

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,

Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy

—Online Sessions (Evening):

Genesis – In the Beginning...

Part 1: The Creation Story (incl. study material) with Kieran Fenn films.

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/>

For more information: www.studyjoy.nz

If you're stuck, I'd like to offer a few things you can do for Lent:

Add one new prayer tradition to your routine: the Rosary, Divine Mercy Chaplet, Morning and/or Evening Prayer (from Liturgy of the Hours), or even just adding a simple Memorare to your day. You could even do something like make the Sign of the Cross whenever you hear sirens as a way to pray for the first responders and those they're helping.

Read a book or use a journal to deepen your faith life. I've prayed my way through the Memento Mori book during more than one Lent. I'm considering picking up Introduction to the Devout Life by St. Francis de Sales. You could read 33 Days to Morning Glory and make a Marian Consecration. Pick up a biography of a saint whose life interests you. (I happen to really like reading the YA biographies.) Read the daily Mass readings, even if you don't go to Mass that

day. Maybe keep a journal of your thoughts on the Scripture readings. The Church put so much thought into arranging our readings for Mass, and when you look through them each day, you can see how our salvation story plays out. (Plus, you really get some great stories in daily Mass that you miss on Sundays.)

Abstain from something. Maybe you really, really love making salted caramel mochas at home, and you decide to be less extravagant during Lent. Maybe you pick a second day each week to abstain from meat. (I had a friend who would abstain from meat all the way through Lent. The year I did that was not the best of Lenten sacrifices because I could NOT stop moaning about how much I missed meat.) When you feel the ache of really wanting to have it, offer up that tiny suffering.

Remember, pick one or two things, tops! You can't do it all, and doing one small thing with the right intentions will be far more spiritually beneficial than trying to give your spiritual life a complete overhaul! catholicmom.com

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

19th Hui-tanguru, 2023
7th Sunday of Ordinary Time

19th February

PRAYER for those affected by Cyclone Gabrielle

God our refuge and hope. We pray for all who are suffering because of recent flooding in our Diocese and in other parts of our country. Give them strength when they're weak, reason for hope in times of despair and the grace to know you are with them. Bless the work of emergency and aid workers and keep them safe as they risk their lives for others. Bless too the work of local government and our nation's leaders. Grant them wisdom in their decision making, and special concern for the poor and vulnerable. Fill our hearts with compassion for those who are in great need. Open our hearts to see them as brothers and sisters and make us generous in our response. We ask this through Christ our Lord. Amen

We know from media reports and the stark images on TV, that Cyclone Gabrielle has caused widespread damage and suffering for many people, including our own people in Wairoa and Hawkes Bay. People are still missing, many people's homes have been damaged or destroyed, livelihoods are at risk and sadly, others still have lost loved ones. Their suffering is very real, they need our help, and we need to show them we care.

The first thing we can do is pray for them and for all who are risking their own lives to help them. The government, local government, the military and good people on the ground are working hard, providing immediate relief to those most in need. Disruption to ordinary communication has seriously impeded people's efforts to contact loved ones in the affected areas and all those working hard to bring relief. This has brought a great deal of stress to an already very difficult situation. Across the diocese we are aware of isolated incidents including flooding and fallen trees which have caused property damage. Earlier today, I heard from the Marist Fathers and the Mission sisters in Napier that they are safe and sound. We still have no contact with Fr Rob Devlin and the parish and school in Wairoa which, according to the media, seems hardest hit. Speaking to congregational leaders, Fr Tim Duckworth SM and Sr Margaret Monaghan RNDM two things are clear. Our sisters and priests in Hawkes Bay and Wairoa are resourceful and they're part of communities. Both these things are in their favour. As a diocese we have a responsibility to show we care and right now a small team are working on our practical response.. May our good God continue to bless you and keep all our loved ones safe.

