

Parish Calendar, News & Notices

Weekend Mass Times *To assist in planning ahead*

Weekday Mass at St Mary's

After consulting those who attend weekday Masses, we will continue have Mass in the mercy Room on Tuesday to Thursday until the weather makes the space uncomfortable. Fridays will be in the Church.

26th Sunday of the Year (5)

Sat Sep 29

Blenheim (5pm) Mass/Fr John

Sun Sep 30

Seddon (8am) **W&C**
Picton (9am) Mass/Fr John
Kaikoura (9.30) Mass/Fr Pat
Blenheim (10am) **W&C**
Havelock (11am) Mass/Fr John
Renwick (5pm) Mass/Fr Pat

BYO finger to follow.
All welcome.

27th Sunday of the Year (1)

Sat Oct 6

Blenheim (5pm) Mass/Fr John

Sun Oct 7

Seddon (8am) Mass /Fr John
Picton (9am) Mass/Fr Pat
Kaikoura (9.30) **W&C**
Blenheim (10am) Mass/Fr John
Havelock (11am) Mass/Fr Pat

23rd OL Star of the Sea (2)

Sat Oct 13

Blenheim (5pm) Mass/Fr Pat

Sun Oct 14

Seddon (8am) **W&C**
Picton (9am) Mass/Fr Pat
Kaikoura (9.30) Mass/Fr John
Blenheim (10) **W&C**
Havelock (11) Mass/Fr Pat

24th Sunday of the Year (3)

Sat Oct 20

Blenheim (5pm) Mass/Fr John

Sun Oct 21

Seddon (8am) Mass/Fr Pat
Picton (9am) Mass/Fr John
Kaikoura (9.30) **W&C**
Blenheim (10) Mass/Fr Pat
Havelock (11am) Mass/Fr John
Renwick (5pm) Mass/Fr John

25th Sunday of the Year (4)

Sat Oct 27

Blenheim (5pm) Mass/Fr Ray
Brain

Sun Oct 28

Seddon (8am) Mass/Fr Ray
Picton (9am) **W&C**
Kaikoura (9.30) Mass/Fr Pat
Blenheim (10am) Mass/ Fr Ray
Havelock (11am) **W&C**

Community Matters

Adult Sacraments of Christian Initiation

It's spring time, and the new Season of Adult Christian Initiation has begun. Fr Pat's RCIA Team has started sessions in Blenheim. We meet every Thursday, 7pm at St Mary's. Sister Maureen is starting in Kaikoura.

How do people self identify they want to join the Church? Usually though someone asking "Have you ever thought of being Catholic and sharing the faith tradition with your spouse and children?" It's painless! Have a chat with one of our Parish Team members, or call the Parish Office.

Blenheim Rosters:

Belinda Vavasour is preparing the next set of rosters during October. If you plan to be away from Nov to Feb, please let her know ASAP, so she can make adjustments. 578 2628

BHM Community Centre

There will be plastering and painting of the main rooms during the October School Holidays to repair EQ damage and general wear & tear.

Finance & Property Committee

This week the committee the approved the quote for the external painting of St Mary's Church. Next week we will apply to the Archbishop for permission to proceed.

10th - 12th Oct The Order of St. Luke Healing Ministry. (OSL)

National Conference at the Wesley Centre. Anyone interested in the Healing Ministry is welcome to attend, in particular the evening prayer and ministry sessions at 7pm. Barbara McBride from San Diego, the guest speaker, is a retired computer scientist with the US Navy, and current North American Director of OSL. For further info contact Rev. Kevin Gwynne 0212697954

A Marriage Encounter Weekend

This offers couples an experience of loving communication they can use for the rest of their lives. It's a chance to look deeply into their relationship with each other and with God. It's a time to share feelings, hopes and dreams with each other.

The weekend provides an environment to spend time together. A chance to focus on each other. It's a unique approach aimed at revitalizing

Marriage. Next Marriage Encounter Weekend is Nov 9-11 at the Home of Compassion, Island Bay. For more information phone 0800 362 686 or go <http://www.marriageencounter.org.nz>

FOODBANK

Community Foodbanks:

Our Community Food Banks help people in need. This is a collaborative work of Churches, other organisations and individual people in our towns.

Star of the Sea

Collects as follows

1st Sunday @ Blenheim.

2nd Sunday @ Kaikoura.

All Sundays @ Picton & Havelock.

