

# INTERESTING MUSINGS

## Next Rector appointed for Holy Cross Seminary

Father Mathew Vadakkevettuvazhiyil will be the next Rector of Holy Cross Seminary in Auckland. The appointment has been confirmed by the Vatican's Congregation for the Evangelisation of Peoples. Fr Mathew will succeed the present Rector, Fr Brendan Ward, at the end of 2021. Fr Mathew is widely known as a parish priest in the Auckland Diocese. He is currently a priest at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in Epsom, Auckland. From the beginning of February he will be parish priest at Holy Cross, Papatoetoe before starting his seminary role at year's end. He was parish priest at St Mary of the Immaculate Conception in Avondale, Auckland, from 2013 to June 2020. Fr Mathew was born in Kerala, India in 1960 and ordained a priest there in 1992 with the Society of St Francis de Sales (Salesians of Don Bosco). He was a missionary, teacher and administrator at Salesian education institutes in Tanzania and Kenya and an assistant parish priest and administrator in Kenya until coming to New Zealand in 2009, serving in several Auckland parishes before his 2013 St Mary's appointment. As a diocesan priest in Auckland, Fr Mathew is Deputy Chair of the Justice and Peace Commission, and a member of the Council of Priests and College of Consultors. Cardinal John Dew, Archbishop of Wellington and President of the NZ Catholic Bishops Conference, welcomed the announcement on behalf of the bishops of Aotearoa New Zealand. "We congratulate Fr Mathew, offer him our prayerful support, and will give him the practical support he needs." Holy Cross Seminary (HCS) is the national seminary for the education and formation of diocesan priests for the Catholic Church in New Zealand.

**My kitchen counter** is still cluttered. Christmas décor spills across the living room where it waits to be packed. My daughters are back at their universities. My son is back in school. It's been ten months of "two weeks to flatten the curve," my job ended, and the country is a hotbed mess of who can be more righteously hateful to the other in the pretense that it will bring "unity." Struggling to see an end in sight, the sudden realization that today is our weekly Adoration hour inspires me to put on real clothes and head to the church. It's too late

for the daily Mass, but I slip into a back pew before the final blessing. Anticipating the exposition, I hear Father announce that, effective this week, Adoration is moved to another day before the newly added evening Mass, and he leaves. Needless to say this is a crushing blow to my aching spirit and hot tears spill over before I can stop them. As the daily Mass attendees shuffle out and lights are dimmed, a group of women in the front of the church begin a Rosary. The rhythmic cadence soothes my weary soul, one that sits in darkness. Suddenly, there is a warmth on my back; a yellow light slowly creeps across the floor. Sunlight pours through the stained glass, dappling the church interior. As it intensifies, my eyes lift to the tabernacle and the red candle burning beside it. He is here. He burns for me as I for him. The light from the candle. The light from the sun. They remind us that Jesus is the light of the world. He did not enter a perfect world; rather he was born into a dark broken world, a sinful world. He is the light that peeks over the horizon, slowly illuminating the day, until with a brilliant radiance it spills over, changing everything. It fills the sky, pierces the clouds, beams into darkened spaces, and we lift our eyes into it, soaking in its warmth. the light of Christ. In these dark times, we must consciously allow it into our soul, our mind, cleansing the dark, until it fills us with His peace and love. Today, in whatever darkness threatens to surround you, embrace Christ's light. Allow it to empower us to become radiant with His light for others so that we shine brightly. *Copyright 2021 Shelly Henley*

## 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  
 Saturday.....St Joseph's..9.00am

## Next Sunday Readings

1st Reading Deuteronomy 18:15-20  
 2nd Reading 1 Corinthians 7:32-35  
 Gospel: Mark 1:21-28

