



Catholic Parish of Wairarapa

Church Mission: '**Bringing all People into God's love**'

Patron: '**Our Lady of Compassion**'

4th Sunday of Lent 10th March 2024



Parish Priest: 06 378 2028 opt 2

Fr Dennis Nacorda:

027 296 8663

Email: pp@wairarapacatholics.nz

Deacon Matt White:

027 396 9963

Email: mw@wairarapacatholics.nz

Contact for PP & Deacon: Tues-Sun 8.30am-

Parish Office: 06 378 2028

9am-5pm Mon-Fri

Denise Holden

164 Dixon Street, Masterton

Contact No: **027 350 3493**

Email: office@wairarapacatholics.nz

Website - Under review

Tena koutou katoa,

This week signifies that we are already halfway through Lent's season. The gospel reading contains the passage that sums up the scripture: "For God so loved the world that he gave us His begotten Son that whoever believes in Him will not perish but have everlasting life" John 3:16. This is the first verse I have memorized since I was a child.

This verse reminds us what this Fourth Sunday in Lent used to be called: Laetare Sunday. *Laetare* means "rejoice" in the Latin text. On Laetare Sunday, the Church expresses hope and joy amid our Lenten fasts and penances. This indicates a glimpse of the joy that awaits us at Easter, just before we enter the sombre days of Passiontide.

The spirit of the celebration should not be dampened by the news we have heard about Cardinal John. You probably have heard or read in the news regarding the sexual abuse allegation against him. I ask you to pray for all involved in the case. It is not an easy time for both sides. Inserted in this newsletter is the letter from Archbishop Paul.

The Parish Pastoral Council had met and, upon discernment, finally came up with the parish vision: "A community living and sharing the Good News of Jesus Christ."

The PPC councillors envision the parish as a community united in faith, prayer, and love, actively promoting Christ's teachings to others. This vision aligns with the Catholic Church's mission to spread the Gospel and make disciples of all nations (Matthew 28:19).

The PPC desires to see members supporting each other in their faith journey and serving as witnesses to the transformative power of Christ's message. This community also endeavours to live out the essence of evangelization, drawing individuals closer to God and fostering a deep sense of community and belonging among believers.

We would like to hear your thoughts regarding this new parish vision. As the PPC charts the course, this vision will launch the community into a new journey. The PPC needs to hear your thoughts before we lounge and set our sail out.

You can relay your thoughts and ideas to the council in many ways. There will be a suggestion box in the foyer for you to drop your thoughts and comments. Alternatively, you can email me at pp@wairarapacatholics.nz or my mobile at 027 296 8663. You can also talk personally to any council member at any time that suits them.

Naku noa na, Pa Dennis

PARISH NOTICES

LENTEN REFLECTION GROUP

Mon: 10.00am Lenten Discussion Group at Featherston Church Hall.

Mon 6.30pm Evening Lenten Prayer Group in St Pat's Church foyer. Bring your bibles.



STATIONS OF THE CROSS

St Pat's Mstn: Fri's: 7.00pm

St Teresa's, Fstn: Fri's 10.00am

EXPOSITION Friday's 8.30am
Alternates between Chanel Chapel & St Pat's Church.

Note: Sunday Adoration is available in St Pat's Church after hospitality.

SUNDAY HOSPITALITY All welcome to join in the hospitality & morning tea after the following Masses:

Mstn Sun 8.30am

Fstn Sun 10.30am

ROSARY

St Ant's Hall, Mboro

Tue's 11.00am

St Teresa's, Fstn

Fri's 10:30am

St Pat's, Mstn

Sat's 4.30pm



COFFEE MORNINGS

Thur's From 10.30am
in Kainga Eatery, Ctn



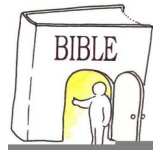
WORD AT HOME

Bible Study Group

Fri's 11.00am call

Claire: 027 715 6130

Helen: 027 225 6722



SHARED LUNCH 11.30am

Last Sun of the month at St Teresa's Church Hall, Fstn. Please bring a plate.



PARK YOUR CARS away from the front area of the St Pat's church for safety reasons.



MONTHLY DONATION & EXPENDITURES

Feb Income:

AP - \$ 9,226.00

Loose Cash - \$ 4,167.00

Total - \$13,393.00

Feb Expenses:

Total - \$22,263.41

Plan Gifting Donations:

Acc Name: **ADW CPW**

BNZ 02-0688-0049100-00



This continues to help support the day to day running of expenses for our Parish.

Your support is greatly appreciated.

Reminder: Tax Receipts will be distributed end of April, each year. All donations are email receipted at the end of the Financial year. Please ensure your details are correct on the Parish roll.

WAIRARAPA BUILDING PROJECT ONLY

Account No: 02-0688-0049100-25



Acc: 15-3947-0316116-00 Ref: Lujan.



