WelCom
Newsletter of the Catholic Archdiocese of Wellington, New Zealand
ISSUE 6 - November 2025

From Archbishop Paul

Dear sisters and brothers in Christ – tena koutou

Last month I wrote about the Hope and Renewal Summit that 93 of us from the Archdiocese attended in Palmerston North. It was focused on the renewal of our parish life and ministry. It was a powerful experience of the Holy Spirit at work in a group of people committed to working to make our parishes places of faith and mission.

At the beginning of this month I was present with the parishioners of Te Awakairangi Parish in Lower Hutt who gathered at St Martin de Porres Church in Avalon for its final Mass. That parish had been established 65 years ago from St Peter and Paul's Parish in Lower Hutt. In 2015 it combined with three other parishes to become one parish. The gathering was one of gratitude for all that had happened in that church, for all the people who had gone before and for the witness of the things of God to the people of that area. It was an experience of real faith and also hope.

It was a time of hope because while this church may no longer be a place of worship there is a vibrant faith community in the Lower Hutt area. The Te Awakairangi Parish has a life and a mission which is open to all. The people who have worshipped at St Martin de Porres will join other communities in the parish for Mass while continuing to be part of all the activities and events that make up parish life. This is not the end for them but rather a change.

We all know that change can be difficult to deal with. We often have mixed emotions about change, and different people can have very contrasting reactions to the same situation. But for us as people of God, His Church, we know that our focus is on Him and that the structures we have will adapt to the various circumstances we find ourselves in. That is why we need to ground these changes in the spiritual realm, because we are people of the Spirit. This isn't a combining of Rotary groups or sports clubs. This is the joining together of the sons and daughters of God in communities who are there for worship, community and mission.

That is what the Hope and Renewal Summit was trying to help us grapple with. What do we need to develop in our parishes so that we can more effectively achieve this mission? How do we help one another to realise our call as baptised members of the Church, and what does that ask of us? The ways of being parish, the structures we may have used in the past, might not meet the needs of our people in the world we live in now. Just doing what we have always done isn't enough. This isn't something new; the Church has always had to respond to the changing nature of the world in which it has lived. We in turn are being asked to do that for our time.

What is encouraging is that there are so many who are already wanting to do this. There are growing numbers of people looking to join the Church and who are members of the OCIA programmes. Our Catholic schools are constantly looking at ways of helping our children discover Jesus Christ and building connections with the parish community. Groups are gathering in parishes to find ways of providing opportunities for people to support one another, to pray and to work for justice.

If our parishes are to be life-giving, we need to provide support for one another outside of being at Mass on Sunday. Sundays are the source and summit of the life of the Church, but for us to be truly alive we need to have a faith life from Monday to Saturday, both as individuals and as parishes. We all need to play our part in contributing to the life of the parish. If everyone takes and no one gives, in every sense of the word, then our parishes will not be able to sustain their life. Perhaps a question each of us could ask is: What more can I do to ensure that our parish is a place of faith, community and mission?

In this year of Jubilee, a Jubilee of Hope, my hope is that we will work together to do all we can to renew our parish life. My hope is that our parishes become more alive and full of people doing all sorts of things to help one another come to love Jesus more, to help those in need, to provide social support, to be a place of welcome and connection for people who are seeking the truth. I want to do to all I can to encourage that to happen for us in the coming years.

When you are next at Mass, look around at the people with you and give thanks to God for them. Thank Him for their response to His call and their presence at worship and ask yourself what you might be able to do to help others come to be part of this community of faith.

Blessings to you, especially as we approach this season of Advent. May the Holy Spirit stir your hearts and help you to see what God is asking of you in your life.

+P. G. Martin sm

+Paul Martin SM
Archbishop of Wellington

Peace with Creation

by Adrienne Gallie

PEACE WITH CREATION
SEASON OF CREATION 2025
Garden of Peace
Isaiah 32:14-18

On October 4, the Ecology, Justice and Peace Commission, committees and others gathered at St Joseph's Church at Mt Victoria to close the 2025 Season of Creation and celebrate St Francis of Assisi's Feast Day. It is an annual time for the three committees – Bicultural Relationships, Social Equity and Integral Ecology – to connect, as well as an invitation to people across the archdiocese to find out more about the work of the Commission.

