



## Te Whetu o te Moana | Star of the Sea Marlborough Catholic Parish

From the Sounds to the Sea, the Mountains to the Plains  
We Are One Mission. One Parish. Seven Communities  
Blenheim | Havelock | Kaikoura | Picton | Renwick | Seddon | Ward  
Parish Office: 61 Maxwell Road, Blenheim | T. 03 578 0038  
EM. office@staroftheseamarlb.co.nz | FB. Star of the Sea Marlborough (240 likes)

### 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)

**Acting PP: Fr Pat McIndoe CP (BHM)**  
patmc21@gmail.com 03 578 0038  
**Assistant PP: Fr Jacob Kuman CP**  
jaocb.kuman@passionists.com 03 578 0038  
**Past Assist: Sr Maureen Connor SMSM**  
maureensmsm@yahoo.co.nz  
**Past Assist: Sr Frances Anna SMSM**  
franciesmsm@gmail.com  
**Manager/Secretary: Ginetta Petersen.**  
**Office Assistant: Mandy Li (BHM);**  
**Youth Ministers: Maurice & Mieke Davies**  
stmarysyouthgroup@xtra.co.nz 022 391 8584  
**Parish Pastoral Council Chair: Greg Stretch**  
**Parish Finance Committee Chair: Tom Harrison**

## Newsletter No 17: 17 May 2020 6th Sunday of Easter

### Jesus Promises the Holy Spirit

During this time after Easter, we listen to our Risen Lord. He speaks very intimately to us.

We hear more (John 14: 15- 21) from the Words Jesus spoke on the night before He goes to his Death. He speaks to us of the heart of our Life in the New Covenant.

He has loved us first – He has called us to be his disciples – by the gift of faith, and by our Baptism. So he says : -

“If you love me you will keep my commandments.”

So we must keep the commandments of God, and the special one Jesus gave – “A new commandment I give you – love one another; you must love one another just as I have loved you,”

Jesus also says “ I will ask the Father and he will give you another Paraclete to be with you forever.” The Paraclete means someone who is a powerful Friend to support and guide us.

So Jesus promised his disciples to send the Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit did come on the first Pentecost. We will celebrate (we hope in the church) in two weeks time the gift of the Holy Spirit who guides and gives the Life of Jesus to us in the Body of Christ which is the Church - and to each of us individually through the life of grace.

We all pray during this time –

*“Come Holy Spirit – fill the hearts of your faithful People. Kindle in us the fire of your Holy Love. Holy Spirit of Jesus help us to rise again*

*in the Church to show your wonders and your Peace to the world.”*

The Holy Spirit is still with the Church. Let us walk together with determination, helping each other to carry one another’s burdens during this difficult time, and let us all take responsibility for our Church.

God bless you,

Fr Pat cp

### Readings for 6th Week of Easter

<b>Sun 17th:</b>	Acts 8:5-8,14-17	1Peter 3:15-18	John 14:15-21
<b>Psalm Response:</b>	Psalm 66		
<b>Mon 18th:</b>	Acts 16:11-15	John 15:26-16:4	
<b>Tues 19th:</b>	Acts 16:22-34	John 16:5-11	
<b>Wed 20th:</b>	Acts 17:15,22-18:1	John 16:12-15	St Bernadine of Sienna
<b>Thurs 21st:</b>	Acts 18:1-8	John 16:16-20	St Christopher Magallanes & comp.
<b>Fri 22nd:</b>	Acts 18:9-18	John 16:20-23	St Rita of Cascia, Religious
<b>Sat 23rd:</b>	Acts 18:23-28	John 16:23-28	

### The Ascension of the Lord (start of Week of Prayer for Christian Unity)

**Sun 24th:** Acts 1:1-11      Ephes 1:17-23      Matthew 28:16-20



# ON CARE FOR OUR COMMON HOME

*LAUDATO SI'*

## **"Praise be to you, my Lord."**

"LAUDATO SI', mi' Signore" – "Praise be to you, my Lord." These are the words that open Pope Francis' encyclical on ecology and care for God's creation. These words, quoting St. Francis of Assisi's beautiful canticle, remind us that our common home is like a sister with whom we share our life and a beautiful mother who opens her arms to embrace us.

