

Anniversary's in April

Jack Hallagen, Murray Durham, Ellen Logan, Vaughan Hallagen
Brian Bird, Charlie Percy, Ivan Ujdur, John McDonald
John Stanely, Lenva Martin, Leo Frings (Geoff)
Malcolm Heaven, Michael Ransfield, Robert Frost (Bob)
Thomas Butler (Tom), Gavin Logan, James Cook
John Muelan, James Harris, Emmett McElhinney, William Field (Bill)

Tour to the Holy Land.

Fr Chris Friel from Timaru will lead a 12 day tour to some of the most important Christian and historical sites in Israel and Jordan, beginning in Amman on April 9 and concluding in Jerusalem on April 20th 2024. During this amazing tour you will enjoy comfortable accommodation, great food, as well as experiencing the rich cultural and religious history of this region.

For full itinerary and details please contact Peter Fleming at Pilgrimage Tours in Auckland at:

www.thetravelwarehouse.co.nz | Ph. 0800 356728.

Join the Caritas Team!

We are looking to expand our team! This is an exciting opportunity to work within a Catholic organisation, that's committed to the mission of the church. These roles will see you support our work advocating for human dignity, justice, peace and the needs of the most vulnerable. Joining our team will see you connect our work with the world and provide you with the opportunity to practice your faith in a practical way. At Caritas, it's our mission to be known as 'love in action', if you want to join us in this mission, email us on Caritas@caritas.org.nz or see the link below for more information. <https://www.caritas.org.nz/work-with-us>

Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy

-Mary in the Scriptures with Kieran Fenn fms.

Mondays, 19/26 June & 03/10 July, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM. Free. Donation/Koha welcome.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/04/25/mary-in-the-scriptures/>

YouTube Recordings

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

Muffin Talk radio programmes are available online at:

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/category/resources/muffin-talk/>

For more information: www.studyjoy.nz

Pro-Life Facts -A glimpse of what the future might hold for assisting vulnerable people to die is on display in Australia. It could well come here if the legislation succeeds in the Federal Parliament in Canberra. We are talking about a proposed Telehealth service, whereby terminally ill patients phone a doctor and ask to be assisted to die or be euthanised. For more pro-life information, visit voicefor-life.org.nz.



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Rātini Kupu

30th Paenga –whāwhā, 2023
4th Sunday of Easter

30th April, 2023

The Good Shepherd

Jesus often illustrated his teaching by referring to shepherds and sheep. He sees himself as the Good Shepherd foretold by the prophets. Today's gospel considers the relationship between the Good Shepherd and the sheep. The imagery is old. The message is topical. It is relevant to us. By faith we accept Jesus, Our relationship is a deeply personal one. The bond of love uniting us is based on the love that unites the Father and Jesus. Our new existence is founded on God's unbreakable love and faithfulness. In order to enter eternal life we must listen to Jesus and obey him. The alternative opening prayer puts this in practical terms. We have to tune our minds to the sound of his voice. Self-centredness can make us deaf to the voice of Jesus. Easy options can draw us into easier paths than the one he has traced. Pressure to abandon Christian principles is inevitable. But God is faithful and will not let us be tempted beyond our strength. No one can drag us away from him, The Father has entrusted us to his Son. The same God who kept faith with Jesus by raising him from the dead will also raise us by his power. Paul and Barnabas 'spoke out boldly', and made an impact. A courageous proclamation of the gospel to our contemporaries can be as fruitful now as it was in apostolic times. All the baptized, particularly those who are confirmed, are bound to spread the faith. Laity as well as priests and religious are in the service of the Risen Lord. Our faith urges us to take personal part in the work of evangelisation. Are we doing so? How many evils persist in our society just because good people say nothing and do nothing? A breviary hymn of Eastertide (no.25) spells out what is expected of us by the Risen Lord: Now he bids us tell abroad/How the lost may be restored/How the penitent forgiven/ How we too may enter heaven. "Good Shepherd Sunday" is a good occasion for us to think and pray about how the catholic church will fare for priests in the future. In Ireland right now it appears that the average age of ordained priests is about sixty five, a statistic that demands significant change in how to recruit priests for the future, and what is to be expected of them. Pdraig McCarthy made this point thus, "there is no such thing as a priestless parish. There may not be an ordained priest there, but the parish is a priestly people. How will this priesthood of the baptised take flesh in the coming decades? What factors which had value in the past are now hindering the mission of the church? What new model of ministerial priesthood is needed?" Here are three questions worth pondering by us all, bishops, priests and laity: 1) Who will be the true shepherds in the coming years? 2) How will those shepherds carry out the mission to those outside the fold? 3) What needs to change so that each community can celebrate the Eucharistic every Sunday? *Associationofcatholicpriests.ie*

