

Anniversary's in September
Eileen Butler, Martin du Fresne
Mary Fieldsend, Robert Gordon
Zita Ryan, Ruth Lawrence,

Pro Life—In the United States, over 4,500 babies whose mothers have taken the first medication of a 2-step chemical abortion procedure have been rescued through a reversal protocol treatment. To the best of our knowledge, the reversal protocol is not offered in New Zealand. For more pro-life information, contact www.voiceforlife.org.nz.

Joseph's Catholic Church Dannevirke, Celebrating 125 years Jubilee
| 14 & 15 October 2023 Please register your interest by emailing stjodvke@xtra.co.nz with your details.

Fr Chris Skinner Concert: St Brigid's Feilding—Fr Chris Skinner, Priest of the Society of Mary based in Auckland and a renowned Composer and Singer is coming to St Brigid's Parish, Feilding for a Concert: 2.30pm, Sunday 15th October Tickets: \$25, \$10 for students Afternoon tea will be provided. To book tickets email: stbrigid@xtra.co.nz

Te Kupenga – Catholic Theological College accepts enrolment for the Bachelor of Divinity and Graduate Diploma in Theology starting September 25.

“With a dedicated and qualified faculty of theologians, and access to a wealth of resources, our program will empower you to critically analyse complex theological issues, foster spiritual growth, and prepare you for a meaningful career in ministry, education, or other fields where a profound understanding of theology is invaluable.” To learn more about the programmes, go to www.tekupenga.ac.nz/programmes

Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy - Letters to the Corinthians - who were they? with Kieran Fenn fms.
Monday, 09 Oct, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM. Fee: Ko-ha.
<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/09/19/letters-to-the-corinthians-who-were-they/>
Muffin Talk - Interviews on radio, podcast, video.



Bible Studies, Ecumenism, Interfaith Relations
<https://www.studyjoy.nz/category/resources/muffin-talk/>
For more information: www.studyjoy.nz
This Sunday night (24th September), John Cowan's guest will be broadcaster Clint Roberts. Born in Rotorua, Clint is co-host of ZM's drive show, Bree & Clint, with Bree Tomasel. Clint started working at The Edge in 2006. After filling in on the breakfast show at the end of 2013, he started co-hosting The Edge Afternoons with Guy, Sharyn & Clint and The Edge Fat 40 with Guy, Sharyn & Clint from 2014. In 2015, he hosted Hot Right Now on The Edge TV and co-hosted The Xtra Factor. He began co-hosting the breakfast show on George FM in 2017 and in July 2018, he left to co-host Bree & Clint. Clint is married to magazine editor Lucy Slight. They live in Auckland with their two daughters and two British Shorthair cats, Ziggy and Bowie

Mass Times

Week Day Masses

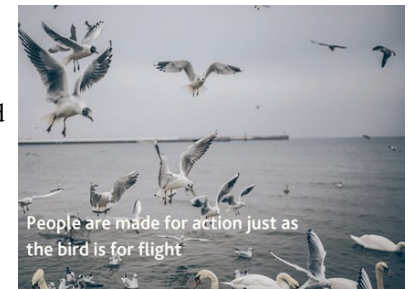
Saturday—9am @ St Joseph's
Tuesday—9am @ St Joseph's
Thursday—9am @ St Patrick's
Sunday Masses
Vigil Mass—5.30 @ St Patrick's
Sunday Mass—9.30am @ St Joseph's



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Facebook • The Holy Trinity Parish CHB

