

WelCom

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Hato Pāora College 75th Jubilee



Cardinal John Dew presides at the outdoor Mass, Sunday 23 October, during Hato Pāora College's 75th Jubilee celebrations. Among the concelebrants were Pā Jack Smith and Pā Karaitiana Kingi sm, Old Boys and former staff of the college. Cardinal John said in his homily, 'Today, we have acknowledged and given thanks for the dead as we have observed a *Kawe Mate*. You have placed photographs of your family members, of those who were the founders of Hato Pāora, those who have been staunch and faithful supporters of this kura. We honour those who supported Hato Pāora, who created an environment where boys could grow into young men with strong Reo and Tikanga Māori, a profound reverence for life, loyalty to whānau and a willingness to share.'

Photo: Annette Scullion/WelCom

Hato Pāora College, the Catholic Māori boarding school for boys north of Feilding, celebrated its 75th Jubilee over Labour Weekend. Several hundred Old Boys, past and present staff, whānau, friends and supporters arrived from all around New Zealand, Australia and beyond to reminisce, reconnect and look to the future of the kura with great hope and vision.

Founded by the Society of Mary in 1947, Hato Pāora is one of only four Māori boarding schools in Aotearoa to survive and continue to be operational. It is the only Catholic Māori Boys boarding school in New Zealand and the world.

From some of the early students of the 1950s and 1960s, now in their 70s and 80s, to recent and present students, the weekend was about whanaungatanga (connections), getting together, camaraderie and reminiscing across the generations.

Throughout the weekend Old Boys connected through the Catholic and Māori values and behaviours instilled and expected of them during their time at Hato Pāora and beyond, and as the place that made them into the men they are today – 'Whāia te tika – to always do what is right'.

» Cardinal John Dew's homily, p 2; weekend highlights pp 10 and 11.

Archdiocese explores Hill Street options

Michael Fitzsimons

The Archdiocese of Wellington's Hill Street site in Thorndon, home of the archdiocesan Catholic Centre, is to be re-developed, following several adverse seismic assessment reports.

In February this year the archdiocese was notified in a detailed seismic assessment report that the Catholic Centre was a seismic risk, meeting only 20 per cent of the New Building Standard (NBS). A peer-review assessment done by another firm of engineers assessed the building at 40 per cent NBS.

'When we looked into the costs of strengthening the centre, it became evident it wasn't financially viable to strengthen it,' says John Prendergast, archdiocesan General Manager.

'We are now looking at a redevelopment of the entire site which

will probably mean the demolition of the Catholic Centre, the demolition of [adjacent] Viard House and the demolition of the flats next door which we own.'

John Prendergast said the diocese had been exploring the potential development of the site before the adverse seismic reports because of the significant opportunities it offers for development.

'It's a lovely site, one of the best locations in Wellington, right across the road from parliament, close to the CBD, and up the road from the train station. It is currently underutilised from a commercial perspective so one of the objectives is to unlock some of the capital that is tied up in the property. That's very important for the future of the archdiocese. The 20 per cent seismic assessment fast-forwarded that thinking.'

Work is now underway exploring the optimum use of the site. John says the site could be used for office accommodation for the diocese and commercial tenants, and it could include apartments as well. There is a spectrum of options to look at.

'The archdiocese's offices will be back on this site, incorporated within any re-development we do. The archbishop's residential accommodation may also be here as well.'

Price Waterhouse Coopers (PWC) has been appointed to assist the diocese through the building process and to provide independent advice, said John.

'PWC is very experienced in redevelopment projects for values-based organisations where you have the tension between mission-related needs and commercial needs. That is



John Prendergast in front of the Archdiocese of Wellington's Catholic Centre on Hill Street in Thorndon, which is to be redeveloped following several adverse seismic assessment reports. Photo: Supplied

an ever-present tension.'

When the archdiocese received the seismic assessment report in February, the archdiocesan centre

was immediately closed down and staff have been working in

» Continued on p 5

From the editor

Annette Scullion

Tēnā koutou katoa,
WelCom had the privilege of being invited to attend the three days of 75th Jubilee celebrations at Hato Pāora College over Labour Weekend. The spectacular occasion brought together hundreds of Old Boys, staff, whānau, priests and religious, friends and communities from across the decades to reconnect and reminisce about their unique kura and the many thousands who have journeyed through it and from it – strong in Catholic Māori values, te reo and tikanga Māori.
The Jubilee organisers said, ‘We had about 300 registrants, then 30 or so helpers, about 200 people who visited for a half day or just called by. We estimate around 500 in total over the weekend.’

WelCom features highlights including Sunday Miha on p 1, Cardinal John’s homily on this page, and a ‘taste’ of just some of the many events and people at the Jubilee, on pp 10 and 11.

This issue also includes plenty of other news from the local and global Church. On p 5 we feature news about the latest Synod developments. The Continental stage is underway with the Vatican’s publication last month of the working document entitled *Enlarge the space of your tent*.

We also have a p 1 story about

plans for the future of the Wellington Archdiocese Catholic Centre and options for developing the Hill Street site. The archdiocese’s General Manager John Prendergast talks about the issues being considered and the arrangements for locating archdiocesan and other staff groups in temporary premises in Thorndon.

The Church calendar has some significant dates in November including All Saints Day and All Souls Day, World Day of the Poor, World Youth Day, Feast of Christ the King, and the beginning of the Season of Advent on Sunday 27 November.

Fr James Lyons writes a moving reflection for all Saints and All Souls Days about grief and the silence that it brings, p 17.

For our Advent calendar this year, we have produced a black and white illustration and invite children and whānau each day of Advent to progressively colour in the scripture panels and the Nativity illustration. The calendar can be downloaded from WelCom’s website welcom.org.nz as a pdf poster.

So, plenty of interesting reading in this issue. If you have a story to share, please send it through to a.scullion@wn.catholic.org.nz. There is lots happening in our faith communities at parish level and schools, which would be great to capture in future issues of WelCom.

Ngā mihi.

Whāia Te Tika ‘to always do what is right’



Māori warriors perform a wero and prepare to lay down a small branch as a challenge for Cardinal John Dew to pick up in peace as the Cardinal led a group of visitors from Palmerston North and Wellington dioceses onto the Hato Pāora College marae forecourt, on the opening day of the 75th Jubilee celebrations over Labour Weekend.

Photo: Annette Scullion

This is an abridged version of Cardinal John Dew’s homily at the special Mass for the 75th Jubilee of Hato Pāora College, Sunday 23 October 2022.

+ John A Cardinal Dew
Archbishop of Wellington
Archdiocese
Apostolic Administrator of
Palmerston North Diocese

Tihei mauriora!
Ka poua te Pou tuatahi
Ko te Ao me ona mea katoa;
Ka poua te Pou tuarua
Ko te Tangata hei kaitiaki mo te Ao;
Ka poua te Pou tuatoru
Ko Tama-nui o te Ao katoa;
He Atua! He Tangata!
Whano, whano! Tu mai te Ripeka!
Haumi e! Hui e! Taiki e!

This mihi [greeting] contains great wisdom, it’s what our human life is about, what the Gospel of Jesus Christ is all about, what Hato Pāora has been about for 75 years.

‘Life has three signposts: the world and all living things; the people, guardians of the world; the divine and human Son, the Saviour. Come let us go to the cross standing before us.’

There are probably not many people here who were here in 1947 when Hato Pāora was blessed and opened. Almost 40 years later the first Pope ever to come to Aotearoa arrived in Auckland. The day he arrived he spoke about how young the Church in Aotearoa was – it still is.

‘A rich culture already existed in your country before the arrival of the Church or the many immigrants: the culture of the Māori people.

This culture has in turn been strengthened and enriched by the uplifting and purifying power of the Gospel.’

In today’s Gospel we heard about the man whose humble prayer for mercy was heard by God. Hato Pāora has worked hard ‘to take good boys and grow them into good men’, to help them to be humble men who rely on God and God’s mercy.

Hato Pāora has been and is about *‘The uplifting and purifying power of the Gospel’*. The Gospel enables us to live better lives, shows

mourn the dead in a human way.’

Today, we have acknowledged and given thanks for the dead as we have observed a *Kawe Mate*. You have placed photographs of your family members, of those who were the founders of Hato Pāora, those who have been staunch and faithful supporters of this kura [school]. We honour those who supported Hato Pāora, who created an environment where boys could grow into young men with strong Reo and Tikanga Māori, a profound reverence for life, loyalty to whānau, and a willingness to share.

“The strengths of Māori culture are often the very values which modern society is in danger of losing.”
– St John Paul II

us what life is all about and that it is only fulfilled in Christ. ‘Whāia te Tika’ – ‘to always do what is right’. The motto of the College comes from today’s second reading. Hato Pāora [St Paul] encouraged Timoteo [Timothy] to be dedicated to God, filled with faith and love, to be saintly and religious, to fight the good fight of faith, to always do what is right. That hasn’t always been easy, there have been difficult and sad times, incidents we would rather forget, sadly – that’s human life!

In 1986 Pope John Paul said: *‘the strengths of Māori culture are often the very values which modern society is in danger of losing: an acknowledgement of the spiritual dimension in every aspect of life; a profound reverence for nature and the environment; loyalty to family and a great willingness to share; an acceptance of death as part of life and the capacity to grieve and*

Artists rally for children in Ukraine

Michael Fitzsimons

An art exhibition in support of the children of Ukraine was held at Our Lady’s Home of Compassion in Island Bay in October.

Organised by local artist, musician and gallery curator Ian Logan, the exhibition featured work from local and international artists. All proceeds from the sale of the artwork are being donated to the Okhmatdyt National Children’s Specialised Hospital in Kyiv.

Ian’s own painting in the exhibition is called Easter/Paska. At Easter this year he was struck by the paradox of Easter being a time of peace and light while on the other side of the world an invasion was being launched. This was the inspiration for his painting which ‘relates to the suffering of men on both sides, a crucifixion in a way’, says Ian.

Ian contacted the Ukrainian Association and offered them the painting. ‘But I then thought about taking it a step further. I’ve been in the gallery curating business and wondered about doing an online art auction. The logistics of that however were quite difficult and so we settled on an art exhibition.’

With his curating background, he knew other artists who responded very positively to the idea of a fund-raising exhibition. The exhibition

included work by many different artists including Lisa Walker, Jacky Pearson, Douglas McArthur, Jenny Hartley, Stephanie Woodman, Michael McCormack and Matt Gaudie. Exhibits included sculptures and jewellery as well as paintings.

The artists generously agreed that one hundred per cent of the sale price would be donated, said Ian.

‘All the artists were very receptive. It’s been amazing. People have come forward to help in many different ways.’

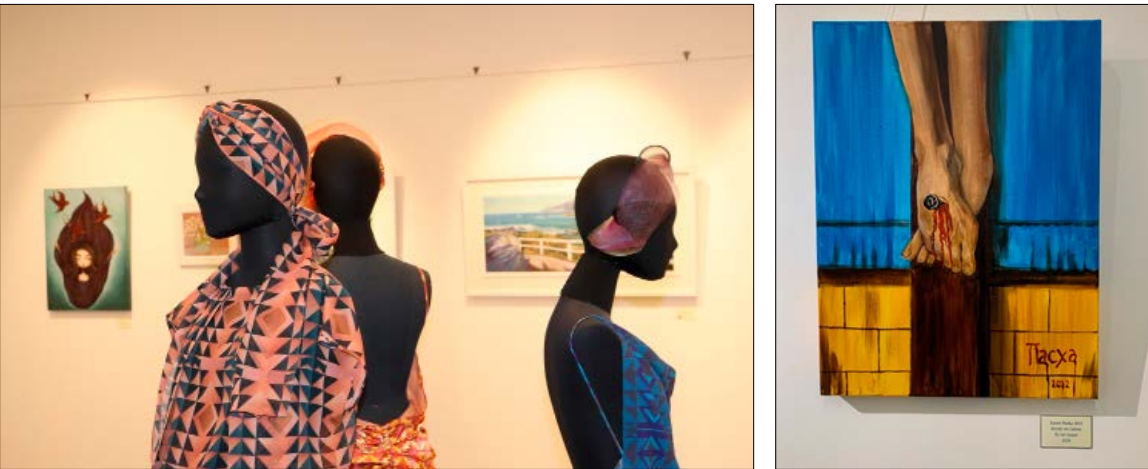
Ian was delighted that the exhibition could be held at the Home of Compassion Centre in Island Bay, which has an ideal gallery for the work.

