

MORE NEWS



ST THOMAS MORE PARISH
MAY 1968

MAY 1988

MORE NEWS - St Thomas More Parish

this issue you will NOT find:

PELGRIM'S JOURNEY TO THE HOLY LAND - the writer has been in hospital having major surgery - we look forward to his return for the next issue.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR - there weren't any. Presumably this indicates that all is well in St Thomas More Parish, or that nobody cares!

WANTS PATTERN - Spying may be illegal in some areas, but it is positively encouraged in Glenfield. MORE NEWS pays \$10 for a good tip, and \$5 for a strong rumour!

WANTS CHILDREN'S PAGE - We don't have an editor for this now, and we NEED one! Can you help?

However, you WILL find:

LETTER FROM FIONA - describing a former parishioner's fascinating journey through central Africa.

THE MOTHER OF GOD, A MODEL FOR THOSE WHO SERVE - A most informative article on the Mother of God.

UPDATE ON THE CARING COMMUNITY CONTACTS - Do you know who yours is?

Remember, this magazine is YOURS. If it is to continue successfully, we need your input, both in contributions and comments.

EDITOR: Clare Russell, Ph 444-8843

TYPIST: Carol Mogridge

PRINTERS: Kevin and Moya Hocquard

Q Q Q Q Q

May is a month during which we as Catholics take the opportunity to examine our Devotion to Mary the Mother of Christ and to take time out to make sure that she has a special part in our prayer life. It is also appropriate this year during the Church's special Marian Year.

During this Easter period the Church spends time recalling the time Christ spent with His Disciples preparing them to continue His work of salvation after His Ascension to heaven. He was with them as they spent time in prayer and preparation to begin the work of the Church in the world. Mary was also with them and it is here that we can see the role that she played in the lives of the Disciples and the early Church, and understand the role that she plays now in our lives and in the life of the 1988 Church.

Mary, in her own quiet way assisted greatly in the preparation of the Disciples for the life they were about to begin. As the mother of Christ she made sure the Disciples understood all that He taught them. She made sure that Christ became the focal point in the lives of each of them and by her example made sure that "Thy will be done" was the motto of each. Mary has the same role to play in the lives of each one of us so long as we, like the Disciples, allow her into our lives.

During the month of May let us make sure that Mary is part of our prayer life. Renew the practice of the Family Rosary each day. If the whole Rosary is too much, then at least one decade each day. The following Prayer of Pope Paul II may also help:

Enable all to meet Christ,
the way and the truth and the life.
Sustain us, O Virgin Mary,
on our journey of faith,
and obtain for us the grace
of eternal salvation.
O clement, O loving, O sweet Mother of God
and our Mother, Mary.

FATHER BROWNE

FATHER BROWNE INVITED

MARY, a model for those who serve

by Patrick O'Sullivan, S.J.

Mary's co-operation with her Son began with her "Let it be" in the mystery of the Annunciation-Incarnation.

In the Annunciation scene, what appears most strikingly is Mary's complete availability for the task the Father gives her. In an instant, all her plans are changed, her life is turned upside down, and she risks all - her 'good name', the love of Joseph whom she loved so dearly - in her unconditional surrender to the Father's will.

In the scene of the Visitation, where Mary prays her Magnificat, we are given further insights into Mary as the model for mission; her soul glorifies the Lord. God's glory is revealed through his saving his People. The glory of God is the 'liberation of the whole man and of all men', and 'the glory of God is man fully live'.

My spirit rejoices in God my Saviour. This reminds us that the basis for our hope, in our mission, is that the victory has been won because God is our Saviour. Mary also reminds us that there is only one Messiah; through believing in her Son we are delivered from false messiahs, false hopes.

The Lord looks on his servant in her lowliness; henceforth all ages will call me blessed. Like Mary, we acknowledge the gifts the Lord has given us and are grateful for them since, through them, we can be effective in his Kingdom and for his people.

The Almighty works marvels for me. Holy his name! We, too, are to realise that if we rely on the Lord and his power nothing is impossible; we can 'dream the impossible dream'.

