



Newsletter No 5: 3 February 2019
Fourth Sunday of the Year

Weekend Mass Times

4th Sunday of the Year (1)

Pat on Annual Leave.
Sat Feb 2
 Blenheim (5pm) Mass/Fr Denis
Sun Feb 3
 Seddon (8am) Mass/Fr John
 Picton (9am) Mass/Fr Denis
 Kaikoura (9.30) **W&C**
 Blenheim (10) Mass/Fr John
 Havelock (11) Mass/Fr Denis

Wed Feb 6
 Waitangi Day, 10am Mass/Fr Denis
There will be no 9am Mass at Picton or 12.05 Mass at BHM on this day.

5th Sunday of the Year (2)

John at meeting in Rome
Pat on Annual Leave.
Sat Feb 9
 Blenheim (5pm) Mass/Fr Julian
Sun Feb 10
 Seddon (8am) **W&C**
 Picton (9am) Mass/Fr Julian
 Kaikoura (9.30) Mass/Fr Denis
KK Marriage Renewal
 Blenheim (10am) **Mass/ Fr Sanele**
 Havelock (11am) Mass/Fr Julian

6th Sunday of the Year (3)

Marriage Renewal
Pat on Annual Leave.
Sat Feb 16
 Blenheim (5pm) Mass/Fr John
Sun Feb 17
 Seddon (8am) Mass/Fr Denis
 Picton (9am) Mass/Fr John
 Kaikoura (9.30) **W&C**
 Blenheim (10) Mass/Fr Denis
 Havelock (11) Mass/Fr John
 Renwick (5) Mass/Fr Denis

7th Sunday of the Year (4)

Pat on Annual Leave
Sat Feb 23
 Blenheim (5pm) Mass/Fr John
Sun Feb 24
 Seddon (8am) Mass/Fr John
 Picton (9am) **W&C**
 Kaikoura (9.30) Mass/Fr Denis
 Blenheim (10am) Mass/ Fr John
 Havelock (11am) **W&C**

Parish Events

The Holy Water Urn has moved to the Sacristy at BHM for various reasons. You can collect water before or after Mass.

Weekday Mass in BHM has moved to the Day Chapel in the church due to the warm weather.

YOUTH GROUP!!

This starts up again this week, with new days/times! **Juniors (year 9) on Tues 5th, 7pm-**

8.15pm and Seniors (year 10-13) on Wed 6th 7pm-8.30pm.
 Thank you to the parish for our spanking new paint job inside! New members always welcome and any queries, contact Maurice and Mieke Davies 0223918584 stmarys-youthgroup@xtra.co.nz

Stewardship Groups

In line with the Parish Guidelines for Stewardship Groups, at the first meeting of the year, each group elects new Office Bearers, namely two people who are Co-Chairpersons, and a Secretary.

This weekends Newsletter has a reprint of the Guidelines for our Stewardship Groups.

Thank you to all who have lead these groups and other parish committees over the years. The start of a new year is always a good time to invite new people to share their gifts and talents as leaders.

BHM Rosters for Mass Ministries

Please contact Belinda ASAP, especially if you wish to be added on. Phone 03- 5782628

Feb 5: Chinese New Year

You are invited to Chinese New Year Celebration at St Andrew's Church Hall, between 11:30-2:30. More info check the notice board

Feb 5-12: Home and Away

John departs on Tuesday afternoon for Rome for a meeting of the International Commission for the 300 Jubilee of the start of the Passionists in 1720. The meeting is Thursday to Saturday. He will be back on Feb 12. **Pat** is on holidays.

Feb 14: St Valentine's Day: Celebrating Marriage

Renewing Marriage Vows
 Valentine's Day was a celebration of love, but became over commercialised with the expectation and promotion of generous gifts, cards and dinners.

This year we are joining a growing number of parishes in Celebrating Marriage. There will be an opportunity to renew Marriage Vows at Masses for those who wish to. Bring yourself; bring some food to share; bring your hopes for the coming year.

Feb 10: Kaikoura Marriage Mass
Feb 16-17: Other Communities Marriage Mass

Feb 24: Registration for

Children's Sacraments

After Sunday Masses in Blenheim & Kaikoura, there will be an information Session and opportunity for Registration for Children's Sacraments for 2019. This is for children and teenagers from Year 4 and above.

Please pass this information on to families that you know who attend state schools, or who may not get this notice from Church.

