

Anniversaries February

Alan Cameron, Daniel Taylor, Margaret Parsons, Fred Allen, Mary Butler (Molly)
Peter Robinson (Skip), Vera Lawrence
Jack Moran, Bernard Skidmore, Malcolm Wenzlick

Covid-19 Protection Framework—Red

When New Zealand goes into Red under the Traffic Light System the following requirements will be followed for our Masses

- Record keeping/scanning required.
- At gatherings, face coverings are required for workers and volunteers.
- Gatherings at a place of worship up to 100 people based on the maximum number of people who could occupy the space if each person was 1 metre apart.
- Vaccine Passes will be Required.

Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand has offered an immediate Solidarity Grant to Caritas Tonga and is also receiving donations, through its Pacific Relief Fund, to help with the aftermath of the volcanic eruption in Tonga. Our thoughts and prayers are with the people of Tonga and especially with our partners and the communities with which we have been working for many years. "Communications are proving very difficult at the moment but we were in touch with Caritas Tonga as recently as Saturday," says Caritas director Julianne Hickey. "Together we have completed the pre-positioning of emergency supplies at three locations in Tonga so are well prepared for this kind of eventuality." The biggest concern at the moment is drinking water, which has been contaminated across Tonga by ash fall. The Tongan Government had approved drinking water distribution to Ha'apai (islands nearest the volcano) on Saturday morning, as the islands are majority reliant on harvested rainwater for drinking. Donations can be made to Caritas online

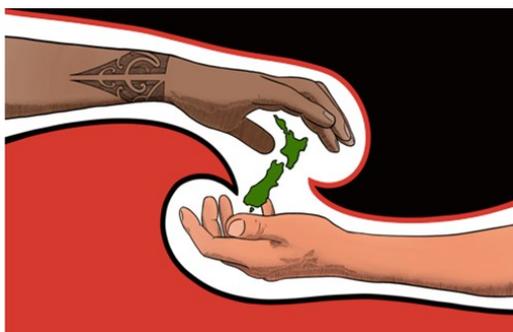
Mass Times

Tuesday St Joseph's @ 9am
Thursday St Patricks @ 9am
Saturday St Joseph's @ 9am
(Masses can go ahead as they are under 10 people- No vaccine pass required)
Saturday St Patricks@5.30pm (Vigil)
Sunday St Joseph's@9.30am
Vaccine Passes required for Sunday Masses
Scan, wear a mask and physically distance -2m

through the Pacific Relief Fund (www.caritas.org.nz/donate-online) or via our bank account 03-0518-0211216-00 (please include first & last name and put Tonga as the code).

Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy—Online Sessions (Evening):

The Holy Spirit – A Driving Force with Kieran Fenn fms.
Mondays, 14, 21, 28 February, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM. \$25/session or \$50/series.
<https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/the-holy-spirit-a-driving-force-2/>
For more information and registration: www.studyjoy.nz
Muffin Talk Radio Programme recordings and video clips on religion, interfaith and community available at <https://www.studyjoy.nz/category/resources/muffin-talk/>



Fr Paul Kerridge (Parish Priest)

6th February, 2022

15 St Joseph Street, Waipukurau, Phone- 858-9383, office number- 8586416,

Hours Tuesday 7.15-1.45pm, Thursday- 12.15-1.45pm and Friday -7.15-1.45pm

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www.holytrinitychb.com

Rātini Kupu

6th Hui-tanguru , 2022

Waitangi Day

Whom does God choose?

We've just heard two iconic vocation-stories from biblical times. Last week we had the call of Jeremiah, and this week we have the vocation stories of Isaiah and the apostle Peter. One might ask: "Why these guys? What was God thinking? But this is really nothing new for the God of surprises. Abraham is made a new father in his old age; slow-tongued Moses takes on Pharaoh, young shepherd David is chosen as king, and Saul the persecutor became Paul the apostle. It is clear that God does whatever God wills. The characters that God has chosen throughout history to be instruments of justice, mercy, love and compassion have been brave, earthy individuals. We could be wrong to disqualify ourselves from ever being called by God to be his instruments. We may intellectually understand that God has chosen many people like ourselves to be his workers; but too often it ends there... if spiritually we lower our heads, and leave it to others to follow God's call. Having experienced the Lord's generosity in the extraordinary catch of fish, Peter is suddenly aware of his own weakness and unworthiness. He feels that he does not deserve such generosity from Jesus; but he goes on to discover that the Lord loves him and has a great purpose for his life in spite of his imperfections. From now on he will gather people into the net of God's kingdom. The Lord's purpose for us is not dependent on our worthiness. The Lord does not wait for us to be worthy before calling us to a share in his life-giving work in the world. Indeed, our very awareness of our unworthiness creates an opening for the Lord to work through us. The Lord cannot engage us in his service if we think of ourselves as complete or perfect. As Paul says in the first Reading, "if anyone thinks himself wise in the usual sense of the word, he must learn to be a fool before he really can be wise." *association-ofcatholicpriests.ie*

5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

February 6th

*"Leave everything
and follow him."*

*Every time we act justly, love
tenderly and walk gently with
those we meet, we are "leaving all
to follow him"*