Understanding and Healing the Impact of Disasters

Disasters throw our world into chaos. They can overwhelm us and cause significant psychological distress. The good news is that many communities have gone through disasters and found a positive way through. This talk will cover, what are the long-term impacts of a disaster and how you can look out for and support those who are struggling and learn some strategies to strengthen your resilience. The talk will cover...What can you expect in the weeks, months and years after a disaster. When is the biggest psychological impact of a disaster? What can you do to help children and families who are really not coping post disaster. Why is good sleep so important to recovery? What are the signs someone may not be coping? What are some powerful strategies to help build resilience? Michael Hempseed is the director of Frontiers of Hope, a specialist mental health service. He is also the author of *Calming your Child and Being A True Hero: Understanding and Preventing Suicide in Your Community*. He has spoken to Fonterra, NZ Post, Fire and Emergency NZ and many others. Michael gained an honours degree in Psychology from the University of Canterbury in 2008. In 2016 he spoke at TEDx. Michael is Catholic.

Date: 3 May 2023 Time: 6-7pm Location: St Joseph's School 6 Russell Street Wai-pukurau

Describing someone as 'a sheep' is not usually complementary. It might be unfair on sheep everywhere in the world, but we usually view them as weak, timid, indecisive, and cowardly creatures. Despite this Jesus chooses to call on the Old Testament un-

derstanding of sheep and shepherd when he wants to describe our relationship with God. It is a beautiful and important Gospel, not just allowing us to glimpse the face of the God who calls us, leads us, and protects us, but also captures what is, perhaps, for Jesus himself, a pivotal moment of self-awareness. Our journey through Eastertide continues with this Gospel of hope, joy and that wonderful statement of Jesus, that "I have come so that you may have life and have it to the full." What a great invitation that is. This is the time to accept it. Brian

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Lord, please open my eyes. Please let me see those around me that are in need of my compassion. Compel me to listen to them, to hear their needs. Give me the heart to be interested in their troubles and show me the ways I can help.



Catholics are called to a faith that bears witness and to acknowledge that each human person is chosen by God, "created by love, for love, and with love" in all that we do in today's world, Pope Francis said in his Message for the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. "We are called to a faith that bears witness, one that closely connects the life of grace, as experienced in the sacraments and ecclesial communion, to our apostolate in the world. Led by the Spirit, Christians are challenged to respond to existential peripheries and human dramas, ever conscious that the mission is God's work; it is not carried out by us alone, but always in ecclesial communion, together with our brothers and sisters, and under the guidance of the Church's pastors," the pope said in his message. Francis' message on the theme "Vocation: Grace and Mission" is to mark the 60th World Day of Prayer for Vocations. This special day, established by Paul VI in 1964 during the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council, is celebrated each year on the Fourth Sunday of Easter and this year falls on April 30.

Seminarian Appeal 30 April 2023

We are greatly blessed by the generosity and enthusiasm of our men training for priesthood. At the moment, we have one seminarian Dung Manh Phan, who returned from Vietnam last year and is at Holy Cross Seminary in Auckland. Lam van Nguyen, Hung van Nguyen, and Duy Pham, from Vietnam, arrived in New Zealand last year to learn English before hopefully joining the seminary. We ask you to please support our Seminarians with financial support and prayer. Please continue to pray and work for more candidates. Thank you in advance for your contribution no matter how small.



The hour is indeed coming.

The dreaded hour for every mother, parent, guardian, and any of those who have raised a child. He is heading off to college or moving on to his own home. My oldest son just received his acceptance email (not a paper letter anymore) to the program he most wanted to attend for college. So this verse is hitting home for me right now, as I struggle with my first bird to leave the nest. Ironically, I had already found this verse a couple of years ago during a prayer time, so this has been on my mind for some time. My notes from when I prayed with this verse include thoughts on how my kids are growing up and about to live new lives. I also continued on in the Scripture reading to learn more of what Jesus had to say about being left alone. Jesus shares that He is not alone, especially right before His trial of the Cross, before his family and friends scatter during His suffering, and before He appears to them locked in a room. He is not alone because His Father is with Him, and through Him we can receive that peace of knowing that the Father is with us too. He shared this with us so that we might have peace in our own troubles, way before He suffered His own share of troubles. My mama's heart found amazing peace in these verses so that I can remember I will not be alone when my children leave my home to create their own homes. Part of what I felt as I read these verses is that I can either lock myself in a room, dreading what happened as the disciples did, or I can allow Jesus to create a new shape to my family. My nest may look smaller, but there will be a couple new nests on the branches that I will still be connected to. And knowing that I am not alone because of God and Jesus? That makes the home nest even cozier. Prayer: Jesus, I am so grateful that You look out for me, even before your own suffering. Thank you for reminding me that I am not alone while I am with you and our Heavenly Father.

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