Pope Francis' encyclical letter *Laudato Si'* was released in June 2015. Five years later, in 2020, Pope Francis invited all Catholics and people of good will to celebrate its fifth anniversary by protecting families and future generations through action to care for our common home. Here are themes that Pope Francis highlighted in *Laudato Si'* which require our urgent response today.

- **A Moral and Spiritual Challenge.** The ecological crisis, Pope Francis writes, is a summons to profound interior conversion—to renew our relationships with God, one another, and the created world.

- **Care for God's Creation.** God created the world and entrusted it to us as a gift. Now we have the responsibility to care for and protect it and all people, who are part of creation. Protecting human dignity is strongly linked to care for creation.

- **We are All Connected.** We are connected to the rest of the human family, to the created world, and to those who will come after us in future generations.

- **Impact on the Poor.** People in poverty have contributed least to climate change, yet they are disproportionately impacted by it. As a result of excessive use of natural resource by wealthy nations, those who are poor experience pollution, lack of access to clean water, hunger, and more.

- **Called to Solidarity.** We are one human family and have a shared responsibility for others and for creation. Wealthy countries have a responsibility to reduce consumption of non-renewal resources and should help poorer

nations develop in sustainable ways.

- **Technological and economic development** must serve human beings and enhance human dignity, instead of creating an economy of exclusion, so that all people have access to what is needed for authentic human development.

- **Supporting Life, Protecting Creation.** Concern for nature is incompatible with failure to protect vulnerable human beings, such as unborn children, people with disabilities, or victims of human trafficking.

- **A Time to Act.** Pope Francis calls for a change in lifestyle and consumption. We can make important changes as individuals, families, and communities, and as civil and political leaders.

- **Hope and Joy.** "Injustice is not invincible" (no. 74) and we act knowing that we seek to live out God's vision of renewed relationships with God, ourselves, one another, and creation.

## **How You Can Respond**

Each of us are called to take concrete steps – from reducing consumption to working for political change – to better care for creation. Here are some ideas.

1. **Become more aware of our connectedness.** Care for one another and creation includes understanding that "everything is connected" (no. 91) and that the economy, politics, community involvement, and technology all affect the future of the planet and humankind. How can we become more aware of our connectedness?

2. **Changes to lifestyle and consumption habits** can make a big difference. For example, get a re-usable water bottle, take shorter showers, walk, bike or take public transportation instead of driving, recycle, compost food waste, and buy energy efficient appliances.

3. **Make changes institutionally** at your parish, school, or workplace. For example, start recycling and composting, use washable dinnerware in cafeterias,

share electronically instead of printing, do an energy audit, and install solar panels.

4. **Support local efforts** to solve environmental problems. Community groups around the country are working to make city, county, and state-wide changes that can make a big difference. Find out what is going on locally and get involved.

5. **Contact your members of Congress** to share Pope Francis' message and urge action to address climate change.

## **Prayer**

Triune Lord, wondrous community of infinite love,

teach us to contemplate you in the beauty of the universe, for all things speak of you.

Awaken our praise and thankfulness

for every being that you have made.

Give us the grace to feel profoundly joined

to everything that is.

God of love, show us our place in this world

as channels of your love

for all the creatures of this earth, for not one of them is forgotten in your sight.

Enlighten those who possess power and money

that they may avoid the sin of indifference,

that they may love the common good,

advance the weak, and care for this world in which we live.

The poor and the earth are crying out.

O Lord, seize us with your power and light,

help us to protect all life,

to prepare for a better future, for the coming of your Kingdom

of justice, peace, love and beauty.

Praise be to you!

Amen.

