

# INTERESTING MUSINGS

## Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy

—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/>

Online Sessions (Evening): The Passion of Jesus Christ with Br Kieran Fenn who has a wonderful way of bringing Scripture alive.

4 Mondays in March, 7-8.30pm. Fee: \$25/session. ZOOM.

All sessions are connected but also stand alone. Start: 01 March

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/the-passion-of-jesus-christ-with-kieran-fenn-fms/>



## Caritas Lenten Reflection Programme

- The Lenten season provides an opportunity each year to deepen our understanding of our faith by reflecting on the Gospels. During Lent we are called both to turn away from those things that encumber our faith journey with God and to turn towards God. Lent is a wonderful opportunity to open ourselves to changes that God wants to make in us so that we can truly flourish. DISCUSSION SHARING AND FAITH IN ACTION Through the discussion, sharing and the Faith in Action sections we are invited to deepen our understanding of the Gospels, and to allow God to transform us. A significant aim of our Lenten practice of prayer, fasting and almsgiving is, by God's grace, to change our patterns of behaviour and to respond with love to our neighbours. Each session ends with an invitation and an opportunity to make a commitment to put our faith into action. **If you are**

interested in being part of a group please let Fr Paul or the office know.

### Lenten Reflection Programme

For reflection and discussion of the Lenten Gospels by groups in parishes, families, rest homes, communities, and chaplaincies and for personal reflection.



## Anniversaries in January/February

William Martin, Fay Orgar  
Terrance Loughan  
Trevor Hulena, Brett Gray  
Clarice Barclay, Constance Fraiser  
Timothy Carpenter  
Alan Cameron, Daniel Taylor  
Margaret Parsons  
Fred Allen  
Mary Butler (Molly)  
Peter Robinson (Skip)  
Vera Lawrence, Jack Moran  
Bernard Skidmore, Malcolm Wenzlick

## Mass Times

**Sunday Masses**  
St Patrick's .....Saturday (vigil)5.30pm  
St Joseph's.....9.30am  
**Weekday Masses**  
Monday.....St Patrick's...9.00am  
Thursday.....St Patrick's...9.00am  
Friday.....St Joseph's...9.15am  
Saturday.....St Joseph's...9.00am

## Next Sunday Readings

1st Reading Job 7:1-4,6-7  
2nd Reading 1Corinthians 9:16-19,22-23  
Gospel: Mark 1:29-39

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](http://www.holytrinitychb.com)

# The Holy Trinity Parish Voice

31st Kohitātea, 2021

4th Sunday of Ordinary Time



## Forces of good and evil

A lovely line in the Book of Psalms says: 'The earth is full of the goodness of the Lord' (33:5). It certainly is. The crops keep producing food for our tables. The summer heat gives way to cooling autumn breezes. Most diseases are now curable. Tyrants are sometimes overthrown. Social reforms like pensions for the needy are here to stay. Conflicts end in reconciliation. Shaky marriages get patched up. Love survives misunderstandings, thoughtlessness, insults and indifference. Wars come to an end. Enemies become friends. We forgive others and are forgiven. Sport keeps contributing to what is good, decent, and noble about human beings. In short, there is goodness everywhere. But where there is goodness, there too is God and the Kingdom of God. So, God's loving rule is still happening among us. But so too is the anti-kingdom of evil. Its power and force keeps staring us in the face. Newspapers and news bulletins report it daily in its ugly manifestations. Our own consciences remind us of its hurtful and harmful influence. It has been reliably reported last week, for instance, that 1% of the world's population now owns half of the world's wealth. Too many persons work for less than a dollar a day, and others are denied health and safety precautions. Random acts of terrorism are inflicted on defenceless people. Refugees exercising their legal rights to seek asylum are visited with systematic acts of cruelty as deterrents to others. Persons are being kidnapped and sold into slavery, including sexual degradation. Racism, consumerism, and devastation of the earth's natural resources are still raging round the world. In many parts of the world large segments of the population are in-