His mercy is from age to age on those who fear him. We are to have a sense of Salvation History and of the Lord's fidelity to his promises. Perhaps what the world most needs today is the experience of fidelity - people who are committed and who are faithful to their word. It is very difficult to believe in a faithful God if we see no faithful people. The Lord is a faithful Lover; in his Kingdom we can be no less.

puts forth his arm in strength and scatters the proud-hearted.
casts the mighty from their thrones and raises the lowly.

ere we are reminded to put on the mind of Christ who emptied himself and was raised up by the Father as the Lord of History. If we are to work in building up the kingdom, the only values that work has are the values of Christ.

fills the starving with good things, sends the rich away empty.
e can see here a call to Justice, a call to be like God our Father who has a preference for the poor.

protects Israel his servant, remembering his mercy - the mercy promised to our Father, to Abraham and his sons forever. God's promises can never fail. Some years ago when Dr Frank Sheed, the English author and publisher, was visiting Australia, he was asked in a press interview, 'Are you optimistic about the future of the Catholic Church?' Dr Sheed replied, 'I have no grounds for optimism, but every reason to hope!'. Christian hope goes much deeper than optimism for it is rooted in the Father's fidelity to his promises and his loving mercy.

- From 'Madonna', October 1987

MARY - A WOMAN FOR OUR TIMES

"... Mary of Nazareth, while completely devoted to the will of God, was far from being a timidly submissive woman or one whose piety was repellent to others; on the contrary, she was a woman who did not hesitate to proclaim that God vindicates the humble and the oppressed, and removes the powerful people of this world from their privileged positions. The modern woman will recognise in Mary, who 'stands out among the poor and humble of the Lord', a woman of strength, who experienced poverty and suffering, flight and exile."

(from the Apostolic Exhortation, "Marialis Cultus" 1947, Pope Paul VI)

OFF THE LINE

Clare
Russell

It's that time of the year again - he takes them off, I pull them on again. I want my cuddly over my feet - he won't tolerate it. I have taken the electric blanket out of storage to get it checked - he said it can stay there for another two months!

I dare say that Almighty God, in his infinite wisdom, had a very good reason for not creating man and woman equal - in temperature, that is, but I'm blown if I know why! He is well aware of the many trials and tribulations that already come our way - was it necessary to add one more?

It could be that He has a wry sense of humour - 'I'll bring these people of mine together' - by keeping the female species several degrees cooler than the male. But it also explains a lot of other female whims - I don't just want an ultra warm coat or jacket - I need it. Ugg boots aren't just a passing fancy - I'd wear mine to bed, if I could! Cashmere and mohair aren't just luxury fibres because they look fabulous - they are far more efficient at trapping heat.

In the meantime, the war goes on. I even have the perfect family as a control - an equal number of sons and daughters. And guess what? The daughters sleep curled up into balls, and the sons stick their feet out of bed. Never mind, only six months to summer!

* * * * *

THE TWO AGES OF WOMAN

21 at the disco Saturday night
40 Sunday morning, doesn't seem right

Bright young bird, Tired old mum
Can't keep it up - Work out the sum

If I go on this way, I'm going to be 74
When I'm 93

MOTHER'S DAY BEATITUDES

Contributed by a parishioner

BLESSED are the mothers of yesterday, for their memories shall be called beautiful and beneficial. They are like flowers growing by sunken garden and beside still water and in green fields, for they are like soft winds that blow with peace and love on wistful wings.

BLESSED are the mothers of today, for they have the keeping of tomorrow in their hands and in their hearts; and the destiny of nations, hearts and homes.

BLESSED are the mothers of tomorrow, for they have been summoned to a great and heroic hour. For they shall be called the mothers of men who shall make miracles of human life. The mothers of tomorrow shall breed a race of giants who handle lightning as a little thing, and make the clouds and thunder obey their wills.

