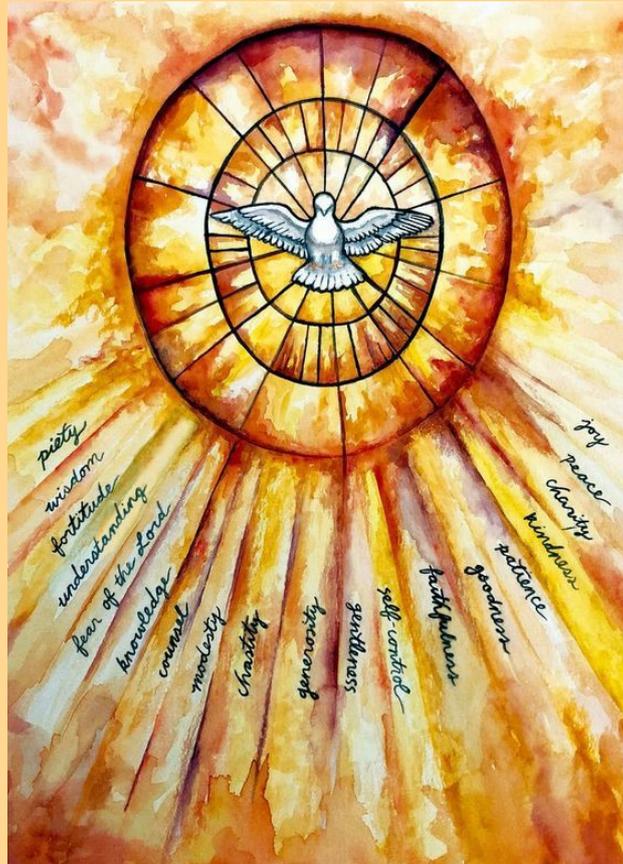


All Saints by the Sea Parish Coast and Country Magazine



Come, Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful.
And kindle in them the fire of your love.
Send forth your Spirit and they shall be created.
And you will renew the face of the earth.

Easter edition

2020

Meet the Establishment Board of our new parish school, Papamoa.



Congratulations to **Anthony Mills** who has been chosen to lead the establishment of the newest Catholic school in our Diocese- Suzanne Aubert Catholic School, Papamoa.

Anthony is originally from the Waikato and was head boy at St. John's College. In 2005 Anthony moved across the Kaimais to take up a position at St.Thomas More. Taking up the role of Director of Religious Studies was the beginning of Anthony's leadership journey which included his work as lead science teacher (Royal Society of NZ) and Across Schools' Co-ordinator in the Faith based Community of Learning. He is currently Assistant Principal of St. Mary's, Tauranga.

Many of you will already know Anthony and his family through their membership in our parish community. Anthony and Amie-Lee share a music ministry and we are blessed to have their music to support our liturgy on a regular basis.

Anthony begins his new job on 8th June, 2020. We pray that the Holy Spirit is always there to guide and empower him to meet the challenges of principalship.



Ron Scott is the Establishment BOT's chair.

Ron is the CEO of Stellaris Ltd which specialises on Governance Education and Strategic Planning services.

Currently the Deputy Chair of BOPDHB and Chair of the Audit committee Ron holds positions on several community-based organisations. He is an old boy of St.John's College, Hamilton and Ron is looking forward to the opportunities a new Catholic school brings to our Diocesan network of schools in the Bay of Plenty.



Clare Wilson has been elected BOT Deputy Chair. Many of you will know Clare and her extended family, Philip and Margaret Sherry. Clare's children attended St.Thomas More and are in tertiary education now. Always generous in the service of others Clare has worked in both hospital and community based health as a registered nurse for over 30 years. She is now specialising in the mental health of youth in the education sector. Clare is a Justice of the Peace and a marriage celebrant. She has lived in Mount Maunganui for more than twenty years and is excited to be involved in the new school at Papamoa.

John Coulam brings with him an education perspective, having been a Catholic principal for more than thirty years.

His current position is Education Support Manager for the Hamilton Catholic Diocese, looking after a network of thirty-three schools, supporting Boards of Trustees and principals with governance, special character and human resources matters.



Father Stuart Young, our parish priest, is a very experienced board member, having chaired the St.Joseph's School, Morrinsville, Board of trustees for fifteen years.

In his previous life Father Stuart was the General Manager of the Catholic Diocese of Dunedin before he was ordained in 2015.

Father Stuart is looking forward to the synergies which will develop between St.Thomas More Catholic School and Suzanne Aubert Catholic School which will provide so many more opportunities for the Holy Spirit to work in our parish community.



Kurt Kennedy is Deputy Principal of Aquinas College and has just begun his fourth year living in Papamoa East. He moved to the sunny Bay of Plenty with his wife Catherine and two daughters from his position at Dunedin's Kavanagh College. Kurt was born and raised in Dunedin. He has qualifications in PE, Physiology, Secondary teaching, Educational Leadership and his focus at the moment is digital fluency and collaborative learning.

Gen Fuller is the establishment principal of Taumata School, the Lakes, Tauranga.

She previously held the position of Deputy Principal at Papamoa Primary. Gen has a comprehensive understanding of the challenges of starting a new school in a rapidly growing new community.

The connections and networking that have contributed to the success of Taumata School will be invaluable as Suzanne Aubert School begins the journey to opening day in February, 2021.



