



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



Click for back issues of Leadership Links

The homeless unmarried mum, and carpenter

Christmas is the story of Mary, a young unmarried mum, giving birth to a refugee child, Jesus, in a sheep shed. The central male character in this story is Joseph, Mary's fiancée, who supports her decision to give birth to a child when he is not the biological father. We have been remembering this story for over 2000 years now. It is puzzling



that many of us who enact this event faithfully year after year, fail to be sensitive to children born in similar circumstances today (refugee children) to parents like Mary and Joseph (unmarried, poor workers). God chose an unmarried teenager whose fiancée was a carpenter, to give birth to 'King / Saviour' Jesus, in a sheep shed. **Are we able to recognise the face of the Holy Family in the many former refugees who seek new lives as our neighbours?**

There is something we can do - not only at Christmas but every day of the year. The major focus of the Cardinal's Care Appeal 2018 is supporting 697 former refugees in 220 households. Catholic Social Services has helped train volunteers to welcome and set up homes for former refugees. This is in addition to the significant work by the Refugee Family Reunification Trust who have been helping bring the loved ones of former refugees to Aotearoa for over 17 years and raised more than \$1.7 million to make that happen. If you would like to be a volunteer with either of these initiatives then contact:

Catholic Social Services Karen Holland 04 385 8642

Refugee Family Reunification Trust Amanda Calder 04 475 7994



Details on how to donate to the Cardinals Care Appeal are available in every church - if you can't find the information then ask your priest or lay pastoral leader.

Mary-Ann Greaney

Get into the Christmas Spirit in a flash by clicking on the image to view a four minute 'Christmas Story' acted and told by a group of young children from St Paul's Church, Auckland.



Save the date

Parish Leadership and Development Conference, Friday 27 – Saturday 28 September 2019. Venue is Burns Lodge, Mosgiel, Dunedin (the former Holy Cross Seminary). Conference theme is **Seeking Holiness in a Secular Society.** The organizers are the *National Pastoral Planners Network* who have a representative in every diocese. **What will be on offer?** Keynote speakers on a variety of topics that are relevant to the needs of the Church in Aotearoa at this time. Workshops run by facilitators from all dioceses – do send in your suggestions. Also on offer - networking opportunities, sharing of resources, and well prepared liturgies. **What will it cost?** Registration \$150 and Catering will be included. There is a limited number of on site accommodation (B&B) for an additional \$60 per night. Billeting is also an option. This early notification will enable you to take advantage of cheap flights.



More details to follow early 2019

Do share the information with others who may be interested

Behind the Scenes of Vatican Art and Architecture.

This popular short course, begins 7 March 2019 at Victoria University of Wellington's Centre for Lifelong Learning, Rutherford House, Pipitea Campus - six sessions, two hours each, on Thursday evenings.

Participants will learn the history, intrigues, theology and beauty of some of the world's finest art and architecture commissioned and collected by Renaissance, Baroque, and Neoclassical popes. Lecturer is Dr Christopher Longhurst. **For further information:** Phone 04 463 6556, Email: conted@vuw.ac.nz



Hiruhārama Pilgrimage



Saturday 26 & Sunday 27 January. Hiruhārama holds a special place in NZ history and is at the heart of Compassion identity. **Spiritual home of the Sisters of Compassion** and the final resting place for **poet James K Baxter**, this pilgrimage is as much a journey of the heart, as it is a physical place to visit. All are welcome. Accommodation at the Old Convent is limited, so **please book early.** (04) 383 7769 retreat@compassion.org.nz



Fr Jeff Drane leads a five week **Contemplative Prayer** seminar at the **Home of Compassion** Island Bay. No previous experience needed and all are welcome. Wednesday 13, 20, 27 March and 3 and 10 April. The 10.00am sessions are repeated at 7.00pm.

Click on the image to hear Pope Francis share on **why the only future worth building includes everyone.**



He speaks powerfully of the need to place people at the centre - not money. He stresses that each person is irreplaceable in God's eyes. This is a **TED talk** not to be missed.

From Pope
Francis

"When one realizes that life, even in the middle of so many contradictions, is a gift, that love is the source and the meaning of life, how can they withhold their urge to do good to another fellow being?"

Archdiocesan Pastoral Council - 16-17 November

The November meeting of the Archdiocesan Pastoral Council coincided with the weekend of World Day of the Poor, and so was, fittingly, held at the Compassion Soup Kitchen in Tory St. Members had an opportunity to see first-hand some of the work being done for and with the poor, to experience the wonderful hospitality which marks the Compassion Sisters charism, and to learn more of the life and work of their founder, Suzanne Aubert.