The opening liturgy emphasised the season's theme of "Peace with Creation" and our knowing, through faith, that aroha and hope do not disappoint. *Make Me a Channel of Your Peace*, led by Pā Alfred Tong and in full voice of those gathered, motivated our advocacy and commitment as we remembered St Francis of Assisi and celebrated the 800th anniversary of the Canticle of Creatures.

We prayed that we use our technological inventiveness for the benefit of creation and remembered especially the people of Te Moana Nui a Kiwa, who are facing the harsh reality of climate change. We want to see those in power and authority make the necessary changes for the common good and the hearts and minds of the perpetrators of environmental disasters and conflicts be moved by the Spirit towards mercy and restorative justice – acknowledging that it is a foundational principle of the Catholic social tradition that God's gifts in creation are meant for the wellbeing of all for whom this creation is home.

Following the liturgy, Commission chair Dr Jim McAloon led conversations around what was most important to each person in Catholic social teaching and in working for peace and justice, with a further reflection on critical issues which the Commission might address in that light.

"Aroha and hope do not disappoint — they motivate our advocacy and commitment to peace with creation."

The nine principles of Catholic Social Teaching used by Caritas – Participation, Common Good, Distributive Justice, Preferential Option for the Poor, Human Dignity, Stewardship, Solidarity, Promotion of Peace and Subsidiarity – were highlighted as prompts. Lively conversation flowed from the pods with an acknowledgement that human dignity was basic to all the principles and it was hard to think about the common good when there is no peace.

In support of peace, those who were able to joined the Steadfast for Palestine Rally, marking two years of ongoing violence in Palestine, at Pukeahua, the war memorial site a few minutes' walk from St Joseph's. The heavens seemed to weep as people of all ages and animals gathered in the pouring rain to begin the walk down Tory Street to Odlins Plaza on the waterfront.

The Catholic Peacemakers banner, made by Pā Peter Healey, now on the Integral Ecology committee, for the Foreshore and Seabed protests and most recently used during the 2024 Hikoi mō te Tiriti, kept us together in the crowd of up to 3000. Inclement weather did not dampen the spirits of all those who participated as passionate calls rang out for the freeing of Palestine and immediate sanctions.

At Odlins Plaza, the crowd heard from speakers including Adrian Leason, whose son Sam was in Israeli detention at the time for his part in the global Sumud flotilla, and Anglican priest Rev Philippa Young. Pā Gerard Burns had taken part in the priests' action to chain themselves outside MPs' offices to draw attention to the calls for sanctions against Israel regarding the conflict in Gaza.

Participants either returned home after the rally or found their way back to St Joseph's for a staggered shared lunch and more kōrero. The insights from the entire day will be used to stimulate the Commission's response to the challenges of our time, in the spirit of Catholic Social Teaching and our Gospel living.

Our thanks to all who participated, your presence a loving and hope-filled action.

Meet the Archdiocesan Migrant Advisory Group

The Archdiocesan Migrant Advisory Group (AMAG) was established to support the work of migrant ministries and to serve as a resource for the various ministries and agencies of the Archdiocese of Wellington.

Five individuals have been carefully selected and appointed by Archbishop Paul Martin SM for their mana, their leadership within their cultural communities and their active involvement in parish life. They have undergone meaningful formation and have demonstrated a deep commitment to fostering a welcoming and inclusive Church.

They were commissioned by Archbishop Paul in September during the Mass for the Jubilee for Migrants. Get to know the pioneering members of the Archdiocesan Migrant Advisory Group.

Telesia Alaimoana

Telesia, originally from Samoa, is a graduate of the Te Hao Nui – Launch Out Formation Programme. She holds multiple qualifications in parish ministry and theology from the Catholic Theological College. A qualified social worker, Telesia brings 25 years of experience in the Ministry of Social Development's disability sector. Her professional expertise is enriched by her active involvement in the Samoan Chaplaincy and her service as a lay minister at Our Lady of Hope Parish. Passionate about pastoral ministry, she is committed to fostering vibrant, inclusive parish communities where worship and belonging flourish.

