the children of Jerusalem as Jesus rode into the city on a young donkey. They waved branches of palms and spread their cloaks on the ground before him crying aloud, “Blessings on the King of Israel who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest heavens.” The story is recorded in all four Gospels, and heralds the start of Holy Week – the final week of our preparation for Easter.

This day is Palm Sunday, also called Passion Sunday. Our worship starts outside the church with a reading of the Gospel account of this occasion. The priest says “Christ entered in triumph into his own city, Jerusalem to complete his work as our Messiah, to suffer, to die, to rise again and



begin his saving work.” Then the priest blesses the palms and we process into the church singing a hymn of praise.

We take our palms home and keep them in a special place, by a holy picture or crucifix, or maybe in our favourite prayer book, to remind us, during the year, of this special day when Jesus was hailed as the King of Israel and entered in triumph into Jerusalem in fulfilment of the prophecy of Zechariah.

Ishbel Cuniffe

Fr Jim's Been Thinking

Synod on the Family 2014-15



During initial discussions concerning the proposed Parish redevelopment the question of the viability of a redevelopment of St Patrick's School was raised because, as we were advised, all such questions were on the table. I can imagine that some, like myself, at times queried the need for the school to receive continued support. My questions centred both on whether the school continued to play an integral role in parish life as well as the level of parishioner involvement in the school.

In the Archbishop's letter of consent to the continued progressing of the project he stipulated four provisos under which his consent was granted of which the first was:

*The Parish Church and the Parish school must be co-located and that a school in the Kāpiti Parish is a non-negotiable component of my consent.*¹

The Archbishop is making it crystal clear that education must be at the heart of our Parish and it is to be regarded as an essential function in our progress as people of God. For me, Cardinal John's rider was reinforced by Pope Francis. In an address in Rome to the Fourth World Congress organised by Scholas Occurrentes (Schools for Encounter), he acknowledged that the currently broken educational pact is in urgent need of repair. Responsibility for this lies with Society, families and various institutions who have delegated education to teachers without providing them the means to fully succeed.

*Each one of us has a treasure inside. If we keep it locked up, it stays locked up inside; if we share it with others, the treasure multiplies with the treasure that comes from others.*²

Our society is all too often intent on playing the blame game and I think it is imperative for us to avoid getting sucked into that. After all, living is a personal responsibility and not someone else's: I am required to pass on to the next generation the various tools needed for a good life. Placing that good life into the hands of the young is an imperative obligation for each of us.

*... life is a beautiful treasure, but it makes sense only if it is given.*³

St Patrick's school is our responsibility and we must continue to support it.

¹ John A. Dew, Archbishop of Wellington, 23 January, 2015

² Pope Francis, Vatican Information Service, 6 February, 2015

³ Pope Francis

Updates from Parish Groups

Pastoral Council and Development Committee

There has not been a meeting of the Pastoral Council at time of printing so Justin was unable to provide a report. We print John O'Sullivan's report above.

Youth

The world is a dynamic one with change often seeming to be at a breakneck pace. Youth Ministry can feel like this with youth whose timetables always seem full, if not double booked. How do we reach out and build relationships that will foster our youth's journey into discipleship when we don't necessarily see them face to face at youth groups or events or even at Mass?

Youth groups are but one facet of ministry and we are widening our



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doors to look at the possibilities that will enable us to communicate with and minister to our youth where they are at. Great words but what do they mean? It means using social media, texting, emails and good old fashioned post. It means that ministry does not start and stop at the church or youth group door but pervades the community at large in the moments that we interact with our youth whether it's face to face or via another medium.

We are looking forward to a year that touches as many lives as possible helping them to grow in their relationship with Jesus. We are so fortunate to have so many wonderful youth in our community and it's a blessing to see them in action.

This was well demonstrated with the December Youth Camp where we came to celebrate Mass with our community at St Patrick's with youth campers leading the Mass. During Mass we celebrated community with the presentation of two Tu Kahikatea Awards to Helen Goulden & Daniel McLaughlin where the Archdiocese acknowledged the efforts of these young people in their role as J-Team Leaders.

The goal of this year is to help provide some of the spiritual nourishment our youth need on their journey, whether it's through our camps, events and youth groups or with connection via social media, a chat on the sports field side line or wherever they are at!

Jacqui McLaughlin

Justice and Peace

Lenten Groups: Have you joined one of the Lenten groups?

