

## Anniversary's in May

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

**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**—The End-of-Life Choice Act is due for a review in November this year. Issue 72 of the Nathaniel Report published by The Nathaniel Centre for Bioethics features a very useful summary, written by Sophie Olaszowski, of the conflicting issues that are likely to be debated in the review. Entitled "The Sharp End", the summary is available at [www.tekupenga.ac.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Nathaniel-Report-72.pdf](http://www.tekupenga.ac.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/05/Nathaniel-Report-72.pdf).

**Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy**  
Bible Stories - What do they mean?

Join us in unravelling Bible stories and look-

### 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

ing for answers within a group, and with Bible Scholar Kieran Fenn fms.  
Sunday, 02 June 2024, 5-6pm (Zoom). Koha <https://www.studyjoy.nz/2024/05/07/bible-stories-what-do-they-mean/>  
Videos & Podcasts on the Bible, Liturgy, Religions and more  
Free and available anytime online.  
<https://www.studyjoy.nz/category/resources/video-clips/>  
For more information: [www.studyjoy.nz](http://www.studyjoy.nz)

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Website—[www.holytrinitychb.com](http://www.holytrinitychb.com)

Facebook—The Holy Trinity CHB



## The Holy Trinity Parish Rātini Kupu

12th Haratua ,2024  
The Ascension of the Lord



### A Prayer for All Mothers

On this joyous day dedicated to honouring mothers, we come before You with hearts full of gratitude. We ask, Lord, for Your special touch upon every mother who is present here today and those who could not be with us. Bless them abundantly, and may the work of their hands be forever cherished in Your sight. Grant each mother strength, patience, and endless love as they nurture and guide their families. Let her example to her children be a beacon that guides them through life's challenges and joys. May her wisdom and faith be a legacy passed down to the next generation of mothers. We also pray for comfort and support for those who find this day difficult—those who have lost their mothers, those yearning to be mothers, and those who have strained relationships. Surround them with Your love and peace, providing comfort in their hearts. May today be a reflection of the joy and beauty they bring into our lives. We thank You for the gift of motherhood, the endless sacrifices made, and the unconditional love given. We ask these blessings in Your holy name, Amen.



### When is the Ascension of the Lord?

Historically, the Ascension of the Lord is celebrated 40 days after Easter Sunday on the Thursday in the sixth week of Easter. In the last decade, there has been a shift in the U.S. to celebrate the Ascension on the seventh Sunday of Easter. In 2024, Ascension Sunday is May 12.

### Is the Ascension a holy day of obligation in 2024?

When celebrated on the Thursday in the sixth week of Easter, the Ascension is a holy day of obligation. When celebrated on the seventh Sunday of Easter, Catholics are already expected to attend Mass that day.

### When did Jesus ascend into Heaven?

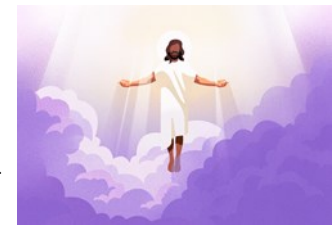
Based on the Acts of the Apostles, the Church holds that Jesus ascended into heaven 40 days after His resurrection on Easter Sunday.

### Is the Ascension the same as Pentecost?

The Ascension and Pentecost are not the same, though they are connected. It was 10 days after Jesus' Ascension into Heaven that the Holy Spirit was able to descend upon His disciples. Pentecost signals the end of the Easter season and is also the day we recognize as the birth of the Church.

### What happened between the Ascension and Pentecost?

For ten days, Jesus' disciples and Mary patiently and prayerfully waited for the coming of the Holy Spirit.



We are Hiring! - Join our team!

We are looking for a

## SCHOOL BOARD SECRETARY

This position involves attending each meeting (2 per term), accurately recording the minutes of the meeting, and ensuring that a final copy of the minutes is available for public viewing.

This is a paid position.

The minute taker is not a member of the board and does not have speaking rights, nor can they vote in board meeting decisions.

Submit your CV, application form and cover letter to:

Mrs. Betty Brown: [principal@stjosephschb.school.nz](mailto:principal@stjosephschb.school.nz), or

Mr. Graeme Fister: [board@stjosephschb.school.nz](mailto:board@stjosephschb.school.nz)



I suppose if I said I purposely made the mistake last week of bringing the date of Pentecost forward by a week, you wouldn't believe me? No! Correct. It was a mistake and I apologise if I caused confusion. My excuse is that I am on retreat at the moment and while in the desert dates and times tend to matter less. It may not be true but it's a good excuse and I'm sticking with it! Pentecost is definitely next week when we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit to us. However, let us remember that it is not next Sunday that the Holy Spirit actually arrives among us. We celebrate it next Sunday, but the first Pentecost happened over two thousand year ago. The Spirit is already here. It is for us to realise this, open our hearts to the Gospel, and liberate the Spirit who dwells within us. The Gospel today is an interesting one but like all of John's Gospel it tends to be complex, giving us what Jesus said and also a long theological reflection on it. So, I chickened out! Instead of diving into the foundations of Gnosticism, and John's understanding of the world, truth and sanctification, I found myself led to one small sentence which, for me, poses one (or is it two) very important questions: What is it that I value most in life? What is it that brings me most joy? Are these two questions or the same question in two ways? [b.maher@oblates.ie](mailto:b.maher@oblates.ie)