BLESSED are the mothers of scientists and statesmen; of labourers and poets; of preachers and prophets; of teachers and dreamers; for dreams and visions and prophecies and the glow and glory of creation is born in the hearts of mothers.

BLESSED are the mothers, for they are conservers of the human race.

BLESSED are the mothers, for they taught barbarian ancestors to grow grains and build shelters.

BLESSED are the mothers of the world, for they have conserved the spiritual things of life for the sake of their children.

BLESSED are the mothers of the earth, for they have combined the practical and the spiritual into one workable way of human life. They have darned little stockings, mended little dresses, washed little faces, and have pointed little eyes to the stars and little souls to eternal things.

BLESSED are the mothers.

By William L. Stidger.

Parishioner, Elizabeth O'Reilly came across these comments when reading 'Being the Body of Christ' and 'Touching the Body of Christ' by the Rev. Charles Gallagher, S.J. We think they are worth sharing with you.

CHRISTIAN RELATIONSHIPS

"The whole point of the history of the Church between the Ascension and the Second Coming is to prepare the way of the Lord. How do we prepare His Way? By establishing relationships ... for the sake of the whole human community."

"Some of us complain about the coldness of our parish, about how impersonal the Church is ...
We are not going to change structures.
We are not going to change habits or practices on an institutional level, but I can start by changing me."

"Besides being informed we need to be involved."

"One of our basic problems is that we take on the standards of the modern world. One of these standards is: Mind your own business. Take care of yourself. Stand on your own feet and let everybody else do the same."

"As a result of this attitude we carefully insulate ourselves ... from other people."

"We can go to Church or meetings and be pleasant to people without getting involved with them ..."

"We need one another. So become more and more aware of the goodness of the brothers and sisters that surround you: really taste the grace that is in them. Appreciate how much the Lord Loves them and how He has chosen them to be part of your life. It is no accident that these people belong to your parish."

We need to become aware that WE are the CHURCH. This parish is US - there is no THEY or THEM.

"PRAYER ... we need to look at how Catholic is our prayer? This does not mean we need to use 'Catholic words'. It means that when

we pray we pray as members of the body of Christ, we pray in the name of, for and through the whole faith/family. This is not to suggest we never pray alone. ... The Lord gave a special charism and power for communal prayer ... Obviously the greatest form of communal prayer is the Mass. There are also different forms of devotion as well as more spontaneous types of group prayer. We should not excuse ourselves from communal prayer ..."

"EUCCHARIST

Once we start taking the Eucharist seriously, as a true meal with one another, we will start to understand each other better, be more responsive to one another, be more tender, be less critical, and more willing to let each other into our lives."

"In the Our Father we pray: 'Give us this day our daily bread and the Father says to us, 'Good, it's a great idea.' Then we say, 'Wait a minute, I exaggerated. I don't want it daily, I want it every week.' Do we go to daily Mass and Communion when we can ... one of the things we have to remember is that Scripture itself says:

'They recognised Him in the breaking of bread'."

"When we go to Mass we have to focus on the people. Before Mass we have to make sure we meet people as they come in.... Then afterwards instead of dashing out of church, stick around. Be available to chat a bit."

"The Eucharist is an expression of our belonging to one another. It is a call to recognise one another, and to integrate each other in our lives ... We are called to be family even more than we are called to be good."

"SCRIPTURE

If we are going to be truly Catholic we have to take our Book in hand. We are called to be people of the Book. It is the Book of the Church. Before the New Testament writings were written down they were memories spoken and passed on ... Scripture is meant to be talked over. It is not meant to be just privately contemplated.

Scripture is not meant to be a private revelation between the Holy Spirit and myself. We have to become very aware that the Book exists because of the Church."

Kids' Page

HI ! The first Sunday in May is Mother's Day, which is rather special for Mums. After all, they like to be told that they are loved, and have little treats. But most of all, they love to see their children showing them that they care.

Two very famous mothers from a long time ago are St Ann, who is the Mother of Mary, the Mother of Jesus, and St Monica, the mother of St Augustine. St Ann was a dear old lady, who had been married a long time before her little girl was born. She gave her the best home she could, and Mary became a very holy person. Imagine having a grandson who was God!