Please bring non perishable foods to church, so our volunteers can take them to the local foodbank. Blenheim are not needing tinned fruit but do **require tinned soup, tinned vegetables, rice & can openers.**

5-6 Oct St Andrews Garden Tour

Tickets \$15 cash sales available from Selmes Trust, Devon Garden Centre, Cresswell Shoes, Islington Gardens, Roselands & St Andrews Office. Tour includes book & plant stalls, Christmas & Craft stall.

Parish Events

Sep 30: Renwick Mass

Renwick Mass (5pm) with BYO finger food to follow. Celebrating the completion of the external repairs and painting.

Oct 7 .. Sounds Like Lunch.

Join us for our community lunch for the Sounds Communities and their friends. It's at Alan Scott's Winery, Jacksons Road, Renwick @ 12.30pm. Bookings are essential for catering. Contact Bill, Leanne, Carolyn, Ted, or phone the Parish Office.

Parish Calendar

September

Sep 30 .. 27th Sunday

Sounds Stewardship Group(4)
Renwick Mass (5pm)
Picton Churches Service (6)

October

Oct 1 .. Wairau Stewardship
Oct 4 .. BCMA (Christian Ministers)

Oct 7 .. 28th Sunday

Family Groups Promotion in Blenheim.

Sounds Like Lunch (12.30)
Rosary in SM Church (3pm)

Oct 14 .. 29th Sunday

Let Us Remember in our Prayers and at Mass:

Recently Deceased: Jean Wutzler, Christiter Ortiz, Fr. Petrus Wake cp (of Ossima, Papua New Guinea), Trish McKee

Anniversaries: 1 Oct Brain Bell, Michael Wordrop, Sue Robinson, Lal Henderson, Michael Harnett, Amelia Roberts, Charles Brunel, Teresa Sjoberg, Henry Fearn **2** Patricia Moran, Anastasia Wareham, Leo Garrett **3** John Jacob, John Keogh, John Beaton **4** Rev O'Farrell, Margaret Garrett, William Adair, Josephine Matthews, Isaac Sweeney, Jerome Timms, Leo Hampton **5** Noel Chapman, Timothy Chapman, Margaret Morgan, Peter Hailes, Phyllis Scott **6** Anthony Smith, John Jacobs, John Lanyon **7** John Peoples, Anne Keenan, Francis

Smith

Other Intentions: Philip Halliday, Bernard McDonall, Patrick Moran, Chris Moran, Margaret & Gill Mullin, Moran families & Newport families

COLLECTIONS:

We are most grateful for your support of our Parish of Star Of The Sea.

Last week:

AP's: \$3245.00
Envelopes: \$1181.50
Loose: \$ 573.20

thank
you!



Our Liturgy Plan

When a priest is not available, Word & Communion will be led by parishioners.

Blenheim

Tues: 9.30am Mass
Wed: 12.05pm Mass
Thurs: 9.30 am Mass
Except 1st Thurs:
Bethsaida **10.30am**
Fri: 11am Adoration
11.30 Reconciliation
12.05pm Mass

Sat: 9.30am Mass
Reconciliation to follow

Sat: 5pm Mass

Sun: 10am Mass
(2nd & 5th Sunday
Word & Communion)

Havelock

Sunday: 11am
(4th Sunday
Word & Communion)

Kaikoura

Tues: 9.30am
Wed: 9.30am
Wed: 7pm Rosary
Thurs: 5.15pm
Fri: 9.30am

Sun: 9.30am
(1st & 3rd Sunday
Word & Communion)

Picton

Wed: 9am Mass
Sun: 9am Mass
(4th Sunday:
Word & Communion)

Renwick

3rd Sunday 5pm Mass

Seddon

Sun: 8am Mass
(2nd & 5th Sunday
Word & Communion)

Ward

4th Sunday 4pm Mass

Baptisms

Celebrated during weekend Mass or other times.

Marriages

Marriages celebrated in all our Churches. Please contact the Parish Office well in advance.