involved in unrest and civil war. Violence is growing. Individuals, high on drugs, smash their targets to the ground. What we are facing, then, are both the evil acts of individuals and evil social structures. In the days of Jesus on earth, people called different evil forces 'demons'. Jesus himself recognised one super-force behind them all. He named it 'the EVIL ONE' — also known in his day as 'the Devil', 'Lucifer', and 'Beelzebub'. Today's gospel is a striking example of his confrontation with, and victory over, the 'the Evil One'. As the story has it, 'the Evil One' has taken possession of a deranged man, who interrupts Jesus as he teaches and challenges his power and authority over evil. Jesus does not answer the man's taunts, but addresses 'the Evil One' sharply and directly: 'Be quiet! Come out of him!' Throwing the sufferer into convulsions, and with a last loud scream, 'the Evil One' wriggles out of him. At long last its victim is free from its torments. More recently if less dramatically, followers of Jesus in a particular parish chased evil from a disturbed man at Sunday Mass. From the back of the church he kept repeating the Mass parts after the priest, softly at first but gradually more loudly and belligerently, with profanities and mockery thrown in. Although the man was clearly odd, people began to feel offended and angry. Then something wonderful happened. At the Sign of Peace, a woman left her pew and extended her hand to the man. He took it, and then another person appeared behind the woman, then another. Soon dozens gathered to offer peace to the troubled intruder, and then the man began to weep openly. When he sat down, a small child, touched by his tears, climbed on to his lap. The Mass continued.

### This Sunday night (31st January),

John Cowan's guest will be former police negotiator & author Lance Burdett. With 22 years of policing experience at the highest level, Lance has expertise in responding to emergencies and communicating in challenging situations. He specialised in suicide intervention and on predicting violent behaviour in his 13 years as a crisis negotiator and instructor for the NZ Police. Lance has a Master of Arts Degree, majoring in Terrorism, Safety and Security. He has a Graduate Diploma in Business Studies, a Diploma in Policing and a Graduate Certificate in Applied Management. Lance published the bestselling book *Behind the Tape*, Life on the Police Frontline detailing highlights of his police career. He makes regular media guest appearances discussing police topics and provides inspirational keynote presentations

### Baptism Letter

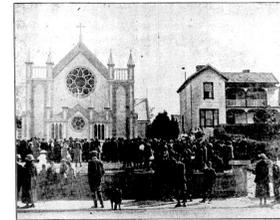
Mary Pedersen shares the letter she wrote for her granddaughter on the day of her Baptism. Dearest Elin Faith, Last Sunday you were dressed in a long white gown with satin, lace, and pearls. Water was poured, oil smeared, and words spoken: "I baptize you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit." You have become God's beloved daughter — an identity granting you the highest dignity and the greatest beauty. We pray you will claim your identity each day for the rest of your life. We pray you will allow God's beauty to shine through you in kindness, compassion, and love for each person you meet. And we pray you will remember this divine identity, especially when you hear a cutting remark, fall short in love, or experience a devastating loss. We pray you will understand God loves you infinitely, unconditionally, and beyond compare. God created you, Miss Elin Faith, for a special purpose. Never be afraid of God's calling, for building the kingdom of God is the great adventure of life and God's grace will lead the way. With the Sacrament of Baptism, your life

