

Parish Calendar, News & Notices

Weekend Mass Times

To assist in planning ahead

27th Sunday of the Year (1) Sat Oct 6

Blenheim (5pm) Mass/Fr John
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

28th Sunday of the Year (2) Sat Oct 13

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

29th Sunday of the Year (3) Sat Oct 20

Blenheim (5pm) Mass/Fr John
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

30th Sunday of the Year (4) Sat Oct 27

Blenheim (5pm) Mass/Fr Ray Brain
Seddon (8am) Mass/Fr Ray
Picton (9am) **W&C**
Kaikoura (9.30) Mass/Fr Pat
Blenheim (10am) Mass/ Fr Ray
Havelock (11am) **W&C**
Ward (4pm) Mass/Fr Pat

Community Matters

Christian Initiation of Adults

If you or a friend are interested in exploring the Catholic tradition, each Thursday we have a small group who meet called the RCIA group, people exploring Christian Initiation. Contact Fr Pat at the office and he will meet with you.

Blenheim Rosters:

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

St Mary's 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.

Safety at St Joseph's Picton

Due to reduced safety under the National Building Code, we plan

to vacate the Church by the end of November. The Stewardship Group is considering the various options of where to go, their pros and cons, and will bring those options to the community for consideration soon.

Safety at St Mary's Blenheim

As the Church Tower has a very low NBS safety rating, we no longer have access to the tower stairs, until future work on the tower is completed. Entry to the tower is at your own risk.

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. 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. 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 ME Weekend is Nov 9-11 at Home of Compassion, Island Bay. Information phone 0800 362 686 or www.marriageencounter.org.nz

Community Foodbanks:

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

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.

Oct 7 .. Rosary Aotearoa

Encouraging parishes and groups to gather at different locations around the country pray the Rosary to ask for a blessing on our land and our people.

Rosary in

St Mary's Church Blenheim (3pm)
Sacred Heart Church Kaikoura (3pm)
All are welcome.

Oct 13 .. Blenheim Baptist Church

Spring Fair, 8 Beaver Rd, 9am - 1pm. Bouncy castle, sausage sizzle, garage sale, plant sale, food and children's stall.

Nov 2 .. St Pats Old Boys Association Mix & Mingle:

Calling all 'Town' and 'Stream' Old Boys, please attend our Mix and Mingle. To be held at 6.00PM, The Boatshed, Wellington. Cash bar, Continuous food, \$60 Entry by ticket only. Go to our Facebook page for details. Guest Speakers: Jamie Williams & Will Williams of the Wellington Hospitality Group. Also announcing Old Boy of the Year. Find us on Facebook & www.spcob.org.nz

Nov 3-4 .. Billings Ovulation Method Natural Fertility Training Seminar Mercy Conference Centre, Thorndon, Wellington. Contact Billings Life NZ National coordinator/ Educator Alicia Reeve Ph. 0800 693 378 or 027 2303099 Email: info@billingslife.org.nz or for further details www.billingslife.org.nz

Parish Events

Oct 7 .. Sounds Like Lunch

Best wishes to the Sounds Communities in their lunch today at Alan Scott's Winery, Jacksons Road, Renwick @ 12.30pm.

Nov 16 .. St Mary's Youth Trivia Night

A great community night. Mark it in your calendar.

Parish Calendar

October

Oct 7 .. 28th Sunday

Family Groups Promotion in Blenheim.
Sounds Like Lunch (12.30).

Oct 14 .. 29th Sunday

Oct 15 .. School Term 4 starts
Sacred Heart Kaikoura Stewardship Group.

Oct 16 .. Pastoral Council

Oct 18 .. Preschool Board

Oct 21 .. 30th Sunday

Oct 22 .. Labour Day Holiday

Oct 23 .. Finance & Property C'tee

Oct 28 .. 31st Sunday

Oct 29 .. Marlborough Day Holiday

November

Nov 15 .. Blenheim Annual

Bereavement Mass

Nov 25 .. Feast of Christ the King

December

Dec 11 .. Kaikoura, School Mass &



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 38: 07 October 2018 27th 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)

Passionist Family Groups

This weekend we welcome to St Mary's, Mary-Ellen & John Leen, co-leaders of Passionist Family Groups in NZ. They live in Wellington. Since 1888, FG's have been a major contributor to parish growth across New Zealand.