St Monica was also a very holy lady, who had a son. Unfortunately, when he grew up, he chose to lead a very bad life, which broke his mother's heart! She prayed and prayed for him, and many years later, he completely changed, and eventually became a great saint too!

Don't forget, grandmas are mums too, so remember them on Mother's Day.

Do you remember the picnic we had at the end of February? Here are the names of the children who won races. But I hope you all had a neat time at the beach, whether or not you won a race!

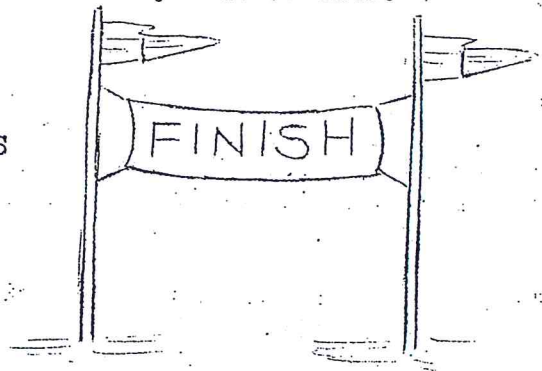
PRE-SCHOOLERS - Everyone 1st!

5 and 6 YEARS - BOYS and GIRLS

1st Anna Roberts

2nd James Lattimer

3rd Robert O'Loan



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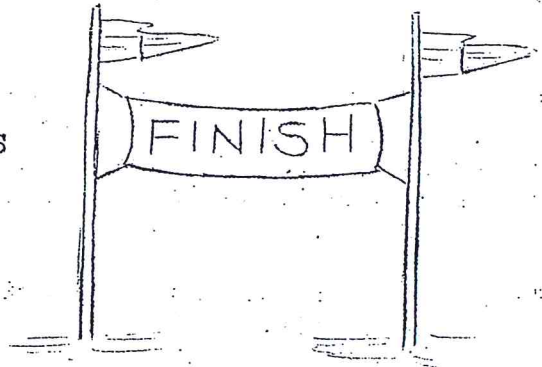
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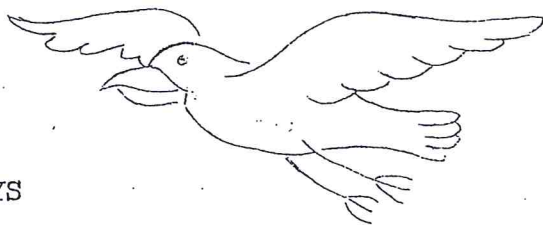
2nd James Lattimer