‘This space was on the top of the wish list and thankfully the Home of Compassion was happy to host it. They have been incredibly supportive.’

One of the values of the Sisters of Compassion is looking after the most disadvantaged, says Ian.

‘Children are at the top of the “disadvantaged” list. They don’t start wars. Rather than being a political, partisan thing, this initiative is about looking after children.’

Anyone wanting to make a donation to the children’s hospital in Kyiv can send their donation to the following account, with the reference ‘art show’: 38-9024-0093505-00



Exhibition organiser Ian Logan with some of the paintings that were donated.

Photos: Michael Fitzsimons

Unifying and learning course held in Rome for new bishops

During September, recently ordained bishops from around the world met in Rome to take part in the ‘Formation Course for New Bishops’. The tradition started in 2000 by St Pope John Paul II. Wellington Coadjutor **Archbishop Paul Martin sm** attended and and reports on his experience.



Archbishop Paul Martin meets Pope Francis during the formation course for new bishops run by the Dicasteries for Bishops for the Evangelisation of Peoples in Rome.

Photo: Supplied

From September 5 to 17, I had the opportunity, along with Bishop Michael Gielen, to attend the course for new bishops run by the Dicastery for the Evangelisation of Peoples. This was held at St Paul’s College, a place where priests from mission countries reside while studying in Rome.

There were 80 bishops on the

course, predominately from African countries as well as from Asia and Central and South America.

I had not been able to attend the course when it was last run in 2018 so it was a chance to meet bishops from other mission countries and to be introduced to the various Roman dicasteries that make up the Roman Curia.

There was a significant amount of input during the two weeks of the course. Each day we would have talks from either the head of a Roman dicastery, such as Secretariat of State, Promoting Integral Human Development Divine Worship, Sacraments and Divine Worship or from bishops from dioceses about matters relating to diocesan life and management. We had a chance at each session to ask any questions which arose from what was presented. It was particularly interesting to meet with the team who are overseeing the Synod on Synodality and to hear of the progress made and the vision that lies behind this.

We also had the opportunity of a reflection day at Castel Gandolfo, the town where the Holy Father has a summer retreat. We were privileged to have talks prepared by Cardinal Cantalamessa, the preacher to the Papal household. We also met with Pope Francis on the last day of the course. Here he opened the floor for anyone who

wished to ask any questions or make any statements. He replied to them with great enthusiasm and energy. It was inspiring to see a man whose physical health is diminishing, but whose energy for the Gospel and the Church is strong and vital.

I found the time together with the other bishops helpful to talk about what we were all experiencing. The opportunity to pray together and reflect was very fruitful. I also appreciated the opportunity to

visit the Marist General House and meet with the people I had worked with when I was in Rome prior to becoming a bishop.

The course reminded me that the Church is so much bigger than just our archdiocese, that we face many challenges, but also there are wonderful opportunities for deepening our faith and learning from one another. I look forward to being able to put this learning into action.



St Patrick’s College Wellington

New Zealand’s oldest Catholic boys’ college

Congratulations also to the following students who were awarded Scholarships for Year 9 2023:

- Academic Excellence Entrance Scholarships – Keiffer de Guzman from Sacred Heart and Abilio Fernandes from Otari School.
- Cultural Scholarship – Abilio Fernandes.

St Patrick’s College Senior Prizegiving will be held on Thursday, 3 November at 7.30pm in the O’Shea Performing Arts Centre.

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Climate finance needs to work for communities

Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand is calling for more effective and transparent climate-finance channels to deliver funds and results directly to the local level in the Pacific to prioritise the poorest and most vulnerable, and not add to debt burdens.

Caritas joined six other members of the Caritas Oceania regional network to release a report on 4 October entitled: *Twin clouds on the horizon: averting a combined climate and debt crisis in the Pacific through locally-delivered climate finance*.

They released the report at the network's annual forum in Port Moresby. Caritas New Zealand's Director Mena Antonio attended with about 25 Caritas delegates from around the region.

'Communities need to be able to directly access climate-related funds to support solutions they have identified themselves,' Ms Antonio said. 'Local groups and civil society also need to actively deliver, monitor and evaluate climate-finance projects. We've seen the value of local involvement in design and implementation for our long-term development programmes.'

'Funders need to be assured money is going to purposes intended, while local communities need to be assured climate-related projects meet their needs, can adapt



to changing circumstances and provide for their future.'

The report includes the story of Manus Island (PNG) organisation Marine Environment Awareness and Response Team. It is working with communities to build traditional seawalls from stones and logs to protect against coastal flooding and to plant mangroves to prevent coastal erosion. But such organisations struggle to get necessary funding to support their work.

The report also illustrates the benefits of smaller organisations working with larger NGOs to access funds, such as Caritas Samoa partnering with US-based Catholic

Relief Services, to access a USAID grant for a water project.

Twin Clouds builds on a decade of environmental monitoring across the Pacific led by Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand through the *Caritas State of the Environment for Oceania* series. This series has tracked climate finance trends, how local communities were experiencing and responding to extreme weather, coastal erosion and sea level rise, access to safe food and water, and mining and drilling of the ocean floor. Caritas shares these stories and community resilience and restoration efforts through *'The Oceanian Monitor'* map and other online resources.

Caritas released the report and map ahead of this month's United Nations climate conference – COP27 in Sharm el-Sheikh in Egypt, 7–18 November.

'The real fight against climate change is happening at the grass roots and coastal edges, where people are protecting their lives and livelihoods as best they can,' says Ms Antonio. 'COP21 in Paris was a breakthrough moment in climate action. We are hoping for another breakthrough moment around COP27 to provide for the real needs of the poor.'

The report: caritas.org.nz/newsroom/climate-finance-needs-to-work-for-communities

Royal Commission on Abuse in Care faith-based institutions response hearing

Catholic witnesses were heard on Monday 17 October at the 'responses of faith institutions to abuse and neglect in their care' hearing of the Royal Commission on Abuse in Care.

The Catholic hearing was part of a block of hearings related to faith organisations held from 13 to 21 October.

Catholic witnesses included several related to St Patrick's College in Silverstream, in the morning, including Fr Tim Duckworth sm, Provincial of the Society of Mary New Zealand; and in the afternoon Cardinal John Dew, Bishop Steve Lowe, Bishop Emeritus Pat Dunn and Sr Sue France rsm, Congregational Leader, Nga Whaea Atawhai O Aotearoa Sisters of Mercy New Zealand.

The formal statements presented by lawyer Sally McKechnie representing the Bishops and Congregational Leaders of the Catholic Church in Aotearoa New Zealand were:

- Opening Statement #1 in relation to Catholic Education on behalf of the bishops and congregational

leaders of the Catholic Church in Aotearoa New Zealand.

- Opening Statement #2 in relation to Institutional Responses on behalf of the bishops and congregational leaders of the Catholic Church in Aotearoa New Zealand.

The Closing Statement on behalf of the bishops and congregational leaders of the Catholic Church in Aotearoa New Zealand, was delivered by lawyer Sally McKechnie on Thursday 20 October.

Te Rōpū Tautoko, the group coordinating Catholic engagement with the Royal Commission, has a page of details about the hearings on its website at: tautoko.catholic.org.nz/hearing/

With this hearing block, the Royal Commission has finished its scheduled public hearings. It is expected now to present a number of official reports with its findings based on the evidence it has both heard and collected. The Government has set it a final reporting date of 30 June 2023.

The Royal Commission's website is www.abuseincare.org.nz

Fair pay agreements welcomed

The New Zealand Council of Christian Social Services (NZCCSS) joins many others welcoming the passing of the Fair Pay Agreement Bill.

NZCCSS's Nikki Hurst says the bill will mean a real chance for adequate pay for workers, going a long way to addressing decades of underpayment.

'Every day NZCCSS's 230 members see the impact low rates of pay cause in families, and on people's wellbeing.'

While the Fair Pay Agreement process outlined will apply to all, NZCCSS is heartened at the clear commitment to begin with some of New Zealand's lowest paid, most undervalued workforces – cleaners, supermarket workers, hospitality

and others.

'These workforces have been persistently trapped in a race-to-the-bottom, low-wage environment since 1991, most subsisting on the lowest bar legally possible – the minimum wage.'

'We're encouraged the Government is acknowledging the role of workers in the economy. There is a clear reason why Australia holds an enduring attraction economically for New Zealand workers – far higher rates of pay for the same work, resulting from a strong, legislatively empowered workforce.'

'Fair pay agreements have the potential to create real change and equity for our national workforce.'

Continental stage of Pope's Synod on Synodality process begins

The next stage of Pope Francis' Synod on Synodality has begun with the Vatican on 27 October publishing the working document that brings together the many Synod syntheses from around the Catholic world including Aotearoa New Zealand's.

Titled *Enlarge the space of your tent*, this working document for the Continental Stage will now be reflected on locally by Catholic groups from around the country before being considered by the bishops' conferences of the Oceania region at a joint meeting in Fiji in Februarv 2023. Similar processes

will take place in other countries and regions.

The working document has been compiled from Synod submissions from around the world from bishops' conferences, the Eastern Catholic Churches, religious orders, Vatican dicasteries, and other Catholic organisations.

The local New Zealand process ended with the National Synod Hui held in Wellington on 2 July, which produced the synthesis sent to Rome for reflecting in the Working Document. Each 'continental' region will now reflect on this new document. The continental stage for

Oceania involves the countries and territories covered by the bishops' conferences of New Zealand, Australia, Papua New Guinea and Solomon Islands and the Episcopal Conference of the Pacific.

Cardinal John Dew, President of the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference-Te Huinga o ngā Pihopa Katorika o Aotearoa, says this stage in the Synod process is a deeper contemplation of the issues raised in the various national local phases and summarised into the Working Document.

'About 50 expert participants from all over the world met in

Frascati in Italy [21 September–3 October] to listen, dialogue and discern from the many syntheses,' says Cardinal Dew. 'Using the method of "spiritual conversation" during their 12 days of work, the experts wrote the Working Document.'

'National and diocesan groups will now be invited to take part in this reflection and discernment of the Working Document.'

The work of reflecting on *Enlarge the space of your tent* needs to take place between now and 5 December, so that the New Zealand response can be ready by

22 December 2022.

Pope Francis launched the Synod process in 2021 to hear what ordinary Catholics from around the world think should be the future direction of the Church. After the Continental phase, a two-part 16th Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops in the Catholic Church will be held in Rome; the first part in October next year, the second in October 2024.

Go to www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/continental1/ for more information about the Synod process and to access the working document.

Caritas appeals for peace in Ukraine

Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand appeals for peace and calls for international humanitarian law to be respected after recent deadly missile attacks and airstrikes in Ukraine.

Explosions have been reported in the capital Kyiv, as well as Lviv, Ternopil and Zhytomyr in Ukraine's west, Dnipro and Kremenchuk in central Ukraine, Zaporizhzhia in the south and Kharkiv in the east. This is the worst shelling since February 24, when Russia invaded Ukraine.

Many civilians have been killed and power and water supplies are damaged in many locations after critical infrastructure has been targeted.

In little more than a week,

Russian forces destroyed a third of Ukraine's power stations in repeated attacks targeting the war-torn nation's energy infrastructure, according to President Volodymyr Zelenskyy.

'Since October 10, 30 per cent of Ukraine's power stations have been destroyed, causing massive blackouts across the country,' Zelenskyy said last month.

Caritas Ukraine and Caritas Poland are among the agencies calling for respecting international humanitarian law and protecting civilians and civilian objects from the ongoing hostilities.

The attacks come eight months after the initial attack in Ukraine and as the people prepare for the

winter months ahead.

