

## Parish Calendar, News & Notices

### Weekend Mass Times

**28th Sunday of Ord (2)**  
**Sat Oct 10**  
 Blenheim-5pm Mass/Fr Jacob  
**Sun Oct 11**  
 Seddon-8am **W&C**  
 Picton-9am Mass/Fr Jacob  
 Kaikoura-9.30 Mass/Fr Pat  
 Blenheim-10am **W&C**  
 Havelock-11am Mass/Fr Jacob

**29th Sunday of Ord (3)**  
**Sat Oct 17**  
 Blenheim-5pm Mass/Fr Pat  
**Sun Oct 18**  
 Seddon-8am Mass/ Fr Jacob  
 Picton-9am Mass/Fr Pat  
 Kaikoura-9.30 **W&C**  
 Blenheim-10am Mass/ Fr Jacob  
 Havelock-11am Mass/ Fr Pat  
 Renwick-5pm Mass/ Fr Jacob

**30th Sunday of Ord (4)**  
**Sat Oct 24**  
 Blenheim-5pm Mass/Fr  
**Sun Oct 25**  
 Seddon-8am Mass/ Fr  
 Picton-9am **W&C**  
 Kaikoura-9.30 Mass/  
 Blenheim-10am Mass/Fr  
 Havelock-11am **W&C**  
 Ward-4pm Mass / Fr

**31st Sunday of Ord (1)**  
**Sat Oct 31**  
 Blenheim-5pm Mass/Fr  
 Cuppa after Mass  
**Sun Nov 1 All Saints Day**  
 Seddon-8am Mass/ Fr  
 Picton-9am Mass/Fr  
 Cuppa after Mass  
 Kaikoura-9.30 **W&C**  
 Blenheim-10am Mass/Fr  
 Cuppa after Mass  
 Havelock-11am 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.**

**Newsletters:** With some internet servers changing their settings, we have had problems sending out the newsletter. If you have stopped receiving the newsletter and wish to receive it again, you can sign up on our facebook page or on our parish website. Just look for the tab on the homepage. OR call Ginetta at the office.

**Rosary:** During the month of October, there will be Rosary at 7pm every Thursday at St Mary's Church.

**Communion to the Sick:** If you know of someone in Blenheim who requires Communion taken to thm at Home, please Contact Judith Kerridge 578 6209. The Parish also wishes to thank Moira Costello, who undertook this role in the past, for her years of service to the parish community.

**Women's Friendship Group:** Meeting for coffee, Mega Mitre 10, 16 Oct, 2pm. Call Jessie 021 0863 5235

**St Vincent de Paul** would like to welcome you all back to our Sunday Mass by having a free **St Mary's Parish Community BBQ** for all families and friends to enjoy next Sunday 18th Oct after the 10am Mass. Please stay and enjoy mingling and eating the wonderful Meaters sausages lovingly cooked for you by our St Vinnies BBQ Crew.

**The Renwick Church,** St Francis de Sales, invites you to come & enjoy a "cuppa" & soak up the atmosphere of our little Historic Church. Sunday 18th October, Alma St, Renwick from 3pm onwards All welcome to stay for our monthly Mass at 5pm.

**Operation Christmas Child:** Its that time of year again. Boxes are available at the Parish Office, and when churches open, from the foyer of St Marys. Kaikoura are already filling theirs. The deadline for filled boxes to be returned is Labour Weekend.

**Defibrillator Fundraising - St Mary's:** throughout the month of October we are seeking donations for a Heartstart defibrillator for the church foyer. There is info in the foyer and Stewardship team members will be at each Mass to give out receipts for each donation over \$5 received.

**SVdP:** The BHM Shop is looking for Summer clothes for children, if you have some you wish to pass on.

**BHM Bereavement Mass- 12th Nov:** Parishioners who would like loved ones who have passed away in the last 12 months remembered

at this Mass, please call Annie Wooding 972 3669.