Sunday
Reflections



This is a blessing we call on for our whole country as we celebrate Waitangi Day. May God bring us peace. This year marks the 20th anniversary of the New Zealand Catholic Bishops' statement for the 150th commemoration of the Treaty of Waitangi. This is the covenant, the sacred taonga, on which the bicultural partnership of our country is founded. In New Zealand we are blessed with peoples from many races and nations. The Treaty of Waitangi provides the moral basis for the presence of all other peoples in Aotearoa-New Zealand: not only from Europe, but also later waves of immigrants from the Pacific, Asia, Africa and Latin America. Of special concern are those who have come as refugees from war-torn countries or where they have experienced persecution for their religious beliefs or political convictions. In the future we may also need to welcome and accept environmental refugees, especially our nearest neighbours in the Pacific. The Treaty and, more importantly, the gospel call us to see that all people are treated with respect and given the dignity they deserve as daughters and sons of God. '...your Father in heaven causes his sun to rise on bad as well as good, and his rain to fall on honest and dishonest alike. For if you love those who love you, what right have you to claim any credit? Even the tax collectors do as much, do they not? If you save your greetings for your brothers and sisters, are you doing anything exceptional? Even the pagans do as much, do they not?' In 1990 the New Zealand bishops called on all the people of this land to celebrate the 150th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi in the spirit of the biblical jubilee. In particular, we were asked to undertake the twin tasks of renewal and reconciliation. We affirmed, in line with the tradition and teaching of the church, the right of tangata whenua to land, and a social and political organisation which would allow them to preserve their cultural identity. Looking back on these 20 years, we can see great strides that have been taken: the identi-

fication and resolution of many claims to the Waitangi Tribunal a deeper knowledge and appreciation of te reo and tikanga Maori in the life of the church, as in wider society greater access for Maori to higher education and leadership roles. Today, on the 170th anniversary of the signing of the Treaty of Waitangi, we cannot turn our backs on the continuing glaring poverty gap between Maori and non-Maori populations, and their access to basic social services – residual racism that reveals itself in words and actions. Just three weeks ago I was in Waitangi for a few days. This time incorporated the anniversary of the first Mass Bishop Pompallier celebrated on January 13. Because we were right beside the Treaty Grounds we obviously reflected on his presence at the signing – we know that his concern was for people to live with dignity, the dignity that freedom of religion brings, and that living the gospel brings to human life. That is gospel wisdom; it is what St James says about the wisdom that will guide us through the issues surrounding the Treaty. He speaks of 'The gentleness of wisdom' ... 'that comes from above ... that is peaceable, kindly and considerate, full of mercy and shows itself by doing good ... nor is there any trace of partiality or hypocrisy' (Jas 3:17). St James reminds us: 'The peace sown by peacemakers brings a harvest of justice'. Are we magnanimous enough – generous enough – to be willing to sow the seeds of peace ... even in the face of great injustice ... in the hope – the conviction – that this peace will bring a harvest of justice? This is the perfection of life Jesus is speaking about in the gospel: 'Be perfect, just as your heavenly father is perfect'. It is God's love, God's compassion, God's peace, God's justice that we are called to mirror as we enter 2010 with this celebration of Waitangi Day. 'God has let his face shine on us and has been gracious to us ... God has shown us his face and brought us peace' ... in turn will we do this for others? www.wn.catholic.org.nz

An Invitation to Pray for our Parish

On the first Friday of each month, there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in St Joseph's Church from 10am to 3pm. The intentions are for all the needs of our Holy Trinity Parish family. You are invited to come along during this time and to pray for one hour before the most Blessed Sacrament. This will be starting on the 4th February.

This Sunday night (6th February), John

Cowan's guest will be anthropologist Dame Anne Salmond. Dame Anne Salmond is a Professor at the University of Auckland and one of New Zealand's most prominent anthropologists and historians. She is the author of Hui: A Study of Māori Ceremonial Gatherings, Amiria: The Life Story of a Māori Woman, and Eruera: The Teachings of a Māori Elder (winner of a Wattie Book Award in 1981). Anne received the CBE for services to literature and the Māori people in 1988 and was made Dame Commander of the British Empire for services to New Zealand history in 1995. In 2009, she was elected as a foreign associate of the National Academy of Sciences (USA) for her excellence in scientific research. In the 2021 New Year's Honours she was awarded an Order of New Zealand. She lives in Devonport, Auckland with husband conservation architect Jeremy Salmond and has three children.

We live in a culture concerned with

things such as outer appearance, the size and décor of one's home, the number of friends one has, and the colleges a parent's children are accepted into. The comparison game is played out on social media on a daily basis. It is a secular look at life when these areas are glorified and given praise; when categories such as looks, popularity, and wealth are patted on the back and given airtime. We know as Catholics this is the wrong way to view success, as the Lord's outlook of achievement is much different. The Gospel of Christ presents the way of the Cross: sacrifice, love, and care for the marginalized. Mothers have the temptation of comparing in the same ways we see on social media at times. Namely, areas such as looks, outward success, popularity, and



having money to pay for a lifestyle in "keeping up with the Joneses." As people of faith, we know these aspects are not principle or key to thriving in life. Jesus calls us to be humble, caring, charitable, and giving. He does not summon us as moms to be self-absorbed, looks-focused, comparing ourselves with others, and competitive. As Catholic moms, we can be tempted to vice when even within ministry we contrast our lives with others, display our holiness to gain acceptance, exclude other moms who do not fit our expectations, or have an air of superiority about our faith-walk if it is better than others'. It is a good reminder to us to remember to model Christ, His Mother, and the saints as opposed to having to prove ourselves to other like-minded families or those we go to church with or participate with in ministry. The next time you are tempted to compare yourself with other moms, remember that the worldly aspects of life are not foremost to God. He does not care about things such as a perfect hair day, the nail salon you go to, how many friends show up to your party, or any worldly acceptance. What He does care about is how you love others, the way you demonstrate it, and your attitude about embracing the unloved, uncared for, and marginalized of our world. The marginalized are much closer to us than we realize. Pray to God for humility and remember to be open to becoming friends with those from all levels of society in imitation of Christ. cathmom.com