3rd Robert O'Loan



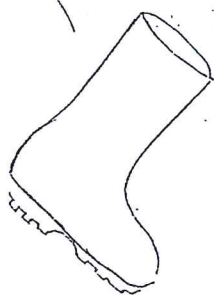
7 YEAR - BOYS

- 1st Brian Baker
- 2nd Jamie Bergin
- 3rd Scott McLean



8 YEAR - BOYS

- 1st David Roberts
- 2nd Andrew O'Loan
- 3rd Matthew Easton

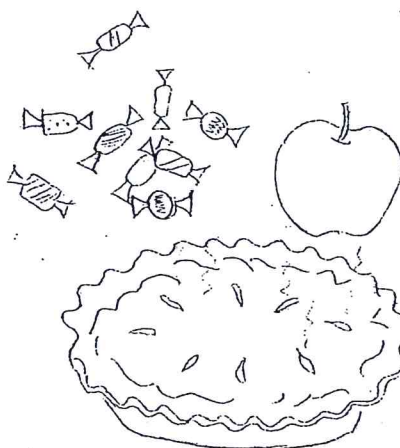


9 and 10 YEARS - GIRLS and BOYS

- 1st Peter Ridge
- 2nd Bianca Russell
- 3rd Michelle Zombos

11 to 14 YEARS - GIRLS and BOYS

- 1st Andrew Lattimer
- 2nd Elizabeth Richards
- 3rd Anita Zombos

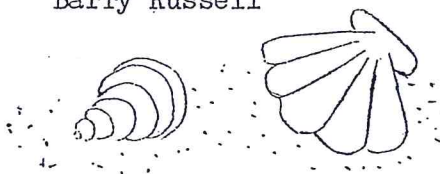


LADIES

- 1st Nikki Russell
- 2nd Eileen O'Loan
- 3rd Rachael Taylor

MENS

- 1st Michael Russell
- 2nd William Roberts
- 3rd Barry Russell



JOKE
 Did you hear about
 the man who's so lazy
 he sleeps in his
 garage so he won't
 have to walk in his
 sleep?

A LITTLE BIT MORE NEWS

OUR CARING COMMUNITY

In the last issue, I explained how the contact people of the Caring Community work together with the St Vincent de Paul Society, and the Visiting Group, for the good of the parish. But as parishes have their strengths, so there are weaknesses. To help us all benefit from others' experience, all the Caring Groups on the North Shore are now meeting on a regional basis, four times a year.

At our first meeting this year, we resolved to pool our experience and ideas, while giving each other spiritual and moral support. In this way, we hope that the parishes with newer groups, will be encouraged in the difficult task of becoming established.

We are having a regional day at Carmel College on Saturday 18th June, at which Father Marriot, the Spiritual Director of Catholic Social Services, will be speaking. Anyone who is interested, whether active in the parish or not, is warmly invited.

Thought for the month - have you spoken to a stranger after Mass recently?

Clare Russell

Co-ordinator

Caring Community

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FELLOWSHIP FOR CATHOLICS

We have two groups active on the North Shore, who offer fellowship to Catholics and anyone else interested. They are the 'Dove' group for women, and the 'Joshua' group for men. Coming under the 'Renewal' umbrella, and with Bishop Denis Browne as patron, their teachings are based on Catholic beliefs. At the meetings, the participants share in praise and worship, teachings and a healing ministry. Chaplin for the 'Dove' group is Father John Moss, and for the 'Joshua' group, Father Ernie Milne.

For contact names, see back page of this issue.

LETTER FROM FIONA

Fiona Jujnovich is at present teaching agriculture at a secondary school in Masailand, where her parents, Ned and Teresa, have joined her.

2nd Dec. Kabasha Dairy Farm. This evening was lovely as we're now on the scenic route south of Beni, towards Virunga National Park and the Ruwenzoris (the 'backbone' of Africa). The best views since leaving N.Z. Well-tended gardens, beautiful flowers and fruit and glossy-coated animals. I watched some of the morning milking - and-milked into buckets, which are then tipped into cream cans. Of course there is no pick-up system and the manager drives the milk into town. They make cheese on the premises, so cooks have splashed out and made things like macaroni cheese. Brown Swiss cows and a few Jersey and Freisan types. The manager (a French vet) has started an insemination programme using Sahiwal semen from N.Z. The farm is 2,800 Ha carrying 1,500 head; lots of Kikuyu and unk grasses and lots of bush clad gullies. As we left next morning saw about a hundred workers on a hillside. They were looking for crickets (pest control at work in Zaire).

3rd Dec. Stopped at three markets today - they're all so good. At last green vegetables like cabbages, cauliflower, etc., and huge tomatoes (normal size really but they're so piddly in flatland Zaire). Lots of materials, also rows and rows of sewing-machinists all busy at work in the sunshine. We're now in a 'high altitude climate'; sunny days, low humidity and a cooling breeze. Also came across passionfruit and tamarillos. Just like home.

Crossed the Equator today, high amongst the hills, so I'm back in the Southern Hemisphere. This called for group photos all round and the smart ones tried to stand on their heads (Poms, of course). Had to park on the road to camp; but this time amongst beautiful mountain scenery; a large mountain stream, and isolation. Took a quick hike down the cliff for a wash.