While anyone can join a Family Group, they thrive best when members make a commitment to come to the group's monthly activities, and build up positive relationships with the other members. This takes time, but its really worth it.

This weekend is an opportunity to form some new Groups. If you want to find out more or give a FG a try, fill out the FG Enrolment Form and we will invite you to a gathering in the coming weeks.

Other Ways of Being Family

In our smaller communities of Seddon, Ward, Havelock, and Renwick, church family happens due to the smaller and familiar group that we are. Or does it? Families or individuals in all of our communities might like to consider if a FG is possible in their community.

In Seddon & Ward we are trying a quarterly Farm Mass and Shared Meal. This is a form of Family Group.

Ven Suzanne Aubert Day

This Sunday is one dedicated to the memory of Ven Suzanne Aubert, Foundress of the Sisters of Compassion, and potentially our First recognized Saint.

Her Timeline

1835 ... Born in France.
1859 ... Bishop Pompallier invites to NZ as a Missionary
1860 ... Arrives in NZ
1871 ... To Hawkes Bay to revive the Mauri Mission
1882 ... To Jerusalem to revive Maori Mission.
1892 ... Superior of the Daughters of OL of Compassion.
1899 ... Moved to Wellington for ministry among the suffering and destitute.

1907 ... Founded the Island Bay Home of Compassion.
1913 ... Left for Rome at age of 78 to seek approval for her Community of Sisters.
1917 ... Received Decree of Praise from the Pope.
1920 ... Retired to NZ from Rome, aged 82.
1926 ... Died October 1, age 91.

John Pearce CP

Readings for Twenty Seventh Week Ordinary Time

Sun 7th: Twenty Seventh Week Ordinary Time

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

Psalm response: May the Lord Bless us all the days of our life

Mon 8th: Galatians 1:6-12 Gospel Luke 10:25-37

Tues 9th: Galatians 1:13-24 Gospel Luke 10:38-42

Wed 10th: Galatians 2:1-2,7-14 Gospel Luke 11:1-4

Thu 11th: Galatians 3:1-5 Gospel Luke 11:5-13

Fri 12th: Galatians 3:7-14 Gospel Luke 11:15-26

Sat 13th: Galatians 3:22-29 Gospel Luke 11:27-28

Sun 14: Twenty Eighth Week Ordinary Time

Wisdom 7:7-11 Hebrews 4:12-13 Gospel Mark 10:17-30

Let Us Remember in our Prayers and at Mass:

Recently Deceased: Edie Barry, Fr. Petrus Wake CP (PNG), Br Charles Mercieca CP, Barbara Walsh.

Anniversaries: 7 Oct Rod Wilkes **9** Charles Wareham
11 Julia Wareham, Bridget Wallace, Patrick Sweeney
12 Ihaia Te Awanui **13** Ellen Tate, Cornelius McCloy **14** Arthur Hern

Other Intentions: Floss & Jack Maher, Tim Wilkes

COLLECTIONS:

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

Last week:

AP's: \$8087.00
Envelopes: \$1565.00
Loose: \$694.60

thank you!

Passionist Family Groups

My Passionist Blanket: Celebrating 30 Years of CP Family Groups in NZ

I was asked to write an article on my "Passionist Blanket." I am not a writer, or literary talent, so you will have to bear with my effort.

You are probably thinking "my blanket" is a descriptive term to tell you how the PFGM and the Passionist Charism has enveloped and enhanced my life, and the lives of people round me, like a "spiritual blanket." If you are, you are not entirely wrong – but "my blanket" is actually a real blanket. It is made of wool. It was knitted in patchwork squares and sewn together. It has covered me every night for over 7yrs. Therefore, 'what is she on about you?' you ask.

Well I wrote several drafts of this article, about my "woollen blanket," but the story never seemed to make sense until I incorporated the spiritual blanket aspect as well. To understand you will need to know a little about me and my Passionist story for context.

I am 69. Married to a Catholic man, Bill. We have four children and 8 Grandchildren. At age 33 I was diagnosed with multiple sclerosis, a degenerative illness of the central nervous system. I was able to walk until the year 2000 when I became reliant on an electric wheelchair for mobility and now need considerable personal care assistance. We live in Christchurch.

