



## Parish of Our Lady of Kāpiti

*Te Whaea Tapu o Kāpiti*

[www.kapiti-catholic.org.nz](http://www.kapiti-catholic.org.nz)

**2nd Sunday of Easter - Year C - Divine Mercy Sunday 2 April 2016**

**Readings: Acts 5:12-16; Apoc 1:9-13, 17-19; Jn 20:19-31**

**Haere mai e te whanau, Tena koutou katoa, a kia noho te Ariki ki a koutou.**

**Welcome, family, greetings to you all. May the Lord be with you.**

Dear Parishioners,

Thank you to all who worked hard to provide our beautiful Holy Week and Easter liturgies.

Attached to this newsletter is a Pastoral Letter for the Year of Mercy from the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference – especially appropriate today Divine Mercy Sunday.

Gratitude is mercy in action!

Special thanks to all who attended the Requiem Mass of Father Colin Karalus on Wednesday. Your presence on Wednesday was deeply appreciated by Father Colin's family and equally by Cardinal John and Cardinal Tom and the 30 concelebrating priests.

Father Colin was a priest for nearly 60 years and is remembered fondly for his ministry and hospitality especially to priests. May he rest in peace.

Michael McCabe  
Parish Priest

### PASTORAL AREA ACTIVITIES

#### **SUNDAY 3 April - Divine Mercy Sunday**

**Shared Prayer for our Parish** 11.30am for 20 minutes at the site of our new church and school. All welcome.

**Coffee at Robert Harris** Every Sunday at 11.30am. "Carpe Diem"! This is well attended by those who are bereaved, however, anyone is warmly welcome to join us.

#### **MONDAY 4 APRIL**

**Catholic Prayer Group** meets for prayer and praise every Monday 1.30pm at Our Lady of Fatima Church meeting room.

**Youth Music Jam Sessions** 7 - 8pm at St. Patrick's Church. All welcome.

#### **TUESDAY 5 APRIL**

**Christian Meditation** 4 - 5pm in Our Lady of Fatima meeting room. Phone Wanda 293 2441.

**Harmony Singing Group** 7 - 8pm in St Patrick's Church. Learning harmonies for well sung songs in the Parish. Open to singers of all ages. Any enquiries please contact Bridget O'Shanassy 027 316 5641.

#### **WEDNESDAY 6 APRIL**

**St Joseph's Prayer Group** meets by the Statue after 9.30am Mass at our Lady of Fatima.

**Not Your Usual Sunday Readings** 1.30pm at 23 Crown Hill, Paraparaumu. Ph Michele Ness 298 7378.

#### **THURSDAY 7 April**

**Scripture Study Group** 10.15am in Our Lady of Fatima meeting room. For further information please contact

Clare 296 1011 or Pat 902 3995. Do join us if you can. You will be most welcome.

**Daytime Christian Meditation** 10.30 - 11.30am at 17B Cypress Grove, Paraparaumu. Ph Susan 905 7077.

**Not Your Usual Sunday Readings** 7.30pm at 72 Cedar Drive, Paraparaumu. Ph Sheila 902 2578.

#### **FRIDAY 8 APRIL**

**Fun Time Pre-School Music** 10.30-11.30am, Grace Hall, St Patrick's School. All pre-schoolers with their parents/caregivers welcome.

#### **SUNDAY 10 APRIL**

**Youth Mass St Patrick's Church** 10am. If you would like your child to be involved please contact the Youth Office. [kapiti.youth@gmail.com](mailto:kapiti.youth@gmail.com) 022 6757 357.

### ***‘THANK YOU’***

to **Bernie & Richmond Lee**

who generously donated the beautiful Easter flowers and the hot cross buns

at Our Lady of Fatima Church on Easter Sunday

and to **Thomas & Mary Thomas**

who also generously donated the hot cross buns for Good Friday at Paraparaumu after Stations of the Cross

and also to **those who supplied and arranged the Easter flowers** so beautifully at St Patrick's Church.

*Your continued support is very much appreciated.*

### **Building our new Church and relocation of our School - Prayer Focus for this week**

That we remember the dead of our parish, in particular Father Colin Karalus, and honour them as we continue their work in building for a future full of hope.

***Psalms Response: Give thanks to the Lord for He is good, His love is everlasting.***

## PASTORAL NOTICES

### Sacramental Programme - Confirmation

The Sacramental Program continues in Term 2 with Confirmation.

#### The first parent/child session is on 1 May.

If your child has already made their First Reconciliation and you would like them to join in the Confirmation Program in Term 2, please contact the Youth Office to register.  
[kapiti.youth@gmail.com](mailto:kapiti.youth@gmail.com) 022 6757 357.

### Memorial Book

Our new Memorial Book was blessed on Easter Sunday morning and is now in place at Our Lady of Fatima Church.

This Memorial Book is specifically for those who have died in our parish and their names have already been recorded in the Book.

Our Parish covers the Churches of Our Lady of Lourdes, Paekakariki; St Patrick's, Paraparaumu; and Our Lady of Fatima, Waikanae.

