



Hibiscus Coast Parish

Kia ora

October 12 2021

So glad you could join us again here as we continue our journey together in lockdown! Our Newsletter is now coming to you fortnightly on Tuesdays. Watch out for our next one due 26 October.



OCTOBER IS DOWN SYNDROME AWARENESS MONTH

Advocating for acceptance and inclusion!

“We stand together. E tu tangata.”

Not all superheroes wear a cape!



Laetitia Tan

Eighteen year old Laetitia has been a parishioner since 2009. Having attended Stella Maris, she is now a Year 13 student at Carmel College.

Laetitia has been a familiar face at Serving Spoons since it first started, taking the day off school every month to volunteer at the lunch. Outside of school Laetitia is a busy teenager - she takes guitar lessons and trains in Tae Kwon Do (on green belt now).

She has also been swimming with the Special Olympics Hibiscus Coast Club since 2013. Together with her team, she has represented the club at numerous events including the 2016 Trans Tasman Tournament in Hamilton and the 2017 National Summer Games in Wellington. The Nationals are held every 4 years and she and her team were meant to compete at this year's Nationals in Hamilton but this has now been rescheduled to next year due to COVID-19.

Laetitia is a true believer that superheroes walk amongst us, and at age 16, she wrote a children's book titled "The Awesome Superheroes - The Bank Robbery". Her 2nd book is now in draft. In her free time, Laetitia can usually be found meticulously working on her crystal art and has completed many pieces. This year, she was awarded the Mercy Award at Carmel Day Mass at school because she "... epitomises respect, care and empathy for others. She reminds us that believing in ourselves opens us up to opportunities, adventures and achievements."

Laetitia has Down Syndrome and as she navigates life, she reminds us that not all superheroes wear a cape. October is Down Syndrome awareness month – **"We Stand Together, E Tu Tangata"**.

At this time, we also ask that you please stand together with our Down Syndrome community and say a prayer for Lena Zhang Harrap, a 27-year-old young lady with Down Syndrome who, on 22 September 2021, had her beautiful light brutally extinguished in Mount Albert. *May Lena's soul rest in peace and her family be wrapped in the comfort of love. Amen.*

Valentina Pereira

Valentina is Laetitia's mother and is a Serving Spoons committee member.

A Kingdom for the Hungry - come eat with us and talk!



St Francis and St John parishioners are so fortunate that we can partake in Mass online every Sunday at 11 am with Father Raphael:

Join Zoom Meeting for Sunday **Mass**:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88652662763?pwd=VnZEYngxb2VyRWUxbHdkRGpBcXNmQT09>
Meeting ID: 886 5266 2763 Passcode: Mass

We can also join in a Zoom **Liturgy** on Sundays at 9 am which is hosted by the St Francis Co-ordination team.

Join Zoom Meeting for Sunday **Liturgy**:

<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/76539868192?pwd=QU5mQ2g4MTJZcHNNRExvNFpTd3VqUT09>
Meeting ID: 765 3986 8192 Passcode: 3A40nu

There are a few online **Rosary** groups that you can join to pray the rosary during October; there are the different links below:

Join Zoom Meeting for 8:30am **Rosary**:

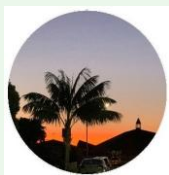
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9194320978?pwd=aWwvd1NJdWtuWW5RbUJ4YnpiNWZlXz09>
Meeting id: 919 432 0978 Passcode 6163

Join Zoom Meeting for 2:00pm **Rosary**:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/9340783894?pwd=Unk1TodicZUY3g2c2FwbXpBT2NlZz09>
Meeting ID: 934 078 3894 Passcode: family

Join Zoom Meeting for 5:30pm **Rosary**:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/84775606844?pwd=a2grbopmd1JKUXFUc1h1dotwYStSQTo9>
Meeting ID: 847 7560 6844 Passcode: Rosary



We now have over 100 members on our HBC Catholic Parish Facebook page, [Join here](#). We can share prayers, see what others are doing, comment, join in their family fun and celebrations of wedding anniversaries, birthdays, as well as welcome new additions to individual families.