'Those affected by these strikes were ordinary people trying to go about their everyday lives: parents taking children to school, people on their way to work,' said Caritas Ukraine president Tetiana Stawnychy.

'The strikes have made an already difficult humanitarian situation more acute as the country prepares for what promises to be a difficult winter in the coming months.'

Donations to the work of Caritas to assist those who have been displaced by the crisis can be made through the Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand website at www.caritas.org.nz/donate-online



Caritas Ukraine – Charity and Mercy.

Photo: Supplied

>> Continued from p 1

several different locations around Wellington and the Hutt Valley since February.

'It has been discombobulating for staff but they have responded remarkably well.'

This month the staff who worked in the archdiocesan Catholic Centre are being relocated to office accommodation at 204 Thorndon Quay, Wellington.

'We have taken a lease for four years with right of renewal for another year,' said John. 'We

anticipate it will take that time to work through the process of re-developing the Hill Street site.'

The re-development of the Hill Street site is one element in a plan to address the archdiocese's challenging financial situation, said John.

'For a number of years the archdiocese has been incurring significant financial losses from its operations which wasn't sustainable. With the Board and Cardinal John Dew, we developed a plan to address the situation by 2024.'

The plan included a significant re-structuring of staffing at the Catholic Centre, undertaken in 2020/21, said John.

'Regrettably, the roles of about a third of our staff here at the Centre had to be disestablished. That has meant an annual saving of around \$700K.'

The plan includes reducing overall operating costs, a longer-term investment strategy, and exploring new income streams.

John said that any re-

development of the Hill Street site will not compromise the Cathedral and its immediate surroundings.

The strengthening and re-development of the Cathedral is well-advanced with work due to be completed later next year. The major strengthening work was in the roof area, which has been completed and the focus now is on interior renovations and the exterior stonework. The budget for the whole project is about \$12 million, of which just over \$2

million is still to be raised.

'The project benefitted hugely from a government shovel-ready grant of \$4.5 million and the rest has come from grants, trusts, foundations and the generosity of individuals,' said John.

'The archdiocese is not able to contribute to the Cathedral project, so the support of the parish and individual parishioners and other donors has been instrumental to getting the project to a point where it is nearing completion.'



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Archdiocese of Wellington

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‘Father of migrants’ canonised



Bishop Giovanni Battista Scalabrini, who died in 1905, founded men's and women's religious orders to serve migrants. His canonisation is a reminder to Church leaders of the Pope's focus on the plight of immigrants.

Photo: ctbi.org.uk

A 19th-century bishop known as ‘the father of migrants’ has been canonised.

Bishop Giovanni Battista Scalabrini lived at a time of mass migrations in Europe. The migrations reflected the economic, industrial and scientific changes that led millions to seek a new life in the Americas. His advocacy for immigrants founded the Catholic Church’s pastoral approach to migration today.

‘With this canonisation, I think the Holy Father wants to offer the Church a model to imitate,’ said Rev Graziano Battistella, who shepherded Scalabrini’s cause for sainthood. He is ‘a model for bishops, a model for the Church.’

Pope Francis waived the necessity for a second miracle attributed to the father of migrants, who was beatified by Pope John Paul II in 1997.

Born in Como, Italy, in 1839, Scalabrini founded the Missionaries of St Charles Borromeo (called Scalabrinian Fathers) in 1887. He later established the Missionary Sisters of St Charles.

Migration was viewed negatively at the time. Scalabrini, however, saw the upheaval as a chance to ease socio-economic tensions at home while promoting cultural encounter and jump-starting progress.

Without laws and protections in place, migration could strip people of their roots and make them prey to human traffickers, he warned.

Unusually for the time, Scalabrini believed migration is not only ‘a sacred human right’ but a basic fact of human existence. The answers Scalabrini offered to migration anticipated modern times, said Sr Neusa de Fatima Mariano, Superior of the Missionary Sisters of St Charles.

The new saint was especially sensitive to the role women religious play in helping migrants. The sisters now run over 100 missions in the world catering especially to women and children. In addition, the Scalabrinian Secular Missionary Women, founded in Switzerland in 1961, and other lay groups live out Scalabrini’s teachings in local communities.

The Scalabrinian Fathers operate parishes, hospitals and welcoming centres in 33 countries. The Rev Leonir Chiarello, superior general of the order, said that the missionaries champion the rights of migrants at borders and other critical places around the world.

Scalabrini’s vision continues today in the dozens of welcoming centres for migrants in South America and Italy.

Source: Religion News Service

Pope extends Synod on Synodality to 2024

The Synod on Synodality will be extended to 2024, with the assembly meetings to be held in Rome over two sessions in October 2023 and October 2024.

Pope Francis explained that he made the decision ‘in order to have a more relaxed period of discernment. The fruits of the synodal process underway are many, but so that they might come to full maturity, it is necessary not to be in a rush,’ Pope Francis said.

‘I trust that this decision will promote the understanding of synodality as a constitutive dimension of the Church and help everyone to live it as the journey of brothers and sisters who proclaim

the joy of the Gospel,’ he said.

The two sessions of the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops will take place from October 4 to 29, 2023, and in October 2024, bringing together bishops from across the world to discuss and prepare a document to counsel the Pope.

Pope Francis launched the Synod on Synodality in October 2021 as a worldwide undertaking during which Catholics were encouraged to submit feedback to their local dioceses.

The Catholic Church’s massive multi-year synodal process has been divided into stages. The initial diocesan listening phase concluded

with the participation of 112 out of 114 of the world’s Catholic bishops’ conferences, according to the General Secretariat of the Synod of Bishops.

The second, continental phase is taking place from September 2022 to March 2023. In this stage, continental synodal assemblies will be convened between January and March of next year.

The final, universal phase will begin with the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops at the Vatican in October 2023 and continue in October 2024.

Source: Vatican News

European bishops urge EU to stay united

European bishops have voiced solidarity with those impacted by the ongoing war in Ukraine and appealed to Russia to stop the violence.

In a statement, delegates from Europe’s bishops’ conferences expressed ‘deep sadness at the horrific human suffering inflicted on our brothers and sisters in Ukraine by the brutal military aggression initiated by the Russian authorities. We remember the victims in our prayers and wish to express our closeness to their families.’

A recent escalation in attacks, the bishops said, risks ‘increasing further expansion of the continuing war, with disastrous consequences for humanity.’

‘The war in Ukraine also affects us directly as citizens of the European Union,’ they said, and pointed to all those impacted by an ‘increasingly dramatic socio-economic hardship due to the



Damaged school in the Ukrainian city of Vuzlovyyi.

Photo: Vatican News/ANSA

energy crisis, rising inflation and the soaring cost of living.’

Crises such as these ‘make us realise the deep value of the European Union and its founding vision,’ they said, and voiced gratitude for ‘the tireless efforts of European decision-makers in

showing solidarity with Ukraine and in mitigating the consequences of the war for European citizens.’

‘We strongly encourage these leaders to maintain their unity and to remain committed to the European project,’ they said.

First pope to visit Bahrain

Pope Francis’ trip to Bahrain this month blends three of his top priorities as Pope: ministering to a tiny Catholic community; promoting dialogue with the Muslim world; and fostering relations with other Christian communities.

The November 3–6 visit marks

Francis’ second trip to the Gulf, his second to a majority Muslim nation in as many months and his second to participate in an interfaith gathering sponsored by Dialogue: East and West for Human Coexistence.

Just as he did in Kazakhstan



Pope Francis and Sheikh Ahmed el-Tayeb, the grand imam of Egypt's Al-Azhar, exchange a joint statement on ‘human fraternity’ after an interfaith meeting at the Founder's Memorial in Abu Dhabi, United Arab Emirates, February 4, 2019.

Photo: Andrew Medichini/AP

Archbishop of Canterbury shows support after massive floods

The Archbishop of Canterbury has visited Lismore, New South Wales, which is still recovering from record flooding. He praised locals for their courage, loyalty and resilience in the face of disaster. The floods were the biggest in the region in living memory.

Justin Welby, the Anglican leader worldwide, walked Lismore’s streets and also visited St Carthage’s Catholic Cathedral – one of the many public buildings inundated by mud and water. He met with Lismore’s Catholic bishop, Greg Homeming and chatted with locals still reeling after flooding in February and a second flood a month later.

He took time to praise the town’s spirit, the efforts of rescue and recovery workers, and the massive clean-up operation.

Lismore’s Catholic bishop, Greg Homeming warmly welcomed the visiting archbishop to his diocese. ‘

We stand together as bishops with a common experience of our Lord Jesus Christ, the one that we love, the one that we follow, but the one that we share our experience of with others,’ Bishop Homeming said.

‘And so I welcome you here. I thank you for being with us in our difficult times, and I



St Carthage’s Cathedral in Lismore, New South Wales. Bishop Homeming was rescued from the cathedral after flood waters rose rapidly in February.

Photo: Facebook

hope and pray that the ecumenical spirit that you so wonderfully represent will continue and blossom and I think the foundation of the blossoming of ecumenism is indeed real

friendship with Jesus Christ, which makes real friendship with each other.’

Source: Catholic Leader

Documentary based on *Laudato si’* launched

The Letter, a new documentary on climate change based on Pope Francis’ 2015 encyclical *Laudato si’*, has premiered at the Vatican.

Available on YouTube, Emmy-winner Nicholas Brown’s doco focuses on how ordinary people can make the Pope’s vision a reality. Pope Francis addressed the encyclical to ‘all people of good will’, urging an interconnected vision for humanity and the planet.



Pope Francis meets with Arouna Kande of Senegal, whose story is related in the film *The Letter*.

Photo: Laudato si’ Movement

Nicholas Brown, who has directed many environment-focused documentaries, hopes the movie will encourage people. We need to ‘abandon illusions of otherness and come together’ to protect the environment, he says.

The Letter premiered on St Francis of Assisi’s feast day, October 4. The Pope’s namesake was known for his commitment to peace, to the impoverished and to the environment. The premiere also coincided with the day the Paris Climate Agreement accords came into effect at the Vatican.

The 80-minute feature focuses on how people at the grassroots level – rather than governments – can bring about change. In the doco, a diverse group of climate activists, Indigenous people, scientists and faithful meet with Francis to discuss the environment.

‘Voices from the peripheries are usually ignored in global summits and environmental decision-making, typically dominated by powerful corporate interests’, says Cardinal Michael Czerny.

Vatican announces theme for World Communications Day

Pope Francis’ theme for the next World Communications Day is a call for a peaceful dialogue that allows for uncomfortable truths to be spoken of without resorting to contentious and hostile debate, the Vatican announced.

Speaking the truth ‘means giving “a reason for your hope” and doing so gently, using the gift of communication as a bridge and not as a wall’, the Vatican said when it announced the theme of World Communications Day 2023.

Each year, the Vatican and many dioceses mark World Communications Day on the Sunday before Pentecost; in 2023, it will be celebrated on May 21. The Pope’s choice for the theme is: *Speak with the heart: Veritatem*

facientes in caritate (Speaking the truth in love).

The Pope’s theme for World Communications Day highlights the need for Christians to ‘go against the grain’ in both ordinary and Church life at a time when heated debates often ‘exacerbate tempers’, the Vatican said.

‘We must not fear to state that at times uncomfortable truth that finds its foundation in the Gospel, but we must not separate this proclamation from a style of mercy, of sincere participation in the joys and sufferings of people of our time, as the Gospel page that narrates the dialogue between the mysterious wayfarer and the disciples of Emmaus teaches us in a sublime way,’ the statement said.

In choosing the theme, it said, Pope Francis also wanted to show that in the global conflicts afflicting the world, ‘nonhostile communication is more necessary than ever’. The world, the Vatican said, needs a communication that is ‘open to dialogue with the other’, and that strives ‘to dismantle the “psychosis of war” that lurks in our hearts.’

‘It is an effort required of everyone, but in particular of communication workers called upon to exercise their profession as a mission for building a more just, more fraternal and more human future,’ the statement said.

