

Parish Calendar, News & Notices

Weekend Mass Times

Sunday Masses are suspended while in Level 2.

Weekday Masses at St Mary's are in the church until we move to Alert Level 1. Weekday Masses and/or Word & communion will also continue in Kaikoura and Picton.

22nd Sunday of Ord (5)

Sat Aug 29

Blenheim-5pm Mass/Fr Pat

Sun Aug 30

Seddon-8am Mass/Fr Pat

Picton-9am Mass/Fr Pat

Kaikoura-9.30 Mass/Fr Jacob

Blenheim-10am **W&C**

Havelock-11am Mass/Fr Pat

23rd Sunday of Ord (1)

Sat Sep 5

Blenheim-5pm Mass/Fr Jacob

Cuppa after Mass

Sun Sep 6

Seddon-8am Mass/ Fr Pat

Picton-9am Mass/Fr Jacob

Cuppa after Mass

Kaikoura-9.30 **W&C**

Blenheim-10am Mass/Fr Pat

Cuppa after Mass

Havelock-11am Mass/ Fr Jacob

24th Sunday of Ord (2)

Sat Sep 12

Blenheim-5pm Mass/Fr Jacob

Sun Sep 13

Seddon-8am **W&C**

Picton-9am Mass/Fr Jacob

Kaikoura-9.30 Mass/Fr Pat

Blenheim-10am **W&C**

Havelock-11am Mass/Fr Jacob

25th Sunday of Ord (3)

Sat Sep 19

Blenheim-5pm Mass/Fr

Sun Sep 20

Seddon-8am Mass/ Fr

Picton-9am Mass/Fr

Kaikoura-9.30 **W&C**

Blenheim-10am Mass/ Fr

Havelock-11am Mass/ Fr

Tongan Mass- 2pm Mass/

Renwick-5pm Mass/ Fr

26th Sunday of Ord (4)

Sat Sep 26

Blenheim-5pm Mass/Fr

Sun Sep 27

Seddon-8am Mass/ Fr

Picton-9am **W&C**

Kaikoura-9.30 Mass/

Blenheim-10am Mass/Fr

Havelock-11am **W&C**

Ward-4pm Mass / Fr

Parish News & Events

With the ever-changing situation due to COVID-19, some of the following events may be postponed to a later date.

Monthly Combined Church service at Picton. This month it is on 30th August, 6pm, hosted by St Joseph's. **THIS HAS BEEN CANCELLED.**

Monthly Combined Church service at Renwick. This month it is on 30th August, 9.30am, hosted by the Presbyterian Church, Havelock Street.

MARY, THE MOTHER OF GOD – A CONTEMPORARY UNDERSTANDING... with Br Kieran Fenn. This online series (Zoom) started on Mon, 24 August at 7pm, but it is not too late to join. It runs for 6 consecutive Mondays. The sessions are connected but also stand alone. Fee: \$25/session or \$120 for 6 sessions. Special fees for groups of more than 2 persons. For more information and registration: info@studyjoy.nz.

AGLOW GAME CHANGERS: Aglow is a Christian organisation for men and women, our Blenheim group are hosting a "Game Changers" meeting on Tuesday evenings 6pm - 8pm from 1st September for 5 weeks. Game Changers is a powerful DVD series looking at us standing in the Presence of God. A Study book for \$25 included. Meetings at "My Space Youth Centre" Cnr Redwood / Kinross St's. Info: Sheryl 0210791981 or Jo 0274468649

"The Mission is at Home and in us"

A Workshop with Alfred Tong Sunday 13 September, 3.30pm in the Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church - Williams Street

How does the command to 'proclaim the Gospel to all nations' translate to Mission in our Church Congregations and communities today?

This workshop will include an introduction to some common liturgical hymns in other languages, not exclusively but including Te Reo himene and waiata.

