



Te Hau

The breath

October 2021

Occasional magazine of Holy Spirit Parish, Te Wairua Tapu, Lower Hutt

FR MARLON MAYLON SVD WRITES

It has been a difficult year with COVID19 affecting so many aspects of parish life. Yet all the time the Holy Spirit, in whose name the parish exists, breathes in our hearts and strengthens us. Welcome to this edition of our Parish Magazine – I hope you enjoy reading stories from the four corners of the parish. Pass it on!

Roll on Summer



The Waiwhetu Family Group

Mainly social, this friendly group operates within the Our Lady of the Rosary Community. They hold all kinds of events such as BBQs, ten pin bowling, and meals out together. This year meant fewer gatherings, due to Lockdowns, but thirty-two people enjoyed a lovely Picnic in the Park at Day's Bay in April. And the annual mid-Winter dinner was held in the Church foyer in July, with everyone bringing delicious food. Later this year they hope to have a House Mass in a member's home, and in December a Christmas Carols and supper evening.

Sue Mongan explains, "We have been meeting now for about 17 years and we're still flourishing. We usually have about 20-25 attending our events, and anyone is welcome to join."



** Breath, breeze or wind; or the vital essence, vitality - of a person, place or object.*

Celebrating 50 years marriage

To enthusiastic applause Peter and Helen Drake renewed their marriage vows during Mass before Lockdown. They had been married in the previous Sacred Heart Church, Petone. This time new family members and the whole community showed their warm support.



Hatches, Matches and Dispatches in Eastbourne

Mike Blackman reports, “The San Antonio community farewells two hard-working former parishioners. Lorraine McArthur, former Principal of St Catherine’s College, Kilbirnie and special assistant to Cardinal John Dew – she is off to the South Island. John Goulter, one-time Parish Councillor and valued member of the Eastbourne Stewardship Team – and overhead projectionist extraordinaire – moves to the Wairarapa.”

Sadly, we mourn the loss of Peter Donovan, a parish stalwart who gave much time and effort in steering our community, says Mike. Our thoughts and prayers continue for his soul, and the souls of all the faithful departed.

Meanwhile, San Antonio school welcomed new Principal, Lindsey Dailly, at the beginning of Term 3.

Knocking on Heaven’s Door



It was a close call one evening. Fr. Marlon Maylon offered to help Fr. John Quang to close the large glass doors of Sacred Heart church, Petone. The latch was causing problems. Suddenly the heavy door shattered. The upper frame and glass fragments rained down. One of the larger shards cut Fr John’s scalp. After some hours in Lower Hutt hospital Emergency ward he emerged, stitched up, recovering, and ready to continue his duties.

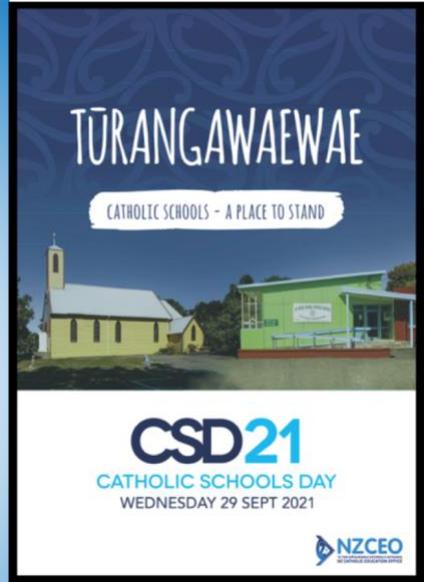
Police vetting checks are due for renewal, using the form in the parish office. Posters in church foyers provide guidelines for managing issues that might arise and advice for all volunteers in parish ministries. More information in the Tautoko Resources from the [National Office of Professional Standards](#)

Catholic Schools Day 2021

Our four parish schools joined with Catholic Schools across Aotearoa New Zealand to celebrate the 2021 theme *Tūrangawaewae: Catholic Schools – A Place to Stand*. It reminds us that:

- It is through our baptism we become te whānau whakapono.
- Our school and parish is a place where we feel connected and inspired.
- Our schools are places to strengthen our faith and commitment to te whānau whakapono.
- Pope Francis calls us to be companions on this journey.

Catholic Schools Day is celebrated every three years to support pride in each school and the network of Catholic schools, which are the taonga of Catholic Education in Aotearoa.



Briefly

Fifty-six candidates received the Sacrament of **Confirmation** this year in Sacred Heart Petone, and forty-five at Our Lady of the Rosary, Waiwhetu with Cardinal John Dew. We're still waiting for a suitable time for St Patrick's, Wainuiomata.

Seniors Masses at Sacred Heart church will recommence in November, at 10am on the first Wednesday of the Month. Planning is underway for a Christmas event. Last year 100 enjoyed a morning of fellowship, gifts and catering.

Seniors Online in Wainuiomata

A grant of \$2300 from the Senior's programme of the Hutt City Council's Resilience Fund recently supported a new initiative to deliver mobile and computer services and support to our elderly parishioners.

Briefly

Children's Liturgy during Sunday Masses in Petone has a new leadership group, including Maria Hadad, Susie James and Helen and Luigi Mollo. They replace the late Jan Quin, Cath Fitzgerald and Kath Delahunty, who with their dedicated team, led this ministry for 19 years.

Spirited. These Musical jam sessions for young people at Intermediate and older are popular at OLR Waiwhetu. Contact: lucy.nzteacher@gmail.com

Aotearoa Filipino priests gather in Sacred Heart church



Register to attend Weekend Masses

Cardinal John Dew has announced that we may celebrate Mass again, after weeks of being rudely interrupted by a certain virus. Happily, all four churches in our parish can accommodate 100 at any service. However, you need to register for **each weekend Mass** between 9am on Wednesdays and Noon on Fridays. Simply:

- On the parish website holyspirit.nz click on *Mass Registration*
- or phone the parish office 04 971-7885
- or email holyspiritparish41@gmail.com

Are you in?

The new system for sending emails to Parishioners in our database is proving popular, such as messages about COVID affecting Masses. However, Maria Ashkettle says, "We welcome many more email addresses to keep everyone informed". Send contact details to holyspirit41@gmail.com or phone 04 971 7885 (Of course, you may unsubscribe anytime).

"The Church ... is a community that seeks to draw people to Christ with the joy of the Gospel. ... We need to become immersed in the real lives of people and ask ourselves: what are their spiritual needs and expectations?"
Pope Francis. Bratislava, Slovakia, Sept 2021

Samoan Communities Combine
Combined Masses are now celebrated by Petone and Wainuiomata communities, supported by the Samoan chaplain.

Māori Miha
Te whanau enjoy Pā Gerry Burns and Pā Don Hornsley celebrating Miha with us throughout the year.

