

Anniversaries March

Christine Wypych (Chrissy), Sybil McCloskey, Doreen de Stackpoole
Kathleen Kilkolly, Margaret Hallagan
Thomas Lyons, Thomas Joel Bird (Noel), Rosalie Beachen
Joseph Carpenter, Peter Barrett

Notices from *Titipounamu Study & Joy*—

Online Sessions:

Ignatian Imaginative Contemplation – Prayer Hour with Laetitia Puthenpadath.
Friday, 25 March, 3-4pm. ZOOM. Koha/Donation.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/ignatian-imaginative-contemplation/>

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/>

Pro-Life Facts—There were 5,349 early medical abortions in New Zealand in 2020. Although it is not widely known, there is treatment protocol available (using progesterone) that makes it possible to reverse the EMA process and in the majority of cases, prevent an abortion. For more pro-life information, visit voiceforlife.org.nz.

“Pope Francis wants to hear from you!” The bishops are using this direct papal message to invite people – Catholic or not – to take part in a survey for the ongoing international synod on the future direction of the Church. The survey is being advertised on Stuff and in social media such as Facebook, so you might see it pop up. Please share it with friends who may not be reached by your parish/diocesan Synod consultation. Details including a link to the survey: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/synod-feedback/>

Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand has agreed to send \$10,000 to support Caritas work in Ukraine as we stand in solidarity with our sister organisations and with the people of Ukraine. "We pray for all the people in Ukraine, especially the vulnerable and marginalised communities who will be most severely impacted by the recent invasion of the country. Eastern Ukraine has already suffered more than seven years of conflict which has dramatically impacted the lives of families, with more than 850,000 people forced to flee their homes and nearly 3 million people relying on humanitarian assistance. The invasion will only increase the number of people displaced and put those already driven from their homes in an even more vulnerable position" said Roger Ellis, Engagement Manager for Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand. Caritas Ukraine will continue to assist the most vulnerable through providing essential emergency response, including emergency shelters, food relief packages and cash distributions. In addition, Caritas Ukraine continues to support impacted communities with the long-term impacts of conflict, including emergency supplies, education and healthcare. Donations to the work of Caritas in Ukraine can be made through the Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand website at <https://caritas.org.nz/donate-online> click on "Emergency Fund" and reference "Ukraine".



Mass Times

Tuesday St Joseph's @ 9am
Thursday St Patricks @ 9am
Saturday St Joseph's @ 9am
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

Fr Paul Kerridge (Parish Priest)

20th March, 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

E-mail - cat.chb@xtra.co.nz

www.holytrinitychb.com

Rātini Kupu

20th Poutu-te-rangi , 2022 3rd Sunday of Lent

Learn from the gardener

Death stares out at us from our newspapers and TV screens. Apart from natural deaths, somewhere in the world there's always some natural calamity, a terrorist attack, ethnic brutalities, murder for gain, epidemics, tsunamis, earthquake or famine. Death does not predict its calendar, but is a certain fate for us all. People who were expected to live to old age die suddenly while others whose childhood was marked by illness often survive to a remarkable age. Our reactions to other people's death can be either a philosophical acceptance like, "Maybe it was his/her time to go" or a more shocked sense of loss: "It should not have happened so soon!" When people told Jesus how some Galileans died, victims of Pilate's anger, they wondered how God could have let this happen; but instead of explaining it, Jesus asks "do you think they were more guilty than all the others living in Jerusalem?" He goes on to warn about the need of repentance.. "unless you repent, you will all perish as they did!" and illustrates this with the parable of the fruitless tree. Real repentance is a reflection about whatever is unfruitful in our lifestyle. Jesus' words "Repent or you will perish" remind us of what Socrates said at his trial, after he had opted for death rather than exile: "The un-examined life is not worth living." The parable of the fruitless fig tree is thought-provoking. It is not about doing wrong but about failure to do what is positively right. The fig tree that bore no fruit is like a Christian who attempts no good work and lives a purely selfish life. Francis of Assisi once invited a young friar to go with him into town to preach. Francis and the young friar spent all day walking through the streets and then came home. When the day's journey was done, the young friar was disappointed and asked "Weren't we supposed to preach today?" Francis replied, "Son, we have preached. We were preaching while we were walking. We were seen by many and our behaviour was noted. It is of no use walking anywhere to preach unless we preach wherever as we walk!" He summed up his idea in these words "Preach the Gospel everywhere, and if necessary, use words." To him witnessing to Jesus wasn't merely quoting some words out of the Bible from time to time but one who lives by the word of God each day. The gardener in the Gospel asked the owner of the vineyard to give the barren fig tree another chance to produce fruit. He promised to dig around it and manure it, to give it one last chance to prove itself. It suggests that we too need to nurture our faith and commit ourselves to being helpful to the lives of others. Are we nurturing our faith and trying to love, so as to bear the kind of fruit God wants from us? associationofcatholicpriests.ie



St John's College

Last week we had the opportunity to host Charles Ropitini and Koti Wilson as they journeyed with the icon Ko Hāta Maria, te Matua Wahine o te Atua (Holy Mary, Mother of God). Sadly our students were off-site because of Covid, but our staff enjoyed the time they were able to spend with the painting, and the explanation of its creation and its symbolism which was so well conveyed to us by Koti Wilson. This week our students have been learning off-site so there is not much to report. The school re-opened to students on Friday. Please keep out students, their families and our teachers in your prayers as we navigate through these challenging times.