Source: Catholic News Service

Russian Patriarch praises Putin

On President Vladimir Putin’s 70th birthday last month, Russian Orthodox Patriarch Kirill of Moscow has praised his leadership as divinely orchestrated and has urged citizens to offer two days of prayer for his health. Kirill is the country’s leading Orthodox prelate. In a congratulatory note, Kirill praised Putin’s reputation as a national leader ‘selflessly devoted to the Fatherland, sincerely loving the Motherland and giving her all your strength, abilities and talents. The Lord placed you at the helm of power, so that you could perform a service of special importance and great responsibility for the fate of the country and the people entrusted to your care.’

World poverty rose sharply due to Covid-19

Covid-19 has dealt the ‘biggest setback’ to global poverty reduction efforts in decades, and the World Bank has warned the goal to eradicate extreme poverty by 2030 likely remains out of reach. The bank’s Poverty and Shared Prosperity report estimates about 70 million people were pushed into extreme poverty in 2020 – the biggest one-year spike since monitoring began in 1990. The report offers the first tally of those struggling to live on less than \$3.30 a day, the new global definition of extreme poverty.

‘Welfare payments before tax cuts’

Catholic Social Services Australia (CSSA) has called on the Australian Government to increase JobSeeker and other payments before planned tax cuts, estimated to cost \$243 billion, take effect in 2024. CSSA executive Monique Earsman made the call following the release of Anglicare Australia’s research paper, A Clear Choice: Ending poverty for the cost of stage three tax cuts, which finds that the Government could raise the JobSeeker payment and the Parenting and Carer payments above the poverty line, as well as tackling the shortage of social homes, for less than the cost of the tax cuts.

People living in modern slavery rises to 50 million

About 50 million people globally are living in modern slavery, including a growing number of women who are in forced marriages, new Australian-led research shows. A study, spearheaded by philanthropic foundation Walk Free, found widespread socioeconomic instability linked to climate change and the Covid-19 pandemic had contributed to increasing poverty and forced migration. An estimated 28 million people are in forced labour and 22 million are trapped in forced marriages. ‘The number of people in modern slavery has risen by more than nine million over the past five years.’



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Annual Grant Invitation

The Knights of the Southern Cross, Wellington, Charitable Trust Board is seeking applications from organisations based in, and operating primarily within, the Archdiocese of Wellington who need financial assistance to carry out religious or charitable or educational works.

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or email to: patrickmccgill46@gmail.com



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www.theroadforward.org.nz

A eulogy for Sam Doyle

28 January 1970–1 October 2022

Pā Piripi Cody

Sam (Hami) Doyle died on 1 October 2022 aged 52. Far too young! But he packed a lot into his life.

Born in Ōtaki in a family of four, to Bill and Kath Doyle, he could truly be called a 'son of Ōtaki'. After schooling there, and at Hato Pāora College, Feilding, he joined the Navy for several years. There he began to enjoy rugby, which formed a large part of his life, playing and coaching such as with the Rahui Ōtaki club.

His key position was full back. No. 15. Fast and intelligent. The



Sam Doyle – 28/01/70–01/10/22 – Kia hari i te oranga tonutanga. Enjoy eternal life. Photo: Supplied

secret of his side-step was revealed in that he learnt moving swiftly when he'd been playing up and his Mum took after him with the broom!

Playing for various clubs, Sam was then selected for the Māori All Blacks and the Hurricanes.

Education was a big aspect of his gift to us. Starting at the Kura Māori o Porirua, he was one of the early principals for Māori immersion schools, Kura-a-iwi, in Ōtaki, at primary and secondary level.

Perhaps a key mark was his embracing the depth of Māori spirituality and doing that in harmony with his Catholic belief.

Faith meant much to Sam and he led mihi and singing at Miha at Hāto Maria, Pukekarakara. That faith helped when he was diagnosed with leukaemia. Despite accepting a donor stem cell, the leukaemia returned. Sam never lost his trust and positive approach to life.

Then his family whom he loved dearly. Sam was a music man and composer. When each of his daughters were born he composed a waiata for them: Kara, Kotuku, Wikitoria and Raukawa.

That priority of whānau was



Sam Doyle – 28/01/70–01/10/22 – Kia hari i te oranga tonutanga. Enjoy eternal life. Photo: Supplied

illustrated in he and his family taking a final holiday together in the North. They will not forget the simple joy of sharing time together near the sea.

Just near his end he asked to visit Pukekarakara once more with his family and he did.

Nō reira. e Te Whaea o Pukekarakara, ngā whakamoemiti mō tēnei Taonga, ko Hami. Me whai mātou i ōna tapuwae.

Mary of Pukekarakara, we are grateful for Sam's life among us. May we follow in his footsteps.

With permission of the whānau.

Women's rugby growing in strength

John Holden President, Marist St Pat's RFC

With the Women's Rugby World Cup being showcased in New Zealand during 2022, it is appropriate to reflect on the growth of Women's Rugby within Wellington Club Rugby.

For the Marist St Pat's RFC the 2022 season was history making. The Club's Women's Premier team made the women's grade final for the first time since women's rugby was established at Marist St Pats in 2008.

The Premier Women's Final match in Wellington is played for the Tia Passi Trophy. Tia Passi died in 2018, from illness, aged 48 and her Requiem Mass was held at St Patrick's Church in Kilbirnie.

Tia was an uncompromising loosehead prop. She represented the Wellington Pride in over 50 appearances and represented her country as a Black Fern.

The Women's Grade Club Final was played on New Zealand's initial Matariki weekend and following the match, the Marist St Pats RFC prayed this prayer.

The new light of Matariki has risen! May it be to you a sign of resurrection and new life.

May it be to you a sign of hope in times of darkness.

May it be to you a sign of the wondrous mystery of Atua who loves you.

May it be to you a sign that the eyes of the Eternal One are ever upon you and that the presence of the Holy One is ever with you. And may this be the cause of your rejoicing.

Through Christ and in the perfect unity of the Holy Spirit, we pray. Amen.

Marist St Pats expects to field two women's teams in the 2023 season. For more information check out the club's website at www.msprugby.co.nz



The Marist St Pats Women's team with Coach Men's Premier Player, Ryan Setefano (right). Included in the photo are the team's skipper Jaydah Timu, former Black Fern Monica Tagaoi, Black Fern Sevens squad member, Georgia Daal, and Thamsyn Newton who was jointly awarded the Erin Rush Cup for the women's grade best and fairest player. Photo: Supplied

St Mary's College rugby

Strong college player in women's rugby, St Mary's College Wellington, has had success this year with the local derbies, reports Mark Hurley, the college's Head of Social Sciences.

The 1st XV has seen success as Wellington Region Prem 1 Champs and as runners up for Hurricanes U18 Champs. The U15 has had success in the

Wellington Region U15 Champs and Hurricanes U15 Champs.

Two seniors have played for Wellington Pride this year and one of them was named Rookie of the Year at the recent WRFU annual awards. Those same two were also selected to play for New Zealand Māori U18. A number of players were selected for Wellington U18 reps.

Jubilees of priestly ordination

Isabella McCafferty

The Diocese of Palmerston North held its annual Mass to celebrate the Jubilees of priestly ordination, at the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit on 11 October. Cardinal John Dew was presider of the Mass, supported by bishops and several priests from across the diocese as well as hundreds of parishioners, friends and whānau.

This year's jubilarians are Fr Joe O'Sullivan (65 years); Fr Dominic Heslin (60 years); Fr Paul Kerridge (60 years); Fr Joe Grayland (30

years); Fr Anthony Zaw Htun (20 years); Fr Simon Story (20 years). All, apart from Fr Dominic Heslin, were present to celebrate the occasion.

In his homily Fr Paul Kerridge of Central Hawke's Bay recalled the story of the cracked pot to illustrate how even our flaws can be used for good. 'Sixty years of being a priest has taught me to embrace my flaws. And even more, to rejoice in them.'

Fr Paul told those gathered that God lets nothing go to waste and encouraged all to not be afraid of their own flaws. Sharing his own realisation of this, he said, 'If I

couldn't see any flaws, I had no need for God. I did it all on my own.' Rather, he reiterated the need to let Christ into our lives and 'let him do the work that we are not capable of and that we were never meant to do.'

Fr Paul finished by acknowledging that the love of the diocese has held him together as a priest over the last 60 years. 'We're all cracked and we rely on love...to stop us falling apart.'

Te Awa Kairangi Prayer Walk

Catherine Gibbs

From a Catholic Mass at 8am with birdsong beside a clear running river, to an Anglican Communion in the midst of a bustling city, to a circle of prayer with waves lapping on the shore, pilgrims of the Hutt Valley blessed and were blessed by Te Awa Kairangi – 'river of great value' – in a prayer walk along the Hutt River trail on 11 September.

About 100 people walked along the riverside at various stages to take part in the ecumenical Season of Creation. They took part to give thanks and pray for healing and restoration of the river.



Ecumenical pilgrims gather for morning Mass beside the river setting at the start of their prayer walk along the Te Awa Kairangi – 'river of great value'. Photo: Supplied

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St Gerard's may become a hotel

St Gerard's, the former Redemptorist church and monastery and Wellington's most imposing landscape building is likely to be sold, reports Wellington's *DomPost*.

A Wellington developer Richard Burrell, who has a reputation for restoring heritage buildings, is the likely purchaser. Should he be successful, Burrell intends to turn the building into a hotel.

Pending due diligence into what is needed to strengthen the building against earthquakes, it is understood the sale price is about \$5m.

Currently, the buildings are 25 per cent cent of the New Zealand building standard, and fall well below the 34 per cent earthquake risk threshold.

Burrell estimates around \$20m for steel and concrete is needed to spend on the building. The building's rateable value is \$16.9 million, of which \$16.4m is in the value of the 2433m² of prime land it sits on.

Following City Council rates



St Gerard's Wellington landmark likely to be sold.

Photo: WelCom

increases and fewer priests, in 1988, the Redemptorists sold the church and monastery at a discounted rate to the International Catholic Programme of Evangelisation (ICPE). ICPE tried to raise \$11m for earthquake strengthening but came up well short.

The historic church was closed after a final Mass on Pentecost Sunday, 23 May 2021, celebrated by Cardinal John Dew.

St Gerard's is a Heritage NZ category one heritage-listed building. Lambton Ward Wellington City councillor Nicola Young, whose father donated a baptismal font to the church in the 1960s, was 'thrilled' to hear the building may get a second life.

'It's probably Wellington's most distinctive building. As soon as you see it you know it is Wellington,' she said.

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Please send a cover letter, and CV to Kamau Holland at reception@wn-catholicsocialservices.org.nz

APPLICATIONS CLOSE: 5pm, Friday 25th November 2022



Gathered to celebrate the jubilees of priestly ordination are, (l-r) back: Fr Craig Butler (Local Administrator Palmerston North Diocese), Bishop Owen Dolan, Fr Joe Grayland, Bishop Peter Cullinane; front: Fr Paul Kerridge, Fr Joe O'Sullivan, Cardinal John Dew, Fr Anthony Zaw Htun, Fr Simon Story. Absent Fr Dominic Heslin. Photo: WelCom

with reflective phrases along the trail for anyone to notice and ponder.

By 4pm the walkers had reached central Lower Hutt, where Anglican minister Murray Wills led a short communion service. Some stayed for Evensong at St James Anglican Church, while others continued to the Petone foreshore. There, 14 people concluded the walk at sunset with reflections, a closing prayer and song. The pilgrims now know more intimately Te Awa Kairangi, which brings such life to the valley.

More stories about the Season of Creation activities in parishes will be featured in next month's WelCom.

ADVENT RETREAT
with Joy Cowley and John O'Connor

26 NOV | 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

27 NOV | 9:00 AM - 3:00 PM

Join us in the tranquil hills of Island Bay in the lead-up to advent to explore the connection between the Advent story and our relationship with God.

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Whāia Te Tika - Hato Pāora College Celebrating 75 Years of Quality Education: 1947 – 2022

Ta Mātou Kaupapa – Mission:
‘Taking good boys and growing them into great young men.’

