

INTERESTING MUSINGS

The Annual Sick and Retired Priests Special Collection

The Clergy Trust Fund provides for the well-being and care of priests in the Diocese. This includes stipends, food, travel home for overseas priests, retreats, and all costs relating to healthcare. The Clergy Trust Fund is struggling to meet growing medical costs. Hence, your giving to this special collection is most appreciated especially by our elderly priests who then benefit from your generosity. Your support is a great way of showing your gratitude to your priests. Many thanks and blessings to all who contribute to this special collection. I apologise for the late notification this year. Monsignor Brian Walsh, Chairman, Clergy Trust Fund.

I've never been good at waiting. And this year has pushed my waiting skills to their limit. Of course, I'm not alone here. The whole world has been waiting; waiting for a treatment, waiting for a vaccine, waiting for a cure, waiting for normal. So, it's not surprising that the longer we wait, the harder it is to keep waiting. Lately, I've been thinking about waiting and anticipation. This year has been filled with both in abundance. My own waiting and anticipation has been a strange mix of dread about what might happen next and hope that things will turn the corner and get better soon. Anticipation of things getting worse could be the very definition of anxiety. These are the times when my imagination is my worst enemy. But, sometimes, anticipation is great. Sometimes it increases the pleasure of the thing to come. Remember when you were a kid and you couldn't wait for your birthday to come? That kind of anticipation builds excitement and increases the joy of its arrival. Most of us have been waiting almost a year for "better." But there have been times in history when waiting for something good has taken on biblical proportions, literally. As we begin our Advent preparations for Christmas, the Church encourages us to remember how long the people of God had to wait for the coming of the Savior. Some scholars say it was hundreds of years from the time of Abraham when God promised to "provide the lamb" for the sacrifice to the time of Christ's birth. But, if you think about it from a different starting point (say, the Garden of Eden and the Fall of Adam), you could easily say that the people of God

waited thousands of years for the birth of Christ. Did the people of God get discouraged? Yes. Did they lose their way at times? Yes. Did they need to be reminded of the hope of God's promise? Yes. Did they have to grow in trust and faith in God while they waited? Definitely yes! I'm not sharing this with you to "fix" your problem of waiting for life to get back to normal. I'm not sharing this with you to make you feel bad that you can't seem to wait a year when the people of God had to wait hundreds of years. Really, I just want to remind myself (and you while I'm at it) that good things are worth waiting for. But, even more, I want to connect my experience of waiting with that of the People of God as they waited for the coming of the Saviour. I want to use this time of waiting to increase my excitement and joy for the coming of Christ this Christmas instead of letting it increase my anxiety and frustration. And, if it helps you along the way, even better. *Catholicmom.com* Copyright 2020 Laura Nelson

Anniversaries in December

Johannes Hoogenboom
 Claire Weir, Pauline Gordon
 Angela Fleming, Kevin Stowe
 Bridget Cameron
 Charles McCloskey (Mac)
 Mick O'Sullivan
 Mollie Saxon
 Molly Fergusson

Mass Times

Sunday Masses
 St Patrick'sSaturday (vigil)5.30pm
 St Joseph's.....9.30am
Weekday Masses
 Monday.....St Patrick's...9.00am
 Thursday.....St Patrick's..9.00am
 Friday.....School Mass..
 Saturday.....St Joseph's..9.00am

Next Sunday Readings

1st Reading Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11
 2nd Reading 1Thessalonians 5"16-24
 Gospel: John 1:6-8,19-28

Fr Paul Kerridge (Parish Priest)

15 St Joseph Street, Waipukurau, Phone- 858-9383, Fax - 858-9349,
 office number- 8586416, Hours Mon- 7.30-12.00pm, Thursday- 12.15-2.20pm
 and Friday -7.30-3pm E-mail - cat.chb@xtra.co.nz www.holytrinitychb.com

The Holy Trinity Parish Voice

6th Hakihea , 2020

2nd Sunday of Advent



Kindness

To recap what we now know: it did not begin in a laboratory in Wuhan, nor with a pangolin or bat, but it already lay dormant within us, like a seed in need of certain conditions to grow; its symptoms are many and various, and may include some, or all, of the following: tear drops, sudden laughter, a feeling of warmth, and a peculiar uplifting of the heart; it leaves its traces everywhere: from boxes left on doorsteps to conversations over fences; it can be transmitted over vast distances, through a phone call, or from a smile across a street, or a certain softness of tone spoken beside a hospital bed; it affects young and old equally; there is no race or gender immune from it; it has the power to topple bad governments; if one person were to pass it on to just three others and they, in turn, were to pass it on to three more, in no time at all, the world would be full of it, and where, might we ask ourselves, would we be then. Brian Bilston 'Put on the new self ... be kind and compassionate to one another.' (Ephesians 4: 24,32)

Mā te ngākau aroha koe e ārihi. Let a loving heart guide your decisions.
 'Be kind to all, be gentle to all, and be very, very gentle. (Julian Tenison Woods)
 Song: 'You got to try a little kindness' by Glen Campbell

Issue No 6 2020 compiled by the Josephite Mission and Ethos Team Aotearoa

kindness

Comfort my people

The word 'power' can have negative echoes for us, suggesting an overbearing will to dominate others. Isaiah speaks about power of the Lord that in a very different way. God is like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them to his breast, and gently leading the ewes who are due to give birth. This is a very tender power, a life-force of faithful and enduring love, a love that gathers and nurtures and reassures. This is the God whom John the Baptist invites us to rediscover this Advent. It is this God who comes to us in the person of Jesus of Nazareth. John the Baptist refers to Jesus as "more powerful than I am." Jesus is the powerful one, in the sense that the first reading defines power. He gives full expression to God's tender love that brings healing to the broken, strength to the weak and rest to the weary. It is this adult Jesus, now risen Lord, whose coming towards us and present to us we celebrate at Christmas. The Baptist calls us this Advent to prepare a way in our lives for the coming of this Lord, this Shepherd, in whom mercy and faithfulness have met, justice and peace have embraced. (Responsorial Psalm). This is the God whom we seek this Advent, who can give greater depth to all our other encounters. *Association-ofcatholicpriests.ie*

