



# Stories of HOPE

Winter 2018

News from Our Lady of Hope Catholic Parish in Titahi Bay and Tawa



*St Pius X year 5 and 6  
winning team from the interschool  
netball tournament*

## Notice to contributors

Deadline date for contributions for our next issue of *Stories of Hope* will be advertised in the weekly newsletter. We always like to hear about your group or parish organization. We generally prefer content relating to specific events and people - as a guideline, 500 words will fill one page of this magazine. Short newsy articles, anecdotes, reflections, poems, family events and page fillers are also welcome. E-copy is preferred but hard copy can be submitted. Photos enhance all content - high resolution please.

Send copy to the editor or leave for collection at the parish office.

Jane Langham

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**Deadline for next edition: 9th November 2018**

## Disclaimer

Any views or opinions expressed in this publication are solely those of the author, and do not necessarily represent those of the Editorial Committee or the administrators of Our Lady of Hope parish. The editor exercises sole discretion as to the acceptance of items for publication, insofar as they reflect Catholic life in the parish and do not tend to give offence. All items submitted may be subject to editorial amendment, revision or rejection and all items published are without prejudice.

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## Stories of Hope - Mission Statement

**Our mission** - To promote a sense of community in the Catholic parish of Our Lady of Hope, Tawa & Titahi Bay, by publishing the full variety of Catholic life in our parish.

Principal source of written contributions is the people in our parish.

**Our objective:** Every edition to every Catholic home in the parish.

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### With Thanks to:

Our sponsor, to all volunteers who help distribute copies, and to all others whose contributions and efforts have made this issue possible.

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Bernie Griffin, Fr Rico de la Torre, Jane Langham

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Rosaleen Davin, Betty Durr, Bernie Griffin, Ian Hamilton, Jane Langham, Jane Lee, Christine MacDonald, Annie de Ruiter, Patricia Sison, Fr Marlon Tebelin, Joan Woods.

## From the Editor

by *Jane Langham*



We often hear the names of organisations or groups who are doing 'good work' in the community. In this edition of Stories of Hope, we meet some of the individuals involved to understand what is happening from the perspective of the volunteers and the recipients, rather than just knowing the activity being preformed.

You can find out about Saint Vincent de Paul involvement on p.18, hospital chaplaincy on p.7 and taking communion to the homebound on p.8.

There are also features about organisations that help and support families to stay strong - Focolare on p.10 and Centre for Marriage and Family on p.12.

As always, our parishioners have sent in many varied and interesting contributions. I hope you will find them interesting - you might even find yourself inspired to write something yourself ready for our next edition. We'd love to hear from you!

It would be good to have stories in every edition of the activities our parishioners are involved with in the wider community - 'good sorts' are involved in a lot more than just church life and bless everyone with their generosity.

Learning more about what others do can encourage all of us to get involved in some way. I am thinking of how many hundreds of volunteers (as well as all the professionals) were involved in the recent rescue of the boys in Thailand, plus the many thousands world-wide praying for them throughout the process.

We can all do something, whatever our circumstances, to make our world and our community better. I won't say "even if it's only praying" because prayer is not a minor 'add-on' for those who can't do anything else. Prayer is the most important part of every undertaking and the 'prayer warriors' in our parishes are the ones who bring God's power into all aspects of parish life.

During these cold winter months we tend to stay indoors more. This can be an opportunity to catch up on reading - you might like to read one or more of the very readable, but also spiritually challenging, exhortations or letters that Pope Francis has written over the last few years. They are all available online on the [Vatican](#) website, or printed copies are available from [Pleroma Christian Supplies](#) in Hawkes Bay. You could then share your response with us all!



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## The Hand of God?

by Bernie Griffin



*“The difference between soccer and rugby is that soccer players make out they are hurt when they are not and rugby players make out they are not hurt when they are.”*

This from two radio commentators discussing the Soccer World Cup and the acting performances of some players. They were wondering whether sport can be a bad influence in our lives, especially for younger people.

Has sport lost its way? Is true sportsmanship a thing of the past? Or was it missing right from the start?

The commentators were saying that the spectacle of so-called ‘star players’ writhing around on the ground, putting on a show while trying to gain an advantage over their opponents, makes a mockery of the whole concept of sport and sportsmanship. Such displays come under the heading of foul play, along with deliberate tripping and hand ball.

Everyone seems to remember the playing days of the flawed genius, Maradona, who handled the ball into the England goal while going up for a header. He called it the 'hand of God'. Other people call it cheating.

The Americans have a saying: *Nice guys come second*. This seems to imply that if you are fair and honest, play by the rules ... and are 'nice', you won't be getting the trophy. In other words, playing 'dirty' is ok if it helps you win.

Perhaps some of the worst examples of poor sportsmanship come from fans, those who collapse with hysteria, those who fail to appreciate the good play of the

opposition. Those who put pressure on their players to win at any cost. Those who abuse the referee and other officials.

Sport, it seems, can bring out the best in people and can also bring out the worst. We can despair at the athletes who cheat by taking drugs. Then, we can rejoice in the athletes who literally stop in their tracks to help an opponent who has stumbled or crashed.