During the afternoon session the Council discussed Pope Francis' Letter to the People of God, looking particularly for ways to facilitate opportunities for people in parishes to talk about their responses to Pope Francis' Letter, their embarrassment, their anger, their sorrow as the People of God arising from sexual abuse in the Church on the one hand and on the other, for building a safe Church into the future, whilst at the same time acknowledging the huge gains already made by the Church in Aotearoa over the last twenty years.



Stewardship, a way of life - December update

It has been a very productive finish to the year with four major events on the calendar. Cardinal John and the Young Church Ministry held a **Stewardship Day for Young Adults** on October 7. While only a relatively small group gathered, Cardinal John was very pleased with the great discussion his presentation provoked.

On October 27 the annual **Stewardship Retreat** was held at Sacred Heart Petone Church from 9.30am-3.45pm. The theme was 'What Do You Want Me To Do For you?' – the question Jesus asks of Bartimaeus, the blind beggar in the Gospel reading for Sunday October 28. Two parishioners, Ronnie Parton from Te Awakairangi and Henare Walmsley from Te Ngakau Tapu were the main presenters on the day. Both were wonderfully reflective, giving those present the prayerful space to ponder on their unique call to holiness. It was very well attended, and the email thanks later spoke hugely of what the day had meant to them, and the difference it had made in their lives. Sometimes we forget that for people tied up with young families, and multiple jobs, the opportunities to take a day out to reflect are very few and far between.

On November 10 the Stewardship Committee organised a **Stewardship Breakfast**, at the Angus Inn, in Lower Hutt. Again, it was very well attended, with over 60 present. What a gift of a morning! Cardinal John spoke so eloquently about Stewardship, the fruits



Photo compliments of WelCom

of the Spirit, and magnanimity. He was followed by three parishioners, Josephine Eynon from Our Lady of the Valleys, Lina Tovia from St Michaels Taita, and Rita Kasiano-Graves from Ss Peter and Paul, who spoke on the meaning of Stewardship in their lives. The fervent hope is that other parish communities in the Archdiocese will experience Stewardship Breakfasts in 2019.

Two beautiful prayer reflections to start your parish meeting

Everything is Holy now

Click on the picture to see the video and you will never view the simple things we so often take for granted in the same way again.



Creation Calls

How can we say there is no God when we feel the wind blow, gaze at a bird in flight, listen to running water? Click on the image to draw you closer to God.



Tesema 2018 Samoan Newsletter



Karera Katorika Putanga 3 Rohe Pīhopa Matua O Te Whanganui - a - tara

Companions/Friends of Religious Congregations



Charisms that have previously been the domain of vowed religious are lived out in homes and workplaces finding new expression in today's

world. Religious orders, who may be attracting fewer members to vowed life, are drawing significant numbers of people to live in relationship with them, sharing dreams and working towards common goals to bring about the reign of God. This is an evolving relationship between laity and religious orders.

Click on the picture to find out who to contact to find out more.

Active Ministries in the Archdiocese of Wellington

In many parishes all over the Archdiocese men and women are at the service of others in a variety of ministries. Some of these include St Vincent de Paul, Passionist Family Group, Catholic Women's league, Alpha, Legion of Mary, Justice and Peace, Catholic Women's Guild, Ladies Auxilliary, and Our Lady of Perpetual Help Solidarity.

Click on the picture to find a group near you and to ensure your group has been included.



Prayer and Scripture Groups

Several months ago we gave a link to a large number of prayer and scripture groups. Click on the hands for the updated version.



Sacramental Certificates

Christchurch Diocese has put together sacramental certificates to cover a variety of circumstances. They are very attractive and may be downloaded and used free of charge.

[Click here to take you to the site](#)



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What the Parish Leadership Ministry Team can offer you

We collaborate with parishes to facilitate delivery of resources, provide formation, services and other forms of support to meet the changing needs of parishes and those in leadership roles.

Offer workshops/formation which can enhance the effectiveness of your Parish Pastoral Council.

Facilitate or help you to facilitate in creating or moving forward your pastoral plan.

Take you through a process that will help you evaluate how well your parish is going.

Provide liturgical resources and formation.

Assist you to prioritize and action Synod outcomes that best meet your parish's needs.