St Mary's Night Market

We are on the lookout for musicians who would love the opportunity to share their talents at our Night Market or if you are a community organisation or an individual who would like to be a stallholder at our Night Market, please call the school office and leave your contact details: 03 578 9494

Human Love in the Divine Plan (Theology of the Body)- *First intake in Wellington!* Courses for Young Adults (ages 18-35 years) on September 5 & 6, and for Adults on September 19 & 20. Venue: Challenge 2000, 1 Wanaka St, Johnsonville, Wellington. Early Registration: \$40.00 (closes: 29 August). General Registration: \$50.00. Contact 0220289737 or email info@marriageandfamily.org.nz. For information, visit: www.marriageandfamily.org.nz

Parish Calendar

August

Aug 30.. Combined Church Service, 6pm, St Joseph's Picton **CANCELLED**

September

Sep 1.. Care of Creation
Sep 1.. Wairau Stewardship (7)
Sep 6.. Sounds Stewardship (5)
Sep 6-12.. Social Justice Week
Sep 8.. Feast of Our Lady, Star Of The Sea
Sep 13.. Good Friday Collection
Sep 15.. Finance & Property (7)
Sep 16-17.. Commission of Inquiry Hearings
Sep 18.. SMF Night Market BHM
Sep 20.. SVdP Festival Day

October

Oct 3-4.. Fundraising Visit by Fr Jim Lyons
....Peter's Pence Collection
Oct 4.. Sounds Stewardship (5)
Oct 6.. Day of Celebration for Venerable Suzanne Aubert
Oct 6.. Wairau Stewardship (7)
Oct 11.. Day-Prayer to Respect Life
Oct 12.. KK Stewardship (7)
Oct 17.. SMF Garage Sale BHM
Oct 18.. World Mission Sunday - Prop. Of Faith Collection
Oct 20.. Finance & Property (7)
Oct 25.. BHM Multicultural Day

November

Nov 1.. Sounds Stewardship (5)

COLLECTIONS:

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

Last week:

AP's: \$ 1884.85
Envelopes: \$ 0
Cash: \$ 0

thank you!



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

Blenheim

Tues: 9.30am Mass

Wed: 12.05pm Mass

Rosary: 5.30pm

Ph: 572 9067 or 5782507 for venue

Thurs: 9.30 am Mass

Except 1st Thurs:

Bethsaida **10.45am**

Fri: 11am Adoration

11.30 Reconciliation

12.05pm Mass

Sat: 9.30am Mass

Reconciliation to follow

Sat: 5.00pm Mass

Sun: 10.00am 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

Mon: Adoration 4-5pm

Wed: 9.00am Mass

Adoration & Reconciliation:

9.30-10.30am

Fri: 7.30pm Rosary -

24 York Street

Sun: 9.00am 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 week-end Mass or other times.

Marriages

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

Open Church

Our Churches at St Mary's & Sacred Heart Kaikoura are open every day if you want a quiet place for prayer.

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 (343 followers)

WEB. www.staroftheseamarlb.co.nz

Newsletter No 32: 30 August 2020

22nd Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A

During this time of pandemic (covid-19) all leaders around the world, including our very own Prime Minister, are telling us to take great care so that we don't catch the deadly virus. They put measures into place that, if we follow the rules and guidelines diligently, we can avoid the virus and even not spread it to others in our community. The leaders are not trying to frighten or scare us but they try their very best, as humanly possible, to make us feel safe and secure. If we follow the very simple rules put in place of keeping the distance, wear face masks, wash our hands regularly and cough into the elbows, the risk of us spreading the virus is very little or none at all. By following this very simple rule we can be the agent of change and move quickly to level 1 and eventually back to normality. Whatever that new normal will be like, we will find out.

In the Gospel of Matthew today something similar happened. Just a few verses before Jesus prophesied about his imminent Death and Resurrection, he asked his disciples who the people think Jesus was. After they told Jesus who the people thought Jesus was, he then asked them "Who do you think I am". Peter as usual was the first to respond to the question, "You are the Christ, the Son of the Living God". (Matt 16: 16).

Now, with Jesus' prophecy of his imminent death and resurrection at the hands of elders, chief priests and scribes, Peter again took center stage by rebuking Jesus for what he said. Jesus turned to Peter and said "Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because you are thinking not as God thinks but as human beings think". Then Jesus gives his disciples and followers the guidelines of how to follow him and have eternal life. "If anyone wishes to come after me, he must deny his very self, take up his cross and begin to follow in my footsteps. Whoever would save his life will lose it. But whoever loses his life for my sake will find it." (Matt 16:24-26). It's just like the Government telling us to take great care and precautions when dealing with other people regarding covid-19, so that we don't spread it to other people or catch it from them.

