

Anniversary's in March

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

Pro-Life Facts Concert at St Mary's Church, Waipukurau. 2.30pm, Sunday 12 March \$20.00 per person FUND RAISER for CHB.

Chris Hainsworth grew up in Wellington, learning the organ from Ernest Jamieson and Maxwell Fernie and studying languages and music at Victoria University before heading for Toulouse to complete his Doctorate. He also studied organ with Jean Ferrard in Brussels. He taught for 15 years at Waikato University and another 15 at the Béziers Conservatoire in the South of France before devoting himself entirely to performance (solo, chamber orchestral) on organ, fortepiano and harpsichord, mainly around Europe, USA and Australasia. Formerly Director of Music at Hamilton Cathedral, Director of the Béziers Conservatoire and Associate Professor of Music at Waikato University, he is currently organist "titulaire" of the Cathedral of Béziers. Tickets available from Angela Annear 8589082 / 0272811306 angela@searltravel.co.nz or Kath Fletcher 8589802 / 0272066590 dkfletch@xtra.co.nz



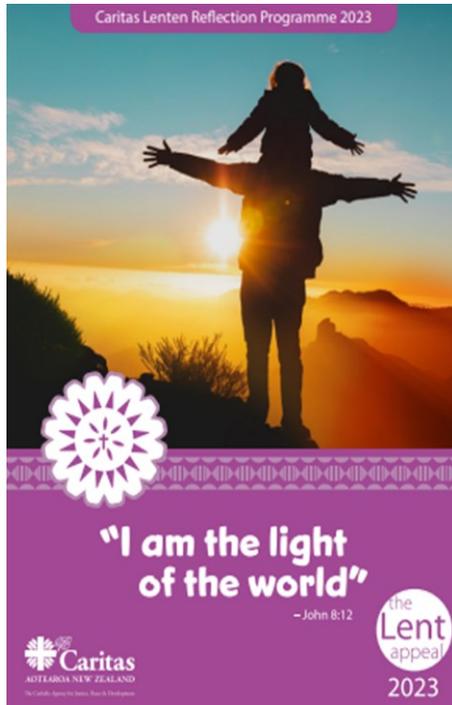
Direct credit payment can be made to ANZ PROBUS TRIPS ACCOUNT 010777 0048855 02

Put your name as reference

Australian Catholic University

awards Br Peter Bray FSC honorary doctorate for his work at Bethlehem University - Br Peter Bray, a De La Salle Brother originally from Taranaki, New Zealand, has received the Doctor of the University (Honouris Causa) on February 17, 2023 for embracing the values and principals of education in the

Catholic tradition and for significant contributions to education and educational administration in Australia and overseas. Br Peter recently undertook a well-attended national tour of NZ on behalf of the bishops, Caritas and the Catholic Enquiry Centre, speaking about issues in Palestine today.



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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Website • www.holytrinitychb.com
Facebook • The Holy Trinity Parish CHB

Rātini Kupu

5th Poutū –te-rangi, 2023
1st Sunday of Lent

5th March

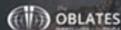
Pilgrim's Progress: Life as Journey

The years of our life pass smoothly by, each one seeming shorter than the last. We are on a journey from youth to age, from the cradle to the grave. In his dream-like poem, The Lotus Eaters, Alfred Tennyson describes a sense of weary resignation, one option we might take, in face of the passing years:

"Let us alone. Time driveth onward fast, And in a little while our lips are dumb. Let us alone. What is it that will last? All things are taken from us, and become Portions and parcels of the dreadful past."

Through eyes of faith, the passing of the years looks somewhat different. We believe our journey is going somewhere: instead of simply terminating with death (full stop, finis), we will emerge into the life of heaven (welcome, transition into God's presence.) We are pilgrims, like Abraham, moving toward the land of promise. Like St Paul, we try to deal with the problems and setbacks along the way, with the help of the Lord. And in the end, if we are faithful, we will share the total joy of joining Christ in glory, as the reward of life's pilgrimage. Pilgrim's Progress: In our many journeys today (the age of mobility) we tend to move around a lot, without showing much signs of spiritual progress; indeed, in that respect we often appear to be going backwards. Our goals and desires are short-term, narrow, superficial. Moved by a restless urge for money, for celebrity, novelty, success and pleasure, we go round in rapid circles. But the pilgrims' sights are set on a higher destination, and like Martin Luther King they can say: "I have a dream!" However far-off and hard to reach this dream may be, it is worth more than all the short-term desires we follow. Each step on the journey takes on meaning in light of the goal God sets before us. A personal, inward journey: Our whole life can be made a pilgrimage towards God. Just as he called Abraham, so he calls each of us to be his own. His call to us is quiet but insistent. Not exactly in the form of: "leave your country and your father's house," but "leave your old ways, the pride and selfishness, the hardness of heart, the angry temper, the envy and the falsehood. And go to the land I shall show." The direction of our pilgrimage is not geographical but moral: "Go towards charity, purity, sharing in truth and prayer and good-will. Go in the way of the gospel. Go to heaven.' Meaningful Living: Having God's command, and submitting entirely to it, made Abraham the first great pilgrim. Henceforth all his activity took on the value of obedience to God; he was on the high road towards Yahweh, the living God. The same spirit would give the deepest meaning to our lives too. Far from being absurd or useless, the pilgrim's efforts to follow the gospel of his Master are full of meaning. Progress along this way is the real formula for peace of mind. Augustine said it profoundly: You have made us for Yourself, o Lord; and our hearts can never be at rest, until they rest in You. *associationofcatholicpriests.ie*

What a different place our own lives might be if each one of us, this Lent, took time to climb our own mountains, listening openly to those we love and respect, and then returning with our faces set to do what needs to be done to restore peace and harmony to our families.