Te Whetu o te Moana | Star of the Sea Marlborough Catholic Parish

From the Sounds to the Sea, the Mountains to the Plains

We Are One Mission. One Parish. Seven Communities

Blenheim | Havelock | Kaikoura | Picton | Renwick | Seddon | Ward

Parish Office: 61 Maxwell Road, Blenheim | **T. 03 578 0038**

EM. office@staroftheseamarlb.co.nz | FB. Star of the Sea Marlborough (233 likes)

WEB. www.staroftheseamarlb.co.nz

Newsletter No 37: 30 September 2018

26th Sunday of the Year (B)

A Warm Welcome to Our Parish Family of Marlborough

**We the people of
Te Whetu O Te Moana,
Star of the Sea Parish,
are committed by our baptism
in Christ, to share our living
faith, and make God visible, in
joyful union with all people, by
our actions in the community.
(Parish Mission Statement)**

St Joseph's Church Picton

On Sept 20, the Parish received a new notice from Marlborough District Council advising a change of rating for our Church at Picton. Our new rating is 10%, dropping from 14% of the NBS.

This news is a cause of concern for all of us in regards to the health and safety of all who love and use St Joseph's, which has stood here now for 100 years. It is our second Church. The Foundation stone was laid in 1917.

We are now fast tracking our consideration for a new place for us to gather for Mass on a Sunday. Our desire is the relocate by the start of December.

We continue to keep our Archdiocesan advisors informed. We thank Cardinal John, Business Manager Paul Bayliss, and Property Manager Stephen Harrison for their advise and support.

Leaving a Church is a painful exercise. We look at the Church and it looks strong and firm. The Church is a great place to celebrate our Sacraments in, and could stand for another 100 years. But we know that the uncertainty of earthquakes, and the damage they could cause to human life, forces us to close and move.

The future will offer us challenges to restart our journey of life and faith in another place. The future will offer us an opportunity to build on a new foundation. Lets go forward together.

Passionist News

Last weekend I worked with 11 other people in writing groups in preparing documents for the July 2019 Provincial Chapter, materiel that came out of previous Assemblies and Consultations.

The main questions we had to focus on were: Where do we want to be and not want to be in 2020 and 2015? Apart from the Provincial Council, We had other members of the Province and 5 lay collaborators, skilled or experienced in planning for the future.

The material prepared is quite exciting and hopeful.

The Provincial Council met Monday and Tuesday. Much of our time was in dialogue with others and planning for future directions of Mission in Vietnam, and formation of our students from Australia, PNG and Vietnam. We keep in focus that we are part of the Asia Pacific Configuration, and need to work cooperatively across our nations.

Frs Tom McDonough and Brian Traynor have now left for Rome as delegates for the General Chapter, Oct 6 -26. Two others Frs Chris Monaghan & Gary Perritt, will be assisting the Chapter in other ways.

Last week our Region started a new **Mission in Myanmar**. More on that later.

John Pearce CP

Readings for Twenty Sixth Week Ordinary Time

Sun 30th: Twenty Sixth Week Ordinary Time

Numbers 11:25-29 James 5:1-6 Gospel Mark 9:38-43,45,47-48

Psalm response: The precepts of the Lord give joy to my heart x4

Mon Oct 1st: St Theresa of the Child Jesus, V.

Job 1:6-22 Gospel Luke 9:46-50

Tues 2nd: The Guardian Angels Exodus 23:20-23 Gospel Matthew 18:1-5,10

Wed 3rd: Job 9:1-13, 14-16 Gospel Luke 9:57-62

Thu 4th: St Francis of Assisi Job 19:21-27 Gospel Luke 10:1-12

Fri 5th: Job 38:1,12-21,40:3-5 Gospel Luke 10:13-16

Sat 6th: Job 42:1-3, 5-6, 12-17 Gospel Luke 10:17-24

Sun 7th: Twenty Seventh Week Ordinary Time

Genesis 2:18-24 Hebrews 2:9-11 Gospel Mark 10:2-16

St Joseph's Catholic Community Picton



Letter to Picton Catholic Community

Dear Friends at St Joseph's,

We have been aware for some years that St Joseph's Church has a low percentage of compliance with the National Building Code (NBS), and is classified as an Earthquake Prone Building. Despite that, the community has happily used the Church over this time. It's our Church.

Last Thursday, September 20, the Parish received a new notice from Marlborough District Council advising a change of rating for our Church at Picton. Our new rating is 10% of the NBS, dropping from 14%. There are regular changes to the code requiring compliance.

This news is a cause of concern for all of us in regard to the health and safety of all who love and use St Joseph's, which has stood here now for 100 years. The Foundation stone was laid in November 1917, which we celebrated last year.

