



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

Go you are sent ...



Synod 2017 is already bearing fruit. Some Pastoral Councils have started using the prayerful discernment process as a way of making decisions.

A number of parishes have had people who were at the synod weekend report back at the end of mass. Others have used their weekly newsletters for written feedback. People in many places are gathering in

groups to explore the synod outcomes and starting to put some of them in place. Some Parish Councils are preparing to revisit their mission statements and pastoral plans in light of the synod outcomes.

As well as post synod parish initiatives there are other opportunities on offer that you will be alerted to as

they come up. Check out page 2 for prayer and reflection for 2018 at the Home of Compassion.

For all synod documents click on the picture.



SYNOD '17

Mary-Ann Greaney

Here we are, right at the stable door before Christmas, the star of Bethlehem beckons. May the star in our own hearts always shine in welcome and friendship, and may the door of our hearts be open as we enter into the Advent Season preparing for the ultimate Christmas gift – Jesus, Son of the Living God.

Most of us will be able to recall a time when we looked forward to the birth of a new family member, wondering who the new baby will look like and what the future will hold for them.

We all want the very best for our new born babies and are determined to do all in our power to help them to become the person God intends for them to be.

Whatever our hopes for Advent may be let us all remember those on the peripheries, those who can find no room at the inn, and those who will give birth to new life in the coming months.

Opportunities for prayer and reflection

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

Twelve of the Synod outcomes focussed on developing a **Spirituality of Service**. The Daughters of Our Lady of Compassion have a number of programmes in place for 2018 that you may like to be a part of. They are all to be held at the Home of Compassion, 2 Rhine Street, Island Bay. For more information and to register for events: 04 383 7769 or Retreat@compassion.org.nz **See details below**



Taizé Prayer

First Friday of the month in the Chapel - 7pm to 8pm starting 02 March.

Taizé is prayer consisting of meditative singing - simple songs typically featuring a line or two from the Psalms. A kind of *lectio divina* in music, reading and spoken prayer along with periods of silence.



Contemplative Prayer Series

Wednesday seminars -10am sessions are repeated at 7pm. 21, 28 February, 7,14, 21 March.

Fr Alan Roberts offers this five week series on the tradition of contemplative prayer. Topics include: Our image of God; Growth in prayer; Meditation and Contemplation; Inner Healing; and the influence of St Ignatius of Loyola.



'Spirituality of Service' discussions

Wednesday evenings - 7pm 11,18,25 April, 2,9,16 May.

Our baptismal call to embrace a 'spirituality of service'. An opportunity for people of all ages and stages of their faith to unpack the gift of the Easter mysteries. This time will include insights from guest speakers on living as people of faith and putting Catholic social teaching into action.



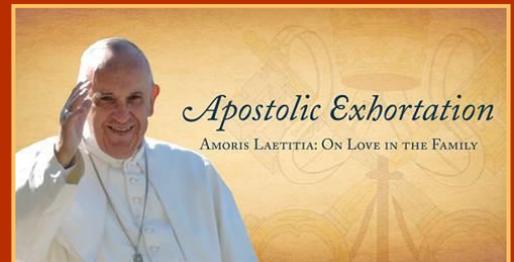
Food for Faith is offering an Online Advent Retreat for the month of December 2017. Those who want to take part will need to click on the image to sign up.

**Coming together is a beginning.
Keeping together is progress.
Working together is success.**

Henry Ford

Adult education opportunity for parishes

Interactive Seminar exploring Pope Francis' *Amoris Laetitia*.



Description suitable for Parish Newsletters:

The Joy of Love - *Amoris Laetitia*

Pope Francis is often portrayed as having instigated something of a revolution in Catholic pastoral practice around marriage and family. Has he? In *Amoris Laetitia* he certainly calls for a more understanding and welcoming Church. This seminar session will unpack the groundbreaking document on family life and help participants apply it in their everyday lives.

Parish Leaders: This seminar has been run with 250 teachers in Catholic schools in the Archdiocese. We recommend that it be run as a 2 hour evening session including in that time frame a 15min coffee/tea/biscuits component. Cost is \$150+GST which you may wish to recoup/offset by asking for a koha or gold coin donation. Give Chris a call on 4961759 or email at c.duthie-jung@wn.catholic.org.nz to arrange a date for your parish.

Archdiocesan Family and Young Church Vicariate

Archdiocesan Pastoral Council — what is happening?

Welcomes and Farewells

The Council welcomed two new members, Maria Archer from Richmond and Deacon Danny Karatea-Goddard, Turanga Maori and Te Kahu o te Rangi. Two further members, Falefou Sio and Lauano Atu Ilaoa will be welcomed at the March meeting. The Council also farewelled two long-standing members, Br Doug Dawick, Chair of the Council for three years, and Mika Teofilo, a member since 2010. Both have given so generously of their time and wisdom, and will be greatly missed. The new Chair is Kathryn Miles from Carterton.