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

# The Holy Trinity Parish Voice

24th Kohitātea, 2021

3rd Sunday of Ordinary Time



**Word of God Sunday,  
 24 January 2021**

Pope Francis asks us to devote the third Sunday of Ordinary Time to the celebration, study and dissemination of the Word of God. As well as the sacred text as a focus of our attention at Mass, we are invited to hold The Word in our hands every day so that it becomes part of our daily prayer and lived experience. "He opened their minds to understand the Scriptures." Luke 24:45

**"The Lord gives you His Word, so that you can receive it like a love letter ... realize that He is at your side."**

Pope Francis

**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	\$35.00
Total per person	\$95.00

**Needed**—volunteers are needed for this event. Please contact Jo or Sue for details.  
 Sue Cullen phone 0212329516

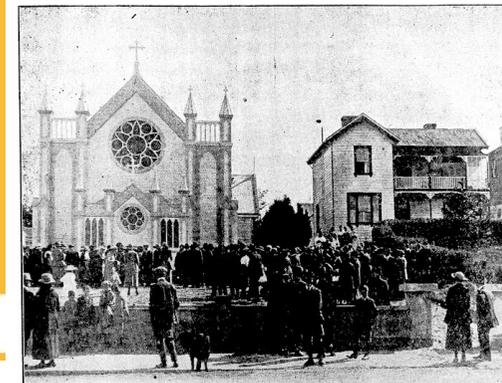
Email: [dalreoch.wi@xtra.co.nz](mailto:dalreoch.wi@xtra.co.nz)

Or Jo McGowan 0211713189

Email: [jomacg2@gmail.com](mailto:jomacg2@gmail.com)



Sunday 24 January 2021



## NZ Catholic bishops urge everyone to have a Covid-19 vaccine

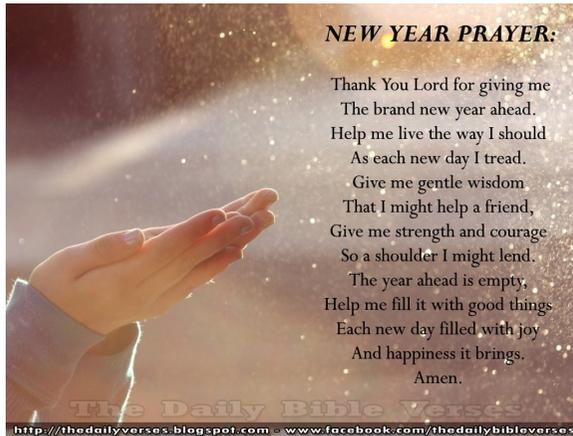
The country's Catholic bishops are strongly urging their faithful and everyone in Aotearoa New Zealand to get a Covid-19 vaccine when it becomes available. NZ Catholic Bishops Conference President, Cardinal John Dew, cited this country's 2019-20 measles epidemic and the endorsement of Covid-19 vaccines by Pope Francis as reasons the bishops are calling on everyone to get vaccinated. Pope Francis this week lamented that some people were saying they would refuse vaccination, adding: "I believe that morally, everyone must take the vaccine. It is the moral choice because it is about your life [and] the lives of others." Cardinal Dew said the Pope had made it clear there was no religious reason to reject vaccination, including that some vaccines were created with cell lines that originated from tissue from human fetuses aborted several decades ago. Catholic teaching opposes abortion, but the Vatican's Congregation for the Doctrine of the Faith office has said the "grave danger" of spreading Covid-19 outweighs those concerns when "ethically irreproachable vaccines are not available." It was "morally acceptable to receive Covid-19 vaccines that have used cell lines from aborted fetuses in their research and production process." Pope Francis endorsed that statement last month, on 17 December. Pope Francis has said he expects to be vaccinated against Covid-19 this week. Cardinal Dew said the bishops took their advice about vaccines from reputable doctors, scientists and the bishops' own bioethics agency, the Nathaniel Centre. "We reject the false information circulating on the internet and elsewhere that claims vaccines should not be used," Cardinal Dew said. "Vaccines work, and they protect against a wide range of illnesses. Because of vaccines, once-universal diseases such as smallpox have been wiped out, saving countless lives. "To protect everyone against a disease, it is vital that most people in a country be vaccinated. The 2019-20 New Zealand measles epidem-

