



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
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Newsletter No 40: 21 October 2018 29th Sunday of the Year (B)

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.

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)

Letter from Cardinal John

Kia tau te rangimarie ki a koutou,
 We are living in an unprecedented time in the history of the Church.

There are major challenges for anyone in leadership today, from Pope Francis to anyone who leads in the Church in any way. There appears to be a culture around the world where everyone is expected to be perfect and to never have made a mistake. I fully acknowledge that all leaders are to be accountable to the people they serve, and that there should always be openness and transparency. The Church has not been good at that and we need to make great improvements.

Our lives are also to be lived realistically, and the reality of human life is that nobody is perfect, and very clearly neither is the Church. As Cardinal Williams said back in the late 1980s, and has been quoted many many times - "I have to be a realist like yourselves and accept that the most telling image of the Church is an untidy caravan struggling across the desert, not a regiment of infantry marching in perfect step across an immaculate parade ground.

We are, after all, the People of God, and people are imperfect and contradictory. To know it we have only to look at ourselves." We, the People of

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maureensmsm@yahoo.co.nz

Past Assist: Sr Frances Anna SMSM

francesmsm@gmail.com

Manager/Secretary: Ginetta Petersen

Office Assistant: Mandy Li

Youth Ministers: Maurice & Mieke Davies

stmarysyouthgroup@xtra.co.nz 03 578 6772

Parish Pastoral Council Chair: Greg Stretch

Parish Finance Committee Chair: Tom Harrison

God, are imperfect and contradictory. That is why we have faith communities where we try to help support one another, where we talk together and listen to one another, where we try to create close and warm relationships, and hold one another in a network of solidarity and belonging. Our parish, college and school communities and our faith organizations are called to support everyone and find ways to encourage one another on life's journey.



Internationally the Church has some major challenges, every diocese has challenges and must look to new ways to be Church today. That can really only start with every one of us as individuals, deciding each day to do our best, seeking out others who need love and care, forgiving others when that is called for rather than dismissing and casting aside someone who has made a mistake. One of the questions I like to ask myself at the end of each day, and I find it very helpful, so I share it with you is: "Have I been a good memory in someone's life today?" I wonder if we all honestly asked a question something like that if it would be a step in making our Church and our world a better place and a little more Christlike.

With prayers and blessings
 Naku noa. Na + Hoane

Cardinal John Dew

Readings for Twenty Ninth Week Ordinary Time

Sun 21st: Twenty Ninth Week Ordinary Time

Isaiah 53:10-11

Hebrews 4:14-16

Gospel Mark 10:35-45

Psalms response: Lord let your mercy be on us as we place our trust in you

Mon 22nd:

Ephesians 2:1-10

Gospel Luke 12:13-21

Tues 23rd:

Ephesians 2:12-22

Gospel Luke 12:35-38

Wed 24th:

Ephesians 3:2-12

Gospel Luke 12:39-48

Thu 25th:

Ephesians 3:14-21

Gospel Luke 12:49-53

Fri 26th:

Ephesians 4:1-6

Gospel Luke 12:54-59

Sat 27th:

Ephesians 4:7-16

Gospel Luke 13:1-9

Sun 28th: Thirtieth Week Ordinary Time

Jeremiah 31:7-9

Hebrews 5:1-6

Gospel Mark 10:46-52



Pope Francis to Chinese Catholics: Faith Changes History.

Vatican News Service 26 Sept 2018

In a "Message to Catholics of China and to the Universal Church," Pope Francis explains the reasons for signing the Provisional Agreement with the People's Republic of China: to promote the proclamation of the Gospel, and to establish unity in the Catholic community in China.

The Message of Pope Francis—announced Wednesday morning at the General Audience—begins with a word of encouragement for Chinese Catholics, who, he says, "are daily present" in his prayers. He recalls the words of Jesus, earlier quoted by Benedict XVI in his **Letter to the Chinese faithful: "Fear not, little flock"** (Lk, 12:32).

Confusion from a flurry of opinions

The Pope immediately goes to the heart of the question:

Of late, many conflicting reports have circulated about the present and, in particular, the future of the Catholic communities in China. I am aware that this flurry of thoughts and opinions may have caused a certain confusion and prompted different reactions in the hearts of many. Some feel doubt and perplexity, while others sense themselves somehow abandoned by the Holy See and anxiously question the value of their sufferings endured out of fidelity to the Successor of Peter. In many others, there prevail positive expectations and reflections inspired by the hope of a more serene future for a fruitful witness to the faith in China.

It is a situation, he emphasizes, "that has become more acute" with the recent signing in Beijing of the Provisional Agreement on the nomination of Bishops.