Randy Rivera Reyes

Originally from the Philippines, Randy is a product of Catholic education, achieving basic education from the Marists and his bachelor's degree from De La Salle University. Before migrating to New Zealand in 2007, Randy was a university lecturer in computer science. In New Zealand, Randy began working as a systems trainer at Capital and Coast DHB and now serves as a solutions architect for the New Zealand Red Cross. A lifelong Catholic, Randy experienced a renewed zeal for faith after attending a Life in the Spirit Seminar (LSS) in 2019. This deepened commitment led to active involvement in parish ministries and leadership of formation programmes such as LSS and Alpha. Alongside his wife Aileen, he is currently attending the Called and Equipped formation programme. At Sacred Heart Cathedral Parish, Randy served on the Parish Pastoral Council for six years, including three as chair. Randy brings strategic insight, pastoral sensitivity and an important connection to the Cathedral to this new role.

Dr Ruvimbo Bangure

A dedicated medical practitioner, Ruvimbo currently works at a general practice in the Hutt Valley. Originally from Zimbabwe, she moved to Aotearoa New Zealand in 2018 and is an active member of Te Awakairangi Parish. A lifelong Catholic, since infancy her spiritual life has been shaped by early involvement in the Guild of the Sacred Heart of Jesus and, more recently, the Catholic Charismatic Renewal. She serves her parish as a lector and secretary for the Society of St Vincent de Paul. She has completed the Alpha programme and Life in the Spirit Seminars and is currently participating in the Called and Equipped formation programme. Her life reflects a deep commitment to faith, family and service.

Fr Thomas Rouse SSC

Fr Tom is the Columban Leader in New Zealand, also serving as its vocations coordinator. He sits on the Regional Council for Oceania. In the Archdiocese, he is the Coordinator of Justice, Peace & Integrity of Creation (JPIC). His missionary journey began in Fiji in 1976, where he served until 1991 before moving to Sydney to work in seminary formation and chaplaincy for the Fijian Catholic community. In 1997, he completed a master's thesis on biblical interpretation and land issues in Fiji. Returning to Fiji in 2004, he served as Assistant Parish Priest and twice as Regional Director. After a sabbatical in Chicago in 2013, he moved to New Zealand in 2014 as Mission Coordinator. On November 23, 2019, he was appointed Columban Leader in New Zealand. Fr Tom continues to walk alongside communities with a deep commitment to faith, justice and the care of creation.

Christine Philippo

Christine's family arrived in Porirua from Myanmar in 2006 and have been living here ever since. The first thing her father did when they arrived was to look for a Catholic church and discovered the parish which became their spiritual home. Holy Family Parish is where she and her siblings received their first Holy Communion and Confirmation. It is where she got married and had her children baptised. She finished a science degree at the University of Otago and is now teaching at Bishop Viard College. She has two young children. Christine is an active member of the Myanmar community. Christine's brings her energy, wisdom and commitment to youth and education to the migrant ministry of the Archdiocese of Wellington.

Annual Appeal 2025

*Bringing **Hope...** to our **Communities***

Catholic Social Services
people helping people *āwhina tātou*

Stories of Hope

Here are some stories of hope made possible thanks to Catholic Social Services supporters.

Community Engagement

In a world where we are increasingly faced with inequity, injustice and division, connection builds bridges across fear, isolation and loneliness. Welcome and friendship fosters celebration of diversity and our common humanity.

At Catholic Social Services, we partner with organisations and groups including Changemakers, Hato Hone St John and Welcoming Communities on initiatives like the Women's Friendship Project and Aroha Afternoons. Together, we are creating spaces where everyone feels welcomed and can meet people from different backgrounds.

In providing spaces to encounter each other, we grow understanding, listening, dialogue and trust through relationship – foundations of hope for peace in our times.

There's still time to support!

Catholic Social Services Annual Appeal: A Helping Hand for Pilgrims of Hope

The theme of this Year of Jubilee is "Pilgrims of Hope" – and one of the best examples of the importance of hope is the Catholic Social Services Annual Appeal.

Running until November 30, the Annual Appeal asks for community support so Catholic Social Services can continue supporting people and their whānau who need help.

There's still stime to support the Appeal, and Archbishop Paul emphasises the importance of supporting the Annual Appeal. He says we are called to support our brothers and sisters – our fellow pilgrims here on earth.

"In order to do this work, we need financial support to run our various programmes and give the help and support that we do."

He adds: "Our call to help our brothers and sisters is at the very heart of our Christian calling."

Over the last year, Catholic Social Services has brought hope to:

- those in hospitals and prisons, providing over 5000 hours of chaplaincy support to patients, prisoners, whānau and staff;
- more than 50 newly-arrived refugees by providing household items and food, and supporting family reunifications;
- children and adults experiencing grief and loss, training over 40 Companions to work through these issues in school and community settings;
- more than 30 men seeking parenting support, providing training and mentoring to become the best fathers they can be;
- more than 60 people seeking accommodation, access to health services, support dealing with government agencies, and others with significant needs in our communities.

