

6 AUGUST 2017

THE TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD

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**"We are the flowers,
that make up God's vast and
beautiful garden"
~ Suzy Kassem ~**



Artwork by Year 10 Visual Art Student, Geraldine Morgan - Year 10, St Peter's College, PN

Icon of the Transfiguration by Theophanes the Greek, 15th C



“This is my Son, the Beloved, my Chosen One. Listen to Him.”

The Transfiguration was necessary to help the Apostles increase their faith and recognize the divinity of Jesus, His union with Father and the Spirit as well as with the Prophets of the Old Testament.

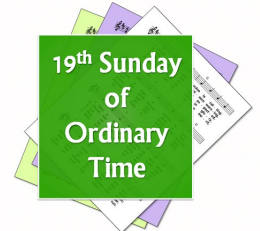
We too would have loved to be with Peter, James and John to worship Jesus and savour that heavenly experience. As true Christians, we too have to be transfigured through the Word of God, through the sacraments and through our daily Christian living. God has called us in Christ to be His sons. We should be changed into the likeness of Christ, the only begotten, the beloved Son, of the Father. A transfiguration should take place through a response of faith, love and obedience to God. This certainly will not take place automatically. We have to leave the past behind us, renounce our own ways, and venture forth into the ways of God and accept His plan. This will involve suffering and sacrifice: no cross, no crown. But that little glimpse of heaven which we have in the Transfiguration of the Lord gives us hope and encouragement.

A glimpse of heaven comforts and cheers. While we work with the grace of God for our transfiguration, the joy and glory of belonging to God must be manifested in our lives and shining on our faces. We need to constantly pray to the Father in heaven to change and transform us to make our thoughts, desires, attitudes and actions configured to those of Christ.

Fr Robin Kurian IC

Transfiguration of the Lord - The Lord is king, the most high over all the earth
13 August 2017: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
First Reading: Kings 19:9, 11-13 Second Reading: Romans 9:1-5 Gospel: Matthew 14:22-23

Monday 7/8	Num 11:4-15	<i>Gospel</i>	Mt 14:13-21
Tuesday 8/8	King 17:8-16; Col 3:12-17	<i>Gospel</i>	Mt 6:25-34
Wednesday 9/8	Num 13:1-2, 25—14:1, 26-29, 34-35	<i>Gospel</i>	Mt 15:21-28
Thursday 10/8	2 Cor 9:6-10	<i>Gospel</i>	Jn 12:24-26
Friday 11/8	Deut 4:32-40	<i>Gospel</i>	Mt 16:24-28
Saturday 12/8	Deut 6:4-13	<i>Gospel</i>	Mt 17:14-20
Sunday 13/8	1 Kg19:9, 11-13; Rom 9:1-5	<i>Gospel</i>	Mt 14:22-33



Congratulations

I am writing to let you know the joyful news that Fr Brian Walsh, our Vicar General, has been made a Chaplain to His Holiness Pope Francis and thereby has had bestowed upon him the honorific title of Monsignor.

Technically this is explained by a rather nice familial image: it means he becomes a member of the Papal Household or whānau. While this in practice has little impact when living so far away from Rome, it does mean that if Monsignor Brian is ever in Rome he would be expected to support or tautoko the Pope through his participation in Papal Liturgies in St Peter’s.

The title is also a recognition of some priests’ particular contribution to Church governance. In our case we can refer to Monsignor Brian’s service as Vicar General to the Diocese, Chair of the Clergy Trust Fund and also his natural capacity to be a mentor. Many of you will also be aware of Monsignor Brian’s generous ministry as a parish priest, his ready sense of humour, and his self-effacing and quiet encouragement of so many of us (and a few of you have suffered under him on the golf course!).

Personally, I am very grateful for his work as Vicar General and the common sense advice he gives me in regard to the pastoral challenges that come with the shepherding of a Diocese.

I am sure you will join with me in congratulating Monsignor Brian as we celebrate this honour together as a diocesan family.

+ Charles



Notices

<p>A day of retreat is being held at the Diocesan Centre, Amesbury St, PN from 10am to 4pm on Tuesday 12 September. Two experienced retreat givers, Rev Brian Pierce OP and Sister Mary Ellen Green OP will conduct the retreat in the Dominican tradition of contemplation and reflection on the Word, in an environment of silence and prayer. Please bring your own lunch. Tea and coffee will be provided. Cost Koha</p>	<p>Blessings and congratulations to all our youth who received the Sacrament of Confirmation from Bishop Charles last Sunday. Please remember them in your prayers and ask the power of the Holy Spirit to continue to guide them as they continue their Faith Journey.</p>	<p>Evening With Our Bishop - Bishop Charles will give a presentation on his work in India followed by dessert/coffee/tea on Thursday 31st August, 7:30pm at Our Lady of Lourdes, Shamrock Street. Please bring a small dessert to share – All parishes are most welcome to come and enjoy this social evening with our Bishop.</p>
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New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference **This week’s reflection from the Catholic Bishops’ statement on the 2017 General Election**

We delight in the cultural diversity of contemporary New Zealand and we wish to welcome to our shores not only those people whose skills are deemed to be of immediate benefit to our economy, but also those for whom their homeland has become unsafe, including refugees and asylum seekers.

