

## Anniversary's in May

Hannah Moran, Terry Coyle, Deidre Wedd, Denis Farrell  
Fr Robert Ryan, George Kura  
Imelda Ewen, John (Merv) Maggin  
Kathleen Butler, Kathrin De Fresne  
Patrick Mullens, Marie Chote  
Petrus Pepping (Pe)

### 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

Muffin Talk radio programmes are available online at:

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

For more information: [www.studyjoy.nz](http://www.studyjoy.nz)

### Pro-Life Facts -

Confidential Information has been divulged to Right to Life that babies in late term medical abortions are being born alive in New Zealand and denied appropriate care. In 2021, 102 abortions at 21 weeks gestation or later were reported in New Zealand. For more pro-life information, visit [righttolife.org.nz](http://righttolife.org.nz).

**WelCom May 2023** edition is out this week to parishes and schools for Sunday, 7 May.

Contents include:

Cardinal John Dew – 'Where true Charity is dwelling, God is present there'.  
Pentecost Sunday – Fr Patrick Bridgman.  
Week of Prayer for Christian Unity: 21–28 May 2023, resources for use on NZ Bishop's website.

Reflections on Vocations Awareness Week, International Nurses Day, Hospice Awareness Week, and NZ Sign Language Week – all in May.

Archdiocese's EJP Commission pre-Budget 2023 comments.

Pope visits Hungary – calls for unified, welcoming Europe.

NZ Bishops support Vatican's rejection of 'Doctrine of Discovery'.

### 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

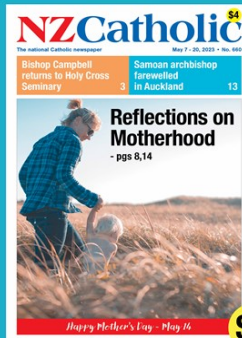
Oceania bishops publish response to Synod of Bishops' document.

Women to vote in Synod assembly for first time.

Caritas Aotearoa NZ and partners report on new programme: He Oranga Taurikura – Supporting Thriving Lives in the Pacific and Asia.

Plus, more features, local and international news and views, Young Church.

**Damian Dempsey** appointed new NZCBC Executive Director- Damian Dempsey has been appointed the new Executive Director of the NZ Catholic Bishops Conference. Damian, who was a member of the Society of Mary for 25 years, is currently Director of Challenge 2000 in Wellington, where he has led a team of 40 youth, community and social workers. He replaces Siobhan Dilly, who is leaving after four years in the role.



The latest issue in your church Sunday May 7

\$4



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## Rātini Kupu

7th Haratua, 2023

5th Sunday of Easter

30th April, 2023

### Themes for the 5th Sunday of Easter Year A

The readings for the 5th Sunday of Easter Year A tell us that we are called to follow Jesus and serve him, even though we don't know where that might lead us. The first reading tells how and why the first deacons were chosen.

The psalm reminds us that God "loves justice and right". In the second reading Peter calls the people to be "a holy priesthood". And in the gospel Jesus tells us to have faith in him.

**Service:** In Acts 6:1-7, the theme of service is prominent as the apostles seek to meet the needs of the community by appointing seven men to serve as deacons. In the gospel for the 5th Sunday of Easter Year A, Jesus emphasizes the importance of serving others and encourages his disciples to continue his work.

**Unity:** The readings highlight the importance of unity within the community of believers. The appointment of the seven deacons helps to maintain unity and prevent division within the early church. Jesus speaks of his unity with the Father and encourages his disciples to remain united in him.

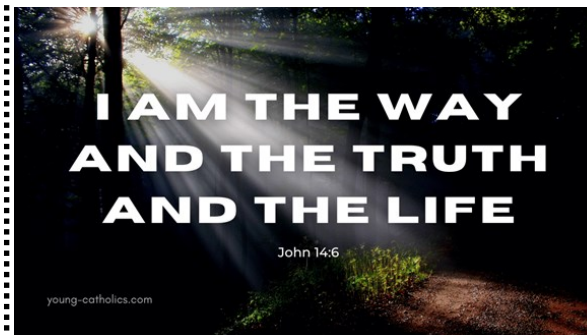
**Leadership:** The first reading for the 5th Sunday of Easter Year A provides an example of leadership in action as the apostles make a decision to address the needs of the community.

**Faith:** Faith is a common theme in the readings for the 5th Sunday of Easter Year A, as the early believers trust in God to provide for their needs, and Jesus encourages his disciples to have faith in him as they continue his work.

**Vocations:** The seven men chosen to serve as deacons were specifically selected for their ability to serve the needs of the community. The first reading highlights the importance of recognizing and affirming one's vocational calling,

as well as the value of vocations within the Church.  
[young-catholics.com](http://young-catholics.com)

Jesus said to him, "I am the way and the truth and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, then you will also know my Father. From now on you do know him and have seen him."



**This Sunday night** (7th May), John Cowan's guests will be husband and wife musical duo, Terrible Sons. Terrible Sons is a husband and wife duo, Lauren and Matt Barus, who reside in a small intentional community in Ōtautahi, Christchurch with their two children. Their music draws inspiration from their local neighbourhood and explores universal human experiences of exhaustion, heartbreak, and loneliness. Terrible Sons has gained a significant following, surpassing the listenership of many other New Zealand bands. The Barus' have been creating and releasing music quietly for years, prioritising their responsibilities as parents. Their unique sound sets them apart from other musicians in the area, with lyrics and melodies heavily influenced by their community and its people. Their approach of creating personal and relatable music has garnered them a dedicated fan base. As their children have grown older, the Barus' have started performing intimate shows across New Zealand. Terrible Sons' music is a testament to the power of honest and heartfelt music, and their impact is sure to continue to grow.