## Stories of Hope

*"It takes more than crossing the line first to make a champion. A champion is more than a winner. A champion is someone who respects the rules, rejects doping and competes in the spirit of fair play."* Jacques Rogge, IOC President

*"The important thing in life is not the triumph, but the fight; the essential thing is not to have won, but to have fought well."* Baron Pierre de Coubertin



*"Fair play gives sport the character of beauty. Fair play is a common language, the cement of sports that is capable of gathering together the whole sports world. There are many champions, but the champion of champions is the one who trains, competes and lives in the spirit of fair play."* Jenő Kamuti,

President of the International Fair Play Committee

*"'Playing fair' also has to do with making choices. As we interact with each other in sport, or as spectators of sport, we must regularly consider and define what we think is right and what is not. Sport engages us in a collective effort to pursue human excellence. As our children interact with each other in sport, their ability to make good choices about fair play issues matures along with their ability to think and learn about what makes for a rewarding and fulfilling life in society."*

Canadian Centre for Ethics in Sport

*"Fair play incorporates the concepts of friendship, respect for others and always playing within the right spirit. Fair play is defined as a way of thinking, not just a way of behaving."*

Code of Sport Ethics, Council of Europe

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## Hospital Chaplaincy at Kenepuru

by Annie de Ruiter

For many years the priests of our Tawa /Titahi Bay parish have been ministering as hospital chaplains to all Catholic patients in Kenepuru Hospital. Before retiring earlier this year, Fr John, besides being busy as a Parish Priest, visited all Catholic patients once a week giving them Holy Communion and/or pastoral care.

I have been privileged to have been a chaplain assistant for some years, first in the ecumenical field and later appointed by Fr John as a Catholic chaplain assistant, after Sister Analulu sm left Tawa. It has been a very rewarding experience for me.

The faith that led people to Jesus in their time of need when Jesus was walking this earth is still very much alive today, as I have experienced so many times as a Eucharistic minister in the hospital.



Catholic hospital chaplains receive a list from the hospital of all those who have asked to be recorded as a Catholic and wish to be visited. This is one of the questions on the form filled in when a patient is admitted. It is sometimes completed by the patient themselves, but more often by family members or friends of the patient. So if you wish to be visited by a Catholic chaplain, if you are ever admitted to hospital, make sure this is noted on the admission form.

**"I was  
sick and  
you visited  
me . . ."**  
—Matthew 25:36 NKJV

Most patients value and get much strength from these visits and especially from receiving Holy Communion. So many times when I arrived I was welcomed with the remark *"Thank you so much for coming, I prayed for this as I am having a difficult time and a need!"*

Often, when the appropriate part of the form was not filled in when coming in to hospital, these patients see others being visited and receiving Holy Communion and start feeling missed out. Then they often asked to be visited too. So some Catholic patients in the hospital are doing a great job of evangelisation!

Computers do not forget, so sometimes we are given names of Catholics who are no longer active in their faith. They are surprised and often happy with our visit and sometimes with a renewed challenge for them.

During all those years of my ministry I have observed not only physical healings, but also many spiritual healings.

I am now retiring as a hospital chaplain assistant and I look back with rewarding feelings to so many patients whom I have visited and who have given me so much trust by their sharing in their times of need.

Thank you all!

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## Communion to the Homebound by Jane Langham



For many years in our parish, both in Tawa and Titahi Bay, several of the Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist have been on a roster to take communion each week to those parishioners who are not able to attend Sunday Mass - because of age, infirmity, or recovering from illness or accident.

Visits are made to homes after each of the Sunday masses and are always greatly appreciated by recipients.

Perhaps best to let them speak in their own words:

***“Sunday morning is a special time for me when one of the Ministers of the Eucharist brings Holy Communion to me at home. Together with the Gospel of the day, readings and prayers, they share a beautiful liturgy with me. They also keep me informed of things happening in our parish. These special people have become my friends and are my link with Our Lady of Hope community.”***

Another recipient says: *"I remember when the nuns were instructing us before our First Holy Communion. They taught us the importance of the Eucharist - you never forget that. I am so pleased I can continue to receive the Eucharist and to get the parish newsletter."*



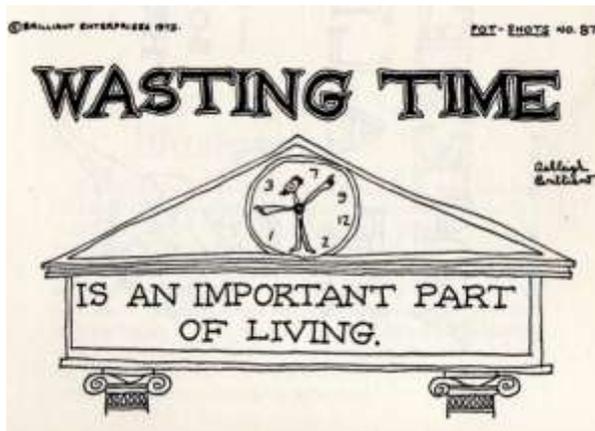
This ministry is open to all parishioners who cannot attend Sunday mass, either short-term or long-term. You do not need to wait to be asked - you can phone the parish office or contact Kevin Mackey, who organizes the roster: 232 5473

One parishioner told us: *"I had been at home for about 2 years when the parish secretary asked me if I would like to have communion at home. I had always attended Mass every week, so I really appreciate these visits".*

- Either the person at home or a carer can contact us.
- Perhaps you may wish to join the team of people who make the visits - you would receive training before beginning this ministry.
- We are also looking for someone to take over from Kevin the preparation and maintenance of the roster.