4th Dec. We're now camped just before the Kabasha Escarpment and the entrance to Virunga National Park, for an early entry tomorrow. Things are really starting to happen now. Yesterday we met an Overlander group which had seen all the big animals there, so here's hoping.

Later In a high, chilly village we came across strawberries (small red and sweet), and Chinese gooseberries. Descending the Kabasha Escarpment was great - a view over the plains. We had the back of the roof rolled forward and I stood on the tailgate for a better view. Saw hundreds of antelope - about five different sorts, also water buffaloes and hippos in close. Warthogs further away - mostly trying to run away - until we startled a family group near a stream. Got to the base of Mt Nyiragongo (3,670 m) crater late that night. Dan and I cooked cheese, egg and onion quiche, stir-fried cabbage and boiled potatoes/leeks in white sauce. Everyone liked it.

6th Dec. A mad rush for me to get ready for the climb after cooking breakfast. Judy and I hired a porter between us (to allow for our unfitness). It was a really hard climb, but although they said to allow five hours, I got to the huts in $3\frac{1}{2}$ hours at my own steady pace. Had to have lots of stops near the top - it was so steep and rocky. The peak was shrouded in mist on arrival, but a clear view downwards into a lower crater, Lake Kivu and Goma was impressive. It cleared up later so some of us climbed the last 200 m to the top and - wow, what a sight. The crater was massive; sheer cliffs down 800 ft, a flat, dried lava bottom, and rocky, volcanic overhangs. Stayed the night in the huts and descended next morning.

8th Dec. What a day! At long last I've seen the gorillas - the whole family which included the big silver-backed male, two females, two or three juveniles and two babies. But first a $1\frac{1}{2}$ hour (13 km) drive from our campsite of the night before. They only take groups of six people at a time so we set off to walk the last km (turned out to be a $\frac{3}{4}$ hour slog over hill, dale and through cultivated, terraced farms!), to the park office. After signing in we walked about five minutes into the bush and the guide said 'They were here yesterday'! Well, an hour and 15 minutes later, after several changes in direction and false trails, we found our gorillas. The silver-back chief lying nonchalantly under a bush eating leaves. Movement to the right indicated the rest of the group - but we couldn't move in between Daddy and his charges without risk of being charged. So, the guide had to 'persuade' him to move - he just imitated gorilla sounds and shook a few saplings. We got closer to the group and delightedly watched them pulling down great swags of vines with tender leaves, and the babies play-fighting.

We will continue Fiona's letter next issue ...

Editor

I MAY HAVE BEEN

by Fred Zombos

One day Mummy and Daddy came together in love to share each other. I knew I was ready - I'd been waiting for this moment for a long, long time.

Mum said she'd be happy with a girl and didn't seem to care otherwise. I sure was thrilled as each day I grew bigger and bigger, each day I grew in shape and form as if being moulded by a master craftsman.

I reached out in time as my mind, body and spirit formed. Gradually I could give rise to movements and as I sought to feel the assurance of my mother's love and protection I gave a small kick to remind her of my warm presence.

I could hear her respond in gratitude and joy.

But something was wrong. Dad was angry, I could tell; Mum grasped me in anguish and I could hear them argue. It seemed Dad had lost his job and felt they couldn't afford another mouth to feed.

Mum was crying, hopelessly despairing and depressed. She knew that as Dad was unable to find light for darkness he would force her to deny me.

I shook and shuddered, I kicked and suckled, I shrank into confusion.

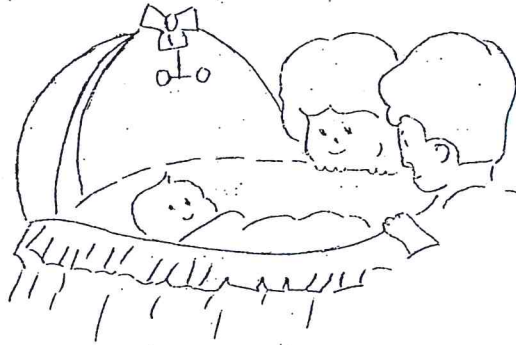
As mother wept bitter tears, father denounced me as only a fragment of a being, just a morsel. The time came - down to the clinic we went, Mum, Dad and me. I knew it was the end for me and resolved to take it as best I could.