Fr Craig, Local Administrator, Diocese of Palmerston North

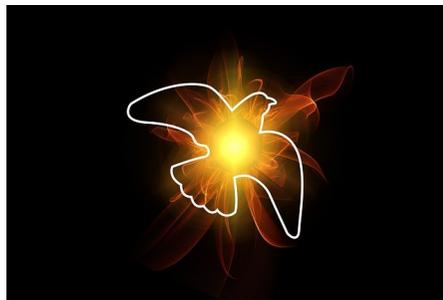


Compassion

Other thinkers had said: "do not do to others what you would not have them do to you." That is perhaps the basic law of manners and politeness. Jesus, characteristically, goes beyond this: Do to others.. The Christian ethic is positive. It goes beyond "Thou shalt not.." to "Do..." It is activist. There is the story of the man who appeared at the gate of heaven asking to be let in. St Peter asked him why he thought he should be let in. The man answered: "my hands are clean." "Yes," answered Peter, "but they are empty!" The Christian ethic always asks us to grow. Many people are puzzled and confused because Christian moral guides are sometimes slow to lay down a clear minimum which people must achieve to be justified. But Jesus asks for more. "If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you?" What is so special about that? Jesus asks for extra. We told his disciples: "unless your righteousness exceeds that of the scribes and Pharisees, you will never enter the kingdom of heaven." Yet with those who tried and failed he was full of sympathy and compassion. He will never say "enough," but he will not reject anyone who has failed and comes back to him. Some people see life in terms of survival of the fittest, or 'dog-eat-dog'. David had his chance to kill his enemy before his enemy killed him, as Saul fully intended to do. But he held back and he would not take Saul's life. The temptation to violence is an easy one. The world is full of wars and violent confrontations. We yield too readily to our instincts of aggression, whether it is the great aggression where nation confronts nation in a balance of terror, or violent confrontations between groups of citizens, or violence in the home. Education in peaceful means of solving interpersonal and intercommunal difficulties is one of the greatest needs of our age. The way is open to Christians to start to learn more about non-violent means of solving conflicts and become peacemakers. Mercy is God's primary characteristic – even of the "Old Testament

God" whom many commentators, following some Christian heretics, prefer to portray as harsh and cruel. Our psalm, which comes from the Old Testament emphasises that God is not the seeker of vengeance that many people imagine him to be. He is not waiting and anxious to punish each and every fault, but he is concerned only to remove our sins and to make us one with him. God's merciful goodness appears most clearly in the life and death of Jesus Christ. God's compassion for sinful and unhappy humanity is the model of our compassion. We are urged to "Be perfect as your heavenly Father is perfect" (Mt 5:48.) Luke's version of that ideal is: "Be compassionate as your Father is compassionate." And William Shakespeare summed up that teaching in the courtroom scene, where the young lawyer (Portia) urges the plaintiff (Shylock) to imitate the divine mercy. "The quality of mercy is not strained; It droppeth as the gentle rain from heaven, Upon the place beneath. It is twice blest; It blesseth him that gives and him that takes..." *associationofcatholicpriests.ie*

"Receive Holy Spirit Power" Current of Grace 2023 Conference by Charis NZ - @El Rancho Waikanae 24th to 26th March.
Register now - www.currentofgraceconference.info
Speakers: Cardinal John Dew, Fr John Rae SM, Dr Mary Healy, Robert Falzon, with Archbishop Paul Martin SM celebrating final Mass.



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 Pu-anaki.
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.

Lenten Giving Envelope Packs have been distributed today at Mass for the Bishops' 2023 Lenten appeal. You can either use the weekly donation envelopes or use a single donation envelope. You may either return your donation envelopes during the parish offertory collection or send them to Caritas directly. A freepost envelope is available for this option. NZ Post specifies that cash must not be sent through the post. Donations received by Caritas in these envelopes by 31 March 2023 will be sent receipts for the 2022/2023 tax year. Donations received by Caritas after April 1st will be sent receipts for the 2023/2024 tax year. Thank you for your generous support.

the
Lent
appeal
2023

Caritas
AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

**"I am the Light
of the World"**

- John 8:12

Ash Wednesday 22 February
Mass Times
9.15am @ St Joseph's
5.30pm @ St Patrick's

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of the season of Lent and is the first of the forty days of Lent leading up to Easter. In the first centuries of the Christian Church, Lent began on Quadragesima Sunday (the first Sunday of Lent) but the celebration of Ash Wednesday was introduced in the seventh century to ensure Lent consisted of 40 days exactly. The forty days refer to the time Jesus spent in the desert after being baptised in the Jordan by John and before beginning his public ministry (cf. Matthew 4:1-11, Mark 1:12-13, Luke 4:1-13). The ashes used in the liturgy on Ash Wednesday are traditionally made from the palms used on Palm Sunday the previous year. Ash Wednesday is a day of fasting and abstinence. Abstinence from eating meat applies to everyone age 14 and above. Fasting applies to everyone age 18-59. During the season of Lent, Christians traditionally engage in praying, fasting and alms-giving.