We envisage a nation that strives to welcome and appreciate migrants as an integral part of our nation. We share the angst that migrant families experience when changes in policy deem them no longer wanted due to perceived shifts in the labour needs of our economy.

ST PETER'S COLLEGE OPEN NIGHT Thursday 10 August 2017 7-9pm in the School Gymnasium

Calling on young New Zealanders to share their voice with the Vatican: Have you completed your survey? New Zealanders aged 16 – 29 years old are encouraged to answer the survey, tell their friends about it and share the link with their networks. The survey went live on 23 July and closes at midnight on Sunday 27 August 2017. <https://www.facebook.com/voicetovaticanNZ> and on the home page of the NZ Catholic Bishops' website: <http://www.catholic.org.nz/>

Surviving Loss & Grief Course - commencing 28 August, 7.30pm
Contact Jenny 357 4112 or 027-357 4115 or dljdevans@inspire.net.nz

P.N. Interfaith Group - Interfaith Women Resist the Climate of Hatred and Fear – Sharing different faith perspectives on building bridges of trust, friendship and love. Thursday, 24 August, 7-9pm at Events Central, PN City Library, see poster on notice-board.

A short liturgy as **Commemoration of Hiroshima Day** will be held at Memorial Park (by the water) today at 6pm. It will involve floating lanterns on the water, so please bring a candle that can float. This is an ecumenical event. We will be making floating candle lanterns this afternoon with children. Get in touch if you'd like to join us. Forrest 022-1600-751.

Celebration of Ethnic Songs and Praises - On Sunday 20 August at St Mary's Church 2-4pm featuring choirs from some of Palmerston North diverse ethnic groups followed by afternoon tea. Contact Anne Odogwu, ph. 3562476 for more information. Entry by gold coin donation.

The Lutherans are celebrating the 500th anniversary of Martin Luther in 2017. Recognising positive dialogue between the Catholic and Lutheran Churches, we will be having a combined service with the Lutherans at the Cathedral at 2pm on Sunday October 29th. All welcome. Look for more details closer to the time.

Pick up your copy of the latest Wel-Com, following Mass today

Tui Motu's August issue (\$7) has also arrived and available for sale at the Cathedral and Our Lady of Lourdes.



Holy Day of Obligation

Feast of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary - Mass Times

Cathedral of the Holy Spirit	7.30am and 12.05pm	St Mary's	12.05pm
Our Lady of Lourdes	10am and 7pm	St Brigid's	9am

Mass & Reconciliation Times

Cathedral Parish				
Monday	9.00am	Morning Prayer	12.05pm	Liturgy of the Word with Communion
Tuesday	12.05pm	Mass		
Wednesday	9.00am	Morning Prayer	12.05pm	Mass
Thursday	12.05pm	Mass		
Friday	11.00am Exposition; 11.30am Reconciliation; 12.05pm Mass; 12.30pm Hospitality			
Saturday	8.30am Morning Prayer; 9am Mass; 9.30am Reconciliation & Rosary			
Sunday	7.30am Mass, 9.30am Mass, 6pm Mass			
Our Lady of Lourdes				
Weekdays	10.00am	Mass		
Friday	10.30am-Noon	Eucharist Adoration	7.00pm – 9.00pm	Eucharist Adoration
Saturday	10.30–11am Reconciliation (or on request)		5.30pm	Vigil Mass
Sunday	8.00am Mass, 10.00am Mass			
Rongotea Masses				
Thursday	7.00pm Mass	Sundays: Mass held on 1 st , 3 rd & 5 th Sundays commencing at 9.30am		
St Mary's				
Monday	9.00am Mass	Tuesday	12.00 noon Mass	<i>Reconciliation is available after Saturday morning Mass and on request.</i>
Wednesday	9.00 am Mass	Thursday	9.00am Mass	
Friday	9.00am Mass	Saturday	9.00am Mass	
Sunday	10.30am Mass	11.00am Latin Mass at St Columba's		
St Brigid's				
Wednesday	9.00 am Mass	Thursday	9.00 am Mass	Reconciliation is available from 8.30am and on request
Friday	9.00 am Mass	Sunday	9.00 am Mass	

We pray for the members of our Parish families who have died recently, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time. Our prayers are also with those who are unwell and for the wonderful people who are caring for the everyday needs of the sick in our Community.



Sacred Heart Church, Rongotea

6 Mersey Street, Rongotea

Sunday Mass (1st, 3rd, & 5th Sundays) 9.30am

Service of Holy Communion with the Word (2nd & 4th Sundays) 9.30am

The building of the Catholic Church in Rongotea was completed in early 1895 when the settlement was called Campbelltown. However it wasn't until October 1895 that the Church was officially opened by Archbishop Redwood. The site for the Church was donated by Mr Costall, the Government Printer in Wellington.