I know Mum and Dad care, but if they had been patient, I was going to reign gold in their lives as I was given a gift of many, many charms.

Maybe one day, if you are ever faced with a similar situation, you will think of my story, and have the courage to hold on to me.

"MORE BAPTISMS"

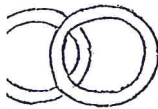
WELCOME THESE CHILDREN -
Catherine Margaret O'MALLEY
Cassandra Jacob DEN HAAN
Louise Jane MCKENZIE
Christina SAMITA
Mayla Ann BARRETT
Matthew John O'SULLIVAN
Benjamin Daniel WHITE
Melly Lee WHITE
Emma Kathleen WHITE
Theresa Maree BALL
Rebecca Sarah BARRETT



*** A BLESSING ***

May the road you walk
 be a smooth one
May your troubles be few - if any
 May the days and years
 that lie ahead
Be healthy, happy and many ...
May you find friends in abundance
May the sun shine bright above you
 May the world be
a wonderful place to live
 And the good Lord
 always love you

* * * * *



MARRIAGE

Our congratulations to

Philip John FRASER and Catherine Mary MEEHAN

C A R I N G C O M M U N I T Y

AREA CONTACTS OF ST THOMAS MORE PARISH

Manuka	Sheila Baker	444-5320
Bayview	Susan Baker	444-2122
Easton Park	---	
James	Elizabeth Auger	444-7047
Girrahween	Anne Flatt	444-2877
Sunset	Kerry Budel	444-8327
Sunnynook	Sheila McAnnalley	444-3636
Wairau	Elizabeth O'Reilly	444-7625
Weldene	Christine Murphy	444-7429
Diana	Erin Hobbs	444-9450
Bruce	Clare Russell	444-8843
Velma	---	
Chartwell	Christine Roberts	444-8725
Marlborough	Christine Munro	444-8951
Agincourt	Doreen Thurlow	444-5223
High Road	---	
Valley View	Eileen O'Loan	444-4378
Stanley	---	
Kaipatiki	Teresa Wolfgram	444-3465
Glenfield	---	
Greenhithe	Gemma Nobilo	415-9459
Albany	Peggy McDonald	415-9007
Paremoremo	---	
Coatsville	---	

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PARISH DIRECTORY

ISH PRIEST

her N. Browne - 334 Wairau Road, Glenfield Ph. 444-8624

S TIMETABLE

SUNDAY MASSES:

Saturday - 5.30 pm
Sunday - 8.00 am and 10.00 am

WEEKDAYS

Monday - Thursday - 8.30 am
Friday - 10.00 am
Saturday - 8.30 am

1st TUESDAY of the Month - 9.30 am Senior Parishioners' Mass

1st SUNDAY of the Month - 10.00 am Family Mass

CONCILIATION: - Saturday, following Mass

TYPEMS and WEDDINGS: - By arrangement with Father

E-SCHOOL GROUP - Kath Boughtwood Ph 485-534
LIGIOUS EDUCATION - Elizabeth O'Reilly Ph 444-7625
SITING GROUP - Pat Cooley Ph 444-6522
RING COMMUNITY - Clare Russell Ph 444-8843
VINCENT de PAUL SOCIETY - Gerry Smy Ph 485-388
NECESSARY PRAYER GROUP - Anne Bates Ph 444-6785
ARASMATIC PRAYER GROUP - Sheila Baker Ph 444-5320
RIAN MOTHERS GROUP - Patsy O'Sullivan Ph 444-3948
OSHUA' MENS FELLOWSHIP - Brian Lattimer Ph 444-5614
OVE' WOMENS FELLOWSHIP - Angela Redmore Ph 418-1034 or
Carol Lattimer Ph 444-5614
ITOR, "MORE NEWS" - Clare Russell Ph 444-8843

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