Excerpted from "A Christian prayer in union with creation,"

in *Laudato Si'*, no. 246

## Use this time to rediscover the need for prayer: Pope

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The coronavirus pandemic is a “favorable time to rediscover the need for prayer in our lives; let us open the doors of our hearts to the love of God our father, who will listen to us,” Pope Francis said.

At his weekly general audience May 6, the pope began a new series of audience talks about prayer, which is “the breath of faith, its most appropriate expression, like a cry arising from the heart.”

At the end of the audience, which was livestreamed from the papal library in the Apostolic Palace, the pope offered a special prayer and appeal for justice for “exploited workers,” especially farmworkers.

Pope Francis said that May 1, International Workers’ Day, he received many messages about problems in the world of work. “I was particularly struck by that of the farmworkers, among them many migrants, who work in the Italian countryside. Unfortunately, many are very harshly exploited.”

An Italian government proposal to grant work permits to immigrant workers in the country without proper papers has shined a spotlight particularly on farmworkers and their long hours, poor pay and miserable living conditions while also highlighting their essential role in ensuring an adequate supply of fresh fruit and vegetables for the country.

“It is true that the current crisis affects everyone, but people’s dignity must always be respected,” the pope said. “That is why I add my voice to the appeal of these workers and of all exploited workers. May the crisis give us the opportunity to make the dignity of the person and the dignity of work the center of our concern.”

The pope’s audience began with reading the story from the Gospel of Mark about Bartimaeus, the blind man, who repeatedly cries out to Jesus for healing. The pope said that of all the Gospel characters who ask Jesus for help, he finds Bartimaeus “the most likable of all.”

“At the top of his voice,” Bartimaeus cries out, “Jesus, son of David, have pity on me.” And he does so over and over again, annoying the people around him, the pope

noted.

“Jesus speaks to him and asks him to express what he wants — this is important — and so his cry becomes a request, ‘I want to see,’” the pope said.

Faith, he said, “is having two hands raised (and) a voice that cries out to implore the gift of salvation.”

Humility, as the Catechism of the Catholic Church says, is essential for authentic prayer, the pope added, because prayer arises from knowing “our state of precariousness, our continual thirst for God.”

“Faith is a cry,” he said, while “nonfaith is suffocating that cry, a kind of ‘omerta,’” he said, using the word for the mafia code of silence.

“Faith is protesting against a painful situation we do not understand,” he said, while “nonfaith is limiting ourselves to enduring a situation we have become accustomed to. Faith is the hope of being saved; nonfaith is getting used to the evil that oppresses us.”

Obviously, the pope said, Christians are not the only ones who pray because every man and woman has within themselves the desire for mercy and aid.

“As we continue on our pilgrimage of faith, may we, like Bartimaeus, always persevere in prayer, especially in our darkest moments, and ask the Lord with confidence: ‘Jesus have mercy on me. Jesus, have mercy on us!’”



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### A quote sent through from **Ecology, Justice and Peace Office:**

The risk is that we may be struck by an even worse virus, that of selfish indifference. A virus spread by the thought that life is better if it is better for me, and that everything will be fine if it is fine for me. It begins there and ends up selecting one person over

another, discarding the poor, and sacrificing those left behind on the altar of progress. The present pandemic, however, reminds us that there are no differences or borders between those who suffer.

Pope Francis: [Homily for the Second Sunday of Easter](#), 19 April 2020

# Parish Calendar, News & Notices

## Mass Continues Online:

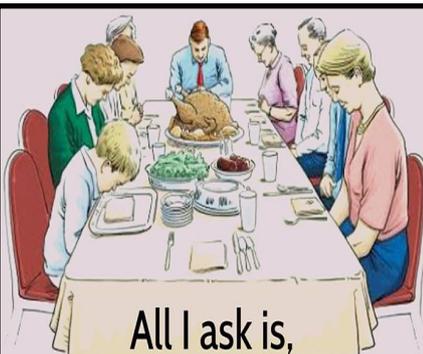
Fr Pat and Fr Jacob will be saying Mass and livestreaming it on our Facebook page this Saturday at 5pm. Everyone is welcome to join in. This can also be viewed at a later time if you wish.

