



This quarterly e-news is a resource to better connect with those exercising leadership in the Archdiocese.

Browse to discover **links to resources** that may be useful in the many and varied ministries throughout the diocese.

Stay updated on **Cardinal John Dew's priorities and Synod 2017 follow-up opportunities.**

Check out **workshops** that are on offer so you may factor them into your planning.

**All feedback from parishes and individuals is welcome.** Let us know what would be helpful and we will do our best.

Contact details on **page four**

## The Synod is over ... now what?

It would be easy to be overwhelmed by the 96 synod recommendations that were accepted by Cardinal John as the way forward.

These 96 recommendations came out of the 13 topics that were discerned by the people of the Archdiocese to be important at this stage of our journey.

Some of you have made an excellent start in creating a pastoral plan around the outcomes of the synod. Several parishes are wondering where to start.

Here are four items of good news:

1. The synod outcomes are a ten year plan -

it does not need to be achieved within the next few years so there is time to plan well and pace ourselves. They do not all need to be implemented at once.



2. You will discover there are many things you are already doing so you will not be starting from scratch!
3. Parishes are not

being asked to implement all of the outcomes. Some are for the Archdiocese to address and others are for schools. It is all do-able!

4. If you would like some support to start, or progress, your pastoral plan Mary-Ann Greaney and Chris Walkerdine are happy to work alongside you - just ask (contact details on page 4).

**Thanks be to God for all he has done and is doing for us** - Suzanne Aubert.

Mary-Ann Greaney



## Cardinal John's words still ring true today

This is not an easy time for the Archdiocese. We face unprecedented challenges. We could ignore them and refuse to change, but change is in the very nature of things. Not to change is to stagnate and die. What helps us, of course, is that we know God is with us.

Let God write your history, your personal history, and the history of the parish you are proud to call 'home'. Don't be afraid of the change which must happen if our Church is to grow and flourish; don't be afraid to embrace the opportunities that will create something new and wonderful of our Church in Aotearoa New Zealand.

It is obvious you want the best for our Archdiocese. We need to build on the strong foundations on which our local church stands. I owe an enormous debt of gratitude to the bishops who have preceded me in leadership among you, and to the people and priests for their commitment to serve since our formation 168 years ago.

# On offer in the Archdiocese

Do share the information with those in your parish who may want to attend

One of the practical actions from the **2017 Synod** put forward by participants was for *'Formation in spiritual development is critical in order to support service; unique to locality - one size does not fit all'*. Parishes and communities all over the diocese are offering a wonderful smorgasbord of opportunities for prayer, workshops, scripture study, spiritual direction, retreats, Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola - and so much more ...

**Home of Compassion**

Click on image to find out what is on offer



**NZ Catholics Bishops Website**



Click on image for resources

**Marist Fathers**

Click on image to explore possibilities



**National Liturgy Office**



More resources here



**Modern Slavery, Trafficking & Exploitation in Aotearoa NZ**

Hear Dr Rebecca Miller & Peter Devoy (Immigration NZ)

**Thurs 26 April, 7.30 - 9.00 pm.**

**St Anne's Church Hall, Emmet St, Newtown.**

Gold coin donation. Hosted by ANZRATH (Religious & Friends Against Human Trafficking)

**Everyone can be great because everyone can serve**  
Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

## How do we make people from other cultures welcome?

- ⇒ Introduce yourself - your family
- ⇒ Learn some of their basic greetings
- ⇒ Have informal occasions to welcome/introduce them - shared lunch, morning tea
- ⇒ Create opportunities for everyone to share some of their culture/foods/music
- ⇒ Be aware of different cultural styles of communication
- ⇒ Encourage them to share some things about their country - similarities/differences to New Zealand
- ⇒ Be mindful that they will need time to adjust to your accent
- ⇒ Recognise they will have talents to share
- ⇒ Remember the personal approach is usually best



## Holiday home for families in need

The St Vincent de Paul Holiday Home in Picton is a two bedroom house which can sleep up to six people comfortably. It is centrally located on the High Street and is close to all amenities. The Holiday Home is available for families in need, who, for one reason or another, may not otherwise be able to have a holiday e.g. those recovering from mental or physical illness, people under stress, or those suffering from financial hardship.

To qualify, a family or individual simply needs to be recommended by their local St Vincent de Paul Conference in writing. The cost to rent (which is usually covered by the recommending conference) is a flat fee of \$25 per night or \$150 per week (maximum number of guests is 6).

More details and application forms are available on request. Please contact: Maria McConway, Ph: 03 573 7111, email: [jmmcconway@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jmmcconway@xtra.co.nz) or write to: The President, St Vincent de Paul Picton Conference, P O Box 585, Picton 7250.



## Archdiocesan Pastoral Council — what is happening?

The chair welcomed **Fr Cirilo Barlis, Lauano Ati Ilaoa** and **Falefou Sio** as new members attending for the first time and farewelled and thanked in absentia **Fr James Lyons** who has served on the Council since 2009.