Admiration for Chinese Catholics, witnesses of the Gospel

Pope Francis expresses his "sincere admiration—which is the admiration of the entire Catholic

Church—for the gift of your fidelity, your constancy amid trials, and your firm trust in God's providence, even when certain situations proved particularly adverse and difficult." Such "painful experiences," he says, "are part of the spiritual treasury of the Church in China and of all God's pilgrim people on earth." He assures them that "the Lord, through the crucible of our trials, never fails to pour out his consolations upon us and to prepare us for an even greater joy," and exhorts them to look "to the example of all those faithful laity and pastors who readily offered their 'good witness' (cf. 1 Tim 6:13) to the Gospel, even to the sacrifice of their own lives. They showed themselves true friends of God!"

A dialogue begun by John Paul, advanced by Benedict XVI

The Pope clarifies that the Provisional Agreement "is the result of a lengthy and complex institutional dialogue between the Holy See and the Chinese authorities initiated by Saint John Paul II and continued by Pope Benedict XVI. Through this process, the Holy See has desired – and continues to desire – only to attain the Church's specific spiritual and pastoral aims, namely, to support and advance the preaching of the Gospel, and to re-establish and preserve the full and visible unity of the Catholic community in China."

Departing with faith, even when the road is unknown

He then shares "a few reflections... for the journey we are called to undertake in this new phase." Once again quoting Benedict, the Pope explains that it is a journey that "requires time and presupposes the good will of both parties." Pope Francis pointed to the example of Abraham, who, "called by God... obeyed by setting out for an unknown land that he was to receive as an inheritance, without knowing the path that lay ahead. Had Abraham demanded ideal social and political conditions before leaving his land, perhaps he would never have set out. Instead, he trusted in God and in response to God's word he left his home and its safety. It was not historical changes that made him put his trust in God; rather, it was his pure faith that brought about a change in history." Invoking his position as Successor of Peter, Pope Francis says forcefully, "I want to confirm you in this faith (cf. Lk 22:32)... and to ask you to

place your trust ever more firmly in the Lord of history and in the Church's discernment of his will."

The nomination of Bishops

Pope Francis explains that "it was essential, before all else, to deal with the issue of the appointment of bishops." He says:

Regrettably, as we know, the recent history of the Catholic Church in China has been marked by deep and painful tensions, hurts and divisions, centred especially on the figure of the bishop as the guardian of the authenticity of the faith and as guarantor of ecclesial communion.

When, in the past, it was presumed to determine the internal life of the Catholic communities, imposing direct control above and beyond the legitimate competence of the state, the phenomenon of clandestinity arose in the Church in China.

Call for reconciliation and expressions of unity

However, the Pope says, he has nonetheless "experienced great consolation in knowing the heartfelt desire of Chinese Catholics to live their faith in full communion with the universal Church and with the Successor of Peter." This, he says, is true even of Bishops, "who have damaged communion in the Church as a result of weakness and errors, but also, and not infrequently, due to powerful and undue pressure from without." He assures the faithful that "after carefully examining every individual personal situation, and listening to different points of view, I have devoted much time to reflection and prayer, seeking the true good of the Church in China." And he forcefully affirms, "Before the Lord and with serenity of judgment, in continuity with the direction set by my immediate predecessors, I have determined to grant reconciliation to the remaining seven 'official' bishops ordained without papal mandate and, having lifted every relevant canonical sanction, to readmit them to full ecclesial communion. At the same time, I ask them to express with concrete and visible gestures their restored unity with the Apostolic See and with the Churches spread throughout the world, and to remain faithful despite any difficulties."

Embracing those who have gone astray

In his Message, Pope Francis now invites Chinese Catholics

Pope Francis: Letter to China

"to work towards reconciliation," recalling his own words at the conclusion of the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy, that "no law or precept can prevent God from once more embracing the son who returns to him admitting that he has done wrong but intending to start his life anew." In this spirit, he says, "we can initiate an unprecedented process that we hope will help to heal the wounds of the past, restore full communion among all Chinese Catholics."

Choosing Pastors with the Heart of Jesus

The Pope explains, that, while the Provisional Agreement is "limited to certain aspects of the Church's life and necessarily capable of improvement," it can, nonetheless, "contribute... to writing this new chapter of the Catholic Church in China." "For the first time," he says, "the Agreement sets out stable elements of cooperation between the state authorities and the Apostolic See, in the hope of providing the Catholic community with good shepherds."