For us to receive eternal life we have to take up our cross daily and follow Christ in his footsteps so that we can have eternal life. As Jesus said we will be rewarded according to our behaviour. Which means we have to be kind, compassionate, forgiving and love our families, our neighbours and those people that we come into contact with everyday of our lives.

The cross that Jesus asked us to carry everyday in our lives is not that hard, very easy to carry, but then because of our behaviour of greed and selfishness it becomes a burden for us to carry every day. Jesus' invitation of receiving eternal life is an open invitation for everyone. We just have to live our lives according to laws and commandments and be nice and kind to each other then we are not far from the Kingdom of Heaven.

Fr Jacob Kuman CP

Readings for Twenty-Second Week of Ordinary Time

Sun 30th Aug: Jeremiah 20:7-9 Romans 12:1-2 Matthew 16:21-27

Psalm: My Soul is thirsting for You My Lord and my God

Mon 31st: 1Corinthians 2:1-5 Luke 4:16-30

Tues 1st Sep: 1Corinthians 2:10-16 Luke 4:31-37

Wed 2nd: 1Corinthians 3:1-9 Luke 4:38-44

Thurs 3rd: 1Corinthians 3:18-23 Luke 5:1-11 **St Gregory the Great, pope D**

Fri 4th: 1Corinthians 4:1-5 Luke 5:33-39

Sat 5th: 1Corinthians 4:6-15 Luke 6:1-5

Twenty-Third Sunday of Ordinary Time

Sun 6th: Ezekiel 33:7-9 Romans 13:8-10 Matthew 18:15-20

They're nice to have, but we don't need churches



Father William Grimm, Tokyo

Updated: August 24, 2020
03:32 AM GMT

Just as Christians in the 21st century are heirs of the apostles and martyrs of the early Church, Christians in Japan are heirs of the martyrs and hidden Christians of that country from the early 17th century to the late 19th century.

That is true whether we modern believers are Japanese or not, Catholic Christians or not. The Church within which we live and worship endured persecution so recent that I know a woman whose grandfather died a martyr. The rest of her family — parents, siblings, aunts, uncles, cousins, nieces and nephews — was wiped out on Aug. 9, 1945, when the atomic bomb exploded over the Catholic neighborhood of Nagasaki. She was the only member of the family out of town that day.

During the centuries of persecution, Christians in Japan had no church buildings, no clergy, no religious, no Masses, no religious institutions, no diocesan structures, and no contact with the rest of the Church in the country or outside.

What they did have was each other and a commitment to maintain as well as they could the faith that was passed on to them and to pass it on to the next generations even at the risk of their lives. They were poor, oppressed and lived in perpetual danger, but they prayed and shared their ability to help one another in need. In many ways, it was the Golden Age of Christianity in Japan.

Those Japanese Christians knew that church is not someplace to go, but something to be, something to do.

The coronavirus pandemic is an opportunity to learn or relearn that today. We have had to be faithful without much of what we thought essential, symbolized by a building and what goes on inside it. But God is still with us whether we are in a cross-decorated building or not. The real issue is, are we with God?

Around the world, there are Christians who clamor to have their buildings reopen so that they might exercise their Christianity. They ignore the fact that confronted with a highly contagious disease, the most Christian thing to do is to protect others by following the advice of disease experts.

Jesus never told his followers to gather in a particular place each week. He did say that our lives will be judged on whether or not we respond to him in our needy sisters and brothers. He did say that when we pray, we should go apart to a private place and pray in secret to the Father who sees what happens in secret.

When he spoke with the Samaritan woman at the well, Jesus said that places are not important, that what matters is worship "in spirit and truth." The woman had asked him where proper worship should be done, at the temple on Mt. Gerizim or at the temple in Jerusalem. His answer was basically, "Neither."

In that case, do we need buildings at all if we can and should pray anywhere and everywhere? We do not and we do.

Originally, Christians gathered in homes. Besides being persecuted, Christian communities were small enough to not need special buildings and were too poor to erect them. Eventually, as numbers increased, homes were modified to allow larger gatherings. The remains of the oldest known one are in Dura-Europos in Syria. Its frescos, the earliest surviving Christian art, are in a museum at Yale University in the United States.