Located on farmlands in Cheltenham north of Feilding, Hato Pāora College was opened 1947 by the Society of Mary under the leadership of Marist priest, Fr Issac Gupwell. Pā 'Ike' remained at the school until 1964. He died in 1999 and was laid to rest at Pukekarakara.

Built on a former sheep farm, Pā Ike's vision was to create an environment for boys to grow into young men with strong te reo and tikanga Māori, to promote Catholic and Māori values, to provide a solid education and to encourage achievement and success.

Now one of just four Māori boarding schools in Aotearoa to survive and continue to be operational Hato Pāora is the only Catholic Māori Boys boarding school in New Zealand – and the world.

As times have changed and no priests remain, the school has worked to keep its special character alive through whānau links. Some staff are former students and some students are the third generation of their family to attend the college.

Chair of the jubilee organising committee, Tata Lawton, also a former pupil, says the college has survived 75 years because of the support of many Māori communities in Aotearoa.

Hato Pāora has been fortunate in that its very existence is due to Māori communities, particularly Ngāti Kauwhata, Whanganui, Manawatu, Taranaki, Horowhenua and Hawke's Bay whānau. They have remained staunch supporters of the kura and what it stands for along with the legacy of those early Catholic priests and brothers.

Tumuaki (principal) Dr Nathan Matthews, says Māori boarding schools have played an important role in Aotearoa in the development of Māori society and leadership, particularly through the 20th century. He says the school still has an important place today and it is unique with all the boys living on site. "The students attend from all tribal regions throughout the country."

Nathan, who is writing a book about the school, was a student in the 1990s when there were seven priests living on site. The last priest left Hato Pāora in 1997. "They did everything. They coached rugby, taught in class, drove the bus.

"A highlight for me was regularly being exposed to te reo and tikanga Māori, formally and informally. Above all else, was the camaraderie amongst the students and the development of lifelong friendships – greatly in evidence at this jubilee weekend."

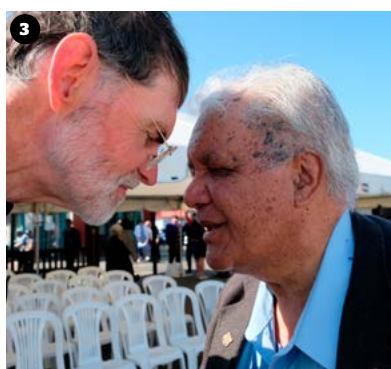
Also in evidence were the numerous Hato Pāora Old Boys now or formerly in highly influential positions of leadership impacting lives for the better for many in Aotearoa New Zealand. From sporting greats to civic, government and Māori society leaders, from Church mission, teachers and other professionals, to large and small business operators and many more, Hato Pāora Old Boys in all walks of life, remain humble, staunch supporters of the school, strong in te reo and tikanga Māori, and continue to embody the school values with 'a profound reverence for life and loyalty to whānau'.

The celebrations included pōwhiri, kapa haka, group photos, an archive exhibition, a jubilee book preview, 'future proofing the kura' discussions, taonga pūoro (traditional Māori musical instruments), waiata, a formal banquet dinner, karakia and a special Mass celebrated by Cardinal John Dew, and cutting the 75th birthday cake by one of the earliest Hato Pāora students.

Words and photos: Annette Scullion/WelCom



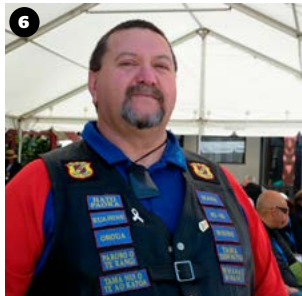
"It's been great to have so many Old Boys and whānau spending time together, renewing connections and back on the whenua. No one wanted it to finish. The boys here have felt the significance and we're looking forward to the 100th."
- Dr Nathan Matthews, Tumuaki



"Hato Paora is the only Catholic Māori boys' boarding school in the world - that is a taonga for us as Māori, but it should be an even bigger taonga for the Catholic Church."
- Tata Lawton



"A lot of the good things that happen in Māori All Blacks, which have spread to the Ferns and other teams, have come from Hato Pāora values. The journey here is about taking boys to men. When I look back to when that happened for me - it happened here." - Luke Crawford



"This weekend has been a whole range of positive emotions - the calmness, camaraderie and humbleness of everyone here and the meeting of old and new, forever brings us together as one."
- Dempsey Broad



1. Cutting the 75th Jubilee cake, 1-5, Emery McGill, Head Boy, Peter Hakaraia, an early pupil of the kura from the 1950s, and Cardinal John Dew. 2. Jerome Kavanagh, Old Boy and Victoria University of Wellington's composer-in-residence 2022, presents taonga pūoro, traditional Māori musical instruments. 3. Pā Peter Healy sm and Brian Emery. Brian, a student of the 1960s is one of the organisers of the digital archives project underway to record all students' biographies. Contact Brian at brianemery2015@gmail.com about the project. 4. Head Boy Emery McGill, 2nd right, and fellow students at Miha. 5. Māori All Blacks Kaumatua Luke Crawford, second from left, with fellow Old Boys. 6. Dempsey Broad, 1982-86. 7. Robin Hapi introduces Wānanga, Ō tātou mate - a digital archive project to locate and record all students' biographies, led by 1960s Old Boys. 8. Key members of Jubilee organising team, Tata Lawton, chair, and Dr Areti Metuamata. 9. Jubilee logistics organiser Dean Wilson (l) with Waaka Poutu and Matariki Woolmer. 10. Tumuaki Dr Nathan Matthews stands with Hato Pāora students and Harete Hipango MP.



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At Hato Pāora our Vision is
"To Take Good Boys and Grow them into Great Young Men"
so they can be strong in
Tikanga Māori and a beacon
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Young Catholics

Vatican lays the groundwork for World Youth Day



Ahead of World Youth Day 2023, a Vatican official has praised the creativity of youth and said they ought to be protagonists not only in the event, but also in the organisational process.

Speaking to delegates attending a preparatory meeting in Fatima, American Cardinal Kevin Farrell, head of the Vatican's office for Laity, Family and Life, said the delegates are all members of 'a universal Church that is on a journey'.

'Pope Francis wants this type of synodal church,' and has spoken of 'a synodal youth ministry that is a "wonderful polyhedron", Cardinal Farrell said, adding that in this process, 'young people themselves are the protagonists of change'.

'For this reason, I encourage all of you, in preparing for World Youth Day in your countries and in your movements, to let young people themselves be the protagonists,' he said, saying youth have many 'great creative ideas' about how to organise pilgrimages for WYD.

Instituted by Pope St John Paul II to reach out to young people and engage them in Church life, WYD was established in 1985, with the first international gathering taking place in Rome in 1986.

With the institution of WYD, John Paul II invited bishops to celebrate the event annually in their dioceses every Palm Sunday, and to send youth to the international gatherings, which are held every two to three years in different locations around the world.

Pope Francis, who attended the last WYD in Panama in 2019, in 2021 changed the date of the diocesan WYD celebrations to the feast of Christ the King, rather than Palm Sunday.

Originally planned for 2022 but delayed due to the Covid-19 pandemic, the next youth day gathering will be held in Lisbon from August 1-6, 2023.

Source: Crux.

New principal for Cullinane College



New principal for Cullinane College Whanganui, Tony McBride takes up his new appointment on 1 January 2023.

Photo: Supplied

Sue Seconi

When Tony McBride was announced as the new principal for Whanganui's Cullinane College at Sunday Eucharist in St Mary's Church last month, the congregation applauded with their congratulations.

Currently Year 12 Dean at Cullinane College, Tony will become the college's fourth principal, replacing Justin Harper who resigned at the end of term 2 to become principal at John Paul College in Rotorua. Tony takes up his new appointment on 1 January 2023. Lida Penn will continue as acting principal until then.

Born in KwaZulu Natal in South Africa, Tony's young, widowed mother returned to her homeland in Scotland when he was 16, to raise the family after his father tragically died.

'The trauma and hardship taught me you need to be resilient - do the mahi and leave the rest to God,' Tony said.

Graduating from Edinburgh University with a Bachelor of Education and Physical Education honours, his teaching career started at St David's Catholic High School in Dalkeith coaching basketball and rugby. His qualifications meant he could transfer from country to country.

'When I came to New Zealand to play rugby, I had teaching to

back me up. Over time I realised I loved leading others, through being a department head, dean, and then later deputy principal,' he said.

Tony is not new to Whanganui. Twenty years ago he was the physical education teacher and dean for five years at Whanganui High School.

Before joining Cullinane in 2021, he taught at Hastings Boys' High School, Westlake Boys High School in Auckland, and St John's College in Hastings where he was deputy principal.

Tony is excited about his first principalship. As a Catholic educator and leader, he says taking part in Marist Young leaders' courses in Wellington and the Josephite colloquium in Auckland have reinstated the importance of constantly thinking about how to keep the Catholic faith relevant for today's youth.

Cullinane College is founded on the charisms of the Josephite Sisters and the Society of Mary.

'I will aspire to develop young people who are loyal partners, loving parents and be positive influences in society. Strengthening the Catholic and college communities is also critical,' he says.

Tony is a selector for the U18 Hurricane team. He is married to Margaret and they have four children - Logan 11, Hayley 9, Grace 6 and Callum 4.

Tony will be officially welcomed with a pōwhiri at the start of the first term next year.

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St John's College students plate up medal-worthy dishes

St John's College students brought home a plethora of awards from the New Zealand Hospitality Championships, with Ethan Redward recognised as the Top Secondary Student of the Year.

It marks another successful competition for the school's own award-winning culinary institute, led by Culinary Arts Head of Department, Mr Craig Ireland.

The championships, held 18-20 September in Auckland, saw four St John's College students win five gold, four first in class, one silver and two bronze.

Ethan was awarded first in class and gold with distinction for his mushroom mousse tortellini with a bacon consommé, which scored 100 per cent. He also won gold for his Classic Quiche Lorraine.

The award came as a surprise to the Year 13, who aspires to become a chef.

'I didn't know if I was good

enough and I was stressing about it the whole time. But I am very happy with the end result.'

He has been a part of the Culinary Arts Institute at the college since Year 9. He credits Mr Ireland for his growth in the past couple of years.

'He is an amazing cooking teacher. I would be nothing without him. It shows as I went from a barely passable quiche to a gold quiche in just a couple of years, which is quite good.'

With a particular interest in fine dining, Ethan has an apprenticeship lined up with The Farm at Cape Kidnappers and a goal to study at the Eastern Institute of Technology in Hawke's Bay.

Seth Howes won first in class and gold in Barista, and first in class and silver for his scone. He also won gold for his coffee infused smoothie, and the Havana Innovation Award.

Vincent Jones won first in class

and gold for his classic kiwi biscuit, and bronze for his café sandwich. Daniil Bailey got a bronze medal for his café cake.

Mr Ireland says the result is testament to the hard work and dedication shown by the students.

'To get this many golds, and this many first in class at a national event, and then to get top secondary school student with 100 marks in one of his dishes is absolutely amazing.'

While he has heard of industry chefs receiving 100 marks, Mr Ireland says he has never heard of it happening to a student.

'The students do start with competitions in Year 9 so by the time they get to Year 13, they know how to win, they know what the judges are looking for and what to do, but they've still got to put the hard yards in to make it happen.

'So it just shows that it is working, and they are all doing very well.'



St John's College Head of Culinary Arts Mr Craig Ireland (second from left) with students (l-r) Seth Howes, Daniil Bailey, Vincent Jones and Ethan Redward.

Photo: Supplied

The Hospitality Championships were brought together by NZ Chefs Association as part of Hospitality Summit 22. The championships brought emerging and established talent to show off their culinary

skills and creativity in front of judges and the industry. The three stacked days of competitions featured competitors from all levels of training - ranging from secondary schools to specialty industry classes.

Teachers learn correct pronunciation

Recognising the importance of pronouncing students' names correctly saw Napier's Sacred Heart College teachers head back to the classroom earlier this year.