If you discover your loved one's name has not been recorded please see Maureen or Carol in the Parish Office or phone 902 5815.

### JESUS 4 REAL SENIOR CAMP

The 10.00am Mass at St. Patrick's Church on Sunday 24th April will be hosted by campers from the Jesus 4 Real Senior Camp. All welcome.



### Advance Notice!

**Retreat in Daily Life** in Our Lady of Kāpiti Parish  
**Sunday 15 May 7pm to Friday 20 May at 7pm**

**Commitment:** a half hour of daily personal prayer at home & a half hour session in the Parish with your Prayer Guide at a time & venue (Waikanae or Paraparaumu) as convenient as possible for you. Spaces are limited. Suggested offering - \$50.

For bookings & information:

Cenacle Sisters, 04 905 7213 or [clare@cenacle.org.nz](mailto:clare@cenacle.org.nz)

### The Waikanae Women's Guild

invite all women of the Parish to our get together on  
**Monday, 11 April 2016**  
in the foyer of Our Lady of Fatima Church at 10am.

#### Our Guest Speaker is Diane Collier-Brake

sharing her Real Estate experience, commenting on today's current market and pitfalls for potential sellers and answering any questions you may have.

Remember the sales table and raffle.

New members welcomed with open arms.



### 'Discovering Ourselves' Event

**Wool required for the making of babies/children's garments.**

If anyone has any wool they no longer need we would love to hear from you.

Please phone Barbara Ratcliffe 904 1321.



**CONDOLENCES TO:** The family of Fr Colin Karalus whose Requiem was held on Wednesday. **May he rest in peace.**

PLEASE SEE NOTICE BOARD IN CHURCH FOYER FOR ALL EVENTS IN THE ARCHDIOCESE



### REMEMBERING THE HOLY SOULS - MAY THEY REST IN PEACE

Fr Colin Karalus, Joyce Lees, Kerry Burt, Gerald Haines, Patricia Stephens, John Ulrich, Aileen Ramsbottom, Juan Phillipe Gore, Victoria Johnsen, Patrick McCabe.

### Readings for 4 - 10 April

#### Monday 4 April

Is 7:10-14, 8:10; Heb 10:4-10; Lk 1:26-38

#### Tuesday 5 April

Acts 4:32-37; Jn 3:7-15

#### Wednesday 6 April

Acts 5:17-26; Jn 3:16-21

#### Thursday 7 April

Acts 5:27-33; Jn 3:31-36

#### Friday 8 April

Acts 5:34-42; Jn 6:1-15

#### Saturday 9 April

Acts 6:1-7; Jn 6:16-21

#### Sunday 10 April

Acts 5:27-32, 40-41; Apoc 5:11-14; Jn 21:1-19



## Parish of Our Lady of Kāpiti

*Te Whaea Tapu o Kāpiti*

**Our Lady of Fatima Church**  
**29 Parata Street, Waikanae**

**Saturday Vigil Mass 5.30pm**  
**Sunday Mass 8.30am**

#### WEEKDAY TIMETABLE

**Wednesday & Friday:**

**Mass 9.30am**

**Tues & Thurs: Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion 9.30am**

*Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament Friday 8.30am*  
*Sacrament of Reconciliation follows Friday Mass*

**Parish Priest: Fr Michael McCabe**  
**Ph (04) 902 5815**

**Office location**  
**29 Parata Street, Waikanae**

**Parish Secretaries:**  
**Carol Lamain & Maureen Jones**

**Office Hours**

**Mon - Fri 9am - 2pm**

**Phone 902 5815**

**Email: [ourladyofkapiti@paradise.net.nz](mailto:ourladyofkapiti@paradise.net.nz)**

**Webmaster: Lafaele Vaeluaga**

**[www.kapiti-catholic.org.nz](http://www.kapiti-catholic.org.nz)**

**St Patrick's Church**  
**16 Hinemoa Street, Paraparaumu**

**Sunday Mass 10.00am**

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*Sacrament of Reconciliation follows Friday Mass*

**Kapiti Catholic Child & Youth Ministry - Ph 022 6757 357 [kapiti.youth@gmail.com](mailto:kapiti.youth@gmail.com)**  
**St Patrick's School, Principal: Mr Martin Elms, 298.6780 E-mail: [principal@stpatpara.school.nz](mailto:principal@stpatpara.school.nz) Web Site: [www.stpatpara.school.nz](http://www.stpatpara.school.nz)**

# BE MERCIFUL

## *A Pastoral Letter from the New Zealand Catholic Bishops April 2016*

Dear Sisters and Brothers in Christ Jesus

The Year of Mercy, still in its first quarter, has captured wide interest throughout the Catholic world. When Pope Francis called us to open our eyes to the wonder of God's mercy, he sparked a flame that is warming hearts as we understand more fully the healing and life-giving power of mercy.

Assuring us that The Name of God is Mercy, Pope Francis draws us to shed any fear that guilt might impose, and to approach God with trust and confidence, as a child before a loving parent. This "Year" is giving us an unprecedented opportunity to strengthen or renew our personal relationship with God and with one another.

