

Anniversary's in February

Alan Banks Cameron, Daniel Taylor
Margaret Parsons, Fred James Allen
Mary Butler (Molly), Peter Robinson (Skip)
Vera Lawrence, Jack Moran
Bernard Skidmore, Malcolm Wenzlick

Email Addresses—I have had trouble with the storage on the parish computer and as a consequence I have lost some email addresses. Please email the office at cat.chb@xtra.co.nz so I can update our address book. Many thanks.

Adoration—It is a privilege to have Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament regularly in our Parish. As we uplift our parish family in prayer, it's a blessing on all! The first Friday of the month, there will be Adoration from 10am until 3pm, commencing after Friday Mass at 9.15am.

BILLINGS OVULATION METHOD

TRAINING SEMINAR Christchurch Saturday and Sunday 27 and 28 April

Natural Fertility Management

This seminar will benefit Health Professionals and Natural Health practitioners interested in women's health and fertility, those wishing to become accredited Billings Teachers, and those using or considering using the Billings Method. The seminar will also interest those involved in pre-marriage counselling and those wishing to promote the Method within their community.

The Billings Method teaches accurate, evidence-based, scientific self-knowledge about human fertility. The "Billings Ovulation Method Natural Fertility Training Seminar" activity has been endorsed by the Royal New Zealand College of General Practitioners and has been approved for up to 11.15 CME credits for Continuing Professional Development (CPD) purposes. It is also supported by the NZ Catholic Bishops Conference.

For further information and to register go to: <https://www.billingslife.org.nz/training-seminar>

Some readers will be familiar with the popular TV series The Repair Shop. I've appreciated a number of the on-demand episodes and marvelled at the skill of the

craftspeople who restore much loved family treasures, often badly broken or at least well worn, giving them new life. The goal of these artists is not to make the presented objects as good as new, shiny and untouched as when first purchased, but to, while fixing breaks and damages, give the object new life, showing and even highlighting the decades of love and wear. The Repair Shop team don't pretend that an object hasn't suffered misuse and even maltreatment. Instead the experts use their skill to form a new work of art, even more beautiful, more unique and more loveable than the shop-new product of a century or two ago. I like The Repair Shop as an image of Lent. The connection came to me in yesterday's Office of Readings: "Initially, people are made new by the rebirth of baptism. Yet there still is required a daily renewal to repair the shortcomings of our mortal nature, and whatever degree of progress has been made there is no one who should not be more advanced". (Leo the Great)

The etymology of the word repair deepens the insight: late Middle English: from Old French *reparer*, from Latin *reparare*, from *re-* 'back' + *parare* 'make ready'. I like that. To repair, to make ready, suggesting looking to the future rather than the past. Lent. A time of repairing. A time of making ready. Lent, a time when we let God repair us, making us even better than new. foodforfaith.org.nz

Mass Times

Sunday—9.30am @ St Joseph's

Saturday—Vigil -5.30pm @ St

Patrick's

Week Day

Saturday—9.00am @ St Joseph's

Tuesday—9.00am @ St Joseph's

Thursday—9.00am @ St Patrick's

Parish Priest—Fr Paul Kerridge

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The Holy Trinity Parish *Rātini Kupu*

18th Hui-tanguru, 2024
1st Sunday of Lent



Gospel Reflection: Living In A Time Of Transition

Jesus was baptised in the River Jordan. The river was significant in Jewish culture as it marked the boundary point for the leaving behind of the old and the start of a new, promised land. In that sense it marked a time of transition or change. The Baptism of Jesus by John also marks the transition from the Old Testament to the New Testament. Today we too live in a time of transition from a warming world to a boiling world. Jesus said, "the time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news." The concept of repentance involves stopping what we are doing, turning around, and taking a new path or adopting a different way. Jesus is that Way. To repent marks a time to start anew. Often in the Bible before prophets or leaders are called to a great work, they must go through a time of testing or challenge. With Jesus it was no different. For forty days He was tested in the wilderness. Unlike many Prophets and leaders, Jesus overcame the trials and temptations that came His way. We too need to take time to be prepared for the challenges of life. We need to be ready to face temptation and whatever the Lord calls us into. This passage of scripture marks the transition from the old way of God reaching the world – through the nation of Israel – to the new way – through the person of God's Son – Jesus Christ – and the people of God. The good news of Christ involves radical transformation. A transformation, or changing of the guard, in our inner lives.

Reflective questions • How do we overcome temptation and use that to fulfil our mission? • What can we learn from Jesus' example of responding to temptation? (See Matthew 4:1-11). • When should we make the changes Jesus calls us to make? • How should we respond to living in times of change?

Kiribati Health Champions Programme

We share a strong connection with our local partner in Kiribati, Teitoiningaina (Catholic Women's Association). For over 40 years, Teitoiningaina has been dedicated to enhancing household food security and promoting healthy lifestyles, while also building resilience to face climate change and disasters. Teitoiningaina works with schools, church groups, and various community groups. Through our partnership, we are privileged to support Teitoiningaina's transformative work to enrich the lives of people in Kiribati. Tebora lives in Kiribati

in the sector of Rurete in Bikenibeu Parish, with her husband and four-year-old daughter. She has recently enrolled in the Teitoiningaina Health Champions programme and is learning ways to grow nutritional food in the face of a changing climate



The Time is Now!
Ko Tēnei tonu te Wā!

WORKSHOP ON THE GOSPEL OF MARK.

When? Saturday 17th February, 2024, 2 pm - 4 pm.

Where? St Patrick's Parish hall.

