

Anniversary's in July

June Sullivan, John McLeod, Gerard Mooney, Elizabeth Tobin
Joy Bird, Cecil Moran, Sr Cyprian, Campbell Steel
Cornelia Harbers (Corrie), Margaret Brown, Fr Patrick Loft
Geoffrey Marra, Herbery Houltham (Shorty)
Joan Heaven, Regina Abraham, Anthony Qinn
Raewyn Grevatt, Mary Nesbit, Sheila Gray, Rosalie Prescott

Hearts Aflame Catholic

Summer—While Hearts Aflame Catholic Summer School 2024 has now sold out, we are excited to announce the opening of the inaugural Bishop Basil Meeking Hearts Aflame Scholarship! There are two scholarship spaces available for the 2024 School for any young adult aged 18 to 35 who wants to know more about their faith, have an authentic encounter with Christ, and meet other Catholic young adults from all over New Zealand. One of the scholarship places is reserved for a young adult involved in Catholic Education (teaching, teacher training or chaplaincy). The Scholarship covers the full registration fee for the 2024 School (\$645) Visit heartsaflame.org.nz to apply before August 15, 2023



E ngā mana, e ngā reo, e ngā iwi, tēnā

koutou katoa.—Applications are invited for the position of Prison Chaplaincy Director for the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference (NZCBC). This national role gives pastoral and professional leadership and support to the Catholic chaplains who provide chaplaincy services in the country's prisons. It is also a critical role, leading an important national ministry of the Church. If you or someone you know has experience as a prison chaplain (or in other pastoral or chaplaincy roles) and team leadership experience combined with theology and pastoral qualifications, please visit:

www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/prison

NZ's Br Peter Bray receives Papal honour for his work as Vice Chancellor



\$4

The latest issue in your church Sunday July 16

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

of Bethlehem University. New Zealander Br Peter Bray FSC – Vice Chancellor of Bethlehem University in the Holy Land since 2009 – has been awarded the Papal Cross of Honor – officially the Pro Ecclesia et Pontifice ("For the Church and the Pope") – one of the highest honours that the Pope can bestow upon the laity and religious. A statement about Br Peter's papal honour and pending departure from Bethlehem is online here: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/brpeter-bray/>



Parish Priest • Fr Paul Kerridge
Phone • Office 8586416 Presbytery • 8589383
E-mail • cat.chb@xtra.co.nz
Website • www.holytrinitychb.com
Facebook • The Holy Trinity Parish CHB

Rātini Kupu

16th Hōngongoi 2023
15th Sunday of Ordinary Time
16th July, 2023

Ma tātou katoa a Matariki - Matariki belongs to all of us.

With deep spiritual roots, the tikanga of Matariki is much more than astronomy, agriculture and weather predictions. The tikanga of Matariki is a time for whānau. The festival's connection to the stars provides an opportunity for families to remember their whakapapa (genealogy) and those ancestors who have passed away. Matariki unifies us as one human family. It is both a time for thanksgiving and a time for renewal. Clearly this new year in Māori culture has strong links with the sacramental nature of our faith. In the spirit of Matariki let's celebrate this holiday for all that unites us here: Build stronger partnerships with your local mana whenua, reconnect with old friends and make new ones and with a deep gratitude and respect for the gifts of creation. Reflect on your place in the world and set new goals. It belongs to all of us.

Blessing

The new light of Matariki has risen!

May it be to you a sign of resurrection and new life.

May it be to you a sign of hope in times of darkness.

May it be to you a sign of the wondrous mystery of Atua who loves you.

May it be to you a sign that the eyes of the Eternal One are ever upon you and that the presence of the Holy One is ever with you. And may this be the cause of your rejoicing.

Go in peace.

Through Christ and in the perfect unity of the Holy Spirit, we pray.

Amen



"I never thought we could pollute space but we are doing that. More than 50% the world's population can't see the night's sky, and that's an indictment on what we are doing not only to the planet but what we are doing to ourselves as creatures. Hopefully Matariki brings that awareness out in us as well." *Professor Rangī Matamua*

Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy

Beauty in Islam with Dr Christopher E. Longhurst
Saturday, 22 July, 10.00-11.30pm. ZOOM.
Fee: \$25/session.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/beauty-in-islam/>

The Women in the Bible with Kieran Fenn fms.

Mondays, 07/14/21 Aug and 04/11/18 Sep, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM.

Fee: \$20/session or \$90/series (incl. study material).

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

For more information: www.studyjoy.nz

Taste of St John's Day

Wednesday 19 July

The day commences with a Pōwhiri at 9.30am. We will conclude the day's programme at 2.10pm. This event is an opportunity for Year 8 boys to observe St John's College in action. Coding and Robotics, Science experiments, Culinary Arts and Sport will be offered to reflect life at St John's. **Can you please phone** the Office if your son would like to attend this exciting promotion day: 06 878 6853.