**Pleroma Christian Supplies** is an equal opportunity employer and we have a job opportunity for a Customer Service team member. We welcome applicants from all backgrounds and experiences. If you are a dedicated individual with a desire to make a positive impact in your community, we would love to hear from you. Please submit your resume and a cover letter outlining your qualifications and why you are the ideal candidate for this position at Pleroma Christian Supplies. **Application Deadline:** 15th May 2024. Thank you for your interest in joining the Pleroma Christian Supplies team! Applications to: [manager@pleroma.org.nz](mailto:manager@pleroma.org.nz) [Customer Service Team Member Job in Otane, Hawkes Bay - SEEK](#)

**International research shows New Zealand** has the highest school bullying rates in the developed world. The newly-released Organ-

isation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD) report paints a grim picture. Its [PISA 2018](#) survey found 15 percent of New Zealand students reported being frequently bullied. Bullying severely affects students' mental health and attendance, the OECD report points out. The OECD report noted certain anti-bullying programmes that some schools had actively and successfully introduced to curb bullying rates. **Working on the problem** - An anti-bullying programme called KiVa is an option available to schools. It was developed in Finland to promote positive interactions among students and empower them to be "upstanders rather than bystanders". "We looked at all the research. Luckily we were able to tap into Victoria University at the time and see what the data told us, and we found a product that internationally, through 25 countries, actually makes a difference in these outcomes," one school principal using the programme says. "We look at creating a culture where it won't start. And then if it does start or it does happen then we address it front-on. We use a restorative approach where the students actually come up with the solutions, and then we follow that up and use surveys and data to ensure that number stays really low." Feedback about the programme's positive effect on children is encouraging. But schools, the community, parent involvement and policy need to work together to implement a good culture in schools. It's a collective responsibility, the principal says. "Schools work so hard to create cultures, but we reflect communities, and we reflect the wider culture of the day so it is a wider responsibility as well. "It's highly alarming. But possibly looking at our wider community and some of our leaders and how they behave, it [bullying prevalence] doesn't really surprise me unfortunately." He said it is "hard enough these days" to be a young person, citing the influence of being constantly attached to social media through smartphones. "It's really scary. It's sad. If we can help one child go to school and not be bullied, then I think we've made a difference. And if we can drop it by a quarter or more then we've made a huge difference." [cathnews.co.nz](http://cathnews.co.nz)

**Week of Prayer for Christian Unity 12-19 May 2024.** - The Week of Prayer for Christian Unity (WPCU) is an annual global ecumenical celebration and the week 12-19 May here in Aotearoa New Zealand. Christians around the world are invited to pray for the unity of all the baptized; to reflect together on Scripture; to participate in jointly organized worship services; and to share in acts of outreach and fellowship. The theme for 2024 is: "You shall love the Lord your God...and your neighbour as yourself." Luke 10:27 You are invited to learn more about the WPCU, and to participate in and/or host an appropriate activity during the Week. How might we connect with other Christian communities present in our area to jointly organize a special prayer event/s during this week?

**Thank you** to those people who organised and took part in the recent Liturgies when Fr Paul was unwell. We would love more people on our list to call on. Please consider this ministry. If you are interested please contact Hamish or Fr Paul.

**In the gospel** we have just heard Our Lord's final instructions, his Last Will and Testament. Just before leaving them, he reminds them of what he expects of them. Earlier he had sent them out to spread the Kingdom of God. Those who go in his name, do so with his authority. The authority goes with the mission, so to speak. In Matthew's version he now adds this great promise, "I am with you always, even to the end of the age." Mark says that the Lord worked with them and confirmed the message by the signs that accompanied it". And Luke emphasises that they will be "clothed with power from on high", that is, with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit.

Jesus is very definite about what he has to say. Like any gathering of people, the feelings of his disciples were varied. But he sends them out to speak and act in his name. Their mission was both easy and hard: easy to understand but hard to carry out. It was to teach others all that he had taught them. Just as he asked them to follow his way, they were to ask that others should follow that way too. Has a doctor ever put you on a course of antibiotics. The most basic guidance about antibiotics is to

complete the course. Even if the patient starts to feel well after a few days, to discontinue taking the medicine can let their condition grow worse. Similarly, the message of salvation must continue to be shared until the end of

time. With all the changes in the church and in society, neither Jesus nor his message have changed. His Gospel remains a call to live our lives to the full. You write a new page of the gospel each day, through all that you do and whatever you say. Others read what you write, be it faithful or true. So what is the gospel according to you? He is with us always. This can be a real help against loneliness. Being alone is not the same as being lonely. One can feel lonely in a crowded street; or alternatively, like Ciccero, never less alone than when alone ("minus solum, quam cum solus"). This applies especially to those who believe the promise, "I am with you always." Talking with him doesn't even need words. If we are open to His presence in our heart, and treasure it, we can experience fully that "Joy of the Gospel" so warmly described for us by our good Pope Francis. [associationofcatholicpriests.ie](http://associationofcatholicpriests.ie)

**Te Rōpū Tautoko Anonymous Evaluation Form**—Te Rōpū Tautoko, the Church group established to engage with the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care, is seeking your thoughts on the Church's engagement with the Inquiry. Feedback received will inform Tautoko's final report, as a reflection of the broad reality of peoples' experiences. Takes 5 to 20 minutes to complete. Closes Friday 24 May. <https://tautoko.catholic.org.nz/anonymous-evaluation/>



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