In this context, he continues, "the Holy See intends fully to play its own part." Yet, he says, an important part also falls to you, the bishops, priests, consecrated men and women, and lay faithful: to join in seeking good candidates capable of taking up in the Church the demanding and important ministry of bishop. It is not a question of appointing functionaries to deal with religious issues, but of finding authentic shepherds according to the heart of Jesus, men committed to working generously in the service of God's people, especially the poor and the most vulnerable.

The Role of Chinese Catholics in Society

Speaking about Chinese Catholics' place in society, Pope Francis says:

On the civil and political level, Chinese Catholics must be good citizens, loving their homeland and serving their country with diligence and honesty, to the best of their ability. On the ethical level, they should be aware that many of their fellow citizens expect from them a greater commitment to the service of the common good and the harmonious growth of society as a whole. In particular, Catholics ought to make a prophetic and constructive contribution born of their faith in the kingdom of God. At times, this may also require of them the effort to offer a word of

criticism, not out of sterile opposition, but for the sake of building a society that is more just, humane and respectful of the dignity of each person.

Overcoming Opposition in Order to evangelize

Pope Francis then addresses Bishops, priests, and consecrated persons, asking them to overcome to "leave behind past conflicts and attempts to pursue our own interests," in order to "care for the faithful." He calls on them to "work humbly for reconciliation and unity" and, "with energy and enthusiasm," to "take up the path of evangelization indicated by the Second Vatican Ecumenical Council."

Appeal to young Chinese Catholics

The Pope also speaks to young Chinese Catholics, exhorting them "to cooperate in building the future of your country," and "to bring, by your enthusiasm, the joy of the Gospel to everyone you meet." He asks them to open their hearts and minds "to discern the merciful plan of God, who asks us to rise above personal prejudices and conflicts between groups and communities, in order to undertake a courageous fraternal journey in the light of an authentic culture of encounter."

All Catholics called to be close to the faithful in China

Pope Francis speaks of the "important duty" of all Catholics throughout the world "to accompany our brothers and sisters in China with fervent prayer and fraternal friendship." He says, "they need to feel that in the journey that now lies ahead, they are not alone."

Continuing the dialogue with Chinese authorities

Turning then, "with respect" to the leaders of the People's Republic of China, Pope Francis renews his invitation "to continue, with trust, courage and farsightedness, the dialogue begun some time ago" in order to overcome "past differences, even those of the more recent past," and to open "a new chapter of more serene and practical cooperation, in the shared conviction that 'incomprehension [serves] the interests of neither the Chinese people nor the Catholic Church in China' (Benedict XVI, Letter to Chinese Catholics)." In this way, he says, China and the Holy See will be able to "make ef-

forts to promote the integral development of society by ensuring greater respect for the human person, also in the religious sphere." The Pope also emphasizes that a "new style of straightforward daily cooperation needs to develop between local authorities and ecclesiastical authorities – bishops, priests and community elders – in order to ensure that pastoral activities take place in an orderly manner, in harmony with the legitimate expectations of the faithful and the decisions of competent authorities." And he repeats, "The Church in China is not oblivious to Chinese history, nor does she seek any privilege."

Prayer to Mary

Finally, Pope Francis implores from the Lord the gift of peace, and invites everyone to invoke the maternal protection of the Virgin Mary. His message ends with a prayer:

**Mother of Heaven,
hear the plea of your children
as we humbly call upon your
name!**

**Virgin of Hope,
we entrust to you the journey
of the faithful in the noble land
of China. We ask you to present
to the Lord of history the trials
and tribulations, the petitions
and the hopes of all those who
pray to you,
O Queen of Heaven!**

**Mother of the Church,
we consecrate to you the present
and the future of our families
and our communities. Protect
and sustain them in fraternal
reconciliation and in service
to the poor who bless your
name, O Queen of Heaven!**

**Consolation of the Afflicted,
we turn to you, for you are the
refuge of all who weep amid
their trials. Watch over your
sons and daughters who praise
your name; make them one in
bringing the proclamation of
the Gospel. Accompany their
efforts to build a more fraternal
world. Grant that they may
bring the joy of forgiveness to
all whom they meet, O Queen
of Heaven!**

The full text of Pope Francis' "Message to the Catholics of China and to the Universal Church" can be found on the Vatican and Holy See websites.

Parish Calendar, News & Notices

Weekend Mass Times

To assist in planning ahead

29th 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) **W&C**

Renwick (5pm) Mass/Fr John

30th 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**

Ward (4pm) Mass/Fr Pat

Community Matters

Home and Away

Fr John will be away for four weeks, Oct 25 to Nov 22, for two meetings in Australia, Profession of First vows of Br Tom Morris, annual leave, and a conference in Suva, where he will present a paper about Marlborough at a Conference on Practical Theology in Oceania.