## Special Collections:

Reminder: Due to COVID-19 two Collections have been moved till late in the year.

**Peter's Pence collection**, which traditionally takes place around the solemnity of Saints Peter and Paul on 29 June, will be transferred throughout the world to the 27th Sunday of Ordinary Time, 4 October, memorial of Saint Francis of Assisi.

**Good Friday" Collection for the Holy Land.** The date for this Collection has been transferred to Sunday September



All I ask is,  
May God bless my family  
and friends who need a  
Miracle. Strengthen all  
who are weak. Lighten  
those who carry heavy  
burdens.

Amen!

Beauty of Life

13<sup>th</sup> 2020 – the date closest to the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross.

## "Five Loaves and Two Fishes" by Archbishop Francis Xavier Thuan.

We will send a Chapter each week. It is by the Bishop who was in jail for 13 years and 9 of them in solitary confinement! This will come as another attachment with the newsletter.

This week is the Seventh Chapter.

Fr Pat CP

## Community Matters

At a Parish Pastoral Council meeting on Tuesday 12<sup>th</sup> May 2020, having discussed the letter from the NZ Catholic Bishops Conference, it was decided to keep the Star of the Sea Parish Churches

**closed for the moment.**

This was mainly due to the requirement of only 10 people being allowed to gather at any one time and the Health & Safety Protocols required to open the buildings. Parishioners are encouraged to continue their prayer life at home, until we can safely meet again.

This will be reviewed on Monday 18<sup>th</sup> May 2020 when the Parish Pastoral Council meet again.

Reconciliation is still available by appointment.

## Planned Giving Receipts:

Since we have been in lockdown, not everything can be done at the correct time. One is Planned Giving Envelopes and Receipts. We will endeavour to get them out as speedily as possible.

## Parish Calendar

### May

#### May 17..6th Sunday of Easter

16-24 May..Laudato Si Week  
May 19.. Finance & Property (7)  
May 24..The Ascension of the Lord

25-31 May..Week of Prayer for Christian Unity

May 25..Our Lady, Help of Christians

May 26..Parish Pastoral Council (7)

#### May 31..Pentecost Sunday

### June

#### June 7..The Most Holy Trinity

#### June 14..The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ

June 16..Finance & Property (7)

June 19..The Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

June 20..The Immaculate Heart of the Blessed Virgin Mary

#### June 21..12th Sunday of Ord Time

June 24..The Nativity of St John the Baptist

#### June 28..13th Sunday of Ord Time

June 29..Sts Peter & Paul, Apostles

### July

July 3.. St Thomas, Apostle

#### July 5..14th Sunday of Ord Time

#### July 12..15th Sunday of Ord Time

#### July 19..16th Sunday of Ord Time

July 25.. St James, Apostle

#### July 26..17th Sunday of Ord Time

## **Called to Serve: Church Vocations Today**

Ever thought of being

**A Diocesan Priest?**

Holy Cross Seminary Auckland

[www.holycross.org.nz](http://www.holycross.org.nz)

**A Passionist Missionary?**

[www.passionists.com](http://www.passionists.com)

**A Sister of Mercy?**

[www.sistersofmercy.org.nz](http://www.sistersofmercy.org.nz)

**A Marist Missionary Sister?**

[www.smsmsisters.org](http://www.smsmsisters.org)

**Recently Deceased** Michael Prendergast (Picton), Colin McKay, Norman Thornton (Chch), Sister Mary Boyes (Mary Gerard)- Sister of Mercy (Chch)

**Anniversaries: May 9** Kev Holden **18** Helen O'Connell **19** Billie Hayes **20** Ray O'Halloran

**Other Intentions:** baby girl O'Halloran who is to be born in Perth any day soon

## COLLECTIONS:

We are most grateful for your support of our Parish of Star Of The Sea.

### **Last week (minus levies):**

AP's: \$1,251.25

Envelopes:

Loose:

thank  
you!