Phone Wullie Grant 293 8702

Our Parish School



Welcoming our new students at the start of year liturgy. We have the highest start of year roll for a number years. Our non-catholic roll is now full except for enrollment of 5 year olds.



Fr Michael blessing the classroom candles used for daily prayer and liturgies.



Miss Higgison, our new deputy principal and senior class teacher, at the start of her time at St Patricks, receiving her lantern lit from the lantern of Nano Nagel.

Introducing Parish Groups & People

Runner-up NZ Senior Person of the Year

Our long-standing parishioner Betty van Gaalen (pictured) is runner-up Metlifecare Senior New Zealander of the Year.



Congratulations, Betty

Betty's husband, Bill, and daughter represented her at the awards event on 28th February.

Betty is approaching her 88th birthday and the 50th anniversary of her marriage to husband Bill. She is in care at Charles Fleming Retirement complex but there is nothing wrong with her very sharp mind!

Betty told me she served for 9 terms on the Wainuiomata Council and topped the poll in every election but one, and was second even then. She served as Deputy Mayor and was also Deputy Mayor of Lower Hutt City Council after the Wainuiomata Council was merged with Lower Hutt. She also served on the Regional Council for 12 years, as well as the Roads Board and Urban Transport Board (not Transit NZ).

After she retired and moved to Waikanae she became the Grey Power representative for Council matters, and in that capacity attended KCDC meetings as a vocal observer. She told me that "Guru" nicknamed her "Rottweiler",

which seemed very appropriate!

On top of all that, she was wife, mother and Justice of the Peace.

Her motivation, she said, arose out of her membership of the Catholic Family Movement and her conviction that local body service was an extension of her duty to her neighbour. It was much more than a job - it was a vocation flowing on from her Christian values.

Betty, we wish you and Bill well as you move towards your Golden Anniversary.

Glen McCullough

Who's in the Pews?



Lafaele and Matalena Vaeluaga arrived in New Zealand from Western Samoa with one suitcase and their first son Wilhelm on the way.

In a new land they sought out one place they could connect with – the Catholic Church.





Images from the
Pastoral Area Mass
See Page 24



Thanks, Maureen for all
your hard work



“There were challenges but we’ve moulded ourselves into life in New Zealand and the church was the one stable influence,” Matalena said. “St Patrick’s Parish has given me a sense of belonging.”

The reverse is also true – the Vaeluagas have been a force in the life of the parish, involved in the music and youth music ministries, the youth ministry, Our Lady of Kāpiti parish’s website and the Men’s Breakfasts.

The couple met at the 9.15am Mass in Mulivai in Samoa. Grandparents and parents in both their families were staunch Catholics and attending Sunday Mass was non-negotiable. Lafaele brings this attitude to his own children.

Lafaele and Matalena’s sons Wilhelm and Kevin, and daughters Cecelia, Rodena and Odette, have been involved in the sacramental

programmes of the parish, as altar servers and members of the youth music group.

Lafaele’s interest in church music dates back to Samoa where he and a group of friends would attend three Masses each Sunday, walking from church to church with their guitars to accompany the congregations in song.

On his first Sunday at St Patrick’s, Lafaele introduced himself to Bill Borkin, music group leader. “There was no way I was going to be a spectator,” he said. He has been an integral part of the group ever since and in recent times, with memory of his Samoan culture always with him, he has been involved in the development of the Miha.

Working with the Maori organisers, he is concerned to see that the translations on the overhead are true to te reo



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and the gospel message and that the protocols are correctly observed.

Matalena, who is a caterer, is renowned for her command of the kitchen at the Men's Breakfasts. "I crack the whip," she laughs.

Lafaele's handiwork in his IT profession can now be seen on the website and he recommends parishioners read it for information, daily bible reading references and for updates from the Parish Development Group.

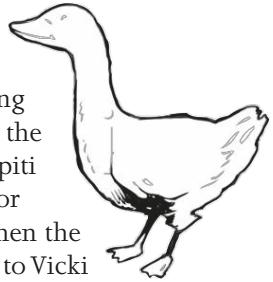
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Margaret Irvine

Old Ducks

This group of ladies meets every Tuesday after the morning mass/liturgy in the Blueroom at Kapiti Village except for 3rd Tuesdays when the meeting moves to Vicki Devane's at 1 Cedar Drive.