Over the past couple of weeks on Facebook we have enjoyed celebrating and commenting on:

Father Raphael's feast day

Clive Goodman's birthday

Birth of Tobias Morton-Jones to parents Naomi and John

Birth of Zoe, granddaughter to Iutita and John Rusk, on the Feast of St Francis of Assisi

Congratulations one and all.



Caroline and Brett Butland's
25th Wedding Anniversary



HBC Parish Youth Group

Youths, parents, and caregivers!
Join us on Facebook so you can follow
all news and information about our
activities and meetings!

See you after the school holidays.

[Join us on Facebook](#)

For all the new babies

Parishioner and musician Terry McCarthy didn't know of all those recent births when he shared this beautiful Lullaby he composed for his great-grandchildren Teddy, Brandon and Joe, with us. His son Michael McCarthy plays the piano and his daughter Andrea serenades us. We asked talented young St Francis parishioner and altar boy Antonio Sousa to add pictures to Terry's music to make this gorgeous Video. We hope you enjoy it too.



Introducing the Finance Committee

Purpose of the Finance Committee

Under Canon Law, the Finance Committee for the parish is primarily concerned with helping the Parish Priest in fulfilling the Mission of the Church in terms of:

- To ensure that the parish has the assets and facilities (such as church, presbytery, hall, etc.) to carry out its mission and for the financial support of those involved in the pastoral works of the parish, i.e. the Parish Priest, staff, pastoral assistants, etc.
- To plan and budget for the financial resources needed now and in the future, and
- To account for, administer and safeguard all parish income, expenditure and assets.

In effect, this means that the Finance Committee:

- Accounts for all the income, expenditure, assets and liabilities of the parish,
- Prepares financial reports to the committee, government and the Diocese,
- Ensures compliance with GST and payroll requirements of the IRD,
- Maintains all the buildings, equipment and fixtures of the parish, and
- Is responsible for Health and Safety in the parish.

Kevin Farrell



Kevin Farrell CA
Chairman

Kevin is a retired Chartered Accountant and his work experience has mainly been in the financial services sector.

He moved to Orewa from Devonport, with his wife Ruth when he retired 7 years ago. Kevin joined the Finance Committee in 2017 and became the Chairman when Gabrielle Gill retired in 2019. Any time left over after helping to look after his six grandchildren is spent assisting a number of not-for-profit organisations.



John Jackson

John and his wife Maggie have been married for 46 years. They moved to Manly from Epsom in 2018. They have 3 adult children who, like their parents, love the Coast life. John is the founding Shareholder Director of an investment company that has been involved in retirement villages throughout the country including two in Orewa. He is an admirer of Pope Francis and believes that Coasties will respond strongly to the call for greater involvement-by the laity in church life.



Father Raphael Lobo

Father was born in Mumbai and joined the Salesian society in 1972. He was ordained in Mumbai in 1982. He worked with the Salesians for twenty years and then moved to be with his sister and her three children in NZ. Father has served in the parishes of Takapuna, Pakuranga and East Coast Bays each for a term of six years. *“With God's grace, joy-filled support, collaboration and participation, we can build a community that includes all people-inspired by the Holy Spirit to spread the good news by example.”*



Carol Miers

Carol is a grandmother of five who has been married to Garry for 55 years. They came to the parish eighteen years ago. In her working life she was Personal Assistant to Bishop Peter Cullinane in Palmerston North. After Garry was transferred Carol worked for five years for the Anglican Church in Hamilton as P.A. to Archbishop Sir David Moxon. She gained her Diploma in Tribunal Practice in 1989 and has worked in the Tribunal Offices of Wellington and Auckland interviewing people seeking marriage annulment and preparing their cases. Carol reads at the 5.30 vigil Mass. She is an avid reader, loves movies but most of all she loves spending time with her grandchildren and extended family.



Ann Goodall CA

Recently elected to the committee, Ann is mom to three kids: daughter Kristen 24 living in Melbourne, Anthony 13 and Azario 11 who both are past students of Stella Maris, now at Rosmini College. She is a wife to her soul mate Desmond. They arrived on the Coast in 2007 and have been part of both churches ever since. Being time poor with working fulltime, Ann and Desmond assist with Choir, Care and Share and mostly reaching out to older parishioners, offering help with hospital visits, gardening and cooked meals on weekends. Ann's career in Finance and Accounting spans 30 years starting in Sth Africa, working for a large multinational in management and finance. She stayed 14 years before they emigrated to NZ. Ann worked for The Warehouse Group for 8 years, in numerous finance roles. She left to pursue further fulltime study at Massey University. Currently Ann's employed as Company Accountant for an American Multinational, Proctor and Gamble, which owns a NZ based subsidiary. Ann loves reading, gardening, and enjoying long road trips with family-they never tire exploring Aotearoa. With lockdown road trips have been postponed, in favour of imaginative cooking and some baking that Ann's family claims has been the upside to the lockdowns!