***For any of these, please do get in touch.***

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## Children's Page - The Transfiguration

### The feast of the Transfiguration is on 6th August

You can read the whole story in your Bible. Matthew, Mark and Luke all have this event in their Gospel.

*Matther 17:1-9, Mark 9:2-9 and Luke 9:28-36*

*Jesus took with him Peter and the brothers James and John and led them up a high mountain where they were alone. As they looked on, a change came over Jesus: his face was shining like the sun, and his clothes were dazzling white. Then the three disciples saw Moses and Elijah talking with Jesus. So Peter spoke up and said to Jesus, "Lord, how good it is that we are here!" ... While he was still speaking a shining cloud came over them, and a voice from the cloud said, "This is my own dear Son, with whom I am pleased - listen to him!"*

This happened not long before Jesus was crucified. He was letting his closest friends know that he really is God made man so they need not be too frightened when all the bad things happened.

It is the same for us - Jesus will always let us know he is there with us whatever bad things may happen in the world or in our life. We just need to listen to whatever Jesus tells us.

You can colour in the picture and keep it in your room. You may need to get copies of the picture so all your brothers and sisters can have their own, if they wish.

You could draw yourself in the picture too.

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July 2018



## An Interview with Fr Marlon Tebelin

By Jane Langham



**Can you please tell us about yourself? Where are you from, your vocation story, how you came to be in New Zealand?**

I am Fr. Marlon Barrameda Tebelin, and I was ordained on 11 March 2002.

I was born and grew up in San Juan, Baao, Camarines Sur, Philippines, the second of 3 siblings of (+)Mario Tebelin and Consolacion Barrameda. Baao is the hometown of the first Filipino Bishop, Jorge Barlin, who was consecrated bishop in June 1906.

I got the idea of entering the seminary when I was in 1st Year High School (NZ college) because I studied in a Catholic School where many priests come from. I didn't take this idea too seriously because my family were not practicing Catholics. After graduating from High School, because of poverty, entering the seminary was my last resort because my uncle, who is a priest, promised to support me financially. So I entered the seminary not to become a priest, I just wanted to become a Bachelor holder, to get a higher education.

That I did eventually become a priest was not really a human thing. After 7 years in the seminary, I was sent out because I was not performing well. While I was out for 2 years, I found a teaching job. I went into a programme of formation, addressing my issues in life. I helped in our parish as an accompanist for a choir. Then God called me back to re-enter the seminary, through some people He used to remind me of my vocation. After 4 years more, by God's grace, I was ordained a priest.

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I did not really want to leave my country to do mission work. I was very convinced that there were more people in my home country who need my services. I was not really for New Zealand. But when the priest who was preparing for New Zealand failed the medical tests, my superiors looked for a replacement. They chose me, though I did not really know why I was chosen. Accepting a decision imposed on me was a very difficult situation. But because I had a vow of obedience, I accepted this new assignment with a humble heart relying on the mercy of God

***When I arrived in Tawa, there was not much difficulty adjusting because of the warm welcome that I felt from the parishioners. Indeed, adjusting to the cold weather and change of time zone takes a little while, but the care of parishioners has helped a lot to settle in with the people and the place.***

**Do you have any activities or hobbies that you enjoy?**

I love music: classical and jazz. I also play musical instruments: piano and guitar. For my sports, I play lawn tennis and badminton.

**What are your hopes for your time here, both in ministry and enjoying the country?**

Ministry. I hope that my stay here will be an inspiration for the young to also consider priesthood. There is a great need here to promote vocations.

Country. I would like to take advantage of opportunities to advance in learning in music, sports and communications. New Zealanders are well trained and have superior skills in these fields. To develop my sports skills, I joined the Titahi Bay Tennis Club and I receive one-on-one tennis coaching here in Tawa. I have also asked a vocal coach to help improve my singing. For me, music facilitates people in their worship and it is also a way of participation in the liturgy.



**Are there any parish or family practices that are common in the Philippines that you think we could learn from here?**

**Family.** Filipinos have close family ties. We have strong support whenever one member of the family is in a rocky situation. One practice is that we are fond of creating activities and gatherings on a regular basis for bonding and renewing relationships with all members of the family and extended family. Children have a very high regard for their elders and parents. For me, children who live independently, without proper guidance from their parents are more fragile and are prone towards depression, immoral acts and crime.

**Parish.** In the Philippines, there are many avenues for formation. Formation for possible ministers (eucharistic ministers, lectors, readers, choir, knights of the altar, greeters) before they become fully functional in order that they will know the theology of their ministry and deepen their commitment to their tasks. Lectors and readers have a weekly prayer meeting to deepen their understanding of the Bible and to appreciate the Word of God fully alive in their lives. Parishioners have a very high reverence for the sacred species (body and blood of Christ) and in the liturgy that everything in the church is sacred.