**Youth group :** starts up again this week! Please note different schedule. Senior group (yrs 9-13) meet this TUES 13th 6.30pm-8.30pm. Year 8s only meet WEDs 14th 6.30pm-8pm. We look forward to seeing you all, new members welcome, pick up a newsletter from the foyer notice board. Queries to Mieke and Maurice 0223918584

**Catholic Young Adults group.** Starting back up. Are you aged 18-35? Come along for Sunday shared lunch and discussion next week 18th Oct, and 29th Nov, 12pm, 4 Curry st. Contact Maurice and Mieke 0223918584

**Situation Vacant: Fixed Term Youth Minister** position to cover Maternity Leave from Mid-March 2021. Contact Mieke for more info 022 391 8584

**Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy: Online Session Online Session (Retreat Day): Who am I? - Reflecting on our Identity in God** with Eamon Butler. Saturday, 24 October, 10.30am -4pm. Fee: \$60. For more information and registration: [info@studyjoy.nz](mailto:info@studyjoy.nz)

**Online Session (Retreat Day): Who am I? - Reflecting on our Identity in God** with Eamon Butler. Saturday, 28 November, 10.30am-4pm. Fee: \$60. (Please note new Date!) For more information and registration: email: [info@studyjoy.nz](mailto:info@studyjoy.nz), Website <https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/virtual-retreat-day-with-eamon-butler-who-am-i/>

**About to get married** A wedding is a day, marriage is a lifetime. Could you successfully run a marathon without preparing for it? Of course not! So too marriage. The next opportunity to prepare for your lifetime together by attending a Engaged Encounter weekend marriage preparation course is 14<sup>th</sup> and 15<sup>th</sup> November. This is the final one for the year. For more details go to the website <http://www.cee-wellington.co.nz/> Phone Kate and Simon Olson. 04 801 6192 or email [simonolsen@gmail.com](mailto:simonolsen@gmail.com)

**Parish Calendar**  
**October**  
 Oct 11..Day-Prayer to Respect Life

### Let Us Remember in our Prayers and at Mass:

**Recently Deceased:** Kevin Colville, Helen Hewson, Ruth Gibson, Diana Maney, Helen Mackie

**Anniversaries: Oct 1** Kathleen Heselton

**Other Intentions:** Kitty Collier, Harvey Howard, Beavan Undrill, Terri Byrne, Jim Loe, Mary Griffiths, Jo McLean, Paul McIntyre, Richard Tierney, Pat Swindells, the Election & Referendums

### COLLECTIONS:

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

#### Last week:

AP's:	\$ 1269.40
Envelopes:	\$ 480.00
Cash:	
Peter's Pence:	\$ 5.00
Mission Sunday:	\$ 50.00
Maori Pastoral Care:	\$ 25.00

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 weekend 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 (357 followers)  
 WEB. www.staroftheseamarlb.co.nz

### Newsletter No 38: 11 October 2020

### 28th Sunday of Ordinary Time Year A. Respect life Sunday

"Respect Life Sunday 2020 on 11 October invites us to value and protect vulnerable members of our families, communities, society and nation in all we do. Quoting Pope Francis, the theme reminds us: "We are all frail, all equal, all precious". Respect Life Sunday falls a week before the New Zealand General Election, in a year in which we face old and new questions about the way we value lives through the Covid-19 pandemic, abortion legislation and the euthanasia referendum."

The above quote is from Nathaniel Centre for Bioethics here in New Zealand. They prepare this in preparation for RESPECT LIFE SUNDAY 2020 Valuing the vulnerable in our communities. As we go into voting this week until the 17<sup>th</sup> of October, the decision we make to elect our leaders into parliament will have a great impact on how Life is treated in the parliament in the upcoming debate on Euthanasia referendum. We as human beings are called to value life to it's fullest. in St John's Gospel, chapter 10:10, Jesus said "The thief comes only in order to steal, kill, and destroy. I have come in order that you might have life-life in all its fullness". Remember Jesus even raised Lazarus from the tomb to bring him back to life.

Life is precious and we have to make every effort to preserve life, regardless of where in the pecking order we are. Especially in our community whether poor or rich, young or old, sick or well, educated or not educated, respect should be shown to them. The most vulnerable in our communities' especially those who are old or those with some form of incurable medical condition such as life-threatening cancer, are deserving of our respect. We can't go on disrespecting life by making decisions that will end someone else's life. God is the author of all life and he is the only one that can make that decision when it comes to that point in life. If Jesus says that I have come that "You may have life- life in all its fullness", then why do we have to go against it by taking that beautiful life away so soon?

