

INTERESTING MUSINGS

The May 2021 **Funding Round for the Diocese** of Palmerston North Allocations Group is now open

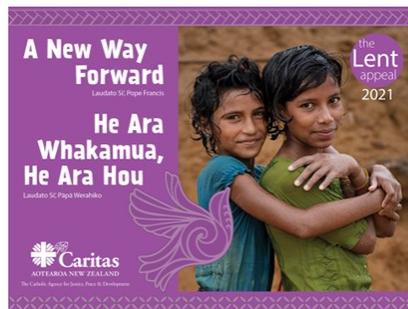
Parish groups, agencies and church organisations that provide a helping hand by supporting Families and Social Services are invited to apply for funding from the Catholic Charities Foundation of Palmerston and the Tindall Foundation through the Diocesan Allocations group. The priority is to fund Catholic and community organisations who are working in areas identified as priorities by the Catholic Charities Foundation of Palmerston North and the Tindall Foundation, and aligned with the diocesan goals. We are charged with the funding support of groups committed to social, pastoral, charitable and educational needs in the diocese. Applications are judged based on need, resource availability and the fulfilment of set criteria.

Applications are now open and are due on Wednesday 31 March 2021. Application forms and more information can be found here: <https://pndiocese.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/Catholic-Charities-Application-form-2020.pdf> or please contact Wendy Silver at wsilver@pndiocese.org.nz or ph (06) 354 1780 ext 833.

This Sunday night (28th February), John Cowan's guest will be epidemiologist Michael Baker. Michael Baker has been a professor of public health at the University of Otago in Wellington since 2013 and is director of the Health Environment Infection Research Unit. He is co-director of the university's He Kainga Oranga/Housing and Health Research Programme and the Public Health Summer School. He has a range of public health research interests, with a particular focus on infectious diseases, environmental health and housing and has published widely in these areas. As a member of the Ministry of Health's Covid-19 technical advisory group, he strongly advocated for eliminating the virus and keeping it out of the country.



His commentary helped inform the government's decision for a national lockdown. Michael has been made a member of the Order of Merit in the 2021 New Year Honours for his services to public health science. He also received the HRC Liley Medal in 2013 and the Prime Minister's Science Prize in 2014.



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'sSaturday (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 Exodus 17:3-7
2nd Reading Romans 5:1-2,5-8
Gospel: John 4:5-42

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

28th Hui-tanguru , 2021

2nd Sunday in Lent



CARITAS CASE STUDY

The Kiribati Health Champions, a group of women and youth supported by Teitoiningaina (the Catholic Women's Association), are working to transform the health of their communities. Adopting a healthier lifestyle requires a big change, especially when fresh produce is difficult to come by due to the poor planting conditions on the atolls. The Health Champions each studied to receive a Certificate of Proficiency in Pacific Nutrition, learning about the importance of drinking water, exercising regularly, and eating vegetables – including up to 11 types of traditional leaves found in Kiribati. After completing their certification pro-

gramme, the Health Champions were eager to share their knowledge with their communities. Almost 5,000 people have received training from the Kiribati Health Champions, and an estimated 15,000 people have received messaging on health. Almost 5,000 people have received training from the Kiribati Health Champions, and an estimated 15,000 people have received messaging on health and nutrition from presentations made during public events. The Health Champions are now working to reach even more remote communities in the outer islands of Kiribati and have mobilised with the Public Health Service to deliver resources and information to prevent the spread of COVID-19.



E te Matua Kaha Rawa, Almighty Father, you sent your only son Jesus to show us the new way to you; you told us to listen to him.

In the transfiguration we saw a glimpse of your brilliant light, but we know that we must be ready to pass through the darkness to reach it.

We ask you to give us the grace that we need to accept the cross and to do what we are called to do as followers of Jesus.

What must be cast aside?

“If your eye should cause you to sin, tear it out and throw it away. It is better to enter into life with one eye, than to have two eyes and be thrown into the hell of fire!” Matthew 18:9). This condemnation of anything which may prove a moral stumbling-block for us was deliberately extreme to make it stick in people’s minds, and it does. But “hell fire” is not precisely what Matthew wrote, but rather the “fiery Gehenna.” The Hebrew word Gehenna meant the “Valley of Hinnom,” a gorge just south of the Jerusalem Temple. It was a place under a curse, for it was there that the pagan Canaanites used to sacrifice children to their god Moloch, by throwing them into a fire. Some breakaway Jews followed that savage custom until the idol of Moloch was finally destroyed in the 7th century B.C. The horror of the place survived, and it became the refuse dump of Jerusalem, a place of continual smoke from burning rubbish. In the public mind it became synonymous with hell, a visible image of what that place must be. But there was no place for child-sacrifice in true worship of God, and devout Jews would claim there never was. They saw the confirmation of this in the actions of Abraham, their father in faith, how God stayed his hand as he was about to sacrifice his son Isaac. The story of Abraham and Isaac is full of high drama. The demand that Isaac be sacrificed seemed to utterly contradict God’s promise that the boy would pass on Abraham’s line into the distant future. It was a radical trial of faith, and no greater test of obedience could be set. Abraham’s heart was pierced by the boy’s innocent question, “Where is the lamb for the burnt offering? Finding it impossible to tell his son that he was the intended victim, Abraham stammered, “God will provide.” St. John may well have this episode in mind when he wrote, “God loved the world so much that he gave his only Son” (3:16). This story raises several acute questions. Why did God ask Abraham to sacrifice his son? Why did Abraham intend to obey? Indeed why did God allow his own divine Son to be sacrificed? The connection between Isaac and Jesus is obvious. Isaac prefigured Our Lord in that he was