Cathy Allen MBA JP

Cathy's work life has revolved around real estate, property, business coaching and travel whenever possible. Formerly a trained teacher she has been a Justice of the Peace for over thirty years. Based in Orewa for the past eight years, she loves working with the Catering team, is a Josephite companion and enjoys gardening. Cathy leads the Communications team which publishes the Comms Newsletters. She has grown up twin sons and five grandsons who she loves to travel with. Cathy has recently been re-elected to the Finance committee and she is also a member of the PPC.

CAN YOU HELP with photos of Golgotha?

Parishioner Diane Downer had a request from Peter Foster who has written a book which has been accepted by London publishers. The title is "Dismas Crucified aka The Good Thief". The publishers want some authentic photos of Golgotha present time. Peter asks if any parishioner had been there recently and had photos they would like to share with him. If you can help please contact Peter directly on 09 9590506 pgfosterca@gmail.com

Introducing Simon Straka with a Thank You for long service.

Simon Straka

The Straka family have lived in the Puhoi area since the arrival of Simon's great grandfather Paul Straka from Bohemia in 1863. So for 158 years, a 'Straka' has been helping out on any number of different parish committees or groups. Simon is married to Bernadette, who is the parish secretary at Warkworth and is also Director of Catholic Publications Centre. They have three children- two sons in their 30's and a fourteen year old daughter who is a student at Carmel College. They have three grandsons, two of which attend Stella Maris Primary School.



For around 20 years Simon has administered the Hibiscus Coast Parish website, which includes emailing a digital copy of the weekly Parish Newsletter to subscribed parishioners. At the end of every weekly emailed newsletter is an advertisement for Straka Builders- Simon and his eldest son Daniel are licensed builders. Over the years they have worked on many of the church buildings in both the Hibiscus Coast and Warkworth/Puhoi Parishes and for a vast number of parishioners too!

Canathon 5000 Update-74% and growing! Thank you Thank you!

We are up to about 74% of our goal. Can you help by donating a can or a tray of cans, or making a donation? Because Canathon is classed as an essential service you can still drop them off or they can be collected, just call or text Louis 027 2748600. You can also drop cans off to the St Johns church and leave them outside the Parish Office door (through the courtyard garden). Please text Louis to let him know they are there or are going to be there at a certain time, so he can go and collect them. Thank you.