In 2014, Union Parish offered to share their church with us, an option that was not taken up at the time.

On Friday I held a teleconference with the Archdiocesan Business Manager, Paul Bayliss, and the Property Manager, Stephen Harrison on this matter. I also exchanged emails with Cardinal John after he met with these two advisors. I have been informed by them that buildings with a rating under 33% should not be used. The recent closure of our Cathedral follows that requirement. Our 10% rating is well under that. Their advice is we need to establish a plan to move out of the Church. I asked if that was to happen by the end of November, would they approve? They said that as long as we have a plan like this, and are moving towards implementation, that would be satisfactory. It's not as if we are in the Church that often.

The letter from Council has caused us to fast track our consideration for a new site for us to

gather for Mass on a Sunday and for other occasions. Following the letter of offer from 2014, we have approached Jean Faithful, secretary of the Union Church, and have begun conversations about possible sharing their Church with them. Those conversations will continue in the coming weeks so that we might consider a potential path ahead. Once we have a draft plan, we will hold a community meeting to decide the way forward.

Leaving a Church is always a painful exercise. We look at our Church and it looks strong and firm. We step into it and it is a place of simple beauty. Our Church is a great place to celebrate our Sacraments in, and could stand for another 100 years. But, we know that the uncertainty of earthquakes, and the damage they could cause to human life, forces us to move, as do the legal requirements.

The future will offer us challenges to restart our journey of life and faith in another place. The future will offer us an opportunity to build on a new foundation. Let's go forward together in faith.

Sharing Churches is not new in our Marlborough Parish. In Seddon we already welcome the Awatere Joint Venture Community as they share our Church. In Ward, St Peter's Church welcomes us into their Church for our monthly Mass. Sharing churches by shrinking communities across NZ is more likely to happen in the future.

Cardinal John has been kept informed of our hopes and dreams since before the closure of the school this time last year. It's with his encouragement that we are entering into dialogue with the Union Church.

Finally, the Archdiocesan Synod last year began with the words "Go you are sent ..." Perhaps we are being sent to start a new journey and to rebuild our Church as the People of God on Mission. I look forward to making this journey with you.

Let's be encouraged by the final words of the Gospel today: 'Anyone who welcomes one of these little children in my name, welcomes me; and anyone who welcomes me welcomes not me but the one who sent me.' Let's welcome this as an opportunity for new growth and life for St Joseph's.

John Pearce CP
23 September 2018



A Letter From Ward to Picton

Dear Parishioners,

Last weekend John wrote to the Picton Community circulated the letter read at your Mass on Sunday. We at Ward know a little of what you face and how hard the decision is. Although we are a smaller community and our decision to demolish was probably more obvious immediately after the Seddon quake, having been put on notice after the Christchurch Earthquake with some initial damage. It certainly wouldn't have survived the Kaikoura event!

That said it still was not easy to say good bye and demolish our old church, it's memories and its history. We received a huge amount of support around that time from our friends in Blenheim and Kaikoura. Also huge was the support of the other combined churches whose church we now share.

Then it came time to clear the items of value and what to do? Our Parishioners very quickly decided selling for dollars was not the option, but wanted to keep as much as possible local and give the rest to other churches were we heard of a need. The organ went to Christchurch and the Stations to Havelock. The bell is either going to be at the school, or in our yet to be rebuilt Museum or Heritage Centre, where there is even talk of a commemorative chapel. Some History remains.

This was all part of the healing process and I am happy to say we are almost there, with some tidy up still to do. Sharing the Burden of cost and Maintenance of the old Anglican Church has bought the community of churches closer together in good Christian fellowship and worship.

Wishing you all the best as we think of you at this time

Kevin Loe
On behalf of the Ward & Flaxbourne Catholic Community.
Co-Chair Awatere & Flaxbourne Stewardship Group
25 September 2018

St Joseph's Catholic Community Picton



Letter from the Parish Pastoral Council

Dear All,

"Be anxious for nothing, but in everything by prayer and supplication, with thanksgiving, let your requests be made known to God; and the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, will guard your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus."
Philippians 4:6-7

As we reflect on John's letter in the Newsletter regarding the future of St Joseph's Church Pic-

ton, let us think of our fellow parishioners who call St Joseph's their spiritual home, and place to worship our loving Father.

As hard and as difficult as it is, we must protect everyone who uses St Joseph's Church, and take proactive action by listening to and actioning the Marlborough District Council's letter.