to be sacrificed on a hill, and he carried on his shoulder the wood for the intended sacrifice. But there the likeness ends. Isaac was the least notable of the patriarchs, a bridge of transition between Abraham and Jacob. In contrast, Jesus at the Transfiguration was shown to his three Apostles, as a figure of miraculous glory, truly God’s Son and messenger to the world. Despite their enthusiasm, the of the Apostles’ faith would be tested later on, as Abraham’s was. The shining revelation of the divine person of Christ was in sharp contrast to watching him in Gethsemane sweating blood before his Passion. The God who spared the son of Abraham and showered him with blessings, did not spare his own Son, but left him in the hands of his enemies for our redemption.

Unlike Isaac, Jesus was aware of what lay ahead. “The Son of Man must suffer,” he had said. Shortly before the Transfiguration, when he first told the disciples what he was to suffer, Peter prayed that God would not allow such a thing to happen. The Lord’s response was instant and severe, “Get behind me, Satan. You are thinking not as God does, but as humans do” (Mk 8:33). In dealing with God we must have faith and trust. On the cellar wall of a bombed-out house in Cologne an unknown fugitive, obviously Jewish, left a testimony of trust that only came to light when the rubble was being cleared away after World War II. It read: “I believe in the sun even when it is not shining. I believe in love even when I do not feel it. I believe in God even when he is silent.” That is the faith of Abraham, and is the kind of faith we should seek as well. *Associationofcatholicpriests.ie*

PFG AGM

All welcome to attend the St Joseph’s School AGM on the 22nd March at 7pm in Room 1. A great way to meet new people and be involved in the school community.

Love and birthday wishes to **Patty Harker** who is celebrating her ninetieth birthday at this time! Lots of love from her friends at the Holy Trinity Parish.

St Johns College—

Last week we the College had an Ash Wednesday Liturgy to begin Lent. On Thursday we held a successful and enjoyable Athletics sports at Hastings sports park and this week our students of Te Reo spent 3 days in Mahia learning about Maori Tikanga. The boys have easily slotted back in to the groove of being back at school at our Year 9 students are settling well

The February 21 – March 6 issue of **NZ Catholic** is out now. Some headlines are: NZ mental health journeys of a priest and a lay woman. Alert level shift changes Ash Wednesday plans. Cardinal preaches on Waitangi Day. Historic organ retrieved from Chch cathedral.

Crib Appeal –We had a very successful appeal and raised \$3065.50 which will be sent to the Philippines this week. Thank you for the contributions and this will make a huge difference in the lives of the people who live and work there at the Sanctuary.

Covid response

Youth branch members of St Vincent de Paul – aka Vinnies Youth – helped redirect about 13,000 free school lunches during last week’s level 3 lockdown in Auckland. The recipients – Auckland pensioners – were reportedly “stunned” to receive the lunches. About 8,000 free school lunches were ready last Monday and another 5,000 were ready on Tuesday. One of the pensioners said residents of the 86-unit retirement village she lives in were “overwhelmed” when Vinnies volunteer Beau Takapu (pictured) turned up with the unexpected lunches. “Our age group is outside the school lunch age group,” Maureen Picknell (73) said. “When I saw how wonderful the school lunches were, I was stunned – what an amazing meal!” Vinnies Youth Auckland is a social justice youth group has branches in the city’s 16 Catholic secondary schools. The lunches the young Vinnies were delivering were donated by Montana Catering Auckland. Montana Catering is one of four companies with Ministry of Education contracts to provide free school lunches to 35,000 children in the most deprived quarter of school communities across Auckland. All four companies

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

Or Jo McGowan 0211713189

Email: jomacg2@gmail.com

found ways to donate the lunches to the community. One, Albany-based Virtual Cooking Company (FED), gave its lunches to needy whānau through Ngā Whare Waatea Marae in Māngere. Another, Spotless, gave its lunches to the Auckland City Mission. The fourth contractor, social enterprise Eat My Lunch, gave 10,000 lunches to marae and other community groups recommended by the Ministry of Social Development. *cathnews.co.nz*