NZ Catholic has been named as Publication of the Year at the Australasian Religious Press Association 2020 Awards. The November 29-December 12 issue of NZ Catholic is out now. Some headlines are: Delight as Timaru basilica reopens. Palmerston North diocese in “really good stead” for 2021. Troubled lay movements need outside oversight. Schools collect thousands of cans for Christmas

St. John’s College Academic Prize-giving is on Monday 7th December at 7pm in the Gym. All welcome.

Our Year 10 students have been a Guthrie Smith Camp for 3 days last week. The Year 9 students have activity days on Monday and Tuesday then last day for Yr 9s is Wednesday. Last day for students – Year 9 is Wednesday 9th December. The office will be open until 18th December 2020 and the office will reopen on Monday 18th January 2020. NCEA exams finish on Wednesday 9th December. We wish all our families a joyous Christmas and some special family time over the holidays.

Jesus For Real

Dear friends and supporters, We believe that, for the time being at least, the season for Jesus 4 Real has come to an end, after 31 glorious years. Sadly, after a great deal of prayer and seeking the Lord’s guidance, we have decided to cancel future camps and put the Jesus 4 Real camp ministry “into recess”. (Going “into recess” is not a

final cancellation, but signifies a hope that, at some stage in the future, the Lord will “fan the flame” with new leaders and Jesus 4 Real will burst into life again!) We wish to thank you sincerely for your faithful support and encouragement over these many years, and to ask you to continue to pray for the Jesus 4 Real family : Leaders, campers and helpers, past and present. As you can imagine, this decision has caused us a great deal of soul-searching and not a little anguish (!!!) but, while we mourn, in a sense, we must also rejoice that we have been privileged to share the lives of so many amazing young people over the past 31 years! Their enthusiasm, talent, energy, commitment to the Lord and joyful willingness to seek the reality of the Holy Spirit have spurred us on over the years and brought us infinite blessings! While we have decided to discontinue our camps, it does not mean that the Jesus 4 Real ministry has ceased, and Anne and I will continue to welcome opportunities to meet and share with young people in other settings, such as youth groups, Parishes, camps, school groups, etc. The website and Face Book group pages will continue to operate for the foreseeable future. May God continue to bless you, as He blesses us,

Anne and Andy Lovell and the Elisha Team (Father Kevin Connors, Paul McCardle, Renee Vaz, Matthew Grevatt, Anita Crowe and Melanie Teahan.)

Parish Christmas party

When -13th December
Where—Presbytery
Time -4pm
What to Bring –a plate to share



WelCom

December WelCom is being distributed to parishes and schools this week for Sunday, 6 December.

Contents include: Advent Season 2020 Calendar – you can download this as a poster from our website: wn.catholic.org.nz/adw_welcom/welcom-december-issue-389/

Cardinal John’s column – Renewed Hope. Catholic Church speaking at faith-based redress hearings of the Royal Commission into Abuse in Care. Apostolic Nuncio to New Zealand – Archbishop Novatus Rugambwa. Prison ministry – an invitation to get involved. Hikoī Whakapono: A Journey of Faith – Fielding parish. Feast of Immaculate Conception, 8 December – Fr James Lyons.

Local and international news and views.

Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy

Online Session (Evening): Christmas “Self Care Nibbles” with Clare Barnett. Tuesday, 15 December, 7.15-8.45pm. Fee: \$30. ZOOM <https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/christmas-self-care-nibbles/>

Online Session (Retreat Day): Who am I ? – Reflecting on our Identity in God with Eamon Butler. Saturday, 30 January, 10.30am-4pm. Fee: \$60, ZOOM

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/virtual-retreat-day-with-eamon-butler-who-am-i/> For more information and registration: info@studyjoy.nz

This Sunday night (6th December), John Cowan's guest will be journalist & author Jared Savage. Jared Savage is an investigative reporter for the New Zealand Herald who has won journalism awards every year since 2010, including twice being named as the best reporter in the country. He lives in Tauranga with his wife and two young children. Released this week, Jared’s first book *Gangland* shines a light into New Zealand’s rising underworld of organized crime and violent gangs.

Christmas Mass Times

Vigil Mass – 8pm @ St Patrick’s Waipawa
Christmas Day Mass – 9.30am @ St Joseph’s, Waipukurau
Email –cat.chb@xtra.co.nz
Website –holytrinitychb.com

Simbang Gabi (Night Mass)

Simbang Gabi is a Filipino Catholic Christmas tradition where mass is celebrated for nine consecutive days. This year, we invite you to join us as we keep the tradition of “Simbang Gabi” from the 16th of December at St Joseph’s church at 8pm.

Calling all kids!

Are you under 13 years old and love to sing? Be in to win an Amazon Echo Plus and Alexa-enabled smart coloured light-bulbs! To enter The Voice of Christmas singing competition, simply call 0800 THE VOICE by Sunday, 13 December and sing a Christmas carol as your audition. Then tune in on Christmas morning (6-9am) to the Crazy Kiwi Christmas Kids Show on Newstalk ZB to see if you've won!



Columban Calendars and Christmas Cards are now for sale.

Calendars are \$12 each and cards are \$2.50 a packet. Please contact the office or Fr Paul.