will not be your own — you belong to Christ. You will learn that discipleship demands carrying your cross and pouring yourself out for others. In the journey, you will discover that by giving we receive, and by dying to self we begin to live — really live. We pray you will put Jesus before all — above all else. He must come first because He is the source of all love and light. With His light, all others lights glow brighter. With faith, the world expands as we notice God's shimmering presence in even the most ordinary. In Baptism, you are called to sainthood. Rely on the Holy Spirit, the source of wisdom, and you will grow in love, mercy, and heroic virtue. Be close to those who bring you closer to Jesus. Stay close to Jesus, especially in times of darkness. Cling to the cross — and the Resurrection. Carry hope in your heart. Be willing to forgive. Be humble. Be good. Be true to yourself. With the Sacrament of Baptism, we welcome you into the Body of Christ. Elin Faith, you are never alone. We are here for you. All the saints in heaven (your great grandmothers and grandfathers) and on earth are praying for you and cheering you onto the finish line. Elin Faith, you are absolutely beautiful — inside and out. We pray you will live according to your given name — a life of faith. We wish you the absolute best of life — love, happiness, peace, and joy — Jesus. Always remember, you are God's beloved daughter, in whom He is well pleased. We promise you our love and prayers ~ always and forever. Papa and Mimi *cathmom.com*



### Celebration of the first Catholic Church in Central Hawkes Bay – 150 years

Where - St Patrick's Waipawa  
Friday 23 April,  
Saturday 24 April  
2021.



#### Itinerary

Friday 5:30 – 7:30pm: Waipawa town Hall. - Mix n mingle  
Book launch: History of the church; families; anecdotal comments  
Saturday: morning tea, cemetery walk  
Mass at St Patricks 4.30pm. celebrated by cardinal John Dew.

Dinner 7.30pm. at Waipawa town hall.  
Registration costs for all events: costs/choice

Friday pm	\$20.00
Saturday Dinner	\$40.00
Book	<u>\$35.00</u>
Total per person	\$95.00

**Needed**—volunteers are needed for this event. Please contact Jo or Sue for details.  
Sue Cullen phone 0212329516  
Email: [dalreoch.wi@xtra.co.nz](mailto:dalreoch.wi@xtra.co.nz)  
Or Jo McGowan 0211713189  
Email: [jomacg2@gmail.com](mailto:jomacg2@gmail.com)

**Simple is sacred.** In an over-performance culture, the greatest gift a parent can give is a sense of belonging and acceptance. Connection is crucial - In a world full of uncertainties, anxieties and an over-performance culture of never being good enough, the biggest gifts that parents can give to children is a true sense of belonging, hope, courage to dare greatly and the notion that they are ok the way they are. It is our responsibility to teach them the art of resilience and mindfulness. It is parents who can empower children to help them understand their emotions, accept them for who they are, identify their unique strengths, find their potential and purpose in life, nurture

their spirituality and cultivate human connection. Humans are hardwired for connection. The two most powerful forms of connection are unconditional love and a sense of belonging. They are essential to the human experience. It is what makes us 'tick'. True belonging is part of our DNA. We all desire to be part of something bigger than us and to be accepted for who we are despite all our vulnerabilities. We all need to belong to a 'tribe', to a 'cause', to a community that accepts us for who we are, our authentic selves. The starting point is our family as the learning platform to practise true human connection. The Sacred space of relationship - Cultivating connections with our children and building meaningful, long-lasting relationships requires paying attention and engagement. Engagement means investing time and energy which requires sacrifice. Sacrifice means to 'make sacred'. As parents we are called to make our relationships with our children truly sacred. We only have one shot at this. The challenge is that most parents are feeling time poor, and often lack the energy to fully engage with their children. Overscheduling our children, filling every free minute with activities and entertainment, the speed of technology and the endless deluge of the Internet have resulted in our lives becoming cluttered and dis-jointed. All this can lead to a profound disconnect between parent and child. Cultivating Connection - The good news is that it does not require much to shift this paradigm. Simplifying our lives can often help us to create space for re-connection, building relationships and being more engaged. Simplifying means creating more space for awareness, attentiveness, connectedness and finding the sacredness in all things. Underpinning his philosophy are four realms that provide sparks of connection that can easily be incorporated in our busy lives: de-cluttering our home environments, establishing healthy routines, the importance of free time and limiting the intrusion of media and other external influences into the home. *cathfamily.org*