Rātini Kupu
24th Mahuru 2023
25th Sunday of Ordinary Time
24th September, 2023

Only God sees the full picture—The core of the Gospel parable is also in the Isaiah passage: “My thoughts are not your thoughts.” Try as we may, it is impossible to justify the payment of the workers in the vineyard in ordinary social terms. It could hardly be said to be fair. Yes, the owner is generous to the last comers, but why is he not generous to the others as well? It is simply that there is no reckoning up deserts when man meets God. In Our Lord's time Judaism had reached a legalistic state, and the mentality was prevalent that salvation could and must be earned. There were many commands which must be fulfilled, and people were divided into two classes, the righteous who were on the road to salvation by fulfilling the commands, and the unrighteous, outcasts despised by those who kept the law. It was this slot-machine conception of God that Jesus opposed by his emphasis on love, for in love there is no calculation of duties, rights and obligations; there is only an open-handed giving without counting the cost, and a grateful receiving. We can never say that we have earned our salvation, or anything from God, but can only stand suppliant before him. The latest workers in the vineyard have not earned what the owner gives them, and the mistake of their envious colleagues is to think that they can deserve well of the owner. Devout Christians may find it hard to stomach that someone who repents on his deathbed is admitted to the kingdom no less than those who have struggled and suffered all their lives for what is right. But this would presuppose a commercial attitude of reward and punishments from God, and it neglects the nature of love. The relationship of the believer to God must be personal love, and as such it is its own reward, for it brings its own happiness also in this life. The greater the struggle, the more a Christian turns to God and finds comfort in the security of his love. Also, fidelity through a long life does bring some advantage over a skimpy final conversion, for it may well be that the relationship of love has so deepened over the years that the Christian, faithfully following Christ, has more capacity for the full enjoyment of God's company than one who comes to know God only at the last moment. Here it is not a matter of God giving a greater reward, but of the person being more capable of receiving it. Of this deep and rewarding relationship with God and with Christ Paul shows himself in the second reading to be a shining example. Writing as he does under persecution he is yet filled with the joy of Christ. His life is already united with Christ's life, and he longs for the fulfilment of final union. The parable of the vineyard -workers is no blueprint for labour relations, but it illustrates very well Jesus' teaching about grace and mercy. There are consequences to be drawn, and, in The Joy of the Gospel, Pope Francis wrote: “The Church must be a place of mercy freely given, where everyone can feel welcomed, loved, forgiven and encouraged to live the good life of the Gospel.” associationofcatholicpriests.ie



People are made for action just as the bird is for flight

- Suzanne Aubert

I often wonder what Jesus prayed about during those times we are told he stole away by himself or got up early in the morning to spend time alone in the hills of Galilee. The only prayer we know he prayed is “The Lord’s Prayer” or the “Our Father”, and it is a beautiful and all-encompassing prayer. However, this week’s Gospel, speaks to me of an unbelievably close relationship between Jesus and his Father. Anyone who can speak of God in the terms that Jesus speaks about the ‘landowner’ in this week’s parable, must have a depth of spirituality that is far beyond human awareness. Any person reading this Gospel or hearing this parable spoken will be led to the inevitable conclusion that the landowner acts in an unjust and unfair way. From any human standpoint the landowner is, at best foolish and unwise, and at worst, profoundly unfair and unjust to his workers.....which, of course, is the whole point of the story. From a human point of view the landowner is unfair but that is only from a human point of view. Our mistake, and it is a mistake we all make, is that we think God must act as we act and think as we think. Instead of “being made in the image and likeness of God” we set about making God in our image and likeness! The Prophet Isaiah says exactly this in the Old Testament: “For my thoughts are not your thoughts, neither are your ways my ways,” declares the Lord. “As the heavens are higher than the earth, so are my ways higher than your ways and my thoughts than your thoughts.” (55:8-9) The amazing message of this week’s Gospel is that the landowner only appears unfair and unjust because he is so generous! What a strange and beautiful image of God Jesus gives us: A God who is so generous that we think that generosity unfair and unjust! Imagine that? If we are surprised when we stand before God’s judgement, it will be because our God is so much more generous and understanding than we ever thought possible! Join me in reflecting on a Gospel which gives us so much to reflect upon. Many thanks, Bran. b.maher@oblates.ie

Episcopal Ordination & Installation of Fr John Adams | 30 September 2023 at 11am | Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Palmerston North

There will be **no Mass** on the 30th September at St Patrick’s 1st October—Festival Mass @ St Joseph’s @ 9.30am with a morning tea to follow. See you there!