We need to explore all options to provide the people of Picton and the Sounds a place that they can use and call home.

The Parish Pastoral Council will provide any support or resources needed to the Sounds Stewardship Group as they work through the testing times ahead. We will work as one Parish.

Let us continue to pray and support our Brothers and Sisters in Picton as they go through this time on uncertainty and change.

God bless you all.

Greg Stretch
Chairperson, Star of the Sea Parish Pastoral Council
27 September 2018



Letter from Cardinal John

Dear John,

Many thanks for this Letter to Picton. I received it as I was waiting for my flight from Auckland to Rome.

Many thanks for the way you and the Stewardship Group are managing this.

+John Dew.
Archbishop of Wellington
22 September 2018

The Jesuit who Survived the KGB



By Andrea Gagliarducci, Vilnius, Lithuania, Sep 24, 2018 (CNA).-

When Pope Francis visited a former KGB building in Vilnius, Lithuania Sept. 23, Archbishop

op Sigitas Tamkevicius was the only bishop to accompany him there. Now housing the Museum of the Occupation and Freedom Fighters, the site was once used for the detention and execution of thousands of Lithuanians. Tamkevicius had personal experience as a prisoner there.

The building, a former gymnasium, served as a headquarters for the Gestapo during World War II. Following the Nazi retreat in 1944, the KGB moved in. More than 2,000 people were executed there, and 300 hundred priests were held prisoner - including Tamkevicius.

"In 8 months I was interrogated 60 times - every other day," he said.

"The pope wanted to come and visit the roots of our pain," the archbishop told CNA following the visit.

Born in 1938, Tamkevicius vividly remembers the Soviet occupation, and he told CNA about the campaign of religious repression Lithuanians faced under the communist regime.

"The Soviets wanted to destroy Lithuania and suppress religious freedom - that was non-existent. They arrested more than 300 priests, who were not even allowed to teach. They wanted to minimize the Church. It was then that we started to think what we

could do to resist the Soviets."

Tamkevicius played an active part in resisting communist persecution of the Church in Lithuania. With four other priests, he founded in 1978 the Catholic Committee for the Defense of Believers' Rights.

He also set up the Chronicle of the Catholic Church of Lithuania, a small magazine - produced on a typewriter - that reported on the situation of the Church and of Catholics in the Baltic state. Tamkevicius edited the Chronicle for 11 years.

Asked about why he felt called to play such a prominent role during a period of active persecution for the Church, Tamkevicius told CNA, "I entered the Church, and I entered it completely."

As a Jesuit priest, Tamkevicius began his work of resistance by writing a news bulletin to inform the world about the persecution faced by the Church in Lithuania. As one of the younger members of the order, he felt called to take on an active role.

"I was one of the youngest," he said, "so I made the decision that I could risk something for the Church." Tamkevicius founded the Chronicle in 1972.

"Every issue of the Chronicle of the Church in Lithuania carried stories about what was happening here. When I started, I had no idea how many KGB collaborators were all around us. It was only thanks to God I could continue to write the Chronicles for 11 years."

"In that place Pope Francis visited," he said, "thousands have been killed, while thousands more were sent

to into exile in the Soviet Union." The archbishop was among them.

In 1983, Tamkevicius was arrested and held by the KGB. He was sentenced to 10 years of forced labor and exile. He served some of his sentence in Siberia. Tamkevicius told CNA that Francis' visit was an emotional moment for him.

"I dreamed for 35 years that the pope would one day visit the place where I and others were imprisoned, and so I thanked the pope for showing solidarity with our people."

The pope's speech was less important to the archbishop than the fact that he was there. He told CNA that Francis "said nothing in particular, he showed solidarity." He added that entering the museum building brought back memories, "good and bad."

Among the good things, he said, was his recollection of "the prayers, never more intense - the Rosary, the reading of the Bible." These devotions sustained him during a period in which he was held and questioned by the Soviets.

Tamkevicius was eventually released as part of Mikhail Gorbachev's *perestrojka* program. He returned home and was appointed spiritual director of the seminary in Kaunas, Lithuania's second largest city, in 1989, becoming the rector of the seminary the following year.

In 1991, he was consecrated an auxiliary bishop of the Archdiocese of Kaunas, becoming the city's archbishop in 1996.

Last week Pope Francis visited the three Baltic States