Hope is one of the theological virtues, along with faith and love. As we encounter difficulties in our life, no matter the size, we may struggle to have hope.

And then we may beat ourselves up about our lack of hope. And then we start to despair and maybe feel guilty and not trusting God, and it's a downward spiral into hopelessness.

I want to avoid that spiral. I'd like you to avoid it as well. How can we learn to have hope no matter what?

Hope can be hard to hold onto.

It helps me to remember these truths about hope:

We hope for what we don't have and can't see.

Sometimes, it is difficult to hope.

We can have hope by relying on God's undeniable power.

Here is a beautiful prayer from Charles

Peguy that you can pray when you need

a boost of hope.

Act of Hope

My God, I hope with a firm confidence that you will give me, by the merits of Jesus Christ, your grace in this world, and, if I observe your commandments, your glory in the next, because you have promised it to me, and because you are supremely faithful in your promises.

Pope Francis, while recalling Saint Thomas Aquinas as "a man of the Church" with "great spiritual and human wisdom", has appointed Cardinal Marcello Semeraro, prefect of the Dicastery for the Causes of Saints, as special envoy to the celebration of the 700th anniversary of the canonization of Italian Dominican at Fossanova Abbey, Italy. "Never having an air of superiority from his knowledge, but always edified by charity," the Dominican friar whom contemporaries already called the "Angelic Doctor" was "full of astonishing culture," Pope Francis said in the letter announcing the cardinal's appointment. The letter written in Latin was released on July 11 but bears the date 30 June and signature at Saint John Lateran. Cardinal Semeraro will represent the pope during the 700th anniversary of the canonization of Thomas Aquinas to be marked on July 18 at the Abbey of Fossanova, in the town of Privero, in central Italy.



The Power of the Word

As a former teacher, I'm often surprised at what some past-pupils remember. It would be less embarrassing on occasions if they conveniently forgot. "I remember you saying one time. ..." and out it comes, if not word for word, at least in its general thrust as they heard it. Even merely spoken words can have an extraordinary life-span. Sometimes we remember things our parents said, long after they are gone; their words are not dead so long as we are alive and recall them. What's true of the ordinary word is even more true of God's. That's what's stressed in today's readings. It's put in the strongest of terms in the reading from Isaiah 55:10-11: "So it is with the word that goes from my mouth: it will not return to me unfulfilled, or before having carried out my good pleasure and having achieved what it was sent to do." The only defence against God's word is inadvertent or deliberate deafness. And being deaf or hard of hearing is something today's Gospel does not recommend. In fact, it urges us to have our ears cocked. But it conveys that message in a different image. It urges us to let the Word fall into good soil, so that it can yield a rich harvest in our lives. Even though we're meant to have our ears cocked in church, and even though there's no substitute for hearing God's word as a worshipping community, the richest soil in any parish has to be in the home. The home, more than any place else, is a good place for growth. If space is made for God in the home, if parents pray with their children from an early age, if parents treat one another well, if the relationships within the home are basically sound, if Mass, as Christ's memorial, is seen to matter to the older people, then there is a fair old chance that in the hearts and minds of the children, the seed will take root and grow! It doesn't always happen, but on balance, if we do the best we can, there's a fair old chance that it will! In a sense, education is what remains when you have forgotten the texts themselves. We forget so easily what was said in church or school. We never forget what

happens in the home. The hate and the tension and the fighting, or the hope and the love and the peace. I knew a person once who used to get up every night and do a Holy Hour for one of their children who was sick. Wasn't that extraordinary? What family could ever forget that? What family could fail to be influenced by it? But in a sense it's a bad example because it's so exceptional. It's the ordinary things that make the impact on most of us, the daily effort, the daily drudgery, the repeated efforts a father or mother make separately or together to think of us and to remind us of God. It's only when somebody dies and people start looking back that the ordinary daily sacrifices take on a heroic pattern, and people say, "God, she was a great woman" or "he was a great man." If we receive God's word every day in our lives and try to live it, then we are scattering the seed ourselves for the younger generation and generations to come. I wouldn't like to give the impression that it's only parents or older people who are expected to receive God's word and live it! I think God's call comes to us at its most personal and urgent when we are young. That's when most of us felt called to our particular vocations. That's when I felt the call to be a priest! God's word has fresh soil and a great future when it falls in a young heart. So if you are young, be generous with God. Be truthful and just and caring and good-living. Be faithful to your Sunday Eucharist and give it continued life throughout the week in the great commandment of love. One of the greatest saints the Church has ever produced, St Thérèse of Lisieux, "the little flower," was only twenty-four when she died. What use she made of her youth! She had one great objective: At the heart of the Church, my mother," she said, "I shall be love." Make that your own. Make it your personal resolution, your greatest objective, your life-long ambition! At the heart of the Church, my mother, I shall be love." *associationofcatholicpriests.ie*