



**Te Whetu O Te Moana | Star of the Sea
Marlborough Catholic Parish**

From the Sounds to the Sea, the Mountains to the Plains
Blenheim | Havelock | Kaikoura | Picton | Renwick | Seddon | Ward
Parish Office: 61 Maxwell Road, Blenheim | T. 03 578 0038
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**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)**

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Greg Stretch
Parish Finance Committee Chair:
Tom Harrison

**Newsletter 16 Fifth Sunday of Easter 10 05 2020
Mother's Day**

The last 6 weeks has been a challenging time for all of us. For some it has meant the loss of a job or loss of a regular income. For some it has been the need to be distant from our friends and the ones we love. But others have talked of how it has given them valuable time to slow down and concentrate on family.

Today we wish our Mothers a wonderful Mother's Day. The mother is the heart of the family, and her love and patience and kindness lifts all the others including her husband.

Let us celebrate our Mothers in our appropriate 'bubble' setting. Let us show our love and appreciation to our mothers for all they are and do.

Mary -our Mother

Let us remember Mary today, but all the days this month of May. please read the attached Chapter of the Book called "Five Loaves and Two Fishes." It is devoted to "Immaculate Mary, my First Love." The Archbishop Francis Xavier Thuan explains how Mary kept him going over the long years of his imprisonment and solitary confinement. If you don't have email, just ask me and I will send you the Chapter. He writes simply and in a beautiful way.

Church Going

We will know more about what we can do and about Church going, once we hear from our Prime Minister and the Director of Public Health on Monday 1pm. IF, and only IF, we move to Level 2, then Masses will resume-but probably with some precautions.

We will need to keep social distancing, and we will need help from ushers to guide us to do it safely.

The Bishops have sent out a letter which is attached to the email with this newsletter . For most places in our Parish –Picton, Kaikoura, Seddon and Havelock, we can gather at the usual times. But if numbers are normally over 100, then we will need to have additional times available (particularly at St Mary's), so that we can cater for numbers of less than a 100 people. It may be

that initially if you are late, the usher may turn you away -if the congregation is already at 100. At St. Mary's we will need to have alternative times on Saturday and on Sunday to allow for people to socially distance and for the numbers not to go over 100. There will need to be some Liturgies of Word and Communion also to assist.

Please be Kind, be Patient with one another and be Safe.

We will keep you posted by email or by telephone if this can be arranged. God bless you all,

Fr Pat and Fr Jacob cp

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Newsletter From Cardinal John Dew **7 May 2020**

Issue No. 220

Kia tau te rangimarie ki a koutou,

Just before Easter we received from Rome the text for a Mass in the Time of a Pandemic. The Opening Prayer (Collect) for this Mass is very beautiful. It says:

Almighty and eternal God, our refuge in every danger, to whom we turn in our distress; in faith we pray look with compassion on the afflicted, grant eternal rest to the dead, comfort to mourners, healing to the sick, peace to the dying, strength to healthcare workers, wisdom to our leaders and the courage to reach out to all in love, so that together we may give glory to your holy name. Through our Lord Jesus Christ, your Son, who lives and reigns with you in the unity of the Holy Spirit, God, for ever and ever.

The Prayer is asking God to

- look with compassion on the afflicted,
- grant eternal rest to the dead,
- comfort to mourners, healing to the sick,
- peace to the dying,
- strength to healthcare workers,
- wisdom to our leaders and
- the courage to reach out to all

The remarkable and incredible gift is that you are all doing so many of these things. I am hearing wonderful accounts of the way that you are showing compassion, praying for the dead, comforting not just the mourners, but also those who have lost jobs and livelihood, and supplying food and friendship. There are wonderful examples of support being given to healthcare workers, sharing wisdom and reaching out with courage to support those who are lonely, struggling, anxious and sometimes desperate.

These challenging days are helping us to respond with Gospel courage in new ways. They are showing us how priests, lay pastoral leaders and parishioners are able to work together collaboratively, with creativity and imagination. The Gospel is being lived in the reality of the Covid-19 situation.

I am very aware that many people are anxious to get back to public Masses. We may know over the next few days what we are able to do. We may also have to wait patiently for a while longer.

This can also be an opportunity for us. Much has been written and spoken about this as a time of **“going into the desert”** (Hosea 2:16). The People of Israel lost the Temple, the sacrifices and the work of the priests. They had only the Word of God with them, through prophets such as Ezekiel, Jeremiah, and Isaiah. God's word helped them experience this time of exile as a time of conversion. For us this is a time to enter more deeply into the Scriptures. It's an opportunity.

You are already making the most of this opportunity. I have heard inspirational stories of the way priests and parishioners are working together to reach out to parishioners and to their neighbourhoods. This is what the Gospel asks us to do.

I know people are missing Mass. However, the Second Vatican Council reminded us in the Decree on the Ministry and Life of Priests (*Presbterorum Ordinis*) that “**it is the first task of priests as co-workers of the bishop to preach the Gospel of God to all.**’ (No 4)

This is an opportunity to stop and engage in deep reflection before God and with God on how we are making preaching the Gospel our first task.

With sincere thanks for all that everyone is doing.