Caritas

AOTEAROA NEW ZEALAND

Lenten Appeal

Envelopes in the foyer

Chanel College is looking for a Scripture Reader coach for the 2024 O'Shea Shield competition to be held mid May. If you would be interested in supporting one of our students in Proclaiming the Word. Please contact Jane Bourke, drs@chanelcollege.school.nz

BECOMING A CATHOLIC RCIA PROGRAMME

Contact: Claire: 027 715 6130

Please pray for Nathan, Maggie, and Pepe as they continue their formation to be full members of the church. This Sunday is the Rite of their Election.



YOUTH GROUP

We are looking for anyone interested in a youth group for our parish.

If you would like to be involved in helping run or being part of our leading team. Pls contact DCN Matt.





7 March 2024

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ

I am writing to you regarding recent media coverage of an allegation against Cardinal John Dew about events alleged to have taken place in the 1970s.

The New Zealand Police investigated the allegation. They have stated that they have concluded their investigation and no charges will be laid.

Cardinal John retired as Archbishop of Wellington in May last year on reaching age 75, the normal retirement age for Catholic bishops. In accord with our protocols, Cardinal John stood aside from all public church activities when the allegation was brought to the attention of the Church. Cardinal John has asserted his innocence throughout.

Inquiries by the Church are not run concurrently to those being undertaken by the Police. Now that the Police investigation has concluded, Cardinal John continues to stand aside while Church inquiries proceed.

This has been a distressing situation for all involved. I would ask that we pray for all those affected and offer support where we can.

Yours in Christ

+Paul Martin SM

Archbishop of Wellington

David McLaughlin (NZ Catholic Bishop Conference communications advisor) has been circulating the CathNews version to people who mightn't otherwise see it, so I'm giving a hand by letting you know too.

Do pass it on to your contacts too, if you can. Here's the link - just click on it and it should come up with the article.

<https://cathnews.co.nz/2024/03/07/cardinal-dew-has-no-case-to-answer-in-sex-abuse-allegation/>

Holy Week of Easter for the Wairarapa

Palm Sunday

23rd March

Saturday Vigil 5pm St Patrick's Church, Mstn

24th March

Sunday 8.30am St Patrick's Church, Mstn

Sunday 10.30am St Teresa of Avila Church, Fstn

Chrism Mass

27th March

Wednesday, 7.00pm St Teresa Pro-Cathedral, Karori



Easter Triduum

28th March - Holy Thursday

* *St Teresa of Avila Church, Fstn*
7pm Mass

* *St Patrick's Church, Mstn*
7pm Word & Communion

29th March - Good Friday

* *St Teresa of Avila Church, Fstn*
- 3.00pm Service

* *St Patrick's Church, Mstn*
- 3.00pm Service

30th March - Easter Vigil

* *St Patrick's Church, Mstn*
7.30pm Vigil Mass

31st March - Easter Sunday

* *St Patrick's Church, Mstn*
- 8.30am Easter Mass

* *St Teresa of Avila Church, Fstn*
- 10.30am Easter Mass



SOCIETY OF ST VINCENT DE PAUL

Address: 161 High Street North, Carterton 5713

Call: 06 379 7915 Or Patrick Hallott (Chair) 027 424 9365

The Society provides any form of help that alleviates suffering or deprivation and promotes human dignity and personal integrity in

all their dimensions.

We help in the local community by:

- Supporting local families under stress
- Providing material assistance to those in need – transport, food, clothing, furniture and white-wear
- Visiting people in their homes
- Running a network of centres to support people in need
- Visiting people in prison and hospital
- Offering support and friendship
- Involving youth and young people in Vinnies work
- Providing budget counselling
- Organising foodbanks
- Running mobile food services to the community and schools
- Supporting migrants to adjust to life in a new land
- Assisting with disaster recovery

A TROUBLED MARRIED COUPLE consulted a well-known psychologist and counsellor. The wife complained that her husband was loving only when she kept their house in perfect order. The man agreed that this was true but maintained that he had the right to expect a house in perfect order when he returned from a hard day's work. The wife countered: "But I need to know that he loves me whether the house is clean or not, in order or not, just to have the strength to clean the house." The counsellor agreed with her.

This anecdote dramatizes the idea of unconditional love. The best thing for us when it comes to God's love for us is it is unconditional. God's love is a gift. This is what today's gospel reading reminds us of. The Gospel says, "For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son..."

Jesus was sent by God "to the world." In the Gospel of John, "the world" is a world that captures sinfulness. Imagine sending your child to be subject to a world of darkness and sinfulness. Why would the Father do that? The Gospel says: Because God so loved the world. God loves us - we who live in darkness as we are all sinful. We don't deserve love! But God loves us. And to show his love, God sent his Son.

It is hard to believe that God loves us that much. It is hard to fathom why God is crazily in love with us. However, we have to make a decision to believe that God loves us, and we have to discover the proofs of his love. We must open our eyes to the truth of his unconditional love.