As Archbishop Paul also says, "I really do encourage you to help us to be able to help our brothers and sisters, and to look to see what you might be able to do in your own circumstances – not only financially, but also in other ways to help."

Support the Annual Appeal

Donations can be made online at *catholicsocialservices.org.nz/donate*

Another way to support the Annual Appeal is through internet banking. Details are:

Bank account:	02-0560-0213864-000
Particulars:	Your surname & Initials
Reference:	Your phone number
CODE:	CSS – HOPE.

For more information contact Catholic Social Services at *reception@wn-catholicsocialservices.org.nz* or phone 04 385 8642.

Building a Kete of Strength Through Seasons for Growth

When eight-year-old Tama* lost his father suddenly, his world changed overnight. The once bright and curious boy became quiet and withdrawn, struggling to make sense of the grief that weighed heavily on his young shoulders. His mum, unsure how to support him through such a profound loss, reached out to Catholic Social Services and discovered the Seasons for Growth programme.

Tama joined a small group of children who, like him, were navigating the challenges of change, loss and grief. Guided by a trained Companion, the group met weekly in a safe and nurturing space where stories were shared, feelings were named and healing began. Through creative activities, storytelling and gentle conversation, Tama began to understand that grief is not something to "get over", but something to grow through.

One day, Tama shared a memory of fishing with his dad. The group listened with kindness, and another child offered: "I miss my nana too." In that moment, Tama realised he wasn't alone. The peer support network gave him a sense of belonging and hope; his grief was seen, heard and held.

Over the weeks, Tama began to build his kete – a basket of tools to help him cope. He learned ways to express his emotions, strategies to manage tough days and the importance of remembering his dad with love, not just sadness. His mum noticed the change: "He's smiling again. He talks about his dad, but he's not overwhelmed anymore."

The Seasons for Growth programme doesn't take away the pain of loss, but it offers something just as powerful: hope – hope that healing is possible, that children can grow through grief and that no one has to walk the journey alone.

**Name changed to protect privacy.*

Game On

A former Game On participant commented that the programme guided him to become more aware of when he was getting into conflict with his partner. He is now able to manage conflict more effectively through open, kind and honest discussion, which greatly improved his communication skills. He is also thinking more about how he wants his children to see him as their father, and he feels more happy, confident and engaged in his parenting role.

Compassion Soup Kitchen

By DJ Manuel

At the Compassion Soup Kitchen, every meal served is more than just food on a plate; it's a doorway to connection, dignity and support. Some of our guests and whānau arrive carrying the weight of homelessness, trauma and a disconnection from essential services.

As a social worker, my role is to walk alongside them, offering advocacy and support where it's needed most with their permission and participation. We meet people where they are in life, with compassion, faith and with open hearts.

Some of our whānau are already linked in with external services, while others are just beginning their journey toward stability.

We work closely with a network of organisations to create pathways to wellbeing and every day there is hope that together we can achieve more for whānau and guests.

Social Work

A man who had experienced several highly traumatic events sought the support of a senior social worker. He did not previously have the opportunity to discuss these events with anyone he could trust, and the overwhelming stress and depression led to him lashing out violently. He faced police charges as a result.

The social worker provided safe, non-judgmental support sessions where the man was able to process his thinking for a wider perspective, analyse his experiences and enhance his skills to make positive changes for himself and those around him. He is actively making those changes and already has a happier life.

WelCom *Have an event coming up in your parish? Something you're proud of, or would like to get the word out about? Need volunteers or help with something?*

Please let us know! Info can be sent to *b.mack@wn.catholic.org.nz*

We look forward to hearing from you!

Missionaries of the Sacred Heart: A New Beginning

By Fr Simione Volavola, MSC

Kia ora. Bula vinaka. My name is Fr Simione Volavola, MSC; I am a member of the Missionaries of the Sacred Heart. We are a religious order of men who have consecrated themselves to the Sacred Heart of Jesus.

With a human heart, God has come to love us here on earth in Jesus and with our consecration to Him, we too continue to be the human hearts through whom God continues to love the world.

