

MESSAGE FROM BISHOP MICHAEL REGARDING ST THOMAS OF CANTERBURY

The recent news that the Christian Brothers are seeking to sell the land and buildings at St Thomas of Canterbury College is a source of deep concern. For over half a century, St Thomas's has been an integral part of Catholic education in Christchurch. The Diocese gifted to the Christian Brothers the land on which the school sits – a place which has served the education of young men of faith, character and intellect.

As the Catholic Bishop of Christchurch, I have made it clear to the principal, Steve Hart, and to the chair of the school's board that I will stand alongside the college to ensure St Thomas's remains a Catholic college.

That in no way detracts from the responsibility held by the Church and the Christian Brothers to provide reparation to those who have suffered abuse. I will walk with the school community to achieve the outcome we all desire: the continuation of Catholic education on that site.

CBS CHORAL FESTIVAL

All welcome to a free Choral Festival featuring community, church, youth and concert choirs. At St Mary's Pro-Cathedral at 2.00pm on **Sun, 9 Aug.** Visit cdoc.nz/news-events/cbs for more details.

OUR LADY OF MT CARMEL MASS

The Carmelite Sisters warmly invite you to the annual celebration of the Mass of Our Lady of Mt Carmel on **Sun, 19 Jul** at 2.30pm, at the Carmelite Monastery, 52 Halswell Road. Bishop Michael Gielen will be the principal celebrant at a concelebrated Mass, followed by afternoon tea.

GREATER COMPANY OF MARY MASS

The next Greater Company of Mary Mass will be held on **Sat, 1 Aug**, 10.30am at the Mary Potter Community Centre, 442 Durham St North, St Albans, Christchurch. All welcome. Morning tea will follow. For catering purposes, please RSVP by Mon, 27 Jul, to the Little Company of Mary office, ph 372 9224.

UPCOMING SAFEGUARDING WORKSHOP

Tue, 21 Jul
5.30pm - 7.00pm - Chervier Centre, Rangiora

VACANCY - EDITOR TUI MOTU MAGAZINE

Applications are invited for the role of Managing Editor of the Tui Motu Interislands magazine. Email chair.tcim@gmail.com for more information.

AI & HUMANITY CONFERENCE 2026

All are welcome to attend a one-and-a-half-day public gathering designed to inform, equip and inspire a general audience about Artificial Intelligence, its rapid developments, its practical applications, and its deeper implications for our lives, communities and humanity itself. The conference is hosted by Cashmere Presbyterian Church. For more details and to book, go to events.humanitix.com/ai-and-humanity-conference



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THE ART OF CELEBRATING MASS WORKSHOP – ARS CELEBRANDI

Parish liturgy teams, school staff, parish leadership teams, and all involved in the preparation of the sacred liturgy are invited to a special workshop with international liturgist Fr Paul Turner.

Fr Paul is an experienced parish priest and respected liturgist and will deepen our understanding and love of the Eucharist in the Liturgy. **Sat, 8 Aug**, 9.30am to 12.30pm at St Joseph's Pastoral Centre, 133 Main North Road. No cost to attend but registration is required by going to our website

cdoc.nz/news-events/ars-celebrandi-workshop

For more information contact Mike Stopforth, mstopforth@cdoc.nz or phone 027 5398 542



SISTER EVELEEN RETREAT HOUSE

"You have taken me into the depths, O Lord" Join us for a 6-day retreat on the Psalms at Sister Eveleen Retreat House, **2-7 Aug**, led by Colin Renouf. Register at sistereretreat.com/retreats

CATHOLIC BED & BREAKFAST

Enjoy catholic hospitality in New Zealand and Australia, \$50 per night for one guest, each additional guest pays \$30, includes continental breakfast. A great way to meet and enjoy the company of other Catholics. To become a host or purchase a book with details of hosts, please contact Marie Anderson at marie.ian@xtra.co.nz.

ST MICHAEL'S TROOPS

Do you long for authentic brotherhood and a space to grow deeper in faith alongside other men? St Michael's Troops is an event for men aged 16-35 seeking strength, discipline, and purpose rooted in Christ. This morning event on **Sat, 8 Aug** in Riccarton includes Mass and formation, physical activity, and shared BBQ. Join us, and bring a mate. Register at fitforthe kingdom.com.au

FABRIC FAIR

The Hoon Hay Catholic Women's League is holding a Fabric Fair on **Sat, 15 Aug** between 10.00am and 1.30pm at Catholic Cathedral College. For more information or to book a table email cwlhoonhay@gmail.com

160 YEAR CELEBRATION OF ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC CHURCH - ROSS

All are warmly invited to join the celebration of 160 years of faith and community at St Patrick's Catholic Church in Ross. Date: **Sat, 24 Oct**. Registration is \$50 per person. Email info@rossgoldtown.org to for more information and to register.

PRISON VOLUNTEER REQUIRED

A Catholic volunteer is required at Christchurch Men's Prison to assist the chaplaincy team to support Catholic men in their spiritual needs. The person we seek will have knowledge of Catholic beliefs and some pastoral experience. Might you be called to serve in this ministry? Find out more by visiting our [website](#) or contact Mike Stopforth, Bishop's Pastoral Office. Email mstopforth@cdoc.nz or phone 027 5398 542

DOVE CATHOLIC FELLOWSHIP FOR WOMEN

Dove is delighted to announce the launch of Dovecotes for Women NZ, a new initiative designed to support women in parish communities throughout New Zealand. Dovecotes are small parish-based groups where women from all walks of life can come together in friendship, prayer, and faith. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, these groups offer a welcoming space for women to bond, encourage one another, and grow more deeply in their relationship with God. For more information contact Gloria Stafford: dovenational.leader@gmail.com or Check out the website: www.dove.org.nz

VILLA MARIA and SVDP 'Evening of Style'

Join us for a fun, fashion event with renowned local stylist, Becks Mason, raising funds for our College PTA and Villa Maria Foundation. Proceeds benefit current students and future students whose families could not otherwise afford a Catholic education. Date: **Thu, 13 Aug**, Villa Maria College Hall Time: Doors open at 6.30pm, refreshments available, event starts at 7.00pm Raffles, stalls, spot prizes!! Don't miss this opportunity to plan your spring wardrobe, mingle and be part of a fun night with friends. Cost: \$30.00 Tickets available at events.humanitix.com/evening-of-style or contact Yvonne at 0273534450



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