The Saturday morning discernment for the Council focussed on five strategic directions from Synod 2017, namely

- 3a. *Adventurous, creative people with initiative who are able to lead the parish in its response to community needs are identified and encouraged to come forward.*
- 3b. *Understanding of leadership roles is broadened beyond those traditionally found in parishes and appropriate formation is provided.*
- 3e. *New models of lay leadership (including team leadership, project leadership and servant leadership) are sought and parishioners are prepared to implement them.*
- 3k. *Young people are encouraged, trusted and supported in taking the initiative in developing and leading new forms of ministry and outreach.*
- 3m. *Policies/norms are developed to ensure continuity in practice and lay leadership when there is a change in a Parish Priest.*

Other agenda items included two papers on Ch 8 of *Amoris Laetitia*, one a comparison of the *Amoris Laetitia* text and how some Bishops Conferences have interpreted it, the second, draft guidelines intended to apply to the Archdiocese, in regard to **practical pastoral caring for and accompanying those in difficult marriage situations; Training for Lay Funeral Celebrants; a Review of Migrant Chaplaincies** in the Archdiocese; the **20<sup>th</sup> Anniversary in 2018 of Ecclesia in Oceania Synod** with suggestions as to how this significant anniversary and the **100<sup>th</sup> anniversary in 2018 of Maximum Illud** – Pope Benedict XV's Apostolic Letter, giving new impetus to the missionary task of proclaiming the Gospel, might be celebrated.

The Council has been working on a **self-audit resource** for parish leadership centred on directions and outcomes from the 2017 Synod, as well as the **missionary outreach** of the church. It is hoped to have this resource ready for circulation before May.

## Stewardship, a way of life update

A very successful and much appreciated Stewardship Day was held in the Catholic Parish of Wellington South in November 2017, followed by a Retreat Day at the beginning of Advent at St Thomas More in Wilton for all those parishioners who had attended a Stewardship Day during the year. The theme was 'Stay Awake', taken from the Gospel for the first Sunday in Advent, and Bridget Taumoepeau and Bernard Leuthart, two outstanding presenters, ensured a gift of a day for all who attended.

Small group one hour parish reflections based on **Stewardship, a Spirituality for Life** have been created by Fr James Lyons and others, suitable for groups perhaps just wanting to meet for three weeks for a time for formation and fellowship. These are available from, and can be led by Lorraine (details below).



On the calendar for 2018, apart from Stewardship Days and Stewardship Retreats, are planned Stewardship Breakfasts, and half yearly network/formation meetings for parishes who have experienced a Stewardship Day with Cardinal John.

One of the **recurring requests from Synod 2017 was for Gift Discernment workshops** in the parish setting; how to discern spiritual gifts and to explore more deeply the concept of giftedness for mission.

**Contact Lorraine McArthur** l.mcarthur@wn.catholic.org.nz (04 496 1796)

## Christine Walkerdine introduces herself



John and I have been married for 33 years and are still happily living in the family home in Lower Hutt. I am a step-mother and mother to three grown boys and five grandsons.

As a cradle Catholic I have always tried to live out Christ's bidding 'to love the Lord your God with all your heart and mind and to love your neighbour as yourself.' This led me into being a school and tertiary teacher for twenty years. This was followed by ministering alongside refugees and migrants in the not - for - profit sector for another fifteen years.

My involvement in an Ignatian Prayer Group led me to discern another calling and in 2017, I completed the Launch Out Formation Programme, which includes the Diploma in Pastoral Leadership, prayer, and pastoral practise.

I am excited to be part of the **Parish Leadership Ministry Team** and trust I may be able to use my skills to assist with making the Synod 2017 outcomes a reality for everyone. (Contact details below)

## A few Lay Pastoral Leader changes



We congratulate **Debbie Matheson** on her appointment as Lay Pastoral Leader at the Cathedral - she started at the beginning of March. Many of you came to know Debbie as the Consultant for Parish Leadership Support. She was a tower of strength in that role since she started with us in April 2016. Her organizational skills and setting in place liturgical workshops and building relationships has been well received throughout the diocese. We pray her ministry alongside Fr James Lyons and the Sacred Heart Cathedral parishioners will be richly blessed.



**Merrick Mitchell**, who has been employed as Lay Pastoral Leader at Our Lady of the Bays Parish, has now been reassigned to work with Fr Bill Warwick in Holy Family Parish (Nelson and Stoke). He started this role after Easter. Merrick had a significant role in the Synod 2017 preparations. He has developed excellent relationships within the local ecumenical community. Merrick's commitment to parish visitation has been greatly appreciated by those he has visited, especially the most vulnerable in the community. We wish him well in this new appointment alongside Fr Bill Warwick.



We bid farewell to **Fiona Rammell** who was Lay Pastoral Leader at Sacred Heart Cathedral. Her love for, and expertise in sacramental preparation and creative ways of conveying complex issues simply, are gifts she holds in abundance and have been greatly appreciated. While she may have left formal ministry she is not lost to us. Like many people all over the Archdiocese she will continue as a volunteer where ever possible. Thank you Fiona.



### Mary-Ann Greaney

Director

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### Christine Walkerdine

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## Parish Leadership Ministry Vicariate

In collaboration with others **provide formation and support** for parish leadership (priests, lay pastoral leaders, pastoral councils, parish office administrators, liturgical ministries).

**Keep parishes updated** on archdiocesan priorities and Synod 2017 follow up opportunities.

Help embed and bring to life Cardinal John Dew's vision of having **collaborative leadership teams** of priests and lay pastoral leaders ministering together.