"God so loved the world that he gave his only Son..." This gospel passage is the one sentence summary of the whole teaching of the bible. And it has far-reaching implications the minute we begin living our lives based on this statement. This statement does not mean a vague and rather general feeling of goodwill for what we call the world. The love of God which prompted the coming of God the Son to become one of us is a personal love for each of us.

One time a man approached Mother Teresa for advice. He asked how he could start being a good Christian. Perhaps the man was expecting a long and detailed catechetical instruction "on how he could begin." But Mother Teresa gave a very simple answer: "Start by realizing how much God loves you. All your thoughts, decisions and actions should be put in the light of this truth: that God loves you very much. Hold on to this basic truth and you will be a good Christian."

What Mother Teresa is saying is that Christian living is a response to God's love - nothing more, nothing less. If we are truly open to the realization of God's love for us, we will want to make some response of our own love. We will respond to God's love by loving others. Our realization of God's unconditional love for us will also enable us to love unconditionally. Our realization of God's compassionate love for us will also empower us to be compassionate to others. Our realization of God's merciful and forgiving love for us will also move us to forgive those who sin against us.

Mother Teresa used to say that the problem of the world is not that very few love God; but rather, the problem is that very few realize how much God loves them. May this Lenten season lead us to a deeper realization of God's love for each of us - a personal and intimate love. May our Lenten preparation make us more responsive to God's love. May it make us more loving to our sisters and brothers.

Today's Lectionary Readings

4th Sunday of Lent

1st Reading:

2 Chronicles 36:14-16. 19-23

Psalm:

®Let my tongue be silenced, if ever I forget you!

2nd Readings:

Ephesians 2:4-10

Gospel:

John 3:14-21



Next Sunday's Lectionary Readings

1st Reading: Jeremiah
31:31-34



Psalm: Ps 50:3-4. 12-15. R. v.12

2nd Reading: Hebrews 5:7-9

Gospel Reading: John 12:20-33

Weekly Mass Timetable

* *Funerals replace Mass of the day.*
 * *Liturgy of the Word & Communion (W & C)*

12th Mar	Tuesday	10.00am	W & C at St Teresa's Church, Fstn
		5.00pm	*W & C - St Pat's Church, Mstn
13th Mar	Wednesday	11.00am	Mass - St Anthony's Church, Gtn
14th Mar	Thursday	9.30am	W & C - St Patrick's School, Mstn
15th Mar	Friday	9.30am 10.00am	Mass - Chanel College, Mstn *W & C - St Teresa's Church, Fstn
16th Mar	Saturday	5.00pm	Vigil Mass - Pat's Church, Mstn
17th Mar	Sunday	8.30am	Mass - St Pat's Church, Mstn
		10.30am	Mass - St Teresa's Church, Fstn

Mar 17 - Liturgy of the Word — Leader: Donne Sklenars at St Andrews, Gtn at 4.30pm followed by some social time with a vino or tea and coffee.

Mar 29 - Stations of the Cross 3pm Good Friday will be a Kathy & Gary's farm all welcome.

Sacrament of Reconciliation:

Saturday's: 4.00pm St Pat's Church, Mstn

Fstn yet to be confirmed

All other Sacraments like Baptism and Marriages, please call Parish Office for arrangements.

If you would like to update your details or add your name to our parish roll as a new parishioner. Please use link found on our parish website: **https://cpw.infoodle.com/f/ContactDetails.**

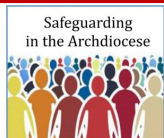
ADW Safeguarding Adviser

Contact: 04 496 1768

Parish Safeguarding Reps:

Sth Wai: Joanne - 022 088 6044

Nth Wai: Lisa - 021 076 1604



Our Catholic Schools

School Preference form signing please come to the Parish Office

***Wed & Thurs 3.00pm - 4.00pm.**
St Teresa's School, Fstn Signing arrangement made through the school.

Parish Vision:
 A community living
 and sharing the Good
 News of Jesus Christ

Suggestion Box

If you have something on your mind regarding our parish, either you have suggestions, ideas concerns, or observations on how to make our parish a more vibrant and faith growing community.

A suggestion box is available in the foyers, of St Teresa of Avila and St Patrick Churches. Please complete the forms, drop it in the box for the Pastoral Parish Council consideration.

If you wish to be contacted about any of the above further, please fill write your name and contact details on the form provided. We will endeavour to contact you asap.



Pray for the Repose of the Holy Souls

Anne Scanlon Richard Griffith Gerald Hensley Kevin May

Our sincere prayerful condolences to the families of the recently departed.

Communion to the Sick: If you have a family member housebound or in hospital. Or if you are aware of someone who cannot attend the masses and would like a priest to visit or someone to take Communion.

Please ask permission from the person to contact the Parish Office on their behalf.