All ladies are most welcome. See contact details in the directory in this issue or ask one of the ladies in the photo below.



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Recent Events

Farewell Fr Dennis – 25th January 2015

This is the text of Justin du Fresne's farewell to Fr Dennis.

This is a significant morning – a morning, I think, of mixed emotions. I think of the well-remembered lines of Charles Dicken's, "It was the best of times, it was the worst of times it was the spring of hope, it was the winter of despair."

Today we've gathered for what is the last 9.30 Mass here at St Patrick's – and we're saying farewell to a much loved priest – so that's sad.

But – the spring of hope – yesterday Archbishop John Dew advised Father Michael that the Board of Administration had recommended to him that consent be given to our offer on the land on Kapiti Road going unconditional. This is fantastic news – and a tribute to the parishioners who so freely have given of their time and expertise to the preparation of our tender and our business case. New beginnings have well and truly begun.

But to the main reason I'm standing here – to farewell Fr Dennis.

How lucky we have been to have had someone who makes saying goodbye so hard. And how lucky we have been that two of the three new priests ordained in the Archdiocese in recent years have been sent for their first ministry to Our Lady of Kāpiti – or, as I believe it has sometimes been labelled, the Michael McCabe

Correctional Facility!

Fr Dennis – thank you firstly for answering God's call. Thank you for your compassion and the free giving

of your time to families of those who were ill or who have died. Thank you for fostering the inclusiveness of the Filipino community here in Kapiti.

Thank you for your engagement with parish children and the school – the compensation you've been for the pupils unable to worship together under this roof because of the safety concerns.

Thank you for your work with the Sacramental programmes – over 40 last year instructed and nurtured through the sacraments of initiation.

Thank you for your awesome ability with Te Reo – I've actually seriously wondered if you were brought up in Ruatahuna and not the Philippines.

And, finally, thank you for that impossibly young face and radiant smile – both great gifts that you'll take to your role with the hospital chaplaincy.

Fr Michael can't be here this morning, although he may well join us later. He's at Our Lady of Fatima launching Cardinal Tom's autobiography. And



there's another thought on the spring of hope – how many dioceses in Australasia, or even the southern hemisphere, can boast TWO Cardinals?

This is just a small memento – a token of appreciation as they say. But the main thing you take from here is our love and every prayer we can offer for your future ministry.

As Fr Michael would say, 'God bless you'.

Our Lady of Kāpiti Christmas Luncheon – Southwards Car Museum 14th December

Pinky Agnew was the headline entertainment at the Christmas luncheon. Wow, did she deliver; she had done her homework on the audience and she had done her homework on Kapiti in general and

the 4 metre statue of Our Lady of Kāpiti in particular.

She recalled, as she holidayed around France some years ago, that many small villages had their own landmark statues of Our Lady, but when you compared that to Kapiti's 14 metre statue standing 90 metre tall in the air, that they failed to 'couper la moutarde'.

Also she took delight in sending up event organizer Bob Houston, who in his invitation to her had questioned, 'Could you cope with 300 mainly Catholics in one place at one time?' She proved most ably that she could!



Pinky Agnew



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The fabulous luncheon, in traditional style, was provided in the main by fabulous generosity from New World Waikanae and Sadie's Eastern Egret Restaurant with support from Kapiti Cakes and Bakery and the Artisan Bakery.




The management of the room was in the very safe hands of Cathy, Richard and Kate Campbell. Add a wonderful team of 50 to 60 volunteers who operated under the very capable guidance of PartyPerfect Catering and Joanne Keating And, of course, when you are looking for words, Justin du Fresne and Bob Houston are never far away.



It was a multi-purposed event - socializing, but also to help those in need in Kapiti, and with tremendous sponsor support, plus a raffle and an auction, the contributions from the day exceeded ten thousand dollars, which is a big help in assisting our ongoing work in the community.

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Izac's Quilt

At a recent mass at St Patrick's, Fr Michael blessed a prayer quilt made for Izac Fromont by Prayers and Squares.



Prayers & Squares is an interfaith outreach organization that combines the gift of prayer with the gift of a hand-tied quilt. Its fundamental purpose is to promote prayer through the use of quilts. Their motto is: "It's not about the quilt; it's all about the prayers".

The idea behind these prayer quilts is simple. A heavy thread is used to take stitches through the quilt layers, and the ends are left free to be tied with a knot. As each knot is tied, a silent prayer is said for someone in special need, who then receives the finished quilt.