STEAM – We have changed the start date for our STEAM programme to start Friday 10th June This programme is for Year 8 students. St Patrick's School, St Joseph's School and St Mary's School will be contacted directly by St. John's. Parents of Catholic boys attending other intermediates in Year 8 are welcome to contact us about their son attending this programme. For more information please contact us. **ENROLMENTS FOR 2023** – We have started enrolment interviews for 2023. If you would like to make an enrolment appointment please phone the office – 878 6853. Our first promotional evening will be our **PROSPECTUS EVENING** on Thursday 12th May at 7pm

"FREE Fitness Saturday 7am – 8.30am St Johns College school grounds, like and follow <https://www.facebook.com/SJCPasifika> for updates

As part of the Catholic Theological College online event series, we wish to invite you to "But who do you say I am? -- Images of God, mental well-being and Pacific young women," on Thursday 31 March 6:30-8:00pm via Zoom. This might interest young people, especially Pacifica. The speaker is Dr Therese Lautua, a graduate in PhD Theology at the University of Auckland. She will talk about the significance of Christianity for the spiritual and mental wellbeing of young Christian, multi-ethnic Pacifica women. She will take us through the different images of God and how these impact mental

wellbeing. Details and registration here: <https://www.tekupenga.ac.nz/uncategorized/upcoming-online-event-who-do-you-say-i-am-images-of-god-mental-well-being-and-pacific-young-women/>

CARITAS CASE STUDY The Holy Land has experienced consistent physical, social and psychological violence in various forms throughout its history. This gospel calls us not to focus on who has done wrong or who has done worse wrongs. Rather, it asks us to focus on how we personally can repent and follow God. Caritas Jerusalem's focus is on providing quality and accessible health and social services to the poor and marginalised. The most recent conflict in the Holy Land has forced 72 000 people to flee their homes. 80% of the population in the Gaza Strip is dependent on international aid, 70% are food insecure and 50% are below the poverty line. Caritas Jerusalem has established two healthcare centres in the West Bank providing primary healthcare, paediatrics, gynaecology, health education and psychosocial care for children. Caritas Jerusalem has set up mobile medical units in order to bring critical health services to people where they live, especially in deprived areas. In total, Caritas Jerusalem was able to help 68,000 people. They have also set up programmes to support the engagement of innovative youth groups, female farmers, and producers in sustainable agricultural and rural activities to help alleviate poverty. It is important for us to take this time to reflect. This will give us more time to discern through prayer and see if we are taking the right path. Caritas Jerusalem has adaptively responded over the past 20 years to changing circumstances. Lord on-ly with your presence beside us can we grow and bear fruit.

FAITH IN ACTION • What are some unfruitful areas in our lives? Do we need to prune some areas of our life? Do we need to carefully nurture or seek support for other areas of our life? • How can we reflect on areas in our lives that require repentance? Is there someone we need to seek forgiveness from? What will we do about that?

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.

Almost 1,000 Polish Catholic convents have opened their doors to Ukraine's refugees. The UN refugee agency says by March 14, almost 1.8 million people had entered Poland from Ukraine since the full-scale Russian invasion on February 24. The Council of Major Superiors of Congregations of Women Religious (the Major Superiors) in Poland says as at March 14, sisters in 924 Polish Catholic convents and 98 in Ukraine were offering "spiritual, psychological, medical, and material help." All of the nearly 150 religious congregations operating in Poland and Ukraine have responded. Some are helping a few people, while others have offered assistance to as many as 18,000. The sisters' work includes almost everything – from transporting people from areas affected by war to providing mother and baby classes. One of their bigger tasks involves organising housing for the refugees. To date, the Major Superiors say 498 convents in Poland and 76 in Ukraine have organised housing. About 3,060 children, 2,420 families and 2,950 adults have received shelter so far. In addition, 64 Catholic institutions offer 600 places for orphans. Besides these, there are 420 institutions with places for around 3,000 mothers with children. Elderly and disabled people are also among those who have found shelter in institutions run by sisters. The Major Superiors say the religious sisters have also been helping prepare and distribute hot meals, food, sanitary products, clothing and blankets. They have also been helping the newcomers find work in Poland, creating additional jobs in their centres, coordinating assistance to refugees at aid headquarters, helping Ukrainian children enrol in Polish schools and serving as Ukrainian language translators. Other assis-

tance religious communities are providing includes constantly collecting food and hygiene products to be sent to Ukraine, given directly to refugees in Poland or to houses run by congregations. The congregations also make financial donations and transmit funds through their foundations. Poland, a country of 38 million people that borders both Russia and Ukraine, was already home to an estimated two million Ukrainian workers before the war began. *cathnews.co.nz*

The inaugural Metropolitan Cathedral

of the Sacred Heart Charity Art Auction to raise funds for the restoration and seismic strengthening of the cathedral is coming together well as we gear up for the launch on Saturday 19 March 2022. The uncertainty around Covid-19 has created the opportunity to move our charity art auction online, so we can reach more people than the original event we had planned. We are new to this but so excited to bring this to you and look forward to your support. Among the artists exhibiting their wonderful works are Del Te Rito, Charlotte Hird, Jim Gorman, Olympia Osborne, Sonia Treacy, Ellen Donnelly and many more. We are so blessed to have them come on board. Registering for the auction is easy. All you need is your mobile phone or access to internet on your computer. The auction will run 24 x 7 from 19 March to 27 March 2022.

If you have any questions, feel free to email mcsch.march22art@gmail.com

The website for the auction can be found:

www.galabid.com/art4icon

Vacancies for Prison Chaplains

Applications are sought from suitably qualified people for a number of Catholic chaplaincy positions in prisons in Hamilton and Dunedin dioceses of New Zealand. The successful applicants will become a member of a chaplaincy team providing spiritual and religious support to all prisoners. Chaplains work with prisoners as they encounter the challenges of incarceration and separation from loved ones and whānau.

Go here for details: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/>