ic happened because only about 80 per cent of the population were vaccinated. As a result, the disease was carried from Auckland to Samoa where more than 80 people died, most of them babies and children. "Everyone, including Catholics, has a moral responsibility to protect themselves and others by getting a Covid-19 vaccine as soon as they become eligible for it under the Government's planned vaccine programme," said Cardinal Dew. The Vatican doctrinal office statement endorsed by the Pope said that all vaccinations recognised as clinically safe and effective could "be used in good conscience with the certain knowledge that the use of such vaccines does not constitute formal cooperation with the abortion from which the cells used in production of the vaccines derive."

### 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/>



#### NEW YEAR PRAYER:

Thank You Lord for giving me  
The brand new year ahead.  
Help me live the way I should  
As each new day I tread.  
Give me gentle wisdom  
That I might help a friend,  
Give me strength and courage  
So a shoulder I might lend.  
The year ahead is empty,  
Help me fill it with good things  
Each new day filled with joy  
And happiness it brings.  
Amen.

The Daily Bible Verses  
<http://thedailyverses.blogspot.com> - [www.facebook.com/thedailybibleverses](http://www.facebook.com/thedailybibleverses)

## Depending on God

"Living with their heads in the clouds" is no compliment to anyone living in this world of ours. How realistic is Paul's advice, to live as though the ordinary events and concerns of life did not matter? As if business, planning, bereavements, possessions and the rest were of no fundamental importance? Well, first of all he does not mean that people should withdraw from all these things, or neglect the practical life.. What he does mean is that we should get our priorities right, and get a proper balanced view of things, so that what is of lasting importance can play its part too — namely, the question of our eternal destiny, and how we stand in the sight of God. Under the influence of a brush with death — a near escape, or a recent bereavement — we come to realise how trivial are the usual concerns that engross us, when compared to the abiding mystery of life and death. Does it have a purpose? Is our life going anywhere, or is it simply an absurd farce, poised between comedy and tragedy? There are three common reactions to this mystery of life and death: First: You can't take it with you — so spend it while you can. When you're dead you're dead and that's it! So make the most of these short years, enjoy them to the utmost, and then submit to the universal annihilation that awaits us all. Second: A hope that there may be life beyond the grave, but one which seems so shadowy and insubstantial that there's little point in thinking about it. Still, it's a worry. Perhaps there will be a punishing judgement for wrongs done in this life, which we managed to get away with. Third: The conviction that God holds each human life securely in his hand, so that death is just a passing-over into his direct presence. In the biblical view, we should not worry about death, nor about anything, in life so much as to turn to God, and obey his word. "Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his glory" says Jesus. If we can make the right primary decision, if our first desire is to fit in with God's plan for us, then everything else will fall into place; life and work, marriage, successes and fail-

ures, sickness and even death itself. All of us, no matter how long we have been living in the faith, need to reawaken this attitude of trust. We need conversion, no, less than the people of Nineveh, or the people of Galilee. Repent, and believe, says Jesus today, to each one here. Believe that God is my father and your father; believe that he is near at hand, and that he is merciful; realise that God's will for you is that you be saved — and that includes the need to live by his Gospel. "Repent" — yes, the challenge is as fresh today as when our Lord first spoke it. As though we were hearing of the kingdom of God for the first time, and making our first act of total trust and total submission to God's love. Taking Jesus at his word, being converted to genuine faith in God the Father, does not mean living with our head in the clouds. Genuine Christian devotion certainly fixes our ambition away above the passing things of life, but also keeps us aware of everyday duties towards other people. Hearing the Gospel, welcoming and following it, keeps a person with feet well grounded in reality, more keenly involved than ever in carrying out the tasks that have to be done here and now, because now is the day of salvation; now is the time, given us by God to pay him our thanksgiving through service. *association-ofcatholicpriests.ie*

### 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