Our PFGM story began in March of 1993, (I was still mobile) when like many of you, we were asked by our PP to lead a "Passionist Family Group," a task we enjoyed and felt so blessed to perform for nearly 12 years, before passing the baton on mainly due to health reasons.

By then we had joined the "Christchurch Passionist Companions group," a group we are still active members of today.

We have continued to attend all PFGM formation days held in Christchurch. All told we have been Passionist Family members now for over 25yrs.

During this time four events stand out to us. We believe they epitomize and embody the aims and goals of the PFGM and are perfect examples of its motto "a Family for all."

The first two, are examples

are of celebration sharing, and the other two are examples of love and support; principles that we consider are the pillars of the PFGM.

Our original group numbered 14 families, with 27 adults and 24 children, including two Korean families. The Korean families enriched our group and formed us into a new "family for all" very quickly. We helped each other learn and understand much about each other's culture. One thing we learnt was that their first and most important birthday celebration is to celebrate the milestone of a new born reaching 100 days of life: milestone for them because many of their children don't live this long. This was a very special celebration, and an honour to attend.

One of our members owned a rural property. Each "Guy Fawkes" day we would gather there to celebrate the event. We would have a picnic dinner, rides on the farm quad bike and at sun-



set we'd light a huge bonfire, and let off our fireworks. It was a great family event, and always memorable for different reasons each year. This event always got maximum attendance and showed we were there for each other to celebrate when appropriate, as well as being there to give care, love, and practical help when needed.

Experiencing our first bereavement as a Family Group, where we gathered with the bereaved family to give our love, help, and support. The vigil rosary, held in their home, was a very special and spiritual event. (Fortunately weddings and baptisms followed.)

The years passed, and it was September 2010. Canterbury experienced a magnitude 7.1 earthquake that was so frightening! During the next 24 hours we had in excess of 500 aftershocks. Five months later we experienced a magnitude 6.3 earthquake that took 185 lives and caused billions

of dollars' worth of damage. By September 2012 we endured 11,200 earthquakes above 2.5 in magnitude. 3 The region and its residents were in financial, physical, and mental distress. Physically disabled persons such as myself, cannot run from the danger, or take refuge like the able-bodied. Therefore, for us the earthquakes were even more frightening and dangerous (still are).

Then came my "Passionist Blanket"

In June 2011, the South Island Director of the PFGM (Aileen Straight) arrived at my door. She was carrying a patchwork woollen blanket and told me it was for me. It had been knitted and stitched together by a group of Passionist women from Australia, to be handed out as comforters to Christchurch residents who would benefit from them.

From that day till this, it has been lovingly draped over me by my husband, every single night. It covers me from chest to toe, and keeps me cosy warm, in more than just a physical way.

It is a physical sign to me of the care, concern, empathy, and hope that these very kind Australian Passionist women extended to us: a sign that no matter where "a Passionist" lives we are "a family for all."

Without the PFGM that encourages, teaches, assists and support us to help and be there for each

other, in the ways listed above and in so many other ways, I would never have received my "Passionist Blanket." I would not have received the peace joy and comfort it has provided me.

To me, my blanket is a daily reminder of the Passionist Charism. How when we practice it correctly we show the love of Christ to each other, and remember the love Christ has for us too.

My blanket reminds me of my whole Passionist journey from 1993 until today. It reminds me how the PFGM and Charism has helped me and so many other families, by enveloping us in a "blanket" of love, care, concern, and help, both practically and spiritually. I feel so humbled and privileged to have received my Passionist Blanket.

PS Daphne's husband Bill, was forced to retire from the Police force around the same time Daphne needed her wheelchair. This was the result of a shocking attack against him while on duty

Passionist Family Groups

Where Did Passionist Family Groups Come From?

The first Family Group formed in Terrey Hills Parish, Sydney, in 1972, a very small Parish on the outskirts of northern Sydney, gradually growing and needing to keep the intimate connections of its origins. Family Groups accomplished this. At its peak there were 26 groups, with approximately 1,250 people.

The spread of the Passionist Family Group Movement around Australia began in 1984, and in New Zealand in 1988, through the work of Fr Brian Traynor.