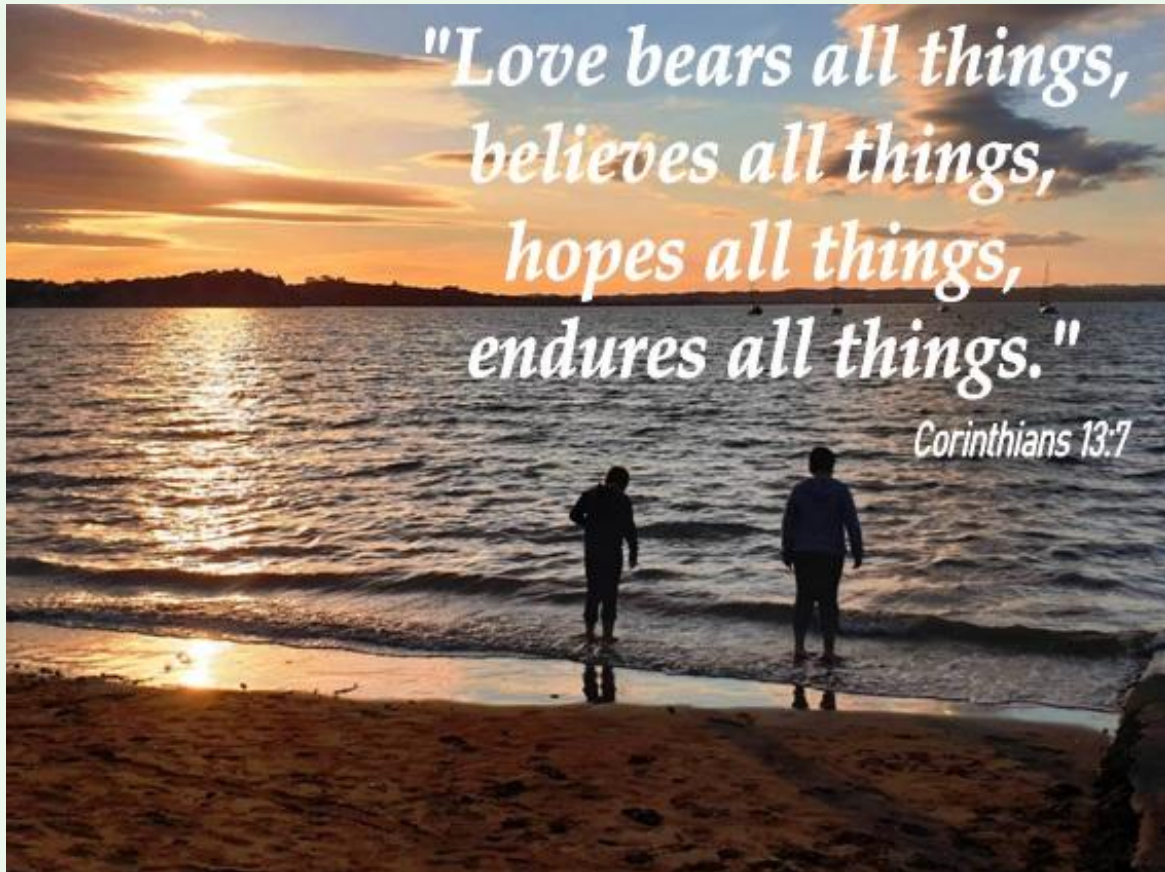


Photo Credit: Maria Sousa

Strengthening our Daily faith through Songs and music

Are you missing a Sing-a-long?

Cathy Allen (Comms Team) shares some favourites:

Advocating acceptance and inclusion:

We walk by faith not by sight!

Open the Eyes of My Heart - Duffley

<https://youtu.be/NjYeUN2zWqI>

Worthy is the Lamb - Brooklyn Tabernacle Choir

https://youtu.be/LAplJo_jDFc

Nourish your soul!

We are still in Level 3 lockdown and churches are closed until further notice. Online resources include:

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/home-2020-new-design/the-church-and-covid-level-4/>

The diocese continues to broadcast Sunday Mass. It is uploaded at 5.30 pm Saturday night (as per a Vigil Mass time) to the Youtube channel Auckland Catholic

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCb7o1XYfQet-mOW1mJSzfow>

Bishop Steve-Catholic Diocese of Hamilton

<https://www.cdh.org.nz/livestream>

It is also broadcast on Shine TV Sundays at 2.00 pm Free-to-air TV Channel 25, Sky TV

New Zealand's National Catholic newspaper, free digital copy:

<https://indd.adobe.com/view/oc7dd53b-b640-42c7-9b20-ac28de9d0386>

[Bishop Patrick Dunn-Facebook](#)

[Catholic Resources](#)

[Bishop Michael Gielen-Facebook](#)

[Good News Reflections](#)

Parish Contacts: Need help or want to chat?

St Johns:

Cathy Allen
(PPC Member)
021943307, 094262449

Monica Grimshaw
(PPC Member) 0212643688

Rebecca Corona-Nickerson
(PPC Member)
0225473894

Clive Goodman
(Pastoral Care Coordinator)
0212642256

Father Raphael Lobo
0211146879

St Francis:

Ann McConachy
0221322402
09 4243116

Mary Therese Caldwell
0211407544
09 9470408

John Jackson
(Finance Committee member)
0274971012
09 3204315

Gavin Bell
0275900063

Bruce Harrison (PPC Secretary) shared this recently on our FB page:

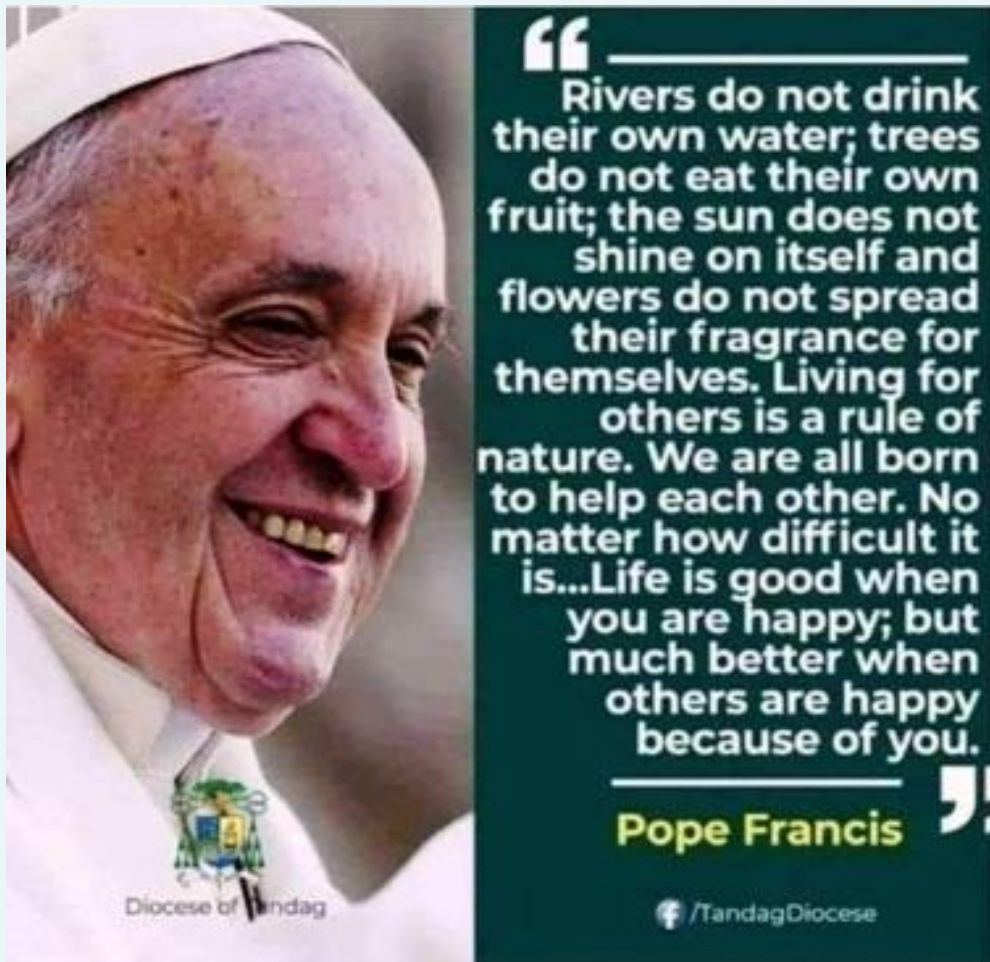
“The gospel doesn’t need a coalition devoted to keeping the wrong people out. It needs a family of sinners, saved by grace, committed to tearing down the walls, throwing open the doors and shouting: *“Welcome! There’s bread and wine. Come eat with us and talk.”* This isn’t a kingdom for the worthy; it’s a kingdom for the hungry!” (Rachel Held Evans)



So let’s take the time to engage with one another and appreciate all our friendships and be hungry to make more! Make the most of every day. Rejoice, and continue to build a relationship with our neighbours and Our Lord every day, in every way.

Thoughts from Father Raphael

I absolutely love this quote from Pope Francis:



Reflection: Remember a time when others were happy because of you.

May the God who created a world of diversity and vibrancy, Go with us as we embrace life in all its fullness.

May the Son who teaches us to care for strangers and foreigners, Go with us as we try to be good neighbours in our communities.

May the Spirit who breaks down our barriers and celebrates community, Go with us as we find the courage to create a place of welcome for all.



Photo Credit: Cathy Allen

Thank you for your kindnesses, your understanding, and for your prayers and good deeds, until we see you next.

Father Raphael Lobo, your PPC team, and supporters.

To correct or update your email details and any changed phone number and address please email us your new details to hbcparishcomms@gmail.com