Parishioners tie Izac's quilt in prayer

Through Prayers & Squares many quilts have been distributed, each a special gift of love. They have been made for sick babies, for cancer and

AIDS patients, for adults and children facing surgery or personal crisis - for many reasons, but each for someone in special need of prayer.

Prayer for Izac

Loving God

As we are bound together by the threads in this quilt which has been made for Izac,

we are also bound together by your love through Jesus Christ.

Where there is sickness,
we pray for healing.

Where there is distress,
we pray for strength.

Where there is sadness,
we pray for comfort.

Where there is change,
we pray for your guidance.

In all situations

we pray for your peace.

We pray for Izac during his difficult days that he may:

Know your healing power.

Be stronger than ever a child
should need to be.

Be able to endure the
difficulties he faces.

We also pray for Izac's family that they may have courage, endurance and hope as they help care for and share in Izac's difficulties.

We ask that you will hear this prayer and the individual prayers that we will tie into Izac's quilt today.

All this we pray in Jesus' name,
Amen

Pilgrimage

The annual pilgrimage to Our Lady's statue was held on Sunday, 15th February. My wife and I took part for the first time, and found it both far easier and more moving than we imagined. I was left wondering why I had never done it before! Here are a couple of mementos of the occasion.

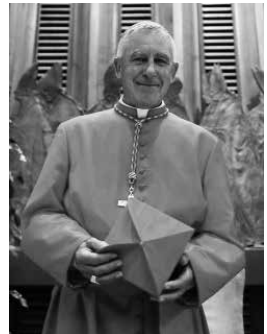
Glen McCullough



We have a new Cardinal



We congratulate Cardinal John on his installation as Cardinal on 14th February.



Pastoral Area Mass

On Sunday 15th February nearly a thousand people came together at the Otaki Maori Racecourse to celebrate the first Pastoral Mass of the recently formed Horowhenua/Kāpiti Pastoral Area.

Weatherwise the day was perfect, as was the venue, and nine priests concelebrated a Mass that was blessed and inspiring.

During the Mass our local schools combined for a beautiful performance of *These Hands*. After Mass the altar was transformed into a stage and we were entertained fabulously by our Samoan, Tongan and Filipino children, with inspiring energy and enthusiasm. It was a very, very special day and indeed, 'God is Good'.

A photo record is on pages 16 & 17.

Saint

Saint Claudine Thévenet (1774-1837)

Saint Claudine Thévenet, Gladly to her siblings, was born in Lyons in 1774, the second of a family of seven children.

Her goodness and unselfishness had a strong influence on her brothers and sisters. The French Revolution broke out when she was fifteen. In 1793, she experienced the tragic hours of the siege of Lyons by the government army and witnessed the execution of her two brothers after the city fell.

Their last words, "Forgive, Gladly, as we forgive," remained in her heart and were to change the course of her life. She dedicated herself to the relief of suffering and in particular to remedy people's ignorance of God.

A holy priest, Father Andre Coindre, helped her in her quest for God's will. When he found two little shivering children abandoned on the church steps, he took them to Claudine to be cared for. Her compassion and love for destitute children led to the formation of the Association of the Sacred Heart with her helpers. In 1818, the Congregation of the Religious of Jesus and Mary was founded. The first aim of the young Congregation had been to receive poor children and care for them until they reached twenty years, giving them working skills and elementary education as well as a solid religious and moral formation. The Sisters soon found, however, that not only the poor required this kind of training and opened a boarding



school for young girls of richer families.

The last twelve years of her life were beset with difficulties: the deaths of Father Coindre and the first Sisters, the struggle to prevent the fusion of her Congregation with another, the revolutionary upheavals of Lyons in 1831 and 1834. Mother Claudine's courage was undaunted. She bravely undertook new constructions and, the same time, with great care and dedication, began to draw up the Constitutions of the Congregation. She was about to complete this when death overtook her on 3rd February 1837.

Claudine made of her religious and apostolic life an act of praise of God's glory. Her strong personality profoundly influenced her Congregation. Intelligent and a perfect organiser, she was above all kind-hearted, wanting her daughters to be true mothers to the children entrusted to her care. "Be mothers to these children," she would say, "yes, true mothers of both body and soul."