The initiative, coordinated by Deputy Principal (Teaching and Learning) Rachel Read, with help from Year 13 Cultural Leaders Jacqueline Matauli and Aroha Tawhiri (Ngāpuhi, Ngāti Tūwharetoa, Ngāti Porou and Ngāti Whātua) has been very successful.

'As a school, we are aware of how important it is to pronounce the names of our ākonga correctly,' said Ms Read. 'At the end of last year, staff were surveyed on priorities for professional learning and development (PLD) for 2022. Top of the list was furthering their knowledge and understanding of Te Reo Māori. They were keen for us to run PLD sessions to focus on the pronunciation of student names.'

Ms Read says this coincided with 2022 planning with student leaders where Aroha and Jacqueline identified correct pronunciation of all student names as a priority for staff. Aroha and Jacqueline recorded themselves saying the names of all Māori and Pasifika students, as part of teacher workshops in term two.

'Staff response was incredibly positive and this resource has been helpful,' Ms Read says.

Now every student will do an audio recording of their name, uploaded to the school's student management system, so any staff member can make sure they are pronouncing each student's name correctly.

Jacqueline says it means a lot to students to know teachers acknowledge the importance of pronouncing their names and are working to improve.

Principal Maria Neville-Foster



Sacred Heart College Year 13 Cultural Leaders Jacqueline Matauli (l) and Aroha Tawhiri (r).

Photo: Supplied

says, 'When you pronounce a student's name correctly, it can change their perception of how the school sees them, and how they see themselves. That's what we want to do for our young people.'



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Council for young people meets in Palmerston North

Nick Wilson

The New Zealand Catholic Bishops' Council for Young People (CYP) met in Palmerston North last month for their biannual meeting. The council serves the national bishops' conference and advises in matters about young Church across Aotearoa New Zealand.

CYP has members from each rohe (diocese), an independent chair and a Tūrangā Māori Adviser, to serve and advise the national bishops' conference in matters about young Church across Aotearoa New Zealand.

The council was welcomed to Palmerston North with a mihi whakatau before getting into the mahi of its projects that impact young people. Topics included safeguarding, the mental health

and spiritual well-being of young people, World Youth Day 2023 in Lisbon, Portugal, and reflecting on the bishops' new Aroha and Diversity document.

CYP is made up of representatives from Catholic youth ministries across Aotearoa New Zealand.

It works on behalf of the NZ Catholic Bishops' Conference, implementing agreed national projects that influence and assist dioceses and all faith communities in their local ministry with young people, and sharing best practice across organisations that minister with young people.

The Council is passionate about animating young Church. Please visit www.youngpeople.church to learn more.

CYP meets monthly online and biannually in person. Its next face-to-face meeting is in March 2023.



Pictured with the ancestral pou, Tane-nui-a-rangi of Rangitāne iwi o Papaioea: (l-r), rear - Nick Wilson, Palmerston North; Alex Bailey (chair), Hamilton; middle - Louise Lloyd, Wellington; Linea Simons, Dunedin; Miriama Allen (Tūrangā Māori) Bishop Michael Gielen (bishops' representative) and James Bryant, Christchurch; front - Jill Miller, Hamilton; Sam Brebner, Auckland.

Photo: Supplied

Vinnies Soup Week for Compassion

Ann D'Souza

A 'Vinnies Soup Week' held at St Bernard's College, Lower Hutt, to support the local Vinnies' food bank also raised \$400 for Home of Compassion Soup Kitchen.

Every year, Johnny Boon, Director of Religious Studies, promotes Soup Week to coincide with Social Justice Week, where a gold coin donation or a can of food is exchanged for a cup of soup.

Each day the Food Tech Teacher and Vinnies students served a different soup ranging from Hot Spicy Curry Soup, Tomato Soup to

Mexican Soup. The students and staff enjoyed the soup - especially on the very cold days.

As well as raising \$400 for Compassion Soup Kitchen, a huge container of food cans was donated to the local foodbank on Dudley St. Staff were grateful to the students for helping to replenish their low food stocks.

The students took pride in seeing the difference they were making in reaching out to the community. Before the term break students also took part in their annual sleeper in the cardboard box project to highlight the issue of homelessness.



Young Vinnies Lewis Collins and Zephaniah Lauepepe serve up soup during Social Justice Week.

Photo: Supplied

Saying 'no' to racism

Leah Marris, principal

At St Canice's School in Westport, the student council hosted a 'Say No to Racism' activity day on 6 September, for Social Justice Week. Based on the Caritas Aotearoa resources, activities included whole-school hand art, similarity and difference bingo, drama scenarios on how to challenge racism, a word cloud of the qualities Jesus role modelled for us that can help us




St Canice's School students experience a 'Say No to Racism' day for Social Justice Week.

Photo: Supplied

to be inclusive, and a fitness game called 'share our superpowers'.

During the week, the student council leaders roamed the school for prayer and reflection time using the prayers from the resource pack and hosted a liturgy to start our activity interchange off. They also took photos of every person in our school that were put together into a photo collage - like the one on the Caritas poster - overlaid with our symbol for manaakitanga (respect, care).



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World Day of the Poor: 13 November 2022

The World Day of the Poor is commemorated annually on the 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time in the liturgical calendar, which this year falls on 13 November. In this year's message themed, 'For your sakes Christ became poor (2 Cor. 8:9)', Pope Francis recalled the words of St Paul to the Christians of Corinth, to encourage their efforts to show solidarity with their brothers and sisters in need. The Pope noted the World Day this year comes 'as a healthy challenge, helping us to reflect on our style of life and on the many forms of poverty all around us.'

» Pope's message for World Day of Poor, Benedict Mayaki sj, p 16. Workshop: The Letter documentary, p 19.



Overcoming poverty: A question of a fair balance

**Roger Ellis, Caritas
Aotearoa New Zealand**

The Mission of Caritas is about being love in action. We unite with communities, especially in the parishes, colleges, marae, religious orders and schools of Aotearoa and Oceania to overcome poverty, protect lives and relieve suffering. This World Day of the Poor, Sunday 13 November, we will be working with other Church agencies to highlight the plight of the poor – both overseas and in Aotearoa New Zealand.

We hope that people from all over Aotearoa will join us in praying for and taking action on behalf of poor and vulnerable people around the world.

About one in ten people in the world live in extreme poverty today. That is, they live on less than \$1.90 a day – the UN's poverty line. In line with the Catholic social teaching principle of subsidiarity, Caritas is working with its partners to help communities to stand on their own

feet and to be empowered to make decisions about their own futures.

As Pope Francis notes in his 2022 Message for World Day of the Poor: 'None of us can think we are exempt from concern for the poor and for social justice' (*Evangelii Gaudium*, 201). There is an urgent need to find new solutions that can go beyond the approach of those social policies conceived as 'a policy for the poor, but never with the poor and never of the poor, much less part of a project that brings people together' (*Fratelli Tutti*, 169). We need instead to imitate the attitude of the Apostle, who could write to the Corinthians: 'I do not mean that there should be relief for others and pressure on you, but it is a question of a fair balance' (2 Cor 8:13).

Each of us can play our part to help those who have been less fortunate or who have been exploited and mistreated. For more information about the work of Caritas see www.caritas.org.nz

Supporting communities on the margins

World Day of the Poor coincides with Wellington Catholic Social Services (CSS) Annual Kotahitanga Appeal, this year 13–30 November.

'We thank those who have supported us in the last year. Your support is critical to CSS enabling its work targeted at the grassroots of our communities,' says Kaiarahi Kamau Holland.

Pope Francis details in his 2022 World Day of the Poor message the hardship, starvation and poverty impacts from the Covid pandemic, war in the Ukraine and global warming. He says, 'Where the poor are concerned, it is not talk that matters; what matters is rolling up our sleeves and putting our faith into practice through a direct involvement.'

'Catholic Social Services focuses on grassroots' direct action in our communities and identifying ways to support people on the margins,' says Kamau Holland.

'Highlights this year include the Benefit Impact for the Deaf community run in partnership with Hutt Valley's Benefit Education Services Trust (BEST), and the Men's Wellness initiative with Greenstone Doors.'

Lyneen Allen, CSS Community Navigator, who is also Deaf, says, 'It can be hard for Deaf people to get the support they need and many also struggle with literacy. Issues arise when a NZSL interpreter is not provided when they are entitled to.'



CSS Men's programme facilitators, Francis and Duncan. The programme includes parenting and support programmes for dads. Photo: Supplied

Most Deaf people attending the Benefit Impact were not getting the financial support they were eligible to because of communication issues.

The Men's programme includes 'Game On' and 'Great Fathers – Mana Matua', both parenting programmes for dads, 'Tane Talks' a support group for dads, and social worker support.

Duncan, CSS Volunteer and a workshop facilitator, says, 'Men, I believe, are quite solitary beings – we have a lot of acquaintances and few close friends and even with those we do not always have the real deep and helpful discussions I've experienced in these workshops.'

This year CSS is highlighting Hospital and Prison chaplains who offer pastoral support to individuals, families, and staff in hospitals and prisons. They offer

an essential non-judgemental ear especially for people facing crisis.

Hutt Hospital chaplain Kathryn van Woerkom says, 'Chaplains bring unconditional love and acceptance to patients, whānau and staff with no other agenda.'

Kamau Holland thanks everyone for their support during the year. 'Your support is critical to CSS enabling its work among the grassroots of our communities. If you would like to support the CSS Annual Appeal in November through organising a fundraiser in your community, please email reception@wn-catholicsocialservices.org.nz or call (04) 385-8642.'

To help support CSS in their mission, please donate to CSS account: 02-0560-0213864-00. Please include your First and Last name and 'CSS22' as the code.

'A universe of care'

Michael Fitzsimons reviews the latest book from Fr James Lyons, *The Lord's Prayer For Everyone – Ta Inoi A Te Ariki Ma Te Katoa*.

'The Our Father, common to all Christian denominations, is the prayer Jesus taught his friends when they asked him how to pray. In a new book *The Lord's Prayer For Everyone Ta Inoi A Te Ariki Ma Te Katoa*, Wellington priest and author Fr James Lyons relates this universal Christian prayer to a range of personal situations and occupations.

'The Lord's Prayer', says the text on the back cover of the book, 'is a universe of care, a carrier through waves and wind, sun and storm, teaching interdependence, my need of others; helping me see that I am not in my world but ours.'

In our increasingly polarised society, it is easy to be trapped in 'my world, not ours', unable to put ourselves in the shoes of others and imagine what life is like for them. Rampant individualism can easily breed indifference or even hostility.

In *The Lord's Prayer for Everyone*, Fr Lyons moves us in the opposite direction. He takes the commonplace words of the Our Father and

breaths fresh life into them by exploring how they might apply in the lives of all-comers: the divorced and bereaved, kids and grandparents, caregivers and patients, priests and pilgrims, addicts and artists, writers and widowers, lawyers and doctors, migrants and refugees, priests and pilgrims. The style is meditative and reflective, as the author breaks open the words of the Our Father line by line. His words reflect the day-to-day reality of people's lives.

Fr Lyons writes in the introduction: 'The Lord's prayer is for everyone. This is not a "me only" prayer!' He goes on to quote Pope Benedict XVI Benedict:

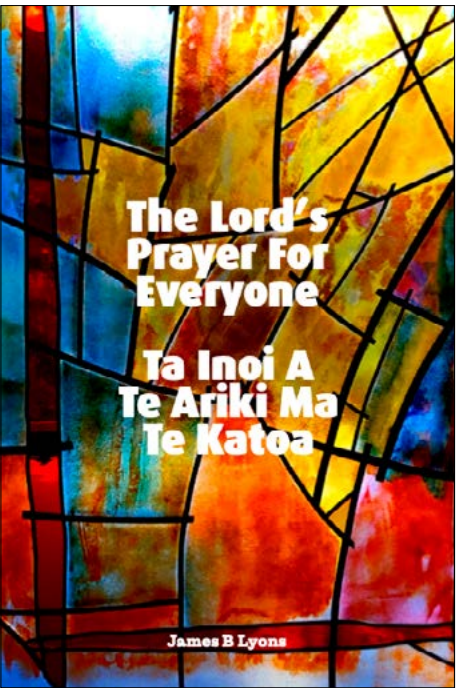
'In praying the Our Father we pray totally with our own heart, but at the same time we pray in communion with the whole family of God, with the living and the dead, with (people) of all conditions, cultures and races. The Our Father overcomes all boundaries and makes us one family.'