Our religious order was founded in Issodun, France by Fr Jules Chevalier on December 8, 1854. At the time of great political and social upheaval of the French Revolution, Fr Chevalier was convinced that the remedy was to be found in the depths of the Sacred Heart of Jesus that has now encompassed every human heart. In His heart all can find the only font of love, healing, unity and peace.

All the ills of our times can find in the Sacred Heart of Jesus the lasting remedy for which it aches. There are currently 1,509 men from all around the world who now witness to this spirituality that the Sacred Heart of Jesus planted in the heart of Jules Chevalier over 170 years ago.

On May 10, 1888, the first French Missionaries of the Sacred Heart arrived in the Pacific islands on the shores of Nonouti atoll in Kiribati. From their ministry has grown the MSC Province of the Pacific Islands, consisting of priests and brothers working in parishes, schools, a hostel and a farm training centre for the underprivileged.

At the invitation of Archbishop Paul, Fr Beniata and I arrived in Wellington last December. On Easter Sunday this year, we began our ministry in the parishes of St Mary in Otaki and St Joseph in Levin.

The Missionaries of the Sacred Heart have found a new home and are blessed to be able to work with our brothers and sisters in these two parishes in spreading the love of the Sacred Heart of Jesus everywhere.

Called & Equipped 2026

Do you want to:

- Dig deeper into your faith?
- Learn how to share faith with others?
- Understand what Church teaching means for us today?
- Be trained and equipped to serve in your parish community?

If so, then Called & Equipped could be for you! Join us for an exciting formation journey that offers personal faith formation and equips you for ministry.

Join us for 2026.

Email *l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz* for more info.

Consecrated Religious in the Archdiocese: A Legacy of 175 Years

Consecrated religious women and men have been integral to the life and mission of the Archdiocese for 175 years. Bishop Philippe Viard arrived in Wellington in 1850, accompanied by members of the Marist order and three lay women who made annual vows of consecration. These women were awaiting the arrival of a formal religious congregation. A Capuchin priest, Fr O'Riely, arrived in 1843, becoming Wellington's first parish priest.

Consecrated religious commit to lives shaped by the vows of poverty, chastity and obedience. While some follow a monastic way of life, most who have served in the Archdiocese are apostolic religious – those engaged in active ministry organised within formal congregational structures.

In 1861, the first canonically recognised religious women's congregation arrived in Wellington: the Sisters of Mercy, led by Crimean War veteran Mother Mary Bernard Dickson. By then, two of Bishop Viard's original lay women had departed, and one had died shortly before the sisters' arrival. However, others who had joined the lay group in the intervening years entered the newly arrived congregation.

Education and community work quickly became a central ministry. This year, St Mary's College proudly marks 175 years of continuous education on its original site – making it one of the oldest schools in Aotearoa New Zealand, dating back to the Bishop's arrival in 1850.

In 1865, four sisters from the Congregation of Our Lady of the Missions travelled to New Zealand from Lyon, France, responding to an invitation from Bishop Viard to help teach the growing number of settler children. The ministry of other religious congregations, such as the Sisters of Compassion who came to Wellington in 1899, eventually expanded ministries into healthcare.

Religious congregations have often emerged in response to pressing social needs. For example, in 1890, an increasing Catholic population in the Newtown area prompted parents to ask the Sisters of Mercy to staff a school for 100 children in a rented two-storeyed house in Adelaide Rd. Sisters walked 4.8km from St Mary's Convent in Guilford Tce twice daily.

In the post-war population boom of the 1950s, Archbishop McKeefry welcomed 11 new religious congregations to the Archdiocese! Women and men embraced lives of service, frequently at great personal cost – living simply, working long hours and facing financial insecurity. They helped build the foundations of community life, establishing schools, orphanages and social services – often before such institutions were provided by the government.

Alongside their ministerial work, consecrated religious have always been people of prayer. For 175 years, Catholics throughout the Archdiocese have often entrusted their hopes, concerns and struggles to the prayers of sisters, brothers and priests. From formal novenas to quiet intercessions, their prayer has been a source of strength and support. Though fewer religious may be active in their original ministries, the prayerful presence of these pilgrims of hope continues.

Mount Street Cemetery Hosts Open Day

It was a dry but windy day on Saturday, October 18; typical Wellington weather. But that did not discourage visitors to the Mount Street Cemetery open day.