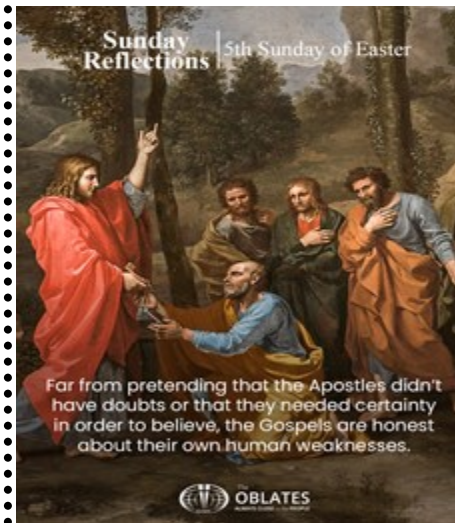
**Multitasking** is a feat many mums pride themselves on. "Let's see just how much I can juggle today without all the plates crashing to the floor" is a game I often play. There's a lot to get done in one day and often, it feels like not enough time to do it all in. So, we multitask. Sometimes this works out really well: the laundry got folded and at the same time I was able to have a heart-to-heart phone conversation with a friend. Other times, dinner ends up burned because I was also trying to help a child with their piano practice, finish folding the laundry that got started in the morning, hear about a science project, and meet the demands of a noisy 1-year-old who is as fickle as they come. Oh boy. How often do I complain, to myself or others, that I'm just too busy? Often. How often do I sit down to critically think about our schedule, the activities we are engaged in, and how much time we have to accomplish everything on the list? Less than often. Something the Holy Spirit has been working in me is an awareness

of "wasted time." In a multitasker's world, nothing is worse than wasted time. 30 seconds of non-productivity here, shocking! 5 minutes of wasted time in the grocery line, the horror! Imagine how much I could have gotten done if I only had green lights on the way to x, y, or z! I think you know what I'm talking about. Some days, I have this attitude so intensely swaying my thoughts I get mad at myself for not knitting enough rows while watching TV, what a slacker! All of these are completely ridiculous and in truth, I have thought them all. Yet, none of these examples are bringing me closer to Jesus. They make me anxious, annoyed, unpleasant to be around, and generally crabby. They are not life-giving. The truly wasted time is the time I spend wallowing in my perceived lack of productivity instead of relishing the gifts God has given me.

God does not desire for us to fill every moment of every day with work, production, or action. That is not the example He gave us. Work hard, yes. But rest well in complement. That means, waste time! Another way I've heard this described is to create white space. White space, like the white space on a paper, isn't filled with plans, activities, to-do lists, etc. It's blank, open for possibility. It's time for play, for prayer, for walks, for reading, for laying in a hammock and listening to birds, it's meditation, it's phone calls that don't include laundry folding or dinner making, it's fill in the blank because that space is open for anything! Be on the lookout for how you can find some white space. It doesn't need to be whole afternoons of skipping through daisies. Perhaps it is as small as including five extra minutes at the breakfast table to savour your coffee instead of downing it in two gulps. Make that cup of tea you are craving in the evening but still have your to-do list running in your head. Say yes to a walk, even if it's just once around the block. Pause and pray when you are prompted, instead of thinking you'll remember later. These aren't wasted minutes: these are what make a life well-lived. *Copyright 2023 Kate Taliaferro*

**Today's Gospel** is truly sublime. In it the Risen Jesus, now glorified, speaks clearly and splendidly about who he is, and his relationship with God. His words are stunning. In fact they are just 'too good to be true'. And this is what causes difficulties for the apostles and first disciples of Jesus. What Jesus is saying to them, what he is offering them, is too much for them! "Show us the Father and we will be satisfied..." they say to him, not able to take the leap of faith. "Have I been with you all this time..." Jesus replies sadly, "...and you still do not know me." "I have shown you the Father..." he says to them. "Everything you have seen me do and heard me say shows you the Father. All you have to do is trust in me... nothing more than that." And the truth is they can't trust that much. It is 'too good to be true...but it is true!' The Gospel is awesome in every way, yet the humanness of those listening prevents them from accepting it. It is a Gospel spoken to each one of us, just as it was spoken to the Apostles. Is it any easier for us to accept it, than it was for Thomas or Philip? Each one of us must answer that question for ourselves. It begins, "Do not let your hearts be troubled. Trust in God and trust also in me." Can anything be simpler? So why do we find it so difficult?

Brian  
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**St John's College**—This week we had parent/teacher conferences on Monday and Tuesday which took up all of Monday and Tuesday after school. This weekend, thirteen students and three teachers will travel to Wellington to take part in the O'Shea Shield. We did not have it last year due to Covid, so it is good to have the competition again because it is great for building community and to have Catholic schools competing against each other. The current Shield holders are St Joseph's Maori Girls College. On Friday night the rugby foundation held a fundraising dinner to raise funds for their Australian rugby tour. The guest speaker was Matthew Cooper, ex St John's old boy and ex All Black.

Thank you to all those who volunteer in all our ministries in our parish. You are all very much appreciated and we could not run so well without any of you!

*Thank You*

*for your Kindness*