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## Focolare in Wellington and Tawa

by Ian Hamilton



*The Focolare Movement is an international organization that promotes the ideals of unity and universal brotherhood. Founded in Trent, northern Italy, in 1943 by Chiara Lubich as a Catholic movement. It remains largely Roman Catholic but has strong links to the major Christian denominations and other religions, or in some cases with the non-religious.*

*The Focolare Movement operates in 180 nations and has over 140,440 members. The word "Focolare" is Italian for "hearth" or "family fireside". (Wikipedia – editor)*



*Tinette (a married member), Ian and Vanessa (consecrated members)*

I am a South African, a consecrated member of the Focolare and recently came to live at the men's Focolare centre here in Wellington. Focolare centres, around the world, are small communities of lay people, who are consecrated to God, who promote the ideals of unity and universal goodwill among all people.

In Wellington, there are centres in Johnsonville (for women) and Churton Park

(for men). Because of this proximity to Tawa, members from the centres sometimes attend weekday masses in Tawa and so are part of this parish community.

In 1970, while living in London, I saw a film about Loppiano (Focolare International Centre) made by the BBC and I asked to visit Loppiano for 3 months, before returning to South Africa.

At Loppiano, I was so taken with the lifestyle of living the Gospel that I decided to make the spirituality of the Focolare my life's work. In all these years since 1970, I have experienced, through the spirituality, the desire to constantly renew my commitment through many varied experiences, all of which have been inspired by the great mandate offered by the Founder, Chiara Lubich by the goal "That all may be one" John 17:21.

This is a very demanding task but at the same time very enriching as it demands a total openness to the other in all the nuances of diversity of thought and practice.

The Focolare offers group meetings and conventions in New Zealand in order to experience what this commitment entails and demands. The Gospel offers to all an ever renewing and enriching experience with God and our neighbour as we walk together in discovering the essence of God's love for each one of us and as a group.

**Pope Francis visit to Loppiano 10/11 May 2018** - report from Vatican News

'Never forget that Mary the mother of Jesus, was a lay person and his first disciple,' Pope Francis told some 6,000 members of the Focolare movement during a visit to its international centre in Loppiano, in the central Italian region of Tuscany. Francis visited Loppiano on the 10<sup>th</sup> May. After praying at the chapel dedicated to the Theotokos ('the Mother of God'), Francis addressed this international audience of Focolare members and responded to their questions.



He said he had wanted to visit Loppiano because it is '*an illustration of the mission of the church today as outlined by the Second Vatican Council.*' Indeed, the presence of Buddhists, other Christian denominations and members of other religions at the encounter with Pope Francis this morning was testimony to this mission.

He recalled that Chiara Lubich, the founder of the Focolare movement, was inspired to build Loppiano in 1964 and later similar towns across the world.

Today, Loppiano is home to around 1,000 people from many countries and professions, married and single, as well as priests and religious, who work and study together and seek to live the Christian life.

Francis described Loppiano as '*a town in which the beauty of the people of God shines forth, in the richness and variety of its members, in the diversity of vocations and of social and cultural expressions, each one in dialogue and at the service of all.*' It is a town, he said, '*that has the Eucharist as its heart, the source of unity and shows to all who visit, it's lay, inclusive and open spirit.*'

He encouraged them to *continue to live 'the charism of unity,' to live this spirituality of the 'we,' not of the 'I' or the 'you.'* The pope assured them that to do so '*can have formidable consequences at the social, political, cultural and economic levels.*'

If you would like to know more please visit our website: [www.focolare.org/en](http://www.focolare.org/en)

or you can contact us in the evenings:

Women's Centre (Johnsonville) (04) 477 9538

Men's Centre (Churton Park) (04) 478 7962

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## Family Pilgrimage with Mary

*by Patricia Sison*

**to pray for the needs of families**

On 12th May, the month of Mary, about 50 pilgrims joined the Family Pilgrimage with Mary to pray for the needs of families.

Aside from the number of pilgrims that attended, one miracle was the beautiful day sandwiched in between two days of wet weather. This blessed the pilgrims journey from one church to another visiting sacred sites associated with our Blessed Mother. The Family pilgrimage began with 8:30 am mass celebrated by parish priest Fr. James Lyons at the Sacred Heart Cathedral.



This was followed by a trip to the Our Lady of Fatima Church in Tawa, where the pilgrims received a blessing from Fr. Marlon Tebelin, the new Filipino chaplain. From there, the pilgrims journeyed to the statue of Our Lady of Kapiti at Paraparaumu, then to the Our Lady of Fatima Church in Waikanae. The pilgrimage culminated

with lunch and a visit to the historical St. Mary's Church in Otaki where the children led us in praying Pope John Paul II's Prayer for the Family.

At each sacred site, a decade of the Joyful Mystery of the Rosary was prayed corresponding to a particular intention:

- 1) For men, women and young people to discover their true identity and dignity in Christ;
- 2) For human life to be respected from conception up to natural death;
- 3) For an increase in marriage, priestly and religious vocations;
- 4) For love and unity in the family, and for an increase in the number of Christian families living and passing on the Christian faith;
- 5) For support for the weak, the elderly and those marginalised in society.



The scripture that served as inspiration for the Family Pilgrimage was the Wedding at Cana from the Gospel of John, where Jesus turned water into

wine for the newly-married couple at the request of His mother, though his 'hour' had not yet come (John 2:1-12). It shows the powerful intercession of our Blessed Mother and her maternal care for families.