Every human person is to be respected, every human life whether born or still in the womb is to be respected and to be cared for at all times. Our readings for this Sunday fits well with the theme of this Sunday RESPECT FOR LIFE. In both readings of today from the Old Testament Isaiah 25:6-10a and the Gospel of Matthew 22:1-14, talk about the Father putting a lavish party for everyone, all are welcomed to the party and enjoy the party, not a single one is excluded from that party. As we go into voting for our leaders to govern and make the right decisions for our country and the people for the next three years, let's cast our votes wisely so that whoever we voted in as our leader knows that LIFE is precious and to be respected at all times regardless of what stages or conditions one's life many be in.

RESPECT LIFE, LIFE IS TOO PRECIOUS, LIFE IS FRAGILE AND WE LIVE ONCE ONLY.  
 Fr Jacob Kuman CP

### Readings for Twenty-Eighth Week of Ordinary Time

**Sun 11th:** Isaiah 25:6-10 Philipians 4:12-14,19-20 Gospel Matthew 22:1-14  
**Psalm: I shall dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.**  
**Mon 12th:** Galatians 4:22-24,26-27,31-5:1 Luke 11:29-32  
**Tues 13th:** Galatians 5:1-6 Luke 11:37-41  
**Wed 14th:** Galatians 5:18-25 Luke 11:42-46  
**Thurs 15th:** Ephes. 1:1.3-10 Luke 11:47-54 **St Teresa of Avila, D.V.**  
**Fri 16th:** Ephesians 1:11-14 Luke 12:1-7  
**Sat 17th:** Ephesians 1:15-23 Luke 12:8-12 **St Ignatius of Antioch, B.M.**  
**Twenty-Ninth Sunday of Ordinary Time—Mission Sunday**  
**Sun 18th:** Isaiah 45:1,4-6 1Thess. 1:1-5 Matthew 22:15-21



## Referendums with the 2020 General Election

The 2020 General Election presents voters with two referendum questions related to euthanasia and recreational cannabis. The euthanasia-assisted suicide law (End of Life Choice Act 2019) will become the law if a majority of voters support it in the referendum. If a majority of voters support the Cannabis Legalisation and Control Bill referendum, the next Government would need to introduce further legislation to legalise recreational cannabis.

Both issues require serious reflection in order to appreciate their complexity and the community impact they will have. The referendum questions presume that you, the voter, have read and reflected on those two pieces of legislation.

But we wonder how many people have read the legislation. We raise the question: Is this the best way to determine our future when considering moral questions that will have huge impacts on our communities in the years to come?

An informed decision requires consideration of the economic, social, whanaungatanga-kinship and cultural factors that limit many people's freedom to choose. Well-intended laws can have significant negative repercussions because of matters not anticipated by the law or because we don't all have access to the same choices.

In coming to an informed decision, we advocate that voters embrace a perspective that gives priority to the impact a law change will have on others: "How will such a law affect us as a community? Who will be most negatively affected by the law in question? What are the consequences for those who are most vulnerable?"

### End of Life Choice Act Referendum

**Referendum Question:** Do you support the End of Life Choice Act 2019 coming into force?

Facing one's own death, or walking that journey with a loved one, is challenging. In urging voters to say "No" to the End of Life Choice Act, we speak from the extensive experience of healthcare providers, chaplains, priests and pastoral workers who care daily for the dying and their whānau. Their experience includes an awareness of people's vulnerability at the end of life, and the knowledge that quality palliative care can effectively manage physical pain as well as emotional, spiritual and psychological suffering.

We believe that the people most at risk if we legalise euthanasia and assisted suicide are those most vulnerable to the suggestion they would be "better off dead" – our elderly and disabled people who find themselves within the scope of the Act.

Our views on the morality of assisted death are well known. However, the 2020 euthanasia referendum question is not primarily about the morality and desirability of euthanasia or assisted suicide. Rather, it is about the robustness of the End of Life Choice Act 2019 – whether it is "fit for purpose". The greatest risk posed by the Act is a premature or wrongful death from which there is no return. Therefore, we have to be confident as a society that the Act provides an extremely high safety threshold. As Bishops we believe it fails to meet that threshold. The key questions to ask yourself before voting on this referendum are: Does the proposed law have adequate safeguards? Can the safeguards be effectively implemented in the society of today? Are there examples of safer and better laws in other countries?