The establishment board is advertising for the Deputy Principal and Director of Religious Studies positions this term so that a strong vision and strategic plan for the new school can be created with the leadership team in place.



New Zealand stopped on March 25th as a total lockdown descended on us all, the first response to our battle to stop Covid-19 in its tracks.

While we're waiting for public worship to be re-established we can look back at the way people responded. Members of our parish gathered together in the sunshine to pray while Father Stuart celebrated Mass in the parish lounge. As the teachers started their day during Alert 3 we could hear contemplative music and the rosary being prayed in the area dedicated to the Blessed Virgin Mary, graced by the shade of our old tree.

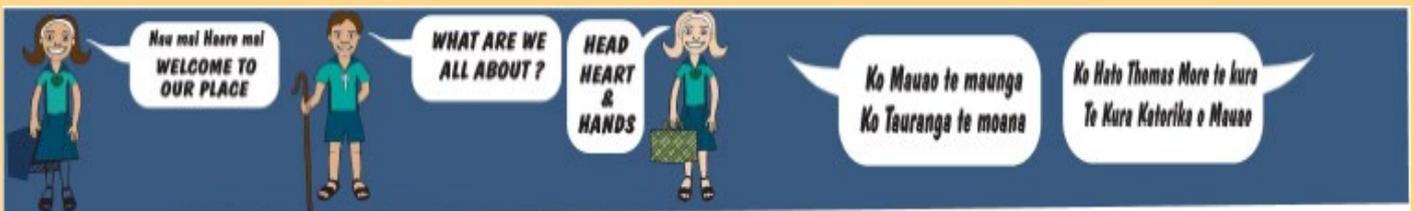
Everyone kept to their two metre social distancing and continued to chat together, ensuring that all important relationships endured through the strange times.

Father Stuart started processing barcodes and congregation numbers as soon as we moved into Alert 3. The biggest difficulty was communicating what needed to happen next. The church app is used by about 280 parishioners. Apart from a telephone tree which was set up by the morning regulars it was very difficult to pass information to parishioners about the importance of nominating a Mass time so the bar codes could be allocated. The expectation that 99 people attending Mass in level 2 would be the norm will be realised this weekend. For many of our parishioners 8 weeks without the blessed sacrament has just been too long.

Distance learning ...Bubble School @ St.Thomas More.

Lockdown for St.Thomas More School students and teachers came with a day's warning leaving us scrambling to put together resources which would support learning for a short time. The unknowns included whether our chromebooks/laptops would be insured if we released them to school families. Teachers were pulled in all directions organising their own families and their households as well as setting up to support our school families. Once the insurance company came back with the okay to send home chromebooks we put together a package for every family in two days- then the real on-line learning began.

Our Bubble School started with morning prayer led by Andrew Chinn (Aussie musician and educator). We really appreciated the time and thought that Andrew put into each day. He needed to rise early and put a prayer reflection and a song clip together in time for the New Zealand and Australian Catholic schools who had tuned into youtube to hear. Every morning at 7.00 a.m. we downloaded morning prayer to our school facebook page and then we were ready to face the day. Thank you to people like Andrew Chinn and Bishop Steve who brought us comfort over the internet in our Covid-19 reality.



The arrival of the Holy Spirit....

Pentecost is sometimes called the birthday of the Church. Celebrated 50 days after Easter, Pentecost marks the descent of the Holy Spirit upon the Apostles. This was the start of their Ministry to go forth and make disciples of all nations. The Gospel for Pentecost reminds us that the Church begins with the command to forgive. Within the family, our domestic Church, we learn how to forgive and how to accept forgiveness. The gift of the Holy Spirit enables us to do both.

The Convent at Jerusalem/Hiruharama – a great place to visit.



Many people miss the opportunity to leave State highway 1 and enjoy the road less travelled. Along the banks of Lake Taupo, to the turn off at Tokaanu, past the road to the Chateau, behind the imposing snowy cones of Tongariro, Ngaruahoe and Ruapehu to the turn off at Raetihi. It's a great adventure into a part of New Zealand where the roads seem empty and the scenery is raw. The road which takes you along the Whanganui River is long and windy. Cyclists and farmers use this road and while it is sealed there are many blind corners so caution is needed.

After an hour and a half along the Whanganui River road you come to a small sign which says Convent, go over the cattle stop and up a steep driveway you'll reach your destination. And what a view.



The Convent is open to day trippers and overnight guests- just book in via www.compassion.org.nz In March a group of fifteen Catholic principals enjoyed four days of fellowship and prayer focussed on the mission of Suzanne Aubert and her companions.

The two storied Convent was an orphanage and a school as well as being the home of a small group of nuns in the 1890s. Suzanne Aubert would ride down to the wharf to meet the paddle steamer from Auckland which would sometimes bring foundlings who needed love and care. Suzanne had studied medicinal plants and remedies in France before coming to New Zealand. Living alongside the people of the river Suzanne was gifted knowledge from local Maori which she was able to make into medicines. These medicines were advertised in newspapers in metropolitan areas and a market developed for the remedies she produced from local plants. So successful was she that big companies were interested in acquiring recipes and copying formulae. This exploitation prompted Suzanne to throw all her notes and writing into the river. She believed that the knowledge should be kept sacred to the people of the river and not commercialised.



We pray for the repose of the souls of

- Carlene Clarke
- Nora Carson
- Murray Cole

and Fr Nick Hoogeveen who have passed away recently. May they rest in peace.

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