*Photos: Above - following the Way of the Cross on its steep climb*

*Below - pilgrims gathered outside St Mary's Church, Otaki*

*Left - gathered at Sacred Heart Cathedral at the start*

The Family Pilgrimage was organised by the Legion of Mary and the Centre for Marriage and Family (CMF). This pilgrimage is an offshoot of the Pilgrimage to the National Shrine of Our Lady of Fatima, Auckland that was held from the end of September to early October 2017, to commemorate the 100th anniversary of the apparitions of Our Lady at Fatima.



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***It shows the powerful intercession of our Blessed Mother and her maternal care for families.***

## Why?

by Betty Durr

I was invited by the *Stories of Hope* editor to write about why I joined the Saint Vincent de Paul Society and how this is part of my faith-journey.

Prior to this 'joining', there was another 'joining' many years ago – I joined the Catholic Church. I had been drawn to the faith for some time and finally I sought instruction, which ultimately led to making my first confession and celebrating my first Midnight Mass. As I had been accepted some little time



Maxwell Fernie in full flight directing the choir during Mass.

earlier into the choir at St Mary of the Angels, I was able to experience this fantastic occasion as an actual chorister, which flooded my entire being with joy and wonderment. The choir was under the direction of Maxwell Fernie, the renowned musician, and designer and developer of the famous pipe organ that stands resplendent in the beautiful (now restored and earthquake-proofed) St Mary of the Angels church in Wellington.

Following some fulfilling years with the choir and my marriage to Gerard (a fellow chorister), the arrival of our first son and a move to our new home in Tawa, where our other four children were born, I settled into domestic bliss.

I thoroughly enjoyed belonging to a variety of organisations connected with our parish community and also fund-raising activities for several committees to provide facilities for an expanding Tawa community.

Eventually, by a stroke of fate, I found myself in retail, with my own haberdashery and craft shop on Main Road, where I stayed for many years. I loved the challenge it brought but it was a very demanding life. So when the time came, I was ready for retirement and a more leisurely-paced existence.

Passionist Family Groups were established in the parish around this time and Ged and I became part of 'The Goodies', named after a popular TV programme



of the 1970's/early 80's. This group cemented lasting friendships with some wonderful people, including Sylvia and Patrick McGill.

They had been members of SVdP for a long time and Sylvia asked me and Ged to consider joining (that word again!) the Society. We agreed straight away and became part of a dedicated group of parishioners whose mission is to reach out and assist, in any practical way possible, those ailing or in need. There are now also Young Vinnies groups in many of our Catholic Schools, led and mentored by wonderful leaders who sought and were chosen for this work, which we hope will lead to Young Vinnies continuing this mission in their adult years.

So why did I join the Saint Vincent de Paul Society?

Because God prompted me to!

*Perhaps He is prompting **you** to use some of your time in the service of people in need in our community. You can phone me for more information about our Tawa group: 232 8131*

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## In what I have done and in what I have failed to do ...

*by Jane Langham*

The April edition of WelCom included an article about the Sacrament of Reconciliation. It made some very interesting and relevant points about the importance and value of this Sacrament, how it “*strengthens the life of the soul*”. It also suggested that it is good to confess not only mortal sins, which must be confessed to make a good confession, but also venial sins and what it called ‘imperfections’. These were defined as “*the omission of some good act to which we are not obliged by any law but which charity invites us to do*”.

The article suggested “*when I become aware of a better act that is within my capacity of performing and **which I can reasonably believe is inspired by the Holy Spirit**, a refusal to do the act is for me an actual imperfection*”.

This concept troubled me and stayed in my mind – I kept thinking of all the implications of this. In the Gospel of Luke, Jesus, after speaking about the right use of money, told the parable of Lazarus, the poor man sitting at the gate of the rich man. When they both died, the rich man ended up in torment in Hades whilst Lazarus was in ‘the bosom of Abraham’. (Luke 16:19-31). The rich man had not done anything wrong, but neither had he done the good that he could so easily have done.



At another time, Jesus spoke about the final judgement. Those who went to eternal happiness were the ones who had cared for others. Those who were doomed to eternal punishment were those who would not care for others in need. (Matthew 25:45-46) One time, when asked, Jesus specified as the ‘greatest commandment of the Law’, to love God and the second is to love your neighbour as yourself – this ‘loving’ must, of course, include all those things in the command-

ments about not killing, stealing, lying etc. But Jesus specifically listed feeding the hungry, visiting the sick, etc. as the things we should be actively doing.

So I struggle with the idea that neglecting to do something we **“can reasonably believe is inspired by the Holy Spirit”** classifies only as an ‘imperfection’. To my mind, this is very serious, serious enough that my eternal salvation is at stake - certainly something I should bring to reconciliation.

We are blessed in our parish to have such regular and easy access to this Sacrament of healing.

*It would be interesting to hear other people’s perspective on this - or any other faith issue that is on your mind.*

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## Wedding of Amelia Gini and Dominic Davin *by Rosaleen Davin*



Pictured from left are: Danielle, Ciaran and Matthew Davin, Tim and Rosaleen Davin, Amelia, Dominic, Anna, baby Naomi and Ben Davin, Annabelle, Sarah, Elliot and Hayden Saunders.