Synod Outcomes

Following on from Synod 2017 Cardinal John has asked the Council to reflect on and provide insight for him on nine of the Synod outcomes. The business of the morning centred on two of the outcomes, 2a 'Parishes are supported to develop new and inclusive forms of liturgy/worship (other than the Mass) which reflect the diversity of parish communities and encourage people to re-engage with their faith', and 2e 'The Archdiocese creates and implements a pastoral plan, which takes account of cultural diversity, to ensure a co-ordinated and consistent approach to the spiritual growth of the people'.

Parish Self- Appraisal

The Council has been preparing a Parish Self Appraisal resource to help parishes reflect on their pastoral activity and hopefully to help inform pastoral planning in the future. The resource will incorporate the themes and outcomes of Synod. It is hoped that that the draft will be ready for presentation to the Council of Priests February 2018. The idea for a parish resource of this nature emanated first from New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference who then invited each diocese to shape it according to what would be most useful for their faith communities.



Stewardship

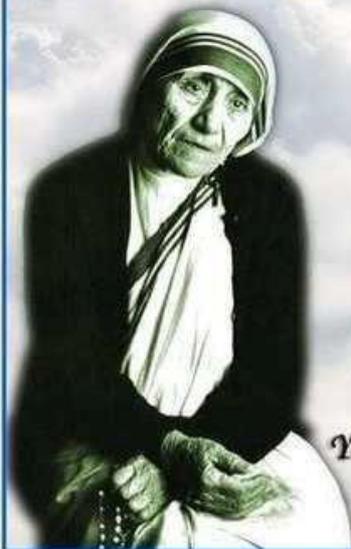
The theme for the October Stewardship Month this year was **Go, you are sent to be stewards of creation**, following on from Synod. The Archdiocesan Stewardship Committee prepared resources for parishes to use, including Data Projection stills, Prayers of the Faithful, bulletin inserts, and a one hour prayer reflection for parish groups, based on the themes of *Laudato Si*.

On Saturday November 18 the last of the Stewardship Days for 2017 was held for the Catholic Parish of Wellington South, attracting close to 100 parishioners. What a vibrant, joyful, energetic and spirit-filled community! Synod Actions and the fruits from this day will help to inform their pastoral planning into the future. If your parish would welcome a Stewardship Day in 2018, please contact Lorraine McArthur, 04 496 1796 or l.mcarthur@wn.catholic.org.nz

An Advent Stewardship Day's Retreat **Stay Awake**, is planned for December 2 at St Thomas More Church in Wilton. Flyers have been sent to all parishes, and Stewardship Day attendees. The gift of this day gives us all a time to reflect on the gift of Christ in our lives today, and how we are called to live joyfully the life God calls us to live, uniquely and as disciples.

A major theme for 2018, identified at Synod, is parish formation in Gift Discernment. Please contact Lorraine (address above) or the Parish Leadership Vicariate for information on parish Gift Discernment workshops (Mary-Ann Greaney m.greaney@wn.catholic.org.nz).

Final Analysis



People are often unreasonable, illogical, and self-centered;

Forgive them anyway.

If you are kind, people may accuse you of selfish, ulterior motives;

Be kind anyway.

If you are successful, you will win some false friends and some true friends; succeed anyway.

If you are honest and frank, people may cheat you;

Be honest and frank anyway.

What you spend years building, someone could destroy overnight;

Build anyway.

If you find serenity and happiness, they may be jealous;

Be happy anyway.

The good you do today, people will often forget tomorrow;

Do good anyway.

Give the world your best anyway.

***You see, in the final analysis, it is between you and God;
It was never between you and them anyway.***

Resisting change is like holding your breathe, if you succeed you are dead. (unknown)



THE CARDINAL'S
CARE CAMPAIGN 2017

Supporting the appeal supports the vulnerable in our community

In the new year, parishes, schools, and Catholic organisations throughout the Archdiocese will be invited to apply for grants of \$500 - \$5000. Gifts to the 2017 Care Appeal will provide food, housing, counselling, security and support. Donations will also launch initiatives that have arisen from the 2017 Synod. Click on image for details on how you may donate now.



LECTIO DIVINA
Reading the Scripture
Reflecting on the Meaning
Responding through Prayer
Resting in God
Responding in Action

Lectio Meditatio Oratio Contemplatio Operatio

During the weekend 28/29 October most parishes in the Archdiocese used Lectio Divina as a prayerful way to reflect on and respond to the Gospel of the day. Click on the image (scroll down to the bottom) for the process we used - easily adapted for private reflection.



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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.