Over time as Christian communities grew, buildings were adapted or erected for liturgical use. The three-aisle layout that is so common in churches comes from basilicas (public halls) that were repurposed into churches or were the architectural model for them.

So, we have buildings in which we gather in the name of Jesus so that our discipleship can be confirmed, nurtured, confronted, affirmed and comforted.

But the discipleship is the important thing. Without that, the gatherings are nearly worthless. And that is the reason this pandemic is an opportunity for each of us. Discipleship does not require a particular kind of building or a particular kind of gathering.

Buildings, Sunday gatherings, public prayers and hymns are the accompaniments of religion, but not the essence of Christianity. Christianity is not a religion. It has religious trimmings, but its most basic reality is a relationship with God through Jesus Christ. The "religious" trappings aid our commitment to and celebration of that relationship but are not the relationship.

Now that the danger of contagion makes the buildings and large gatherings unavailable, we are invited to concentrate on what our faith really is. It is prayer, service and trust that we celebrate with others when we can, but which we must live regardless of circumstances.

We can gather few by few to break open the Word, break the Bread, and share our faith. We can be church, as were the persecuted Christians of Japan.

Father William Grimm is the publisher of UCA News based in Tokyo, Japan. The views expressed in this article are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect the official editorial position of UCA News.

These lockdowns

The following is from an email received by Fr Pat:

Paul Evans-McLeod from Pukete

These lockdowns are getting annoying and quite frankly I've had enough. I've discussed the matter over a cup of tea with the kitchen sink, and we both agree that the experience is draining.

I didn't mention anything to the washing machine as she puts the wrong spin on everything.

Same with the fridge. He only gives cold shoulder. I asked the lamp, but she couldn't shed any new light on the situation.

The vacuum cleaner was rather rude and told me to suck it up Princess.

The threshold was no better, it suggested I get over it.

The carpet advised me to sweep my feelings under the rug. But the fan was more upbeat and thought that the crisis would soon blow over.

The toilet looked a bit flushed and didn't offer an opinion.

The wall didn't say a word either, just gave me a blank stare.

The doorknob was more forthcoming - told me to get a firm grip on the situation and move on.

The front door declared I was unhinged and so the curtains told me to.....you guessed it right - pull myself together.

Then the chair told me to table it, and the table remarked, I didn't have a leg to stand on. When I told the table to break a leg, the mirror said that my comments reflected poorly on my thinking.

However, in the end, the iron set things straight. She said everything will be fine.

No situation is too pressing for long anyways.

AUTHOR UNKOWN

BUT A BRILLIANT PIECE OF WRITING

~+_+_+_+_+_~

Sr. Elizabeth Mary sends her love and greetings to all who remember her. Fr Pat visited her recently and she is doing well. She continues to pray for us all.

A quote courtesy of The Ecology, Justice and Peace advisor, Archdiocese of Wellington

Many people want to return to normality and resume economic activities. Certainly, but this "normality" should not include social injustices and the degradation of the environment. The pandemic is a crisis, and we do not emerge from a crisis the same as before: either we come out of it better, or we come out of it worse. We must come out of it better, to counter social injustice and environmental damage. Today we have an opportunity to build something different.

Pope Francis: [General Audience 19 August 2020](https://www.vatican.va/holy_father/francis/general_audience_2020/20200819/audience-20200819-01.html)

Some possible options as we can't attend Mass on Sundays:

Fr Pat & Jacob will livestream mass on our Facebook Page.

Liturgical Guide for Season of Creation 2020, by Tui Motu InterIslands Magazine
<https://tuimotu.org/a/3ngdBdW>

This link takes you through to four different types of online retreats including a "3-Minute Retreat" and an Audio retreat as well as daily scripture with **Sacred Space** and **Pray as You Go**. <https://www.ignatianspirituality.com/ignatian-prayer/prayer-online/>

Auckland Liturgy Office <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/liturgy/> "Celebration of the Word at home" with links to daily readings and music.

Reflections from John O'Connor, 'Food for Faith' have just started again. <https://foodforfaith.org.nz>