Family Groups in New Zealand.

They are now in more than 80 Parishes in all Catholic Dioceses, as well as Anglican, Baptist, Co-operating and Presbyterian Parishes. In Nelson and Richmond they started last year with a great response from families.

Fr John writes: "When I look back at my childhood in Western Sydney, us Pearce's were part of a group of families who hung out and chatted after Sunday Mass, and then went to each other's back yards some Sunday afternoons for a bar-b-q and games. Looking back, we were a family group, one that formed so naturally."

Is It Social or Religious?

Jesus would have found this a strange distinction, but some people still ask the question. When we learn to accept others who are different from us, and when we offer welcome, love and care and enjoy doing it, then God is right there in the middle of it.

Many people believe that faith is "caught" rather than "taught" and there is a lot of "faith catching" in Family Groups. Family Groups are one way that we can build up the Community of our Local Churches.

What is Their Appeal?

The major attraction is simplicity, and lack of organizational structure. Single people, especially divorced and widowed people, find it non-threatening. Partners or non-church goers feel welcome. People feel they are actually living their faith, so church-going comes to mean something entirely different, and it is an involvement for a couple or a family to share together.

Can Anyone Join?

The simple answer is YES. Anyone and Everyone! The Family Group motto is "A Family for All". Family Groups have single and widowed and divorced members, families with younger or older children, people from Marrickville and people

beyond, active and retired religious.

What is a Passionist Family Group?

Each group has between 8-12 family units of varying sizes from 1 and up. Members can be single people or multi member families. In forming groups we try to match children of a similar age and a cross section of adults and children so that it resembles an extended family. Each group is encouraged to develop its own flavour while remaining a part of the Parish extension of the Family Group Movement.

What Do Groups Do?

The emphasis of Family Groups is on building connections between people and families, about building significant relations, about helping people belong. In a large Parish like Star of the Sea, that can



be hard going. All activities have the above in mind. Each Group is encouraged to get together once a month, most times with the children, and some times as adults only.

These gatherings help people to get to know one another, and then in natural ways, group members begin to create bonds with others. We soon form friendships, have fun, extend acceptance and support, and quite simply and joyfully, experience Christian life with others. The emphasis is on low-cost enjoyment and allowing everyone to feel a part of a "family".

Some of the activities are: 10 pin Bowling, Bare Foot Bowls, Picnics, Hiking, Beach Days, Fish and Chip Nights, Games Nights, Pizza Nights, Curry Nights, Christmas in July. Movie Nights, Weekends Away, Men's Cooking Nights. With all the buildings we have available at St Mary's, and variety of Communities, there is no shortage of inexpensive options.

Do Groups Do Anything Together?

At the start of each year, each Family Group sets up a calendar of events, one a month, and each family is encouraged to be the organizer of an event. This shares out the leadership among all members. Also, we set up a Parish Calendar with some events for all Family Groups.

How Have Passionist Family Groups Helped Our Parish?

The first "achievement" of Family Groups in Blenheim would have to be the building of friendships and the taking away of anonymity in a place like ours. As we grow Family Groups across the Mass Centres, community connectedness will grow. Often on a weekend we will see Family Groups after Mass and chatting afterwards. There's nothing to stop us having Fam Days, where people from town are invited to come out and meet others.

Family Groups take turns at providing Morning Tea after Saturday or Sunday Masses as a way of encouraging people to meet others. It's a great service to building up a sense of belonging for all of us.

Many pastoral needs such as people visiting one another, or helping each other in practical ways during special times of need, build community life and help people understand what belonging to a church really means.

Family Groups do a great deal to support and encourage the life of the family as well as provide an important sense of family belonging for the many who have lost it through death or marriage breakdown.

How Do I/We Join a Family Group?

If you want to chat about Family Groups, or, if you want to join, please fill out the attached Information Form and return to the Parish Office. It will be passed on to the Parish FG Leadership Team who will contact you.

You will be linked to a Family Group who either have children of the same age or have another connection. We usually do not put friends together, as part of the purpose of Family Groups is to expand our parish connections.

Do You Need Any More Information?

If you might be interested in exploring this further, or even signing up now. Fill out the form available at Church today, or contact our Parish Office, or **Fr John** or **Fr Pat**