This book is certainly not 'me only!' It

offers a spiritual vision of an inter-connected, vulnerable human community sharing a sacred life, far bigger than any one individual.

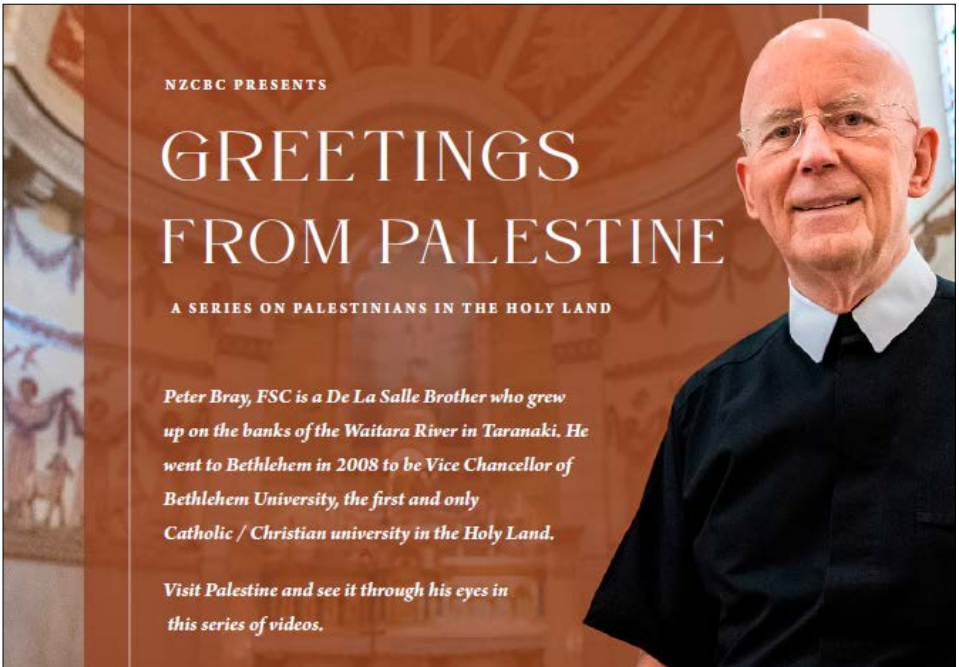
Drawing on his extensive pastoral experience, Fr Lyons has written a range of uplifting pastoral books helping people to better understand and celebrate their faith. *The Lord's Prayer For Everyone* is a rich and welcome addition. It is imaginative and empathetic, reminding us that we are not defined by divisions of sex, gender, race, wealth, or whatever else you care to name but are in fact all in this together. The Our Father tells us so.

Copies of The Lord's Prayer For Everyone Ta Inoi A Te Ariki Ma Te Katoa are available from Pleroma Books (www.christiansupplies.co.nz) and from the Compassion Centre bookshop in Island Bay. The cost is \$20 per book. It was published with the assistance of a grant from the Clegg Family Trust and all income from sales will help support the work and ministry of the Sisters of Compassion.



The book's front cover illustration is the Resurrection Window in Suzanne Aubert (Mere Hohepa)'s Resting Place in the chapel at Island Bay.

Br Peter Bray bringing Holy Land message from Bethlehem to New Zealand



Palestine through the eyes of New Zealand-born Br Peter Bray, Vice Chancellor of Bethlehem University, is captured through a series of videos. The first in the series is on YouTube.

Bethlehem University Vice-Chancellor – Taranaki's own Br Peter Bray fsc – will give a series of public talks about Palestine during his visit to Aotearoa New Zealand early next year.

Br Peter has been making a series of videos about life in Palestine through his eyes as a New Zealander living and working in Palestine. Called *Greetings from Bethlehem* and intended for a New Zealand audience, the series is being produced for the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference – Te Huinga o ngā Pihopa Katorika o Aotearoa.

Br Peter says the videos stem from the bishops' statement in July about the long-standing Palestine issue (catholic.org.nz/about-us/bishops-statements/end-palestinian-suffering/).

'The bishops mention their concern for the ordinary people in these occupied territories,' Br Peter says. 'One of the things I believe is crucial for people in New Zealand to realise is that these ordinary people have desires, and longings, and dreams the same as people in New Zealand.'

The first video, *Ordinary People in an Extraordinary Place; Palestinians in the Holy Land*, can be viewed on YouTube (youtube.com/watch?v=d2S_A4kBfeU).

The bishops conference will announce details about where and when Br Peter will be speaking during his visit to New Zealand early next year as soon as the information is available.

Bethlehem University was established under Israeli occupation in 1973. It was the first university established in the Occupied West Bank territory of Palestine and is the only Catholic university in the Holy Land.

Immediately before moving to Bethlehem in late 2008, Br Peter, a De La Salle Brother, was the Director and CEO of the Wellington Catholic Education Centre. There, he led the creation of a master's level educational partnership with the Australian Catholic University, and the utilisation of online delivery for the centre's educational programmes. Br Peter's work as a teacher and education consultant has taken him around the world.

Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand helps raise funds for the people of Palestine and the work of Bethlehem University. Visit caritas.org.nz/where-we-work/palestine to learn more.

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We pray for those who choose war; that they will remember that you direct your people to turn our swords into ploughshares and seek for peace.
We pray for leaders on the world stage; that they are inspired by the wisdom and courage of Christ.
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Catholics Thinking

Pope's message for World Day of Poor: 'We must uphold values of responsibility, solidarity'

In his message for the 6th World Day of the Poor, Sunday 13 November, released in June this year, Pope Francis invites Christians to greater solidarity and responsibility for the poor in society, stressing the importance of putting our faith into practice through personal involvement that cannot be delegated to others. **Benedict Mayaki sj**, writer for Vatican News, reflects on Pope Francis' 2022 message.

The World Day of the Poor is commemorated annually on the 33rd Sunday of Ordinary Time in the liturgical calendar, which this year falls on 13 November.

In this year's message for the annual observance themed: 'For your sakes Christ became poor (2 Cor. 8:9)', Pope Francis recalled the words of St Paul to the Christians of Corinth, in order to encourage their efforts to show solidarity with their brothers and sisters in need.

The Pope noted the World Day this year comes 'as a healthy challenge, helping us to reflect on our style of life and on the many forms of poverty all around us.'

Covid-19, war in Ukraine

Reflecting on current events in the world, Pope Francis pointed to the Covid-19 pandemic from which the world is emerging, including showing signs of an economic recovery that could benefit millions made poorer by the loss of their jobs.

He lamented that 'another catastrophe' – the war in Ukraine – 'has destined to impose on our world a very different scenario.' This, he added, is made more complex due to the direct intervention of a 'superpower' aimed 'at imposing its own will in violation of the principle of the self-determination of peoples.'

Pope Francis also highlighted the great poverty produced by the 'senselessness of war' and how violence 'strikes those who are defenceless and vulnerable.'

In this regard, he considered the deportation of thousands of persons, 'in order to sever their roots and impose on them another identity,' and the millions of women, children and elderly people 'forced to brave the danger of bombs just to find safety by seeking refuge as displaced persons in neighbouring countries.' More so, many remain in war zones, living each day with fear, lack of food, water, medical care and human affection.

'In these situations,' he added, 'reason is darkened and those who feel its effects are the countless ordinary people who end up being added to the already great numbers of those in need.'

Responding to the needs of the poor

The sixth World Day of the Poor, celebrated in the midst of this situation, invites us to reflect on the summons of the Apostle to 'keep our gaze fixed on Jesus' who though rich became poor so that by his poverty we might become rich, the Pope said.



Refugees line up for buses taking them to safe places outside Ukraine as they flee the ongoing Russian invasion, outside the main train station in Lviv, Ukraine, March 12, 2022.

Photo: Kai Pfaffenbach/CNS

He recalled when St Paul visited Jerusalem he met with Peter, James and John, who urged him not to forget the poor, and the Apostle set about organising a great collection to aid the community of Jerusalem that was experiencing a great hardship due to food shortages. In the same manner, every Sunday during the celebration of the Holy Eucharist, said the Pope, we have done the same thing, 'pooling our offerings so that the community can provide for the needs of the poor' – something that Christians have always done 'with joy and a sense of responsibility.'

Renewing initial motivation

Pope Francis pointed out that St Paul wrote to the community of Corinth, asking them to relaunch their collection after their initial outburst of enthusiasm began to falter and the initiative proposed by the Apostle had lost some of its impetus.

On this note, the Holy Father thought of the generosity that has led entire populations 'to open their doors to welcome millions of refugees from wars in the Middle East, Central Africa and now Ukraine,' with families opening their homes to make room for other families and communities generously accepting many in order to enable them live with dignity.

However, he acknowledges that 'the longer the conflicts last, the more burdensome their consequences become' and the people who offer welcome find it increasingly difficult to maintain their relief efforts past the emergency stage.

'This is the moment for us not to lose heart but to renew our initial motivation,' the Pope urged. 'The work we have begun needs to be brought to completion with the same sense of responsibility.'

Christians to 'be doers of the word, and not merely hearers who deceive themselves.'

'Where the poor are concerned, it is not talk that matters. What matters is rolling up our sleeves and putting our faith into practice through a direct involvement, one that cannot be delegated.'

He, however, cautioned against a kind of laxity that can creep in and lead to inconsistent behaviour and indifference against the poor, noting it happens to some Christians who, 'out of excessive attachment to money, remain mired in a poor use of their goods and wealth.'

The Pope insisted the issue is not money itself but rather, the value that we put on money, because 'attachment to money prevents us from seeing everyday life with realism; it clouds our gaze and blinds us to the needs of others.'

The Holy Father further warned against approaching the poor with a 'welfare mentality,' stressing rather we ensure 'that no one lacks what is necessary'. He underlined it is not activism that saves but a 'sincere

Solidarity

Solidarity, the Pope explained, 'is sharing the little we have with those who have nothing, so no one will go without.' The sense of community and of communion as a style of life increases and a sense of solidarity matures, he added.

He invited Christians to consider that in some countries, over the past decades, families have experienced

"The poor, before being the object of our almsgiving, are people, who can help set us free from the snares of anxiety and superficiality."

a significant increase in affluence and security as a positive result of private initiatives, economic growth and concrete incentives to support families and social responsibility. The benefits of these, in terms of security and stability 'can now be shared with those who have been forced to leave behind their homes and native countries in search of safety and survival,' the Pope said.

'As members of civil society, let us continue to uphold the values of freedom, responsibility, fraternity, and solidarity. And as Christians, let us always make charity, faith and hope the basis of our lives and our actions.'

He noted that St Paul did not oblige Christians in Corinth to perform works of charity but was prompted by the need for concrete assistance. The Apostle, instead, was 'testing the genuineness of their love by the earnestness of their concern for the poor' – a sign of love shown by Jesus Himself.

'Generosity towards the poor has its most powerful motivation in the example of the Son of God, who chose to become poor,' the Pope said.

Be doers, not hearers only

The Pope went on to underline that St Paul's teaching finds an echo in the words of St James who urged

distribution of resources' – a hopeless and implacable poverty, imposed by the throwaway culture that not only reduces people to poverty but also 'corrodes the spiritual dimension'.

On the other hand, the poverty that sets us free 'is one that results from a responsible decision to cast off all dead weight and concentrate on what is essential.

'Encountering the poor enables us to put an end to many of our anxieties and empty fears, and to arrive at what truly matters in life, the treasure that no one can steal from us: true and gratuitous love,' said the Pope, adding that the poor, 'before being the object of our almsgiving, are people, who can help set us free from the snares of anxiety and superficiality'.