Fr Ray Brain CP from Adelaide will be assisting for that time. Ray has had a colourful career of chaplaincies to retirement villages, retreat centres, street people, and until more recently, community leader of the Passionist House in London.

Fr Joachim Rego CP, Re-elected Passionist Superior General



On Wednesday night Fr Joachim was re-elected as world leader of the Passionists. Born in Myanmar (Burma) in 1954,

his family migrated to Australia where he joined the Passionists. Congratulations from Marlborough Catholics.

Fr Gwen Barde (Philippines) has been elected as General Consultor from the Asia Pacific Region.

St Mary's School Masses

Over the coming weeks, paired classes will continue their exposure to our Liturgical Life through Thursday Masses in the Mercy Room.



MARLBOROUGH ART SOCIETY PROUDLY PRESENTS:

Andrew Panoho's "Faith - The Window of Heaven is Open"

Opening Preview: 6pm, Friday 19th October

Season: 20 October - 4 November

The Yealands Estate Marlborough Gallery
204 High St, Blenheim
Open daily 10:30am to 4:30pm

Before School care

Is there anyone in the Blenheim community wanting to come in a few hours each morning Tuesday to Friday to watch and get 7yr old girl ready for school. Being paid of course. This is for a single mother with no family here, having only moved 1yr ago. In the Bethsaida area. Please call Claire 0221644741 or email claiремcerlean@xtra.co.nz

9-11 NOV.A Marriage Encounter Weekend

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.

It is at the Home of Compassion, Island Bay. For more info phone 0800 362 686 or go to the website <http://www.marriage-encounter.org.nz>

Parish Events

Cultural Celebration Feast

21st Oct
after 10am
Mass

Come celebrate with us!

All Welcome!
A mix of food provided plus tea and coffee.

Please bring koha donation and a chair/blanket for picnic.

Oct 21: Cultural Mass & Feast

At St Mary's with and after the 10am Mass. Provided by Tongan & Filipino Communities. Koha please, towards the food.

Nov 10: Kaikoura: Pot Luck Dinner & Variety Evening

At 6pm in Sacred Heart Hall, All Welcome. any questions to Patsy 319 7166.

NOV 16: Youth Group Quiz Night

A FUNdraiser for St Marys Youth Group. If you missed out on all the fun last year, now's your chance to get in on the action, with great prizes and a live auction. book a table for up to 8 ppl. \$10pp. To be held in our Community Centre from 7pm. Tickets, contact Maurice 0223918584 stmary-syouthgroup@xtra.co.nz

Parish Calendar

October

Oct 21 .. 30th Sunday

Cultural Mass & Feast (10)
Mass @ Renwick (5pm)
Oct 22 .. Labour Day Holiday
Oct 23 .. Pastoral Council (6pm)
Finance/Property C'tee 7.30

Oct 28 .. 31st Sunday

Mass @ Ward (4pm)
Oct 29 .. Marlborough Day Holiday

November

Nov 1 .. Renwick Committee (11.30)
Nov 4 .. Sounds Stewardship
Nov 6 .. Wairau Stewardship
Nov 9 .. Workshop on National Police Checks for Volunteers in Ministry with children and vulnerable persons.
Nov 12 .. Sacred Heart Stewardship
Nov 13 .. St Joseph's School Board
Nov 15 .. Blenheim Annual Bereavement Mass (7pm)

Let Us Remember in our Prayers and at Mass:

Recently Deceased: Edie Barry, Heather Laugesen, Bede Payton, Barbara Walsh, Margaret Wright, Kathleen Hezelton (UK), Cristeta Curtis, Bobby Sloan

Anniversaries: **19 Oct** Ronald Kinnaird, Sue Blackmore, Conal Cairns **20** Bob Gibby **22** Eddie Knudsen, Hugh O'Donnell, Joseph Garrett, Julia Smith, Josephine Dooley, Francis Smith **23** Marguerite Cavanaugh, Mary McInnes, Henry Mackle, Jessie Chapman, William Peoples **24** Frank Harris, Edward Kerr, Eric Creagh, Jennifer Gerard **26** Julia Carroll, Gerard Eaton **27** Norah Parsons, Myrtle Miles, Andrew Harnett **28** Michael Dee,

Hester Stewart, Frederick Gilmour, Mary Smith, Kingi Reardon, John Laugesen

Other Intentions:

COLLECTIONS:

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

Last week:

AP's:	\$2163.00
Envelopes:	\$1746.50
Loose:	\$ 526.50
Mission Sunday:	\$ 25.00

thank
you!