

## Anniversary's in March

Christine Wypych (Chrissy), Sybil McCloskey  
Doreen de Stackpoole, Kathleen Kilkolly

Margaret Hallagan, Thomas Lyons, Thomas Bird (Noel), Rosalie Beachen,  
Peter Barrett, Joseph Carpenter

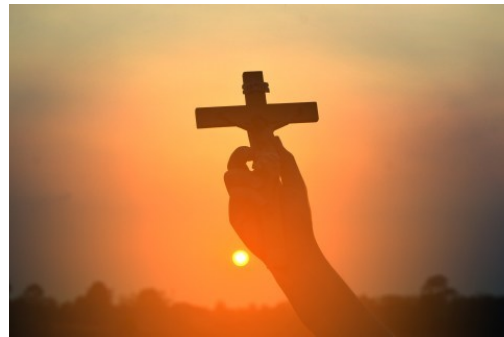
**Email Addresses**—I have had trouble with the storage on the parish computer and as a consequence I have lost some email addresses. Please email the office at [cat.chb@xtra.co.nz](mailto:cat.chb@xtra.co.nz) so I can update our address book. Many thanks.

**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.

**Pro-Life** -Auckland Voice for Life hosted their Training Day on March 2nd. One hundred people heard from legal, medical and ethics practitioners including Alex Penk (Ethos), and Brendan Malone (Lifenet), lawyers Ian Bassett and Owen Posthuma; medical doctor Martin Ng, Mike Porteous (Hub of Hope) and Marina Young from the Buttons Project. For more pro-life info, visit [www.voiceforlife.org.nz](http://www.voiceforlife.org.nz)

**The Steering Group** for the PN Justice Peace Development and Ecology Commission, is aware that a number of the Parishes in this diocese are using Caritas or another Lenten Programme. We encourage all parishes throughout the diocese to make good use of a Lenten programme such as the excellent Caritas Lenten Program Resources available online at [www.caritas.org.nz/lent-resources](http://www.caritas.org.nz/lent-resources). This Lent, the Caritas theme is "The Time is Now". Pope Francis reminds us that Time is a gift from God..."it is therefore important to make use of it by performing good and fruitful actions." The Caritas Lenten Program, reflects on a different "Time for" each week; A time for Preparation, Encounter, Justice, Love, Sacrifice and Hope. Examples from Caritas Pacific Projects are then examined. All in all, it is Time for us to renew our relationship with God and to consider practical

ways we can be bearers of God's love to those around us. Gathering each week with fellow parishioners in a Caritas Lenten Reflection Group or a similar Lenten programme, is a good way to achieve such renewal.



### 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

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Facebook—The Holy Trinity CHB



## The Holy Trinity Parish Rātini Kupu

10 Poutū-te-rangi, 2024  
4th Sunday of Lent



**GOSPEL REFLECTION: GOD IS LOVE AND ACTS IN LOVE TOWARDS HIS PEOPLE** - This Gospel reading begins with Jesus referring to the Old Testament (Numbers 21:4-9) where God provided a way of healing the Israelites from serpent bites by lifting up a bronze serpent on a pole. Whenever the Israelites who had been bitten by poisonous serpents looked at the bronze serpent then they would survive the serpent bites. Likewise, Jesus was to be lifted up on a cross and whoever looks to him will be saved. If you believe in Jesus, the world can be saved. If you believe in idols, you are already condemned to darkness. The passage also reinforces God's love for all people by showing that God loved the whole world to the extent that he was willing to send his only Son as a sacrifice for the sins of all humanity. (John 3:16 and 1 John 4:7-16). Jesus is the sacrifice. Jesus was willing to go all the way to the cross – a sign of God's love rather than judgment. People can choose whether to respond to God's love or not. God's will is that none perish (2 Peter 3:9) but He gives us free will to make our own choices. Light also has a symbolic meaning which can fit with the experience of new believers as they come to see things in a new light. For example, Nicodemus came by night but became enlightened (John 3:1-5). At various stages in the life of God's people there are important moments of deep encounter with God. These kairos moments sit outside the normal chronological understanding of time. The Māori phrase "mā te wā" captures something of this. There is a right time in the universe for important decisions. Ecclesiastes also captures a sense of kairos (Ecclesiastes 3: 1-8). Ultimately there is an important time in which each of us must decide whether we are going to follow and believe in Jesus. **GROUP DISCUSSION** • In what ways have you encountered God and or experienced his love? This could be through other people, reflecting on scripture, in the Eucharist or the majesty of nature. • When did you last think about the love God has for you? How did you or will you respond?

**HAFOTI, TIMOR-LESTE**—In Timor-Leste, there are few economic opportunities, especially for women, after the country's history of occupation and colonisation. However, our partner organisation HAFOTI works to provide skills and economic opportunities to women across the country



**Sister Eveleen Retreat House-** Sister Eveleen is a contemplative retreat house, nestled amongst native trees and beach flora on Scarborough Hill in Sumner, Christchurch. The retreat house overlooks Pegasus Bay in a stunning natural environment and a beautiful garden. It is owned by the Anglican Church but is run ecumenically and welcomes all who seek to deepen their walk with God. We invite guests to experience God's sacred presence, find rest and replenishment, listen to your own heart and discern God's leading in your life through our guided retreats, individual bookings or as a venue for your group. More information can be found at [www.sistereretreat.com](http://www.sistereretreat.com)