First, recognize that discouragement is a reality for many. Don't let this be a reason for you to lose confidence in your ability to continue your Lenten practice with confi-

dence. This kind of confidence is not about the self but more about trusting in the goodness of God. When we trust in His goodness, and align ourselves to Him through prayer and trust, we can move toward our Lenten goals with renewed confidence. The good news is, this happens moment by moment. The Holy Spirit will be our guide.

Moving Forward

Once we recognize the power of trusting God, we can move forward in complete confidence that we can live closer to Him moment by moment during Lent. Also, this is not meant just for the Lenten season. When we make sacrifices and choices to live a better life, we are also being led into the future beyond Lent. This is what it is all about. Moving forward means relying on God's grace but also in trusting Him for your entire future, too.

Prayer

Nothing happens without prayer. Nothing. Each day we have a choice to live better than we did the day before and, in some cases, even the moment before. Pray in the ways that bring you and your family closest to Him. Whether it be a daily Rosary, prayers at meals, or prayers said at other times of the day, it all makes a tremendous difference. Don't give up. Prayer is essential in gaining confidence in God's providence and ultimately in loving Him more.

All these aspects of Lent are meant to help you to understand God's love for you. Lent is not a contest, and it is not a pass or fail test. It is a monumental opportunity to grow in love of the Lord, and on your road toward heaven. catholicmom.com

There are times in all our lives when we need the companionship of friends and words of reassurance that we are 'OK and doing the right thing'. Jesus, too, faced moments of self-doubt and tiredness when he needed the companionship of his friends and the reassurance of God that he was doing the right thing. The Transfiguration – today's Gospel – was that moment in Jesus' life. It was a pivotal moment for him; a moment that gave him the strength and resolve he needed to face the suffering he knew was coming. Reflecting on this experience of Jesus on the mountain, will, I believe, help us to journey with him through the pain of Holy Week, and on to the joy of Easter Sunday morning. "You are my beloved child, my favour rests on you..." is a message God longs to give us too. In our trials and doubts and moments of uncertainty God is waiting for us, just as he was waiting on the mountain for Jesus. He will say to us, as he said to Jesus, "You are OK. I am with you." Today, this Lent, let us open ourselves to hear this message of reassurance and to share it with one another. [Brian Maher - communications@oblates.ie](mailto:brian.maher@oblates.ie)

The Lenten season is that precious time of year when we offer prayer, fasting, and almsgiving for the Lord. We do all of this with great purpose, knowing that we unite ourselves with Jesus. When Lent begins, there is the temptation to start strong as we strive to do our best. Then, there is a temptation to give up on oneself when the going gets rough, despite our efforts for the good. Here are a few ways not to lose confidence in the journey.

Recognizing the Problem

Lenten Giving Envelope Packs have been distributed 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.

Wel Com March 2023 edition is out this week to parishes and schools for **Sunday, 5 March.**

Contents include:

- Catholic Cyclone Relief Appeals.
- Cardinal John Dew writes on Pope Francis Message for the 57th Day of social communications
- Pope Francis' 10th anniversary as pontificate.
- Oceania bishops call for 'deeper ecological conversion'.
- Wellington and Palmerston North dioceses' Catholic College awards 2022 and leaders 2023 – photo feature.
- Plus, more features, local and international news and views, Young Church.

CARITAS CASE STUDY

- For many rural youth in Fiji who have left the formal school system, the village setting holds few meaningful work and life opportunities.
- Tutu Rural Training Centre has for over 40 years enabled rural Fijian youth to lead dignified lives by promoting sustainable self-employment using resources available from having access to customary land. Through a range of 11 training and mentoring programmes, Tutu staff lead with compassion and culturally appropriate skills to re-connect rural youth with their Vanua (land and culture), family and the wider community they are part of. Caritas at work in Tutu is an example of love extending outwards and putting the Cath-

olic social teaching principles of human dignity and the common good into action.

CARITAS CASE STUDY When the massive Hunga Tonga-Hunga Ha'apai volcano

and subsequent tsunami devastated many parts of Tonga on 15 January 2022, it might have seemed that a super-natural event was taking place. Our partner Caritas Tonga provided practical, logistical and social support and assistance to households and communities most impacted since day one of this tumultuous event, while also having deep concern for their own families and fear that it was not yet all over. 16 When it might be hard to see God through circumstances such as these, God will often speak to us through the words and deeds of others. Being at the forefront of responding to communities affected by this event, staff of Caritas Tonga have illustrated 'love in action' (Caritas) through their dual commitment to their faith and the communities they willingly and diligently serve.

We have a guest organist, Chris Hainsworth, who will be playing the organ at St Joseph's **Sunday 12 March.** Don't miss this opportunity and please feel free to invite your friends. Chris Hainsworth grew up in Wellington, learning the organ from Ernest Jamieson and Maxwell Fernie and studying languages and music at Victoria University before heading for Toulouse to complete his Doctorate. He also studied organ with Jean Ferrard in Brussels. He taught for 15 years at Waikato University and another 15 at the Béziers Conservatoire in the South of France before devoting himself entirely to performance (solo, chamber orchestral) on organ, fortepiano and harpsichord, mainly around Europe, USA and Australasia. Formerly Director of Music at Hamilton Cathedral, Director of the Béziers Conservatoire and Associate Professor of Music at Waikato University, he is currently organist "titulaire" of the Cathedral of Béziers.