The marriage of Amelia, daughter of Jo and Paul Gini to Dominic, son of Rosaleen and Tim Davin took place at St Mary of the Angels on Saturday 17th March 2018.

The celebrant was Father Thige O'Leary SM, uncle of the bride.

Amelia's bridesmaid was Tamara Tongatule and Dominic's best man was his twin brother, Matthew Davin.

Flowergirls were Esme Gini, Anya Gini, Gini Davin, Annabelle Saunders and Mila Gini. Ring Bearers were Ciaran Davin and Elliot Saunders. Soloist Rebecca Woodmore sang Ave Maria (Schubert).

The reception was held at *The Boatshed* where family and friends enjoyed the festivities well into the night.

*"The best thing to hold onto in life is each other."* Audrey Hepburn, actress

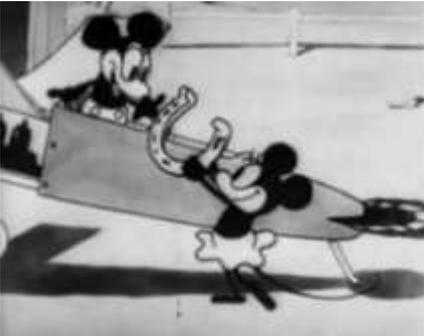
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## Going to the 'Pickchers'

by Betty Durr

A few weeks ago, our daughter, Stephanie, took Ged and myself to see *The Bookshop* at the Lighthouse Cinema in Cuba Street. The cinema was accessed by a large door in a building fronting the pavement. There were few clues as to what lay behind the door, but all was revealed on entry to the typical cinema foyer: posters advertising coming attractions, young people selling tickets and drinks and confectionery, and armchairs providing comfort for waiting patrons about to view films in one the several small theatres. We thoroughly enjoyed the film and the rather lovely meal we had at a café in one of Wellington's beach suburbs.

Daydreaming later, I was comparing our outing with a trip to 'the pickchers' when we were young in England. On a Saturday morning we were admitted for 6d (5c in today's money) as members of the ABC Minors (ABC being a movie chain).



After standing to sing *God Save the King* and once seated in our chairs, or the end of the upraised seats, if we were short, like me, we hooted and hollered at Mickey and Minnie Mouse, Donald Duck and family, and other Disney regulars. We made lots of noise, cheered the cowboys and booed the scalp-taking red-Indians. There was inevitably a macho hero to the rescue of the customary heroine, who had

been left tied to the railway tracks by the baddies in the face of an approaching train. Talk about a sprat to catch a mackerel! We had to turn up the next Saturday to see whether the hapless young woman was rescued by the gallant would-be saviour or met an untimely (but unlikely) demise. Sweets and chocolates were not much in evidence owing to the effects of war-time rationing, but an early lunch of rather unfortunate sandwiches might be toted into 'the flicks' and given away to willing takers.

Should we be able to pester the parents to let us go to see what was showing at the normal film screening, and the feature was AO,



we would entreat some unsuspecting patron “will you take me in mister (or missus)?” Should this ruse work, we would enter a smoke-filled auditorium, as smoking was still permitted indoors then, and seek out friends as near to the front as we could get. There were no set times to go to ‘the fillums’. You might arrive half way through the programme and sit through till the film restarted and came back to the place where you came in. Somehow patrons were able to make sense of the black and white images flickering in front of them, including the newsreels showing graphic images of the World War raging both at home and abroad. I think that younger people thought it was just another film and didn’t fully appreciate the horrors of war being presented before their eyes.

Now, as an elderly person, I can take my coffee or drink into the small designated theatre, recline in an armchair with comfortable cushions and munch away on my chosen confectionery, or drop chocolate chips from my ice-cream down my front! Although the soundtrack now-a-days seems deafening, I can see the screen without a thick curtain of cigarette smoke. Admission prices are now in dollars where they used to be in very low shillings and pence, but that is all down to the march of time.

I look back in amazement at what a trip to ‘the pickchers’ entailed in those seemingly-innocent days, but I am thankful we didn’t have the violence, the awful language and the ugly monsters and hideous creatures that inhabit modern screens. For me, the film and tv trailers are often more than enough of such film diet for this delicate taste.



## PA MARIA SPIRITUALITY CENTRE

78 Hobson Street, Thorndon Programme for 2018

### **The Winter Film Series: “Called to be Blessed”**

Reflections on the Beatitudes - Presenter Fr Brian Cummings SM

Mondays 13, 20, 27 August & 3 and 10 September

Thursdays 16, 23, 30 August & 6 and 13 September

Format: *input: view movie: reflection material for personal use*

**Non-Residential Retreat: The Pilgrim** - Entering into the mystery of our lives through the dynamic of Ignatian pilgrimage.

Minimum of 8 participants for the retreat to go ahead; maximum number is 16.

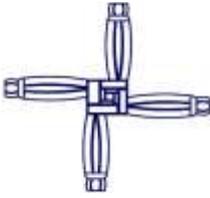
Retreat to be held from November 12-16

*If you would like further information and/or to register: 04 212 4691, 021 703 580*



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## St Francis Xavier School - by Joan Woods (Principal)



**St Francis Xavier School**  
Strength and Gentleness  
Tu Maia, Tu Aroha

### Report for Term 2

We commenced the new term with a **Mass** held in our school hall and celebrated by Father Marlon. We also celebrated Mass with the parish at Pentecost.