The call to be merciful like the Father takes us to the heart of the Gospel where every action of Jesus, the face of God's mercy, models that call. His life makes visible the eagerness of God to offer everyone the gift of mercy, seeking only that we ourselves be merciful. Jesus endorses this with his promise that the merciful "shall have mercy shown them" [Matthew, 5: 7].

Mercy is a way of life. It is not a quality that we adopt depending on the mood of the moment. It is not a set of clothing kept aside for important outings. The merciful are people in touch with their own weakness and therefore they do not expect perfection in others.

The merciful do not ignore or minimise wrong-doing, but they seek to understand before judging, and, wherever possible, are ready to excuse. As a way of life, mercy directs our outlook and our expectations, reflecting a particular view of the world and other people.

The strength of gentleness empowers the merciful.

The way of mercy flows from the sacred scriptures that tell of God's love for our world – a love revealed above all in the gift of Jesus who came not to condemn but to save, not to weigh down but to lift up and set free. He showed this in the way he became involved in people's lives, touching a leper and the eyes of a blind man weeping at the death of his friend Lazarus. He suffered with the suffering, compassionately. Mercy becomes possible when the pain of the other becomes your own pain. Jesus illustrates this particularly well in his parables of mercy.

The "Good Samaritan" invests considerable expense and time into helping the wounded traveller, and leaves the lesson that unless we do likewise, helping the abandoned and the most desperate, we will not "inherit eternal life" [see Luke 10:25-37]

The three "mercy stories" in Luke, chapter 15, reinforce the greatness of God's mercy. The three "findings": the lost sheep, the lost coin and the lost son, come after much patient searching and heart-breaking effort. The sheep, the coin and the son, speak of the animal, mineral and human world – the whole of creation. God wants nothing to be lost. Seeking out the lost is the mission of Jesus and the mission of all who follow his way.

"Be merciful to me" is not a call to "go easy on me" but rather a plea for help to become better, stronger, more capable of contributing to life. The merciful reach out with encouragement, recognising the potential for healing and growth.

Pope Francis writes that mercy is “the fundamental law that dwells in the heart of every person who looks sincerely into the eyes of his (her) brothers and sisters on the path of life.” [*Misericordiae Vultus* 2] Mercy is therefore a personal choice, freely opening the heart to let the stream of mercy flow, thereby changing the way we see other people. It is not be an easy choice because it goes against the grain. I have to forgo my “right” to be annoyed, to be angry, to want revenge! Yet it is by letting go of these “rights” that we find true joyfulness in living.

As this Holy Year of Mercy continues, we should each give ourselves generously to the Sacrament of Reconciliation, seeing it as an opportunity for wholehearted thanksgiving no less than for sincere sorrow. This is not an encounter to be feared but rather a home-coming to anticipate with joy. You will find a ready welcome from any priest you approach. Remember, God’s mercy, like love, does not come to an end. In Pope Francis’ words, mercy is greater than any sin. [*Misericordiae Vultus* 3]

The Easter season celebrates the power of light over darkness and life over death. The risen Jesus transformed his weak and unfaithful followers with words of hope and pardon. “Peace be with you” replaced their fear and shame with a joyful awareness of how much they were loved. Loved and forgiven, they become unshakeable witnesses to the whole world of the power of love to overcome evil and to forgive without limit.

Our diocesan cathedrals each have special “doors of mercy” for this year, thrown open in welcome and thanksgiving. They reveal a path to the risen, glorified Christ waiting to welcome you – whatever your failings – into the presence of love, the presence of mercy. Come and visit with family and friends and other parishioners. Pass through these doors and hear the echo of those words that brought cheer and hope to broken friendships. “Peace be with you!” Let them transform you into unbeatable witnesses of a God slow to anger and rich in mercy.

As you experience and hold the gift of mercy let it become part of your daily life. Don’t be too quick to judge or take delight in another’s misfortune. Be generous with compliments and do not withhold your forgiveness when the path to forgive is open to you. Knowing the peace that comes with being forgiven, welcome every opportunity to bring that peace to others.

William Shakespeare wrote, “The quality of mercy is not strained. It drops as the gentle rain from heaven upon the place beneath. It is twice blest. It blesses those that give and those that take....Mercy seasons justice”.

The gift of mercy is especially God’s gift to us in this Holy Year with the opportunity to both encounter mercy and share it. With Pope Francis, we, your bishops, look to this time as a way of revealing “the Church’s deeply maternal and merciful side, a Church that goes forth towards those who are ‘wounded’ who are in need of an attentive ear, understanding, forgiveness and love.” [*The Name of God is Mercy* p53]

Be merciful just as your Father is merciful [Luke 6:36].

✠John Dew  
Archbishop of Wellington  
President, NZCBC

✠Patrick Dunn  
Bishop of Auckland  
Secretary, NZCBC

✠Charles Drennan  
Bishop of Palmerston North

✠Stephen Lowe  
Bishop of Hamilton

✠Colin Campbell  
Bishop of Dunedin

✠Peter Cullinane  
Emeritus Bishop of Palmerston North

Fr Rick Loughnan  
Administrator, Diocese of Christchurch