Every blessing. Naku noa

+ John

“Times of scarcity need to be met with generosity, times of fear with comfort, times of uncertainty with presence. When we care for those around us, we create a field of love. Thomas Hubl

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Special Collections:

Due to COVID-19 two Collections have been moved till late in the year.

Peter's Pence collection, which traditionally takes place around the solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul on 29 June, will be transferred throughout the world to the 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time, 4 October, memorial of Saint Francis of Assisi

Good Friday” Collection for the Holy Land. The date for this Collection has been transferred to Sunday September 13th 2020 – the date closest to the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross.

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A quote sent through from **Ecology, Justice and Peace Office:**

Dear brothers and sisters, in this time so many thoughts and worries lead us to turn inwards into ourselves... Let us ask for the grace to recognise and follow the voice of the good Shepherd, who brings us out of the enclosures of selfishness and leads us to the pastures of true freedom. [Pope Francis, 3 May 2020](#)

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Sacrament of the Sick

The Bishops of New Zealand, through their spokesman, let all the priests know that they may enter Rest Homes or private homes or hospitals to administer the Sacrament of the Sick to those who are in danger of dying. This is also for Imams and ministers of other religious traditions.

. As I understand it, it does not include the regular visiting of the sick in hospital, but is available for people who are seriously ill or in danger of death.

It can also include the giving of Holy Communion to such persons receiving the Sacrament of Anointing. One other person (eg a family member) may be with the priest, when he attends to the person. In some cases, the priest may be required to put on special Protective apparel if it is the policy of the Health facility.

So Fr Jacob and myself are ready to be of assistance in such cases if required. This would I think apply to anywhere, including Kaikoura in the Parish of Star of the Sea.

This advice comes also from the Ministry of Health to all Churches and Religious faiths.

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Life is amazing. And then it is awful.
 And then it's amazing again.
 And in between the amazing and awful
 it's ordinary and mundane and routine.
 Breathe in the amazing, hold on
 through the awful,
 and relax and exhale during the
 ordinary.
 That's just living, heartbreaking, soul-
 healing, amazing, awful, ordinary life.
 And it is breathtakingly
 beautiful.



- L R Knost (Thanks O.L.O.B)

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Fr Pat and Fr Jacob will be saying Mass and livestreaming it on our Facebook page this Saturday at 5pm. Everyone is welcome to join in. This can also be viewed at a later time if you wish.

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Masses available on Television: Free to air telecast| Shine TV Freeview channel 25

Sundays from 4 April – **2pm-Please note the change of time.**

Please try and get this message out to parishioners who don't have emails or internet

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Here is a link to a webinar created by Duncan Holland on phoning people – you may find it useful to view and/or pass on to those in the parish who are maintaining phone contact with people.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z5piWcJeeLM&t=00s>

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Other links and information:

Are you a visual person? Take a look at these two websites

www.pathwaystogod.org/resources/praying-art

www.ecologicalexamine.org/



As it is the month of May you may like to experience a contemplative way of praying the Rosary using scripture. Check out the pray as you go website link below. It also has an Examen for children/ young adults/ or families and prayer sessions if you are feeling lonely or anxious. <https://pray-as-you-go.org/prayer-resources/prepare/> then click on Prayer Tools.

For fans of Fr Chris Skinner this links takes you to his original song giving thanks to the Supermarket Workers!

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=wxNVIB_1hpl&feature=youtu.be (Thanks St Francis of Assisi)

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Below is a link to daily Mass in Christchurch with Bishop Paul Martin. This is a great resource as Mass is in our time zone!

<https://chchcatholic.nz/2020/03/mass-livestream/>

You don't have to watch it live - it is recorded.

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Vatican's Youtube Channel

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=VJHI8bl0LWg>

Rome Reports

<https://www.romereports.com/.../live-popes-mass-at-santa-mar.../>

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Society of St Vincent de Paul: please ring the Parish Office 03 578 0038

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Planned Giving Receipts:

As we are in lockdown, not everything can be done at the correct time. One is Planned Giving Envelopes and Receipts. We will endeavour to get them out as speedily as possible once out of lockdown.

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<u>Readings for 5th Week of Easter</u>		
Sun 10th:	Acts 6:1-7	1Peter 2:4-9 John 14:1-12
Psalm Response: Psalm 33		
Mon 11th:	Acts 14:5-18	John 14:21-26
Tues 12th:	Acts 14:19-28	John 14:27-31
Wed 13th:	Acts 15:1-6	John 15:1-8 Our Lady of Fatima
Thurs 14th:	Acts 1:15-17,20-26	John 135:9-17 St Matthias, Apostle
Fri 15th:	Acts 15:22-31	John 15:12-17
Sat 16th:	Acts 16:1-10	John 15:18-21
<u>6th Sunday of Easter</u>		
Sun 17th:	Acts 8:5-8,14-17	1Peter 3:15-18 John 14:15-21

Recently Deceased Michael Prendergast (Picton), Colin McKay, Norman Thornton (Chch), Sister Mary Boyce,(Mary Gerard) Sister of Mercy (Chch),

Anniversaries: May 10 Mary Gallagher O'Halloran

Other Intentions: 11th April 91st birthday: Marie Loft Holden, Auckland