If you can't make it, and want to register, please contact Fr John by Email.

Reconciliation Preparation Sessions start on Sunday March 3.

Feb 24: Awatere/Flaxbourne Community Twilight Gathering

Our Awatere/Flaxbourne Stewardship Group is organising a Twilight Gathering of the Churches and Friends at The Domain in Ward. This is between the Catholic Communities and our friends in the Awatere Joint Venture Community. The plan so far is

4pm .. Sunday Prayer Service
 To follow ... **Inter Community Cricket Match (modified rules) , and BBQ.**

This initiative is part of our ongoing Post EQ Community Building ministry with Seddon & Ward.

March 1: Catholic Schools Commissioning Mass.

On Fri Mar 1, Cardinal John will lead a Commissioning Mass for Schools in the Top of the South. St Mary's is this year's host church.

March 3: Children's Sacrament Preparation for Reconciliation

Family Preparation Sessions begin after Mass in Kaikoura and Blenheim today.

Parish Calendar

- February**
 3 .. Sounds Stewardship Group
 4. **St Mary's School Opening Mass in Hall (11.30am)**
 5 .. Wairau Stewardship Group
 6 .. Waitangi Day
 11 .. Kaikoura Stewardship Grp
 16-17 .. After Valentine's Day: Renewal of Marriage Vows
 19 .. Finance & Property C'tee
 19-21 .. NZ Bishops & Religious Leaders Conf (Wellington)
 21-22 CP Provincial Council (Melb)
 24 .. Kaikoura: St Vincent de Paul Presentation
 24 .. Awatere/Flaxbourne Churches

Let Us Remember in our Prayers and at Mass:

Recently Deceased: Henry Higgs (CHCH)
Anniversaries: Please remember those parishioners who have passed away over the years and are noted in our memorial books at Blenheim, Kaikoura and Picton. People will be mentioned specifically each week if family notify the office of their loved ones anniversary.
Jan 3 Ruth O'Callaghan **31** Meriam Rebusi, Nonus Thomas **Feb 3** Des Keehan **6** Ron Millar
Other Intentions: Aurelio Ferrer Sr, Patricia Westwood (turned 91 on 28/01/19)

COLLECTIONS:

We are most grateful for your support of our Parish of Star Of The Sea.
Last week:
 AP's: \$2569.00
 Envelopes: \$1343.00
 Loose: \$ 630.30
 Christmas dues: \$ 20.00



Our Liturgy Plan

When a priest is not available, Word & Communion will be led by parishioners.

Blenheim

Tues: 9.30am Mass
Wed: 12.05pm Mass
Thurs: 9.30 am Mass
Except 1st Thurs: Bethsaida **10.30am**
Fri: 11am Adoration
 11.30 Reconciliation
 12.05pm Mass
Sat: 9.30am Mass
 Reconciliation to follow

Sat: 5pm Mass

Sun: 10am Mass
(2nd & 5th Sunday Word & Communion)

Havelock

Sunday: 11am
(4th Sunday Word & Communion)

Kaikoura

Tues: 9.30am
Wed: 9.30am
Wed: 7pm Rosary
Thurs: 5.15pm
Fri: 9.30am
Sun: 9.30am
(1st & 3rd Sunday Word & Communion)

Picton

Wed: 9am Mass
Sun: 9am Mass
(4th Sunday: Word & Communion)

Renwick

3rd Sunday 5pm Mass

Seddon

Sun: 8am Mass
(2nd & 5th Sunday Word & Communion)

Ward

4th Sunday 4pm Mass

Baptisms

Celebrated during weekend Mass or other times.

Marriages

Marriages celebrated in all our Churches. Please contact the Parish Office well in advance.

A Warm Welcome to Our Parish Family of Marlborough

We the people of Te Whetu O Te Moana, Star of the Sea Parish, are committed by our baptism in Christ, to share our living faith, and make God visible, in joyful union with all people, by our actions in the community. (Parish Mission Statement)

February & New Beginnings

Parish and School life are returning to normal, committees are getting back into full swing. It's a new opportunity to take on something new, and to renew commitments to something old.

New members are invited to step forward for committees in each Stewardship Area. Some might have ideas of new ministries they feel called to assist in growing.

Renewing Leadership. Over the past three years since the birth of Marlborough Parish, each community across the parish has faced up to the challenges of finding ways to work together locally and across the parish. We have settled down into our Four Stewardship Areas, and continue to clarify what we want and need, and how we can achieve this. There is always more work to do in clarifying this.



