

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH
WEEKLY NOTICES
3 December 2017

BE A VOICE FOR THE VOICELESS: Please join us at the Diocesan Vigil for Life **Saturday 9th December**, in solidarity with the National March for Life, Wellington. We will pray for the 500,000 unborn children aborted in NZ, for their families, and greater protection for human life. Mass at 12 noon at St Teresa's, Riccarton, with prayer afterward at the Nurses' chapel, in front of the Public Hospital.

CATHOLIC SHOP: opening on Sundays in December 10am -12pm. For Advent and Christmas gifts, bibles, candles, rosaries, greeting cards, books, and more. **Usual opening hours:** Mon-Fri 9.30am-4.30pm, Sat 10am-1pm. Visit us at 373 Manchester Street, Christchurch, next to St Mary's Pro-Cathedral, ph 03 366-2853, e-mail catholicshop@chch.catholic.org.nz

SUBS REQUIRED OVER CHRISTMAS / NEW YEAR FOR THE ADORATION CHAPEL

Over the past four years the Diocesan Perpetual Adoration Chapel has remained open right throughout the Christmas period. This year we have a large number of people going away and require extra people to help out. If you are going to be at home this Christmas and would be happy to cover an hour to two please contact Matt on 366-9869 or chchadoration@gmail.com. It would be much appreciated.

VILLA MARIA COLLEGE IS TURNING 100! Villa's Centennial is just around the corner, with a weekend of special events planned for **16-18 February 2018**. This is a celebration for our whole community! Register your attendance today at www.villamaria100.co.nz or call 348 4165.

MARCELLIN COLLEGE'S 60TH JUBILEE is coming up next year from **23-25 March 2018**. Registrations now open at www.marcellin.school.nz.

FOOD FOR FAITH is offering an online Advent retreat. Sign up to receive daily encouragements in preparation for Christmas. More information and sign up at www.foodforfaith.org.nz

EXCITING BOOK LAUNCH: *Divine Love, Life Love, Human Love*. Read about a young girl's conversion to God's love. Fr Thanh Tran's inaugural book launch is on **Friday 8th December** at 6.00pm in St Gregory's Parish Centre. If you can't make the launch, books can be purchased (\$20.00) through the St Joseph's Parish Office, 352 9275.

DOVE CATHOLIC WOMEN'S FELLOWSHIP Invites All Women to come and enjoy Dove's Christmas Celebration *plus a special treat!* A time for Testimonies - letting others hear what Dove means to you. Please bring a small plate of your cultural or traditional Christmas food to share at afternoon tea. Advent is a beautiful time to appreciate and realise how much Dove helps, encourages and embraces all women with the love of Jesus - don't worry if you've never been before, come along, bring a friend *ENJOY! Prayer Ministry Available, Fellowship, Christmas Carols* **Saturday 9th December 1pm - 3.00pm** Christ the King Parish Centre, Greers Rd. For more info phone Diane Findlay 0274312026

CALLED TO BE A SISTER OF MERCY? The Sisters of Mercy New Zealand are hosting an afternoon for single woman (18 years and older) to explore a vocation with the Sisters of Mercy. Date: Saturday **9 December**, 1.30pm-5pm. Venue: Sisters of Mercy, 141 Main North Road, Papanui, Christchurch. Registration or enquiries: Sister Monika, vocations@mercy.org.nz or 021 1132448 or Facebook: mercynz.

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Support the Parish of the Good Shepherd Hurunui and have a holiday at the same time! This Flat in the heart of Hanmer Springs is probably the best value in town. A comfortable refurbished flat with SKY TV and WIFI all for \$80 a night during the week and \$130 a night at weekends. To book, simply search 27 Amuri Ave, Hanmer Springs on www.bookabach.co.nz

CHRISTMAS FOR THE CITY is a gift to families and the people of Otautahi from the churches of Christchurch. A Christmas party experience that caters for people of all ages and communities across our city. Saturday **16 December 4-9pm** ARA City Campus. Free entry. More details at www.christmasforthecity.org.nz

PRE-CHRISTMAS TALKS: Two one-hour talks relating to the New Testament by Fr. Frank Kelly -
Sunday 10 December at 7pm - *"Jesus, a portrait of a Galilean Jew"*
Sunday 17 December at 7pm - *"Jesus and Biblical wisdom"*

These talks will be held in St. Joseph's hall, Papanui. Entry is free.

FOR HIRE: Gateway to the Waitaki Valley. Former Waimate convent building available for hire. Accommodates up to 11 people in 8 bedrooms. Charges are \$65 per family per night, plus a \$15 booking fee. Costs for individuals (non-families): \$30 per person. BYO linen, towels, e-towels. Contact Parish Secretary 03-689-8763 or stpatswaimate@xtra.co.nz

THINKING DIOCESAN PRIESTHOOD? Speak to any priest or contact Vocations Director Fr. John O'Connor vocations.chch@gmail.com