



## Archbishop of Wellington

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PO Box 1937, Wellington 6140, New Zealand

19<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Dear People of God of the Archdiocese,

Greetings and all good wishes and blessings to you all.

I am sure you do not need me to tell you that Covid 19 has been and continues to be a difficult and challenging time.

I am most grateful to parishes and communities for all that they have done and continue to do to keep the community together and to be in touch with parishioners during the various lockdowns. I have very much admired the creative ways that people helped one another to pray and particularly to reflect on the Scriptures in different ways.

Recently at a meeting of the Archdiocesan Board of Administration the members of the Board suggested, and I willingly agreed, to write and thank you all for your continued financial support of your parish. It has become very clear that parishioners generously continue to support parishes financially and then of course also helps the Archdiocese. I therefore wish to thank you all for the ways that you continued financial support in difficult and challenging times for everyone. It is much appreciated by me and by the Board of Administration.

With sincere thanks for all you have done to keep in touch with other parishioners and to support your parish and the Archdiocese in these challenging times.

With all good wishes and every blessing

Your sincerely in the Lord

John Cardinal Dew  
Archbishop of Wellington

## **The icon of Holy Mary, Mother of God – Ko Hata Maria, Te Matua Wahine o Te Atua**

The icon of Holy Mary, Mother of God – Ko Hata Maria, Te Matua Wahine o Te Atua is continuing its year-long Hikoī through Aotearoa-New Zealand.

Our Parish of Our Lady Star of the Sea – Te Whetu o Te Moana is hosting it on Saturday 30 July through to Tuesday morning 2 August 2022.

Upon completion of the Hikoī in our Archdiocese it will be enshrined in Saint Mary of the Angels Church in Wellington on the Feast of the Assumption, 15 August 2022. The artwork is accompanied by Kory Wilson – Kaitiaki [guardian] a Kuia from Palmerston North, on behalf of the New Zealand Bishops.

### **Our timetable for Our Lady Star of the Sea is:**

Saturday 30 July 2022 - 9.30am Mass followed by Morning Tea at Saint Mary's Blenheim

Saturday 30 July 2022 - 5pm Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion at Saint Mary's Blenheim

Sunday 31 July 2022 8am Seddon Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion; 9am Picton Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion.

10am Blenheim Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion.

The Icon will travel down to Kaikoura after the Saturday morning Mass and be formally welcomed with a Powhiri upon arrival at Takahanga Marae in Kaikoura. This marae is known as a Catholic marae and has a beautiful shrine to Our Lady as part of its magnificent Whare Nui – its meeting house.

Takahanga Marae is situated just off the Main Road South – State Highway 1 – on Takahanga Terrace

On Sunday 31 July 2022 Mass at 9.30am – Miha – will be celebrated and followed by a shared light meal. If you are planning to make this pilgrimage and, I am delighted that parishioners are doing so, we ask you to bring some food to share. The parish will also provide some food and make a koha [gift] to the marae on your behalf.

On Monday 1 August the icon will be stationed in the Mercy Chapel to allow school children from Saint Mary's School and pre-School to visit.

It then travels to the Nelson parishes

With every blessing in Christ and safe travels

Michael McCabe