It has been wonderful to welcome 5 year olds into Kowhai class throughout this term.

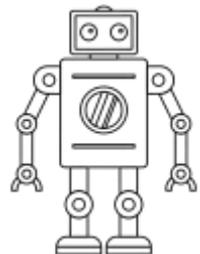
It was wonderful to have so many grandparents and special family friends join us at school for our **Grandparents' Day**. Following a liturgy, the children showed their visitors around their classrooms, inviting them to join in some of the learning experiences we have at school. This was followed by a morning tea in our hall, where there was an opportunity for the adults to meet each other.



Vist to Pataka Museum

There have been many diverse learning experiences during Term 2, including everyone having the opportunity to learn more about **Matariki**.

We really appreciated having families and teaching staff join us for our **Māori Whānau Hui** evening. During the evening we enjoyed a presentation from students around their learning during Matariki and viewed a video made by our Year 5 and 6 students retelling a Māori myth.



Our older students have been teaching younger children to use code to program the new **robotic devices** we have.

We now have our **3D printer** up and running and groups of children have created their own designs that they have printed out.

Our senior students have been involved in **swimming lessons** at Tawa pool. Our school **cross-country** has been held, with children going on to represent us in the Tawa Zone and Inter-Zone cross-country and swimming.

Our Year 5 and 6 children are busy preparing for **Tawa Goes to Town** with other local primary schools. In September, our Year 4 children will be taking part in **Artsplash**.

Children have enjoyed playing in the **new sandpit** that was built over the first term holidays. This has proved to be extremely popular during break times.



The New Sandpit

Our school now needs to upgrade the playground and this term we have once again had an extremely active Parents and Friends group who have been working tirelessly to raise funds towards building this.

We ended the term with our **Parents and Friends Family Disco**, which is always a very popular event. This was a night of great fun for all with amazing lighting and a DJ creating a fantastic atmosphere. Our Parents and Friends committee main fundraising focus this year will be our **School Fair to be held Saturday 10 November**.

Once again our amazing staff and families have contributed to making sure our children have had an exciting and stimulating term of learning. We are looking forward to the second half of our school year.

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**St Pius X School - by Christine MacDonald (Principal)**



**‘WHANAU-ATUA-KURA-AROHĀ Together we Shine’**



Kia ora, ngā whānau, it's been another interesting and engaging term at St Pius X School. The school term started with a visit from the Education Review Office and ended with a celebration of our Pasifika cultures.

The focus for term 2 has been **Celebrating Pasifika** and learning about the Pacific Islands culture, language, history, food etc. Our teachers and students worked together along with Gemma Lorenc-Lafou and Lui Lafou, teachers from Bishop Viard College, and their senior students to plan, organise and produce the Pasifika items for our end of term performance.



We really appreciated all of the hard work and effort from our own teachers, whānau and Bishop Viard College. A special thanks to both Bishop Viard College and Holy Family School for lending us the colourful costumes. These looked amazing!

Kris Fa'afoi visited in early May to talk about his Pasifika links. There were many curious children who asked Kris a lot of questions about his Pasifika background.

The **growing great families** evening was held on Wednesday 13 June with Latu To'omaga from Brainwave Trust, presenting to our whānau information and ideas in how to help support the early development of our children. This was a well-supported and interesting session which will be followed up in term 3.

On Friday 11 May the school celebrated the beginning of term Mass with Father Rico. It was good to see some family members attending this Mass.

In May, the **Sacramental Programme** commenced for Our Lady of Hope parish, with two of our children making their first Reconciliation on Saturday 23 June with some 35 plus other children from the parish.



On behalf of the school, I attended the **Catholic Education Convention** in June and met new and old acquaintances, learned more about our wonderful Catholic education system, and gained many new ideas about growing our schools spiritually.

**Book week** was held in May with a book character day held on the Friday. Everyone had fun dressing up as Wild West characters. Thank you to all those families who supported our school book fair and purchased books to help raise funds for our school.

Over the term, three of our senior students participated in the Te Ara Moana Trust **Local Kids in Local Waters** programme. This has been a great programme for building self-awareness and self-esteem as well as confidence.

Our year 5 and 6 students participated in the **interschool netball tournament** in June and won their section – well done and thanks to our great coach, Natasha Donnelly!

This term has been rich with many cultural experiences for students. This included the Ko wai au programme for our senior students every Monday, Pasifika development on Tuesday afternoons and Kapa Haka for our senior students on Wednesdays, (who will perform at Kotahitanga at Titahi Bay Intermediate in August).

We have had a few teaching staff changes that take effect at the start of Term 3. Mrs Christine Binns will be teaching Reading Recovery instead of Miss Ana Kawenga, who will return to Kiwi Class full time. Mrs Angela McFarlane will return to relieving across the school as required. Mrs Zoe Horne replaces Miss Emma Stohart as Year 3-4 teacher.

## Stories of Hope

Staff continue to receive professional development in Mathematics and Statistics; as well as professional development in Religious Education and practicing these new ideas with their students in their classrooms.