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

Envelopes will be available in our church foyers this weekend. If you are paying by direct credit and require a set of the “specials” please contact the office. The other options are paying by direct credit or using the special annual collection envelope that will be available in the foyers on the collection date. Your generous giving helps with the running costs of our parish and contributions to diocesan costs. **If you would like to be a planned giver please contact the office.**

St Vincent de Paul Annual Appeal

On the 27th September we celebrate the Feast day of St Vincent de Paul. The society of SVDP is active in our own community. We work with the vulnerable, those in need and people donate household items to us which we can then pass on. Next week we are celebrating the **Festival Mass** and welcome you all to share in a morning tea after Mass to meet others in Hawkes Bay who share the same passion for helping others. Please donate if you can and we thank you for all your support.

Dear People of the Diocese of Palmerston North, I thought I would let you all know that I have arrived in Palmerston North and have settled in well. I am looking forward to my ordination and of my desire to be a good and holy bishop. I look forward to visiting the parishes and over the weeks and months following my ordination. My Diocese of Palmerston North email address is bishop-op@pndiocese.org.nz, however if you wish to make an appointment with me, please contact Chris Reilly, Executive Assistant on email - bishop-pa@pndiocese.org.nz or phone - 06 357 1980. *In Him, Fr John Adams, Bishop Elect Diocese of Palmerston North*

Racist New Zealanders will always exist. They will never be educated out of their racism, says Dame Susan Devoy. “We will never be a fully multicultural society until we’ve fully adopted our bicultural foundations, and that’s the struggle,” says Devoy, a former race relations commissioner. In an interview with Grey Areas host Petra Bagust, Devoy said racism is “an intractable problem”. It is always going to be there, it’s never going to be eradicated. Devoy said during her period as race relations commissioner between 2013 and 2018, 75 percent of the complaints of racist behaviour she received “were all from the same demographic. “They were old, not always men, but predominantly men, white – you couldn’t call them Pākehā because that offended them as well – and threatened ... that something that was never theirs in the beginning was going to be taken away from them. “I don’t think any education in the world is going to change that attitude, and I think that attitude has been slightly empowered ... the minute they hear politicians using dog-whistle politics, they feel beholden in themselves to be able to say the things they only thought, but to say them out loud and to other people. “Whatever I say is not going to change their point of view. “The only thing that is going to change is that eventually they will pass away, and let’s hope the next generation haven’t inherited those beliefs that they have.” What would Jesus do? Devoy then told Bagust of an incident where she was accused of

“abolishing” Christmas after working with Belong Aotearoa. That group – then known as the Auckland Regional Migrants Society – was set up to support refugees and new arrivals settling into New Zealand. A Christmas lunch was being held for the collective. As most of the migrants invited to the lunch weren’t Christian and didn’t relate to the festival, a more inclusive seasonal message replaced “Merry Christmas”. “Honestly, that escalated beyond actual belief – I got accused of wanting to ban Christmas and I got Christmas cards galore,” Devoy told Bagust.

She said as she herself is a Christian, she thought the backlash “rather ironic” due to the teaching of Jesus Christ. “Someone sent me a box of faeces that was wrapped up in beautiful Christmas paper.

“The box didn’t offend me so much; it was the fact that someone had come down my driveway in the middle of the night and left it there,” Devoy said. “What would Jesus do? “I think he would want us all to celebrate in the manner that we do, and this is where I can’t quite understand the IQ of people sometimes.” cathnews.co.nz

Billings Ovulation Method—TM Training Seminar: Natural Fertility Awareness | Nelson, 29 & 30 September 2023- Billings Ovulation Method™ is a Fertility Awareness Method used by couples to prevent or achieve pregnancy and monitor general and reproductive health. This seminar will benefit health professionals, those interested in women’s health and fertility, those wishing to become accredited Billings Teachers, and those using or considering using the Billings Method. To register or further details, email info@billingslife.org.nz or visit



It is love that gives value to everything
- Suzanne Aubert