### We offer the following additional points for your consideration:

The New Zealand law is broader in scope and more liberal than one recently passed in Victoria, Australia, as well as laws in the United States. It will expose much larger numbers of people to the dangers of a premature death, people who are currently well-served by palliative care.

The End of Life Choice Act provides for only one choice – there is no corresponding "right" to request quality palliative care. Recent reports from Canada and the US show that numerous patients choose assisted death for reasons related to a lack of palliative care. This will potentially affect the most socially disadvantaged amongst us, especially those living in areas where quality palliative care is not accessible. Neither does the Act require that a person first access palliative care when it is available.

Overseas research shows that the demand for euthanasia is not driven by pain but by a range of personal and emotional factors, including the fear of being a burden and the fear of being disabled. These fears reflect negative attitudes towards the elderly and disabled that we know run deep in our society.

Existing New Zealand law already allows people to say "no" to any medical treatment and to receive whatever level of pain relief they need, even to the point of being sedated if that is required. This is not euthanasia, and nobody needs to die in pain.

Key medical groups oppose the Act, including the NZ Medical Association, Hospice NZ, Palliative Care Nurses NZ and palliative medicine doctors. The Medical Association has publicly stated that it will be impossible for doctors or nurses to detect coercion amongst those requesting euthanasia.

Requests for an assisted death are typically

## The End of Life Choice Act

driven by depression, something that is also extremely difficult to detect. There is already a shortage of mental-health specialists in New Zealand. The Act does not require a patient to talk about a decision to end their life with a family member or other significant person.

In Canada, what was initially promoted as an important safeguard – limiting assisted death to those facing a "foreseeable death" – has been judged by the Quebec Superior Court to be an obstacle to free choice for people with long-term conditions or disabilities. There is a risk of this kind of judicial widening of the Act happening in New Zealand.

Elder abuse currently affects about 10 per cent of our elderly despite the best efforts to prevent it. Voting "Yes" to euthanasia in this context is dangerous. It is also naïve to think

the Act can provide sufficient protection against this risk.

### Cannabis Legalisation and Control Bill Referendum

**Referendum Question:** Do you support the proposed Cannabis Legalisation and Control Bill?

The cannabis referendum is about whether or not to legalise recreational cannabis. It is not about medicinal cannabis. Regulations to provide and improve access to quality medicinal cannabis products were passed in April 2020. A 2018 law change already allows terminally ill people to use cannabis for pain relief without being prosecuted.

If a majority of people vote "Yes" in the recreational cannabis referendum then, after the election, the incoming Government

"can introduce a Bill to Parliament that would legalise and control cannabis." A majority "Yes" vote will not make recreational cannabis legal without that extra step.

Aotearoa New Zealand has 237 Catholic schools with over 66,000 students. As bishops and as the proprietors of many of those schools, we are keenly aware that our rangatahi, our young people, particularly those still at school, are the group in society most vulnerable to the effects of



cannabis. Many school principals have expressed deep reservations about the wisdom of legalising recreational cannabis.

The referendum proposal sets 20 as the minimum age for buying and using cannabis. It seems counter-intuitive to believe that

an age limit will stop young people using cannabis if cannabis becomes more easily available in the community. They will likely access it more easily, in the same way that under-18s currently access alcohol, tobacco, and, cannabis; primarily through friends and family.

Given these points, we think people do need to give serious thoughts to the issue, and we hope you will use your vote in an informed way that considers the impact of legalised recreational cannabis on the young and vulnerable in our communities.

**Promoted by Bishop Patrick Dunn  
President, NZ Catholic Bishops Conference  
30 New St, St Mary's Bay, Auckland  
1011.**

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

Sincere and humble worship of God bears fruit not in discrimination, hatred and violence, but in respect for the sacredness of life, respect for the dignity and freedom of others, and loving commitment to the welfare of all.

Pope Francis: [Fratelli Tutti](#), 3 October 2020