We finished the term supporting Caritas Mufti Mania appeal for Apifo'ou College in Tonga. Our children generously donated towards this cause.

Ngā mihi nui kia kotou

***Amanda Joe, SVdP Youth Co-ordinator, has sent the following report of what the group at St Pius X have been doing this year.***

We have had a busy 2 terms learning and demonstrating the St Vincent de Paul philosophy of People Helping People.

Term One was dedicated to discussions and activities relating to Food Security. The students packaged and labelled seeds for a seed library, planted seedlings in the bed built by Vinnies 2 years ago, and cooked and baked for the local food bank. They also baked for those helping repair the damage to Titahi Bay Boatsheds after a severe storm.



Term 2 was focussed on the elderly and charitable shops.

The students spent time at Kemp Home sharing stories and activities. They also sang for and with the residents.



We upcycled unusable t-shirts and singlets into reusable shopping bags for the St Vincent de Paul shop on Mungavin Ave, Porirua and discussed the Re-Sew group in Newtown. We visited the Vinnies shop where they helped sort donations, restock the shelves, assisted volunteers with cleaning duties, and served customers.

All the students involved showed true enthusiasm, dedication and empathy to those in need.

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## Parish Notices - Baptisms, Marriages, Deaths

### Baptisms

Name of child	Parents	Date
Ivy Mae Margie Prebble	Aimee & Benjamin Prebble	18-3-18
Madeline Rose Henderson	Caroline & Kenneth Henderson	1-4-18
Asher Victor Roberts	Abby & Austin Roberts	7-4-18
Gabriella Ruby Jean Pitts	Lydia Vermeer & Johnathan Pitts	12-4-18
Te Mania Rinchom-Paull	Vanessa Paull & Banthoeng Rinchom	12-4-18
Alaska Quinn	Natasha Donnelly & Dallas Quinn	12-4-18
Aurora Quinn	Natasha Donnelly & Dallas Quinn	12-4-18
Natasha Donnelly	Tania Lindsay & Sean Donnelly	12-4-18
Sophia Sia Yan	Goya Choi & Gabae Yang	15-4-18
Solana Amelia Bongat Ramos	Abigael & Jericho Ramos	19-5-18
Wren Honor Belle Perrot-Lealamanua	Ebony Perrot & Kasiano Lealamanua	20-5-18
Caitlin Grace McLaren	Fern & Shaun McLaren	3-6-18
Lachlan Drew McLaren	Fern & Shaun McLaren	3-6-18



### Deaths

Margaret Allison Butters	17-4-18
Kathleen Frances Comerford	12-6-18
Monica Mary Margaret Brodie	5-7-18
Gwenda Margaret Kidd	9.7.18

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## New Parishioners

If you are new to the parish, Welcome!

Please introduce yourself to the celebrant, another parishioner,  
or call the parish office 9am-12noon weekdays . 04 232 5611

## Current Parish Pastoral Council Members

Fr Rico de la Torre - parish priest, Marie Prescott - chair

Telesia Alaimoana, Jane Bolton, Dorothy Jansen, John Lafaele, Ray Lindsay, Rupi Mapusua and Andrew Oliver

## Regular events

**Dove Catholic Fellowship for Women**, Third Sat. 1:30 pm, at Connolly Hall,  
Next to Cathedral, Wellington.

**Joshua Catholic Fellowship for Men**, Third Thurs. 7:30 pm, at Connolly Hall

**Monthly luncheons** in Tawa church foyer, First Tuesday of each month.

**Time together**, weekly games, Tawa church meeting room, Thursdays 1:30 pm,

**Marian Mothers** - 2nd Monday am each month - see weekly newsletter

**Women of Faith** - 2nd Tuesday each month - see weekly newsletter

**Youth Group**, College Years 9 to 13, Fridays, 8:00 - 9:30pm

Leo Connor Hall, during school term;

**Other events:** check website calendar: [www.ourladyofhope.org.nz](http://www.ourladyofhope.org.nz)

**We hope you enjoyed reading this issue of *Stories of Hope* .  
When you've finished reading it, why not pass it on to a friend?  
We need your input. Keep those contributions coming!!**

July 2018

**This edition of *Stories of Hope* is sponsored by  
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- Wednesday – 26 September
- Wednesday – 31 October
- Wednesday – 28 November



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Wade Hall

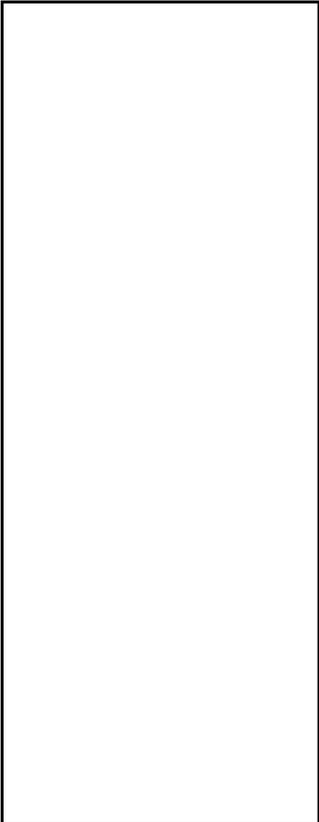


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