Prior to the building of the Church, Marist priests, Frs Melu and Moreau and Fr Patterson from Palmerston North, would travel to the homes of Catholics for Mass and fellowship. Families of the district also travelled to Foxton, Palmerston North, Bulls or Feilding for Mass and celebrations of the sacraments. Since then priests serving the Rongotea congregation have been based at all four of those locations. The current congregation continues that generosity, patience, and pioneer spirit of those early days.

The original Church was a small, typical rural kiwi church built and sustained by the gifts of locals, Catholic and non-Catholic alike. The current Church exterior looks fairly close to when it was first built. In 1931, due to earthquake concerns in the light of the Napier earthquakes, the bell tower was removed. At the Church centennial in 1995, John Feldberg, a craftsman parishioner, presented a replacement bell tower that now adorns the Church and looks original in design.

A regular congregation meets every Sunday with priests from Our Lady of Lourdes Parish in Palmerston North presiding. Since 2001, the community has celebrated Service of the Word with Holy Communion on the alternate Sundays when a priest was unavailable to preside. The community is vibrant and caring, involved in the wider community, and has fantastic ecumenical relationships with the other three Christian communities in the township. Every Sunday sees Liturgy of the Word with Children run by different members of the community and on the 1st of the Month the community welcomes the Filipino choir to bring life to the liturgy. The Catholic community of Rongotea welcomes all visitors and looks forward to seeing you soon.

Notices

From St Brigid's

Commencing **1 September** an hour of Adoration from **9am** each Friday followed by Mass at **10.00am**. All welcome.

Come Join Our Music Group - We need new members. We are looking for (A) Singers, only requirement a joy of singing. (B) Musicians, anyone who can play a musical instrument, not necessarily a piano. No age limit required to join the group young, old or in between, with enthusiasm and commitment. If you are interested to be part of this important and uplifting ministry please contact **Joan 3240149** or **Alistair 3233242**. Don't be shy give it a go!

Welcome into our Parish Family - next Sunday we are joining in celebrating the Sacrament of Baptism and welcoming Cyrus, Maximus, Jesse, Sophie, Travis, Mackenzie, Chloe, Alexis, Carter, Ashton and Grayson into our Parish family. We pray for God's blessings on you and your families, that you will be guided in the faith you have now entered into.

Community Raffle: Sales are going well but we still need volunteers. If you have a couple of hours please contact Diana Kessler, patthecat@orcon.net.nz, or the Parish office of your availability. Thank you to those who are currently giving so willingly with their time, it is greatly appreciated. **Parish Quiz:** Mark your **diary - Saturday 7 October**. Registration forms are now available.

Parish Celebration - another date to keep free!!! This is to be held in St Joseph's Hall on Saturday 16 September commencing at 6.00pm. An evening of entertainment, food and fun. More details to follow.....watch this space!

From OLOL

OLOL Coffee/Play Group
- Tuesdays 9:00am-11:30am, church foyer. All ages are welcome, come along and meet new people. Call Megan 355 1877

Church Cleaning: (July 31st) Linda Darbyshire & Ann Nation. **Counting:** (Aug 8th) Leigh Basile. **Flowers:** Freda Reggers. **Greeters:** Vigil 5:30pm Lorraine & Dave Marriott **8am** Pat & Colin Keegan **10am** Kapatiran Group. **Readers:** Vigil 5:30pm Roselle Gouwland & Fina Ta'ala **8am** Kath Rooney & Brian Wilkinson **10am** Rhea Villocido & Maricar Dongo. **Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:** Vigil **5:30pm** Cecily Finucane, Martin Wall, Lorraine & Dave Marriott, Monica Hammond **8am** Colin Keegan, Clare Cole, Raymond Jones **10am** Maria Amey, Mary Murrow, Stephen Guy, Paul Darbyshire, Sharon van der Plas. **Altar Servers:** 10am Tessa & Kaitlyn Amey. **Children's Liturgy:** Donna Brown. **Hospitality:** 10am Kapatiran Group. **Religious Goods/ Library:** Diane Baucke. **Linen:** Maureen Murphy (August). **Lawns:** Alan Marlow (12th Aug)

From St Mary's

First Communion Preparation - Catechism on Sunday before Mass, 9.30am – 10.20am on 13 and 20 August. Practise and party preparation night Friday 25 August, 7pm. The Sacrament of First Communion will be on Sunday, 3 September at 10.30am Mass.

Youth aged 12 to 16 years are invited to an evening of faith, fun, food and fellowship. Commencing Friday 25 August 7 to 8pm in St Mary's Hall. Contact Hilary on 022-6906637 for more information.

From the Cathedral Parish

Rosters - all rosters are available on our website. (Under "Rosters" top right hand side of the Home page). Further copies are also on the Ministry Noticeboard.

The next **Gentlemen's morning tea** will be held on **Tuesday 22 August** in the Cathedral Lounge at 10.30am. Please mark your diaries.