The Friends of Mount Street Cemetery hosted an open day for people to visit and experience the cemetery. They were on hand to describe the history of the cemetery, its connections to early settlers and the Catholic community in Wellington, and conservation efforts. It was a time of reflection and sharing stories – with a few laughs along the way.

Located near Victoria University of Wellington's Kelburn campus, Mount Street Cemetery is Wellington's first Roman Catholic cemetery, consecrated in 1840 by Bishop Pompallier and used for all Catholic burials until Karori Cemetery was opened in 1891.

The Friends of Mount Street Cemetery is a group established under the Catholic Archdiocese of Wellington in 2010 to lead activities to restore the burial sites in this historic and sacred ground; to establish full records; and to conserve the landscape of the cemetery as an amenity for all.

For more information, please email
contact@mountstreetcemetery.org.nz

Website:
www.mountstreetcemetery.org.nz

"Saying Yes to God's Call"

Archbishop Paul Reflects on His Journey of Faith

the Catholic Kiwi Podcast

Archbishop Paul Martin SM offers a window into his childhood, his vocation and his ministry as a bishop and archbishop in the latest episode of the Catholic Kiwi Podcast.

In conversation with host Joanna Kearney, Archbishop Paul recalls a simple but deep faith growing up in Hastings, where his connection with the Society of Mary planted the seed for his eventual vocation.

"Our parish was a Marist parish. The priests were Marists and the seminary was in Napier," he explains.

"I'd had two cousins who had gone to the Marist Seminary who were older than I was, but had been over there myself as part of school. . . . So I got a nice look at what that life was. And I found that really appealing.

"I thought being a teacher was a really worthy and good way to be a priest and to live in community."

Archbishop Paul speaks of diverse experiences as a seminarian and as a priest, including time in an Indigenous community in remote Australia, teaching in a number of schools in New Zealand and serving as part of the Society of Mary's international leadership group in Rome.

It was while back from Rome on holiday in New Zealand that Archbishop Paul received the phone call that would set him on a new course. He had missed a couple of calls from a number he didn't recognise, but then received a text from the then-Apostolic Nuncio, asking him to return the call.

"I was there, looking back at Lyttelton and talking to the Nuncio, and he says 'the Holy Father is appointing you the Bishop of Christchurch'," Archbishop Paul recounts.

Asked if he would accept, he knew there was only one acceptable answer to that request: Yes.

While that invitation was not completely unexpected, based on rumours he had heard, the appointment as successor to Cardinal John Dew as Archbishop of Wellington was a shock. An expected 25-year stretch as Bishop of Christchurch was transformed into a new ministry in Wellington.

Archbishop Paul also speaks about his perspectives on Pope Francis and Pope Leo, his participation in the Synod on Synodality and some of the difficult decisions he has had to make while a bishop.

The interview can be found by searching for Catholic Kiwi Podcast on YouTube or Spotify.

Network promotes warm welcome for seekers

Catholic Enquiry Centre
Tūhuratanga Katorika
catholicdiscovery.nz

The Catholic Enquiry Centre has launched a national network to support people who are interested in becoming Catholic to find a place of encouragement and welcome in local parishes.

The new network, called Catholic Enquiry Connect, will look for people to fill two distinct roles in each parish – "Connectors" and "Champions".

Connectors will be trusted parishioners that the Enquiry Centre can introduce seekers to, ensuring that there is a real sense of hospitality. They may be pastoral workers, people on an RCIA team, an Alpha team or other "everyday evangelists" who have a heart to accompany others in faith.

"We are receiving enquiries most days at the Enquiry Centre," shares Carly Mulqueen, the Centre's director.

"Our role in almost every case is to connect that enquirer with a local parish, guiding them to a place to explore their questions of faith beyond what the Centre provides, including the daily life of a Catholic community."

With Connectors sought for each parish throughout the country, a network will develop that will benefit the local community, dioceses and the Church nationally.

"We will know that the Connectors are there for us to introduce seekers to and, at the same time, we'll equip Connectors with tips, tools and encouragement for sharing faith in their own context," Mrs Mulqueen said.

The Catholic Enquiry Centre will also invite people to become Champions in their parish. Champions will help promote the Catholic Enquiry Centre as a valuable resource for parishes, including through local marketing efforts.

"We look forward to working with parish communities to identify and develop Connectors and Champions to join the network," Mrs Mulqueen said, encouraging people to visit the Catholic Enquiry Centre website, *www.catholicenquiry.nz*, to learn more.

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