Stewardship. This is the name we give to the way we do mission in our Parish and Archdiocese. Stewardship is about receiving and growing the God given gifts and talents that we have.

Parish Priest: Fr John Pearce CP
 john.pearce@passionists.com 021 242 1504
Assistant PP: Fr Pat McIndoe CP
 patmc21@gmail.com 03 578 0038
Priest in Residence: Fr Denis Travers CP
Past Assist: Sr Maureen Connor SSM
 maureensmsm@yahoo.co.nz
Past Assist: Sr Frances Anna SSM
 francesmsm@gmail.com
Manager/Secretary: Ginetta Petersen
Office Assistant: Mandy Li
Youth Ministers: Maurice & Mieke Davies
 stmarysyounggroup@xtra.co.nz 03 578 6772
Parish Pastoral Council Chair: Greg Stretch

Stewardship is about working together for the common good. Like all Good Stewards, we Serve the Lord. We share our **Time**, our **Talents**, and our **Treasures**. In so doing, we discover a living faith that gives life meaning and direction.

Mission, Parish, Community.

These three words need to be before us.
1. Our Mission: to spread the Good News that God is here, in his Good People. We are all his servants.
2. Our Parish: A large chunk of the territory, all focused on assisting each other in living the Mission.
3. Our Communities: It's where we live, and where we encounter one another. It's where we

Breakfast with Cardinal John

We have booked Clubs of Marlborough for Breakfast with Cardinal John for Saturday March 2, 7.30-9am. He will speak on Growing in Stewardship. We are all invited, but in particular, we hope to see all who exercise some form of pastoral or spiritual leadership attend. Cost will be \$20 ea. A great start to our Growing in Faith and Service for 2019.

Bookings are essential. Contact the Parish Office after Jan 14. Numbers are limited. Please pay before the day at the Parish Office (No EFTPOS facilities)
Stewardship is our of Mission

John Pearce CP

Readings for Fourth Week in Ordinary Time (C)

Sun 3rd: Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time
 Jeremiah 1:4-5, 17-19; 1 Corinthians 12:31-13:13; Luke 4:21-30
Psalm Response: I will sing of your Salvation
Mon 4th: Hebrews 11:32-40 Mark 5:1-20
Tues 5th: Hebrews 12:1-4 Mark 5:21-43 St Agatha, V.M.
Wed 6th: Hebrews 12:4-7,11-15 Mark 6:7-14 Waitangi Day
Thu 7th: Hebrews 12:18-19,22-24 Mark 6:7-13 St Paul Miki & Comps
Fri 8th: Hebrews 13:1-8 Mark 16:14-29
Sat 9th: Hebrews 13:15-17,20-21 Mark 6:30-34
Sun 10th: Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time
 Isaiah 6:1-8; 1 Corinthians 15:1-11; Luke 5:1-11

Word of God is not ideology, it is life that makes us grow

Pope Francis. Vatican News 17 January 2019

What does it mean for a Christian to have a "perverse heart," a heart that can lead to faint-heartedness, ideology, and compromise? That was the theme of Pope Francis' homily Thursday morning at the Mass at Casa Santa Marta.

"Take care, brothers, that none of you may have an evil and unfaithful heart, so as to forsake the living God." This is the harsh "message", the "warning" as Pope Francis calls it, that the author of the Letter to the Hebrews addresses to the Christian community in today's liturgy. The Pope warns that the Christian community, in all its components - "priests, nuns, bishops" - runs this danger of "slipping towards a perverse heart".

But what does this warning mean to us? The Pope focuses on three words, again taken from the First Reading, which can help us to understand: "hardness", "obstinacy", and "seduction".

Fainthearted Christians, without the courage to live

A hard heart is a "closed" heart, "that does not want to grow, that defends itself, that is closed in on itself". In life this can happen because of many factors; as, for example, a "great sorrow", because, as the Pope explains, "blows harden the skin". It happened, he said, to the disciples of Emmaus, as well as to St Thomas the Apostle. And whoever remains in this "bad attitude" is "fainthearted"; and a "cowardly heart is perverse":

We can ask ourselves: Do I have a hard heart, do I have a closed heart? Do I let my heart grow? Am I afraid that it will grow? And we always grow with trials, with difficulties, we grow as we all grow as children: we learn to walk [by] falling. From crawling to walk-

ing, how many times we have fallen! But we grow through difficulties. Hardness. And, what amounts to the same thing, being closed. But who remains in this? "Who are they, father?" They are the faint-hearted. Faintheartedness is an ugly attitude in a Christian, he lacks the courage to live. He is closed off...

