

## Anniversary's in January/February

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

**This Sunday night** (12th February), John Cowan's guest will be adventure racing world champion Nathan Fa'avae. Nathan started running marathons at 16 years old and competed in his first endurance triathlon when he was 17. He was a competitive mountain biker from 1990-1996 before switching to Multi-sport and getting two podium placings in the Speights Coast to Coast. In 1999 he won the Southern Traverse Adventure Race and that launched him into a career in the sport. Nathan received an Officer of the New Zealand Order of Merit in the recent New Year Honours for his career in adventure racing. He is the creator of Team Avaya, NZ's most successful Adventure Racing Team, winning the World Championships in 2005 and 2012. Nathan will compete in the prestigious GODZone adventure racing competition in Fiordland from February 23 to March 4 this year. The field will host team Avaya, returning to defend their title. Nathan lives in Tasman Bay with his wife Jodie and their 3 children and enjoys playing golf in his spare time. He is a qualified instructor in white-water kayaking, sea kayaking, canoeing, rock climbing, snowboarding, mountain safety, and navigation. He has battled atrial fibrillation throughout his adult life, a heart condition that has required three corrective surgeries.

## Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy

Online Sessions (Evening):  
Genesis – In the Beginning...  
Part 1: The Creation Story (incl. study material) with Kieran Fenn fms.  
Monday, 27 February, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM.  
<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/01/16/genesis->



### [in-the-beginning/](#)

Part 2: Creation of Adam from Whēnua... (Michelangelo) with Dr Christopher Longhurst.  
Monday, 06 March, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM.  
Fee: \$25 (NZD)/session or \$40 (NZD)/2 sessions  
<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/01/22/the-creation-of-adam/>  
Focus on Target – Draw Fresh Momentum with Laetitia Puthenpadath.  
Wednesdays, 15/22 February and 01/08 March, 12.30-1.30pm.  
Fee: \$20/session or \$70/4 sessions. ZOOM.  
<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/01/11/focus-on-target-draw-fresh-momentum/>

## Mass Times

### Week Day Masses

Saturday—9am @ St Joseph's  
Tuesday—9am @ St Joseph's  
Thursday—9am @ St Patrick's

### Sunday Masses

Vigil Mass—5.30 @ St Patrick's  
Sunday Mass—9.30am @ St Joseph's



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## Rātini Kupu

12th Hui-tanguru, 2023  
6th Sunday of Ordinary Time  
12th February

### Seeking what unites

The Jews were proud of the Law of Moses. According to tradition, God had given it to their ancestors, as something precious and unique. In that Law was contained the will of the one true God. There they could find all that they needed to be faithful. For Jesus too the Law is important, but now it's not in the centre. He communicates another priority: God's Reign is coming, the Father is looking for a path to open among us for the building of a more human world. It's not enough for us to just keep Moses' Law. It's necessary to open ourselves to the Father and to collaborate with God in building a more just and fraternal life. That's why it's not enough to fulfil the law that orders: "Don't kill". It's also necessary to root out of our lives aggression, looking down on others, insults or revenge. Whoever doesn't kill fulfils the law, but if we don't free ourselves from violence, then that God who seeks to build a more human world with us still doesn't reign in our hearts. There's a growing tendency in our society to speak in ways that express aggression. More and more we see offensive insults cast about just to humiliate, look down on others, wounding their dignity; words born of rejection, resentment, hate or revenge. How often are our own conversations woven from unjust words that spread criticism and suspicion? Words spoken without love or respect, that poison our living together and cause damage – words born of irritation, meanness or baseness. This malice isn't just found in our day-to-day living together. It can also be a serious problem among church leaders. Pope Francis warned against conflicts and confrontations between different groups. He shared this sobering thought: "It pains me greatly when some Christians can foster enmity, division, calumny, defamation, vendetta, jealousy, and the desire to impose certain ideas at all costs. Whom are we going to evangelize if this is how we act?" Ideally outsiders should be able to admire in our church how we care for one another, encourage and support each other.  
[José Antonio Pagola]



## Valentines Day Mass—14th February

at 5.30pm at St Joseph's. We are planning to have a meal afterwards—please let the office know if you intend to come for catering purposes. All welcome.

## There's a long recovery

ahead for Auckland, says [Catholic Caring Foundation](#) manager, Ann-Marie Parker. "Homes have been totally destroyed, leaving many families literally with just the clothes on their backs. They will have to begin to rebuild their lives from zero," she says. But, besides being left with nothing, Parker is concerned that many will miss out on getting the help they need. "The information we've been getting from our partner agencies on the ground is that there are still many families who are too ashamed and embarrassed to come forward for help. "They have no cooking facilities, no food and pantry items, and no kitchen utensils. Furniture, clothes, bedding, precious family memories have all been thrown out after being contaminated by flood water," she says. Help is available. Loraine Elliott, Vicar for the Catholic Caring Foundation's Social Impact and Communications, is also concerned. "Families are still struggling with the flood waters that rose so quickly. "They are suffering from trauma and the shock of losing their homes and belongings. "Some of them are now faced with trying to get their children to school with no uniforms or stationery. It will be a long road to recovery." She is urging people to turn to the Foundation if they need help. "The Caring Foundation is able to move quickly and with impact so that funds can get to the front-line where they are desperately needed," she stresses. Bishop's emergency flood appeal for help. Catholic Bishop of Auckland Steve Lowe has launched an emergency flood appeal to help families in the Auckland diocese who have been devastated by the recent floods. The [Catholic Caring Foundation](#) is accepting donations on Bishop Steve's behalf to help agencies in the Auckland Diocese de-