(Source: Marist Messenger - Kilian de Lacy)

Upcoming Events

Theatre Party

Movie: 'What We did on our Holiday'.



St Joseph's Day, 19th March

Shoreline Cinema Waikanae

Arrive: 5.45 for 6.15 viewing
\$20 per head covers movie and pre-movie nibbles.

All profits in support of
Our Lady of Kāpiti Events
to help locals in need.

To book: bobhouston@xtra.co.nz
or phone 2933390.

This is a great movie, the best
movie that Ann and I have seen this
year. Guaranteed.

Men's Breakfast

Saturday 21st March

Senior Citizens Centre
Ocean Rd, Paraparaumu Beach

8 for 8:30 am



Speaker is Joe Green - parishioner,
ex-teacher, policeman, international
firearms control expert and in his
4th year of "Launch Out".

His theme: 'e tu ki te kei'
(Stand in the Stern)

Come, fellowship, eat, learn

Suggested Koha \$15



Enquiries to
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*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

Prayers for Healing



A Meeting with Father John Reasm

on Thursday 26th March at 7:30pm

Our Lady of Fatima Church, Waikanae

Everyone welcome

Come with your prayer intentions - and bring a friend!

A Little Bit of This and a Bit of That

Fifty ways to live the Joy of the Gospel

(Ed: Timely for Lent? The first 25 were printed in the Winter issue of Pastoral Pages published in August 2014. Perhaps this list will stimulate your journey of conversion and outreach. Perhaps it will move you to compile your own list, tailored to your specific circumstances and personal challenges. This could also be done as a family, or as a small community. Many of these are also practical ways to mission.)

26. Pray the rosary. But slow down your praying! Linger over the rich biblical imagery that the rosary leads you to contemplate.

27. Increase the 'joy' level at home. Be quick to praise and slow to criticise. Choose to be enthusiastic when you least feel like it.

28. Lighten up. Laugh a little more. Rejoice in the divine sense of humour.

29. Pinpoint a 'grey' area that is blocking your Easter joy. Name it. Fear? Loneliness? Sometimes just accurately identifying our burdens can help take the 'sting' out of them.

30. Unburden your heart. Release a grudge you harbour. Deepen this healing by receiving the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

31. In Scripture, when a messenger of God announces a great joy it is often accompanied by 'Do not be afraid.' Ponder this connection and what it means for your life.

32. Read the story of a saint who inspires you to live life at greater heights of gospel awareness.

33. Treasure your freedom. Visit or write to someone in prison.

34. Pick up the phone and speak some encouraging words to someone who could really use them.

35. This week, greet others with stronger handshakes, warmer hugs, more welcoming words.
36. Help a person who is struggling to inject some order into life. If nothing else, help to tidy up their desk or house as a way of clearing their vision of what has to happen next.
37. Revel in the variety of the gifts, charisms and cultural expressions of the body of Christ. Ask somebody who is very different to you for their viewpoint on an important issue.
38. Slow down enough to allow the 'slower' person to reveal his/her goodness and gifts. Take the time to listen to this person's story, hopes and anxieties.
39. Review your weekly spending on non-essentials and take steps to simplify your lifestyle. Give gifts which are simple and which express the generosity of your heart rather than the capacity of your bank balance.
40. Ask yourself not just: Do I give to the poor? But: Do I have friends who are poor? Are my social circles inclusive or do they subtly exclude certain people?
41. If you are in the process of making an important financial decision, read *Evangelii Gaudium* as part of your discernment and decision-making processes.
42. Do something to stimulate your creativity for God's kingdom. Chat with motivating people. Read the story of a saint. Play uplifting Christian music.
43. Choose one of your dreams about changing the world for the better and break it into achievable, bite-size chunks. Take your first bite this week!
44. Don't be overwhelmed by the darkness. In your work for justice and the common good, celebrate each success no matter how small.
45. Be attentive to injustices as they occur in the home, in the workplace, and 'speak up' appropriately, lovingly, firmly.
46. Is there a parish ministry that needs to be initiated or supported, and to which you could lend your time and talents? Take the first step today.
47. Be politically active on matters of human dignity. Write a constructive letter to your local MP; promote a petition; join a political party.
48. Be ready to respond to everyday opportunities to discuss matters of faith with non-believers and with believers of other faith traditions, perhaps in response to media stories or world events.
49. Invite Our Lady to be a special companion, sister, mother to you. With Mary, ponder a matter in your heart. It might be a situation of great disturbance, or an event of great happiness. Either way, the Lord is to be found in the depths of this suffering, this joy.
50. Pray for peace each time you receive the Eucharist, the sacrament of unity.