Christ's poverty makes us rich

Pope Francis added that the theme of the World Day of the Poor presents us with the great paradox of our life of faith, that 'Christ's poverty makes us rich' because

he became poor for our sakes so that our lives are illumined and transformed, taking on 'a worth that the world does not appreciate and cannot bestow.'

Therefore, 'if we want life to triumph over death, and dignity to be redeemed from injustice, we need to follow Christ's path of poverty, sharing our lives out of love, breaking the bread of our daily existence with our brothers and sisters, beginning with the least of them, those who lack the very essentials of life.'

This is the way to 'create equality, to free the poor from their misery and the rich from their vanity, and both from despair,' the Pope insisted.

Concluding, the Holy Father held up the example of St Charles de Foucauld – a man born rich who gave up everything to follow Jesus – who urged everyone not to despise the poor, the little ones and the workers, because 'not only are they our brothers and sisters in God, they are also those who most perfectly imitate Jesus in his outward life.'

'May this 2022 World Day of the Poor be for us a moment of grace,' the Pope prayed. 'May it enable us to make a personal and communal examination of conscience and to ask ourselves whether the poverty of Jesus Christ is our faithful companion in life.'

The silent moment called death

On the Christian calendar, November 1 is All Saints' Day, commemorating all the saints of the Church, known and unknown. The following day, November 2, is All Souls' Day and is a day of remembrance for our beloved dead and all the faithful departed.

James B Lyons
Diocesan Priest, Wellington

The Irish poet, John O'Donohue says of death that, *when at last it comes it comes in silence; with no thought for the one to whom it comes.*

One of my nephews died in September. I was with him a week earlier. Semi-conscious, he thrashed about, trying to remove the breathing tube and other necessary attachments. When he woke, he was determined to get out of hospital. But then, as death neared, a deep calm settled over him and he died in silence, his wife holding his hand.

Mid October, I was called to anoint a Religious Sister I knew well. As I reached the hospital, a text told me she had just died. She'd been on the phone to her own sister a short time earlier and had entertained a few visitors. Her death was not considered imminent but suddenly and very silently she died.

It often happens that death is sudden, unexpected; but even when disease or illness slowly spreads and the person knows they are dying, the moment of death is rarely prefaced by any scream or shout or fanfare. Just a moment – wrapped in silence, as death enters – without a thought for the one to whom it came.

We need to add that neither does death give any thought for those it leaves behind. Silence is the void that claims not only the dead but those who mourn them. There is nothing to say, nothing that can be said. There is only an emptiness and a strange stillness that seems endless – like the silence that follows the sharp crack of something breaking.

It's as though, suddenly, sound is forbidden.

David J Roy, in the Canadian Journal of Palliative Care (1988), described this silence as 'sacral'. He wrote, *(It is) a testimony that something of incomparable and unsurpassable importance, that something terribly definitive, has happened to one of our very own, and to us.*

And the silence continues into the funeral. There's an awkwardness we can neither avoid nor understand, until we realise that we are there to break the silence – to speak our belief in life and in love, and to announce our conviction that death has no authority.

We can, and must, weep our tears and recognise our fears. There's a terrible ache in the heart of every person who mourns the loss of one who filled the lives of others with love. But there is a togetherness in our mourning, and it's in being together, united in grief, that life sparkles and doubts evaporate, and we can start to see the silence as merely a pause before the joyful sound, echoed with gospel clarity: HE LIVES!

The silence relating to death is especially broken with the Word of God.

"Come to me if you are weary or weighed down with burdens and I will give you rest."

– Matthew 11: 28-29

Safeguarding at the 'Service of Mission'

Sr Catherine Jones smsm

We are all familiar with one of the most common words in the vocabulary of two- and three-year-olds: 'Why...why...but why...?' – seeking understanding about what they see and hear and discover in the world around them.

'Why, why...?' is a question I often ponder as Safeguarding Adviser for the Archdiocese of Wellington. Why is Safeguarding so important in the mission and ministries of the Church today?

This practice is happening in New Zealand, in other countries where I have worked, and in the constant teaching and reforms of Pope Francis.

Safeguarding is at the service of the mission of the Church. The Church celebrated Mission Sunday on 23 October around the theme, *'You shall be my witnesses'* (Acts 1:8). What a privilege and responsibility – witnessing to the constant love and mercy of God, made visible in Jesus.

Safeguarding is deeply rooted in our commitment to living the

Gospel: Pope Francis writes: *If one member suffers, all suffer together with them* (1Cor 12:26), and continues, 'I acknowledge once more the suffering endured by [those who have been abused]...' (Letter to the People of God, August 2018).

In over two years of hearings of the Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care, we have heard victims and survivors speak of the life-long, and often intergenerational impact of abuse. When we listen deeply to that suffering, have we heard God's call to conversion, repentance and redress?

In October 2022, the Royal Commission conducted its final public hearing into the responses of faith-based institutions to abuse and neglect under their care. They were asked what lessons they have learned and what changes they have made to prevent and respond to abuse under their care.

Cardinal John Dew concluded his testimony with 'Safeguarding is the Mission of the Church today.'

It is an invitation to each one of us.

» A safeguarding prayer, p 18.



Sr Catherine Jones. Photo: Supplied

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Gospel Reading: Sunday 6 November, 2022

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME – LUKE 20: 27; 34-38

²⁷ Some Sadducees, those who deny that there is a resurrection, came forward.³⁴ Jesus said to them, ‘The children of this age marry and remarry; ³⁵ but those who are deemed worthy to attain to the coming age and to the

resurrection of the dead neither marry ³⁶ nor are given in marriage. They can no longer die, for they are like angels; and they are the children of God because they are the ones who will rise. That the dead will rise ³⁷ even

Moses made known in the passage about the bush, when he called out “Lord”, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob; ³⁸ and he is not God of the dead, but of the living, for to him all are alive.’

Dead and gone?

A reflection on Luke 20: 27; 34-38

Dr Elizabeth Julian rsm

Marcellin Wilson rsm, CNZM, 2013 Wellingtonian of the Year, my former teacher, is dead. Where has she gone? Is there life after death? What does resurrection mean? Will I see Marcellin again? How will she live on? These challenging questions are provoked by today's gospel.

Our Christian faith, based on Jesus' life, death and resurrection, doesn't provide the clarity we want. Instead, it calls us to believe in life after death and in God as 'not God of the dead, but of the living, for to him all are alive.' We prayed at Marcellin's funeral Mass, 'Life is changed not ended,' and in Sunday's Creed, 'We believe in the resurrection of the body and life everlasting.' For Christians, life

everlasting or heaven has always been a symbol of hope; the risen Christ has conquered death. We live by faith in God and in hope of resurrection, of the transformation of every being. Heaven is not a place, it's a theological way of speaking about our relationship with God.

In today's gospel the Sadducees*, who don't believe in the resurrection of the dead, are as usual trying to trick Jesus. Before this passage they ask Jesus a ridiculous question based on Levirate marriage law (Deut 25:5-10) requiring the nearest male relative of a dead man to marry the latter's widow and raise a son to ensure the dead man's line. The Sadducees want to know whose wife the woman will be at the resurrection of the dead if she has been widowed seven times

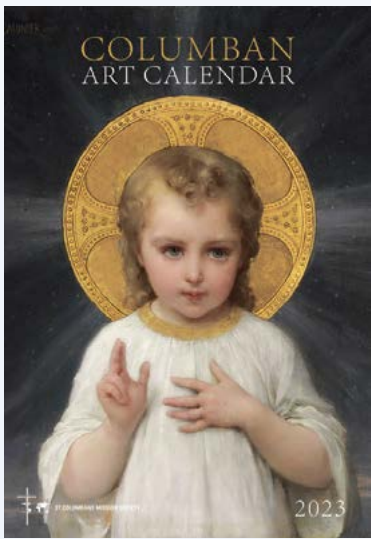
and eventually dies after having married seven different men! But Jesus knows his Scripture too well, beating them at their own game. He uses the burning bush story (Exod 3:1-6), so central to Jewish belief. God says to Moses, 'I AM,' not, 'I was,' emphasising that God is the God of the living, not of the dead, that is, God's relationship with us is everlasting.

So, in speaking of angels Jesus is inviting the Sadducees (and us) to stretch our imaginations. Indeed, we prayed for Marcellin, 'May choirs of angels welcome you and lead you to the bosom of Abraham; and where Lazarus is poor no longer – and homeless women no longer homeless – may you find eternal rest.'

So to God, we are not just 'dead and gone'. Marcellin lives on.

** The Sadducees were members of a Jewish priestly sect that flourished for about two centuries before the Temple was destroyed by the Romans in 70 CE. They were largely responsible for Temple worship. Mentioned throughout the Gospels they often approached Jesus to question him and trick him into contradicting the Scriptures.*

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A safeguarding prayer

E te Atua o te Tūmanako, God of Hope. Listen to the prayers of your people, over the harm done to those who should have been safe in our care. Breathe wisdom into our prayers, show us the way to healing and wholeness.

E Hehu, ko te Heparā, Jesus, the shepherd. Join to your own suffering the pain of all who experience suffering in body, mind, and spirit. May we continue along the path, of following your example.

E te Wairua Tapu, Holy Spirit. Grant us courage and wisdom, humility, and grace, so that we may act with justice, and all may find peace in you. Strengthen us for the journey ahead, calling all into communion.

E te Ariki, Whakarongo mai rā ki ā mātou.

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Workshop: *The Letter* documentary

We know people in Pasifika nations and countries in Africa and Asia have borne the brunt of climate-induced devastation and yet are not responsible for the carbon footprint that has caused it. Therefore, it is appropriate Catholics and all people of good will in countries with large carbon footprints recognise their responsibility towards their sisters and brothers in these countries, and take action to mitigate the damage caused by climate change and to the changed environment.

To observe the sixth International Day of Prayer for the Poor on 13 November, Mary Nash, who is actively involved in the *Laudato si'* movement, and Mary Eastham from the Religious Diversity Centre Climate Action workgroup, will facilitate a workshop about Pope Francis' documentary, *The Letter*. The workshop will be held at Te

Rau Aroha, Palmerston North Diocesan Centre, 2pm–4pm, Sunday 13 November.

The film brings to life the transformative vision of *Laudato si'* to inspire lasting action for our common home. It features Pope Francis and those he invited with his letter, to share their diverse stories from India, Senegal, Hawaii, and the Brazilian Amazon. The film follows these people coming together in dialogue and with Pope Francis as they receive his letter, to find unity in their distinct worldviews and strength in our common values. 'By sharing the film, we can invite people into action for our common home,' says Mary Eastham.

The workshop will highlight the perspectives of the four groups of people – youth, climate refugees who have lost their homeland to

rising sea levels, scientists who are struggling to document and mitigate damage caused by climate change, and indigenous peoples who have lived in harmony with nature and are now battle logging companies in a struggle for survival.

'The workshop will focus on the necessity for climate *action* to mitigate the damage caused by climate change and *adapt* to the changed environment,' says Mary.

To prepare for the workshop, parishioners have been invited to watch the film at home before 13 November. A link is in the newsletter, *Kotahi Ano* newsletter for Palmerston North parishes. For people without access to digital technology three public screenings are being held in the Cathedral of the Holy Spirit lounge – two in October and a third at 10.30am, Wednesday, 9 November.

November: Church calendar dates

- 1: All Saints Day – Solemnity
- 2: All Souls Day– Feast
- 13: World Day of the Poor – see pp 14, 16, and this page
- 20: Christ the King – Solemnity
- 20: World Youth Day
- 27: First Sunday of Advent – see p 20 for downloadable colour-in Advent calendar poster

Friday 9 December

Service of Remembrance – Christmas is a time to remember. All welcome to attend a service of remembrance for dear ones who have passed, 6.30pm, Old St Paul's, Mulgrave St, Wellington. Supported by locally-owned funeral directors Harbour City, Guardian, and Wilson Funeral Homes. Everyone is welcome.

Pope Francis' Prayer Intention

During the month of November 2022 Pope Francis' intention is:
for children who suffer.

We pray for children who are suffering, especially those who are homeless, orphans, and victims of war; may they be guaranteed access to education and the opportunity to experience family affection.



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