liver vital help to the many families severely impacted by the floods. "Like you, I was shocked to see the destruction the floods brought in such a short time. Like you, I want to help those whose lives have been thrown into disarray," he says. "Donations from the emergency appeal will be used for food, shelter, clothes and other essential supplies and support services. "Many of the Foundation's partner agencies have been working around the clock to ensure that people are safe, and able to get the help that they need quickly." With more bad weather on the way, the Foundation is still looking forward to receiving much-needed donations, he adds. *Catholic News.co.nz*

## Caritas accepting donations for Turkey and Syria earthquake victims

Caritas Aotearoa NZ is accepting donations to help the people of south-eastern Turkey and northern Syria, seriously affected by the 7.8 magnitude earthquake and aftershocks of Monday 6 February which toppled hundreds of buildings and killed many thousands of people. Keep the people of Turkey and Syria in your prayers as they face widespread devastation and loss of life. We're in contact with our partners on the ground as they assess the scale of the damage and critical needs at this time. If you would like to donate, you can do so online through the Caritas Emergency Donation tab at this link: [www.caritas.org.nz/donate-online](http://www.caritas.org.nz/donate-online) (Please specify that your donation is for Turkey Earthquake) Or donate via the Caritas bank account: 03-0518-0211216-00 (please include your first & last name and put Turkey as the code.)

Prayer: Dear God, Through dark and difficult moments, we know that You are always with us. Today we come to You in prayer to ask You to bring comfort, healing and hope to the communities that have been devastated by this disaster. Let the people of these nations rest in the comfort of knowing that You are with them and that you will provide for their needs as You always have. In Jesus' Name, Amen.



## WelCom February edition

is out this week to parishes and schools for Sunday, 5 February. Contents include:  
• Pope Benedict XVI, 1927–2022.  
• Cardinal John Dew message:  
• 'Each of us is made in God's image.  
• 'Is there a way out? – Taking responsibility for Climate Change.  
• Br Peter Bray's tour in New Zealand on Bethlehem University.  
• Remembering Richard Tiki Te Aroha Puanaki.  
• Caritas Aotearoa Lent Appeal 2023.  
• Synod's Continental Stage – New Zealand Catholic response document published.  
• Plus, more features, local and international news and views, Young Church.  
• **The crying, the grieving**, the agony of the people of Turkey and Syria are very raw within my spirit this week. The magnitude of the destruction, coupled with the helplessness of a people who are already suffering so much, cannot not move us. It is in the almost primal wails of the mothers, wives, brothers, and fathers that we come face to face with the fragility of being human. There are no 'sides' in suffering. The tears of my enemies are no different to the tears of my friends. Pain, suffering, loss, grief, death, levels and unites us. What a terrible pity we cannot see this while we live and share our beautiful planet. We pray for all who have died and for all who mourn. We also thank God for the incredible courage and resilience of the men and women who scrape with their bare hands through the concrete and steel in the hope of finding just one more person alive. It is in them, and in the generosity of the millions of people around the world who want only to help and support and donate what they can, that we see the beauty of what unites us as humans. Not Christian or Muslim, not friend or enemy, just human and in pain. Our common humanity lives deep within us and at times like this, faced with the raw power of nature, our common humanity rises in a generosity of spirit which



I find both humbling and awesome. In the Eucharist we pray that the 'Holy Spirit, like the dewfall, will come upon the bread and wine we offer'. I truly believe that it is in the doctors and nurses and paramedics and engineers and drivers and searchers and every man and woman who gives a penny or lifts a rock from a destroyed building that we can see and experience the Holy Spirit, like the dewfall which is so gentle we don't notice it until we look, present and active, even in the awfulness we are seeing at the moment. Today's Gospel is challenging and almost frightening in its implications for everyone who calls themselves Christian. That is one way of reading it, but we can also read it as an exciting invitation to begin a journey to "come, follow me", coming to know and trust the living person we follow – Jesus Christ. Many thanks, Brian - [b.maher@oblates.ie](mailto:b.maher@oblates.ie)

**Oceania Bishops** in Fiji for FCBCO Meetings - The bishops from across Oceania are gathering in Fiji for the quadrennial gathering of the Federation of Catholic Bishops Conferences of Oceania to reflect on and pray about their shared mission in the region. The assembly will bring together members of the bishops conferences of Australia, New Zealand, Papua New Guinea/Solomon Islands and the Pacific Islands. Find out more: <https://fcbco.org/the-general-assembly2023/>