Obstinate Christians, ideologues

The second word is "obstinacy": In the Letter to the Hebrews we read, "Exhort each other every day, as long as this today lasts, so that none of you may be obstinate"; and this is "the accusation that Stephen makes to those who will stone him afterwards". Obstinacy is "spiritual stubbornness": an obstinate heart - explains Pope Francis - is "rebellious", is "stubborn", is closed in by its own thought, is not "open to the Holy Spirit". This is the profile of "ideologues", and of the proud and the arrogant:

Ideology is a [kind of] obstinacy. The Word of God, the grace of the Holy Spirit is not ideology: it is life that makes you grow, always, [that makes you] go forward, and also opens your heart to the signs of the Spirit, to the signs of the times. But obstinacy is also pride, it is arrogance. Stubbornness, that stubbornness that does so much harm: closed-hearted, hard - the first word - those are the fainthearted; the stubborn, the obstinate, as the text says the ideologues are. But do I have a stubborn heart? Each one should consider this. Am I able to listen to other people? And if I think differently, do I say, "But I think this..." Am I capable of dialogue? The obstinate don't dialogue, they don't know how, because they always defend themselves with ideas, they are ideologues. And how much harm do ideologues do to the people of God, how much harm! Because they close the way to the work of

the Holy Spirit.

Compromising Christians, slaves to seduction

Finally, in order to help us understand how not to slip into the risk of having a perverse heart, the Pope reflects on the word "seduction": the seduction of sin, used by the devil, the "great seducer", "a great theologian but without faith, with hatred", who wants to "enter and dominate" the heart and knows how to do it. So, concludes the Pope, a "perverse heart is one that lets itself be seduced; and seduction leads him to obstinacy, to closure, and to many other things":

And with seduction, either you convert and change your life or you try to compromise: but a little here and a little there, a little here and a little there. "Yes, yes, I follow the Lord, but I like this seduction, but just a little..." And you're starting to lead a double Christian life. To use the word of the great Elijah to the people of Israel at that moment: "You limp from both legs". To limp from both legs, without having one set firmly. It is the life of compromise: "Yes, I am a Christian, I follow the Lord, yes, but I let this in..." And this is what the lukewarm are like, those who always compromise: Christians of compromise. We, too, often do this: compromise. Even when the Lord lets us know the path, even with the commandments, also with the inspiration of the Holy Spirit, but I prefer something else, and I try to find a way to go down two tracks, limping on both legs.

The Pope concludes, "may the Holy Spirit, therefore, enlighten us so that no one may have a perverse heart: a hard heart, which will lead you to faintheartedness; a stubborn heart that will lead you to rebellion, that will lead you to ideology; a heart that is seduced, a slave to seduction".

Vatican Commission Members: Women Served as Deacons for a Millennium

Brandon Sanchez. 15 January 2019.

America the Jesuit Review

Women served as deacons in Europe for about a millennium in a variety of ministerial and sacramental roles, according to Phyllis Zagano, an author and professor of religion at Hofstra University, and Bernard Pottier, S.J., a faculty member at the Institut D'Études Théologiques in Brussels, in an interview this week with **America**. "They anointed ill women; they brought communion to ill women," said Ms. Zagano. They also participated in baptism, served as treasurers and, in at least one case, participated in an annulment.

Discussing that annulment, Ms. Zagano said a woman in Syria "complained that her husband was beating her. It was the woman's deacon who examined the bruises and gave the testimony to the bishop. Well, to me, that's an annulment—she is providing the information."

"But to say that everybody did the same thing all over I think is disingenuous," Ms. Zagano added.

Father Pottier said he was able to find strong evidence of women deacons in church records and histories, but "not everywhere and not always because it was also a choice of the bishop."

In an interview with Mi-

chael J. O'Loughlin, **America's** national correspondent, on Jan. 14, Ms. Zagano and Father Pottier, who serve on the Vatican's Study Commission on the Women's Diaconate, discussed their research on women deacons and the early church. They emphasized that roles for women deacons varied greatly depending on geography. The two commission members were in New York for a symposium at the Fordham Center on Religion and Culture called "The Future of Women Deacons," which convened on Jan. 15.