Pope Francis

It's in Our DNA



Cardinal José Saraiva Martins, who served as prefect of the Congregation for Sainthood Causes from 1998 to 2008, said: "Holiness ... belongs to the very nature of the Church, to its DNA."

In other words, we all have saintliness in our DNA. Only a few are called to such heroic sainthood that they're canonized as examples of holiness; however, according to Scripture, a saint is anyone who's a member of the household of God.

Yes, that means that you too are a saint. You were made holy by the Holy Spirit when you were baptized. You and I are unfinished saints, but sainthood is in our DNA.

We grow more and more into our true nature as we learn to live according to our baptismal likeness of the Divine Father.

Terry Modica

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**Would you like some
cheese to go with
that whine?**

Parish Directory August 2014

This directory is as accurate as we are able to make it at this stage, as our new parish develops new structures and ways of doing things. 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
Assistant Priest	Fr Dennis Nacorda	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	Justin du Fresne	299 6087
Pastoral Pages	Editor: Anna Ryan office@ryanpublications.co.nz	902 6330
Liturgy Committee	Prm Maureen Borkin	904 7464
	Wae Sr. Barbara Henley	904 6112
Adult Faith Formation	Anna Ryan	902 6330
Youth Co-ordinator	Jacqui McLaughlin	0226757357
Trust	John McCardle	904 1823
Justice and Peace	Wullie Grant	293 8702
St Vincent de Paul	John Reardon	293 6079
Website (www.kapiti-catholic.org.nz)	Lafaele Vaeluaga	(04) 238 2454

Church Worship Support and Other Parish Groups

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
Children's Liturgy	Jenny McGlone	904 7451
Sacramental Programme	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
Masses of Anointing	Colleen King	905 5913
Bereavement Mass	Maureen Borkin	904 7464
Baptisms & Bereavements	Merle Whiteman	904 1855

Bereavement Support	Prm	Cynthia Scott	905 1124
	Wae	Audrey Ulrich	293 3210
Altar Servers (Prm)		Maureen Borkin	904 7464
Men's Group Nick Maher 298 8475	Pat Haughey	905 4467 Glen McCullough	293 1747
Passionist Family Groups	Prm	John & Corrie McCardle	904 1823
	Wae	Jenny & Mark McGlone	904 7451

Other Contacts

Presentation Sisters			905 3420
Presentation Associates		Margaret Bevin	299 6825
Cenacle Sisters			293 8344 & 905 7213
Maori Mission		Wai Stewart	902 4909
Wae Prayer Groups	Monday Afternoon	Lorraine Gaffaney	905 2402
	Christian Meditation (Tuesdays)	Carla Tollenaar	902 2456
Not Your Usual Sunday Readings	Wednesday Nova	904 6229 Thursday Sheila	902 2578
Wae Scripture Study Group	Clare Borst	905 5295 or Pat Belgrave	902 3995
Paraparaumu Cath Women's League		Fay Doyle	902 3017
Waikanae Women's Guild		Sharyn Pearce	902 2571
Meets every 2nd Monday of every month except January			
RCIA	Fr Michael	902 5815 Eddie Doran	902 1074
Used Clothing	Adult Joy Woodham	298 7802 Child Joanna March	904 7350
Mission Circle		Jean Beaumont	902 4146
Living Aloners	Jan Dowd	905 4633 Zelda Masterton	905 9248
Widowed, Separated, Divorced		Annette Corban	298 8596
Family Ministry		June Brunton	298 6266
Old Ducks Prayer & Scripture Group	Chris Todd	298 8984 June Brunton	298 6266
Mission Gala Convenor		Tony Bevin	299 6825
Prayer Chain	Gill Doran	902 1074 Nan Lewin	905 6388
New Parishioners and Home Visits		Joyce Haughey	905 4467
Waikanae Rest Home Liturgy Services		Catherine Englert	293 2978
Indoor Bowls		Stan Furze	298 2015

St Patrick's School

Office	Val McCall	298 6780
Principal	Martin Elms	298 6780
Board of Trustees Chair	Martha Stuart-Berrisford	902 2323

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

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