**Good Friday Collection** | 29 March 2024- The Holy Father's Good Friday Collection is a small gesture of solidarity for the Christian communities that still walk in the footsteps of Jesus. Our New Zealand collection is given for the upkeep of the Shrine Church in Cana, Galilee, and twenty University scholarships to Bethlehem University. In 1342 the Apostolic See confirmed the Franciscans as the legitimate guardians of the Holy Land. Funds gathered by each country is forwarded to the Franciscan Custody of the Holy Land. Please give generously to this collection in support of our brothers and sisters living in the land our Lord ministered. Many thanks for your anticipated generosity again this year, it is very much appreciated. There are also specially marked envelopes in the foyer, or alternatively please pay by direct credit (parish bank account number) your name as payee, and 'Holy Places' as referee

**Easter Sunday Dues Special Collection** | 31 March 2024- Many thanks to parishioners who in the past have contributed to the Easter Dues/Offerings Special Collection. The collection is used by the Clergy Trust Fund to support the priests in the various costs pertaining to their ministries and personal lives. The Clergy Trust Fund is responsible for every aspect of our priests' wellbeing. The priests have always expressed their gratitude for the people's financial support and the care that they receive. There are also specially marked envelopes in the foyer, or alternatively please pay by direct credit (parish bank

account number) your name as payee, and 'Dues' as reference.

**7 March 2024** Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ I am writing to you regarding recent media coverage of an allegation against Cardinal John Dew about events alleged to have taken place in the 1970s. The New Zealand Police investigated the allegation. They have stated that they have concluded their investigation and no charges will be laid. Cardinal John retired as Archbishop of Wellington in May last year on reaching age 75, the normal retirement age for Catholic bishops. In accord with our protocols, Cardinal John stood aside from all public church activities when the allegation was brought to the attention of the Church. Cardinal John has asserted his innocence throughout. Inquiries by the Church are not run concurrently to those being undertaken by the Police. Now that the Police investigation has concluded, Cardinal John continues to stand aside while Church inquiries proceed. This has been a distressing situation for all involved. I would ask that we pray for all those affected and offer support where we can. *Yours in Christ +Paul Martin SM Archbishop of Wellington*

**MASS OF THE OILS** -Mass of the Oils will be celebrated at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Palmerston North on Tuesday 26 March at 12.05pm. Any singers who want to join in the choir at the Chrism Mass are most welcome. If you can participate, please rsvp to [music@pncathedral.or.nz](mailto:music@pncathedral.or.nz) and they will email the music for the Mass. It would be wonderful to have representation from the wider Diocese. Also, if you require transport, please contact the office.



**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, 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/>
- Display and prayer with this woodcraft on Sat, 23 Mar, 10-11.30am
- <https://www.studyjoy.nz/2024/02/27/stations-of-the-cross-meet-the-artist/>
- For more information: [www.studyjoy.nz](http://www.studyjoy.nz)

**St John's College**—This week our Year 9 students were out for two days on historical trips where they got to travel around Napier learning about the history of the Marists and the Catholic Church in Hawkes Bay. Many of our Y13 students were involved with a Gateway Health and Safety course on Tuesday and Wednesday this week. Our Tuesday house masses continue each week and we would like to extend an invitation to parishioners in our community to attend our weekly masses which are at 1:20 pm each Tuesday. Conor Bolton (DRS)

**God's Work of Art**—A grimy painting hung for decades in the dining room of a Jesuit house in Dublin. Nobody paid it much attention until a visitor, an art expert, recognized it as a work of great value. Under close investigation, it turned out to be the work of the great Roman painter, Caravaggio. His painting of the arrest of Jesus now hangs in our National Art Gallery, and is one of the Gallery's great treasures. All those years when it hung in the dining room, it was no less a masterpiece, but its real value went unrecognized. In today's

reading Paul says that "we are God's work of art, created in Christ Jesus to live the good life." Like that Caravaggio painting, our worth can go unnoticed even to ourselves. We hardly think of ourselves as works of art; yet God sees us as works of art, in progress. Like the person who spotted the painting's value, God knows our true worth, and through the inspired words of Isaiah says, "You are precious in my sight, and I love you." If we know ourselves as precious in God's sight, it gives foundation to our hope. We can think of others as works of art too, in this way. These are people whom we value, whom we treasure, whose worth to us is beyond price. When someone is precious to us, we don't treat them as customers or clients. We will do anything we can for them. We will travel a distance to see them; we will stay up half the night with them if they are ill; we will defend and protect them as best we can. We keep faithful to them, even at cost to ourselves. We value them, simply, for who they are. Our experience of loving others gives us a glimpse of how the Lord relates to us. God loves us in a way that does not count the cost. The gospel says it wonderfully: "God so loved the world that he gave his only Son." Or as Paul puts it, "God so loved us that he was generous with his mercy." We are so valued that God did not spare his own Son, but gave him up to save us all. So it is not surprising that the cross became Christianity's dominant symbol. It is not that we glorify suffering, but that we recognize in the cross just how far God is prepared to go for love of us *associationofcatholicpriests.ie*

#### Easter Timetable

Holy Thursday – 7pm @ St Joseph's, Waipukurau  
Good Friday – 3pm @St Joseph's, Waipukurau  
Easter Vigil – 5.30 @ St Patrick's, Waipawa  
Easter Sunday - 9.30am @St Joseph's, Waipukurau