Ms. Zagano said, "There was ordination... The most interesting evidence is the fact that the ordination ceremonies [we discovered] for women deacons were identical to the ordination ceremonies for men."

Father Pottier said women began to serve as deacons "very early" in the Eastern church but by the 10th century that ministry ended. In the West, women served as deacons from approximately the fifth century until the 11th or 12th century.

Ms. Zagano has devoted much of her career to studying the role of women deacons, most recently in Rome at the invitation of Pope Francis.

"I was able to see original manuscripts," she said. "I was able to see original 17th-century books." She had a chance to reread a lot of the material she had already studied and "actually

found a few new things for myself."

"It was an extraordinary experience," she added, "because I would go home at night, and typically in the Holy Father's house a cardinal or a bishop, or four cardinals and four bishops, would be at the dinner table. So the conversations after work were equally exciting to me." She added, "[Some cardinals] were very interested in the topic."

Other cardinals were not that interested. And I did have a couple of complaints, mostly from Africa, that we were trying to push an American idea into Africa. I said, 'No one is pushing anything to anybody.'"

What the Vatican will do with the commission's report is unclear, according to Ms. Zagano and Father Pottier. The Vatican commission was not tasked with making recommendations to the pope but with researching the "historical reality" of women deacons, they said.

Asked about her hopes for role of women in the church in the future, Ms. Zagano said, "I hope that the church will not be denied what it needs."

"I truly believe that the church needs more [people in] ministry," she said. "I speak to bishops and cardinals from South America. One bishop said he had five million Catholics and 400 priests."

Pope Francis: Seeing Faith Lived (cont)

spouses, that they see the peace of the house, that they see that Jesus is there," he said.

Francis gave the brief, impromptu homily during Mass for the Feast of the Baptism of the Lord, when there is a tradition of baptizing a group of babies in the Sistine Chapel, a custom started by Pope St. John Paul II.

In his homily, he said that it is the parents' task to pass the faith along to their children, beginning at home, "because faith must always be transmitted 'in dialect': the dialect of the family, the dialect of the house, in the atmosphere of the home."

Asking if he could give a little advice, he went on to urge the couples not to fight in front of their children. He noted that it is perfectly normal for a husband and wife to quarrel but recommended trying to keep arguments out of the view and hearing of their kids.

"This, I dare, is a piece of

advice that will help you pass on the faith," he said.

The pope also commented on the "chorus of tears," that could be heard coming from the over two dozen babies in the chapel and said mothers should not be ashamed to breastfeed if their child is hungry.

"And so, we go forward in this ceremony, in peace, with the awareness that the transmission of the faith is your responsibility," he said.

Following Mass, the pope reflected on the Baptism of Christ before leading the Angelus, noting that before Jesus' baptism in the Jordan river took place, he was "in the midst of the people."

This element of the story "is not only a background of the scene, but is an essential component of the event," he said. "Before plunging into the water, Jesus 'plunges' into the crowd, joins it and fully assumes the human con-

dition, sharing everything except sin."

"In his divine holiness, full of grace and mercy, the Son of God became flesh to take upon himself and take away the sin of the world," he continued.

Explaining that Jesus' baptism marks the start of his public life and mission, Francis noted that the mission of the Church and each person to be "faithful and fruitful," calls for a "grafting" onto the mission of Jesus.

"It is a matter of continuously regenerating evangelization and apostolate in prayer, to make a clear Christian witness. Not according to human projects, but according to God's plan and style," he said.

"The feast of the Baptism of the Lord is a favorable opportunity to renew with gratitude and conviction the promises of our Baptism, committing ourselves to live daily in harmony with it."

Pope Francis: Seeing Faith Lived



Children Must See the Faith Lived at Home, Pope tells Parents

By Hannah Brockhaus. 13 Jan 2019. (CNA/EWTN News).

At Mass in the Sistine Chapel Sunday, Pope Francis baptized 27 babies, reminding their parents that the first space in which children learn and witness the faith is at home.

"Yes, when they go to catechism class, they will study the faith well, they will learn catechesis," he said Jan. 13. "But before being studied, faith must be trans-

mitted, and this is a job that is up to you."

Preparing to baptize the 27 babies - 15 girls and 12 boys - Francis urged their parents "to transmit the faith by example, by words, by teaching [them] to make the sign of the Cross. This is important."

"The important thing is to transmit the faith with your life of faith: that they see the love of the