We are privileged to have Dr Sarah Hart, a Lecturer from Te Kupenga - Catholic Theological College Auckland, offer to take this short afternoon workshop. We will study the two Gospels of Mark read during Lent - The Temptation in the Wilderness and The Transfiguration. This is a great way to start Lent - all you need to bring is a bible! Sarah often visits Holy Trinity Parish and you may have seen her at both St Joseph's and St Patrick's churches for Mass. She is keen to meet local parishioners. Don't miss out on this great opportunity. If you need transport or any queries please call Paula on 027 778 1474.

St John's College- After the busy activity of the first couple of weeks, things are beginning to settle down. This week saw the beginning of Lent which we celebrated with an Ash Wednesday liturgy where our students had the opportunity to understand the meaning and importance of Lent and also receive the ashes. At the same time we remembered those in our community whose lives were devastated 12 months ago by Cyclone Gabrielle. Our students wore black and white as a sign of solidarity with those affected. On Thursday we had our athletic sports which was held at the Hastings Sports Park. The weather was fine and a great day was had by all. Conor Bolton (DRS)

This week, we begin our Lenten journey in preparation for Easter 2024. Preparing for anything can be tedious and stressful. A couple preparing for their wedding may hugely look forward to it, but during the preparations, they can be tired and irritable. The Gospel today tells us that Jesus' own time of

preparation for his mission on earth was not exactly a picnic! It suggests that he didn't even choose to enter into a time of focused preparation. He was, we are told, "driven into the wilderness". The forty days of Lent are our time of preparation for the central feast of the Christian calendar. Even if we have become used to the 'same old' of previous Lents and just want to sink into a banal routine of giving up sweets, beer or wine and drifting along to Easter, maybe we should, like Jesus, allow the Spirit to drive us out into the wilderness where we can spend time pondering the questions and challenges presented to us in the Easter story. It might seem a bit boring or even unnecessary since we already know the Easter story very well. However, if we persist and battle the temptation to cry off and just give up sweets again, we will find that when we enter Holy Week this year, our journey with Jesus will be so much more personal and richer.

Are you a "Jack/Jill of all Trades" and able to turn your hand to any task? If you are enthusiastic, passionate, like being outdoors and have a love of all things maintenance and gardening, then we are looking for you! The job involves a variety of tasks and you will find no two days to be the same. You will need to enjoy interacting with people, primarily with staff, students, parents and contractors. If the above sounds like you, we would love for you to apply. Please send your CV and Letter of Application detailing your skill set and experience to: Teresa Shanks Principal 99 Guppy Road Taradale Napier Or via Email: principal@reignier.school.nz

Morning tea after Mass Sunday 18 February please bring something to share

An opportunity to meet our visiting organist over a "cuppa" in the foyer. Chris Hainsworth is also a piano accompanist for the Art Deco film : Buster Keaton's THE GENERAL. Waipawa Municipal Theatre. 4.00pm Sunday 18 February. \$30.00



Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy

Bible Stories - What do they mean?

Join us in unravelling Bible stories and looking for answers within a group, and with Bible Scholar Kieran Fenn fms.

Sundays, 03 Mar, 07 Apr, 05 May 2024, 5-6pm (Zoom). Koha

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2024/01/19/bible-stories-what-do-they-mean/>

The Mystery of Miracles

Mondays, 08/15/22/29 April 2024, 7-8.30pm

\$25/session or \$80/series, incl. study material.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2024/01/11/the-mystery-of-miracles/>

The Stations of the Cross - Reflections on Wood Carvings.

Available in English and Samoan. \$7 incl. postage

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/08/11/reflection-on-wood-carvings/>

Wanted –a handy person who could help with tree branches, shrub pruning, and ongoing assistance with tasks to help keep a garden beautiful. If this sounds like you please email/phone the parish office and I will pass on your details to the parishioner requiring help. 8586416 or cat.chb@xtra.co.nz

Shun not the Struggle

A reflective way of looking at life is to see it as a struggle between sin and grace, selfishness and holiness. Our time on earth will be successful in the measure that we put aside sin and try to live by the grace of God. Today's Scriptures show two contrasting reactions to temptation. The first humans, Adam and Eve, are imagined as preferring their own inclinations to the will of God. Jesus, the Saviour, on the contrary resisted temptation, remaining faithful to what God the Father required of him. St Paul reflects on how these choices affect ourselves: Adam's sin brought trouble on all, but we are saved and offered new life because of the fidelity of Christ.

An old priest who was blind for many years before his death, liked to urge his penitents to renew their efforts with these inspirational lines:

"We are not here to play, to dream, to drift. We have good work to do, and loads to lift. Shun not the struggle. Face it. 'Tis God's gift." Temptation in one form or another is an unavoidable part of life. If we honestly examine our daily experience, we can find many aspects of temptation: impulses or tendencies counter to the right way of doing things. To rationalise away these temptations, so that they become socially acceptable and politically correct — is itself an insidious temptation. We want to dictate for ourselves what is right and wrong, to draw for ourselves the boundaries of "acceptable" behaviour, unencumbered by any notional commandments of God. This is rather like Adam demanding to eat of the tree of knowledge of good and evil. Our real growth to Christian maturity comes by acknowledging and accepting the vocation of struggling against temptation, to achieve the kind of behaviour and attitudes Jesus expects. We must submit our behaviour to his gospel. Christ and Adam show the two opposite reactions in face of temptation: Adam, archetype of sinful, evasive, self-seeking humanity, finds plausible reasons to yield to it, and rebels against God's will. Jesus, archetype of the new God-seeking man, resists temptation even repeatedly. It can only be conquered by this blend of patience and loyalty, supported by trust that what God requires of us is what is best for us. associationofcatholicpriests.ie

FIRST SUNDAY of LENT

"To you, O LORD,
I lift up my soul,
my God, in you I trust;
do not let me be
disgraced; do not let
my enemies gloat
over me."
- Psalm 25:1-2

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