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# PUKEKARAKA

Ko Te Whanau O Hato Mere: St Mary's Parish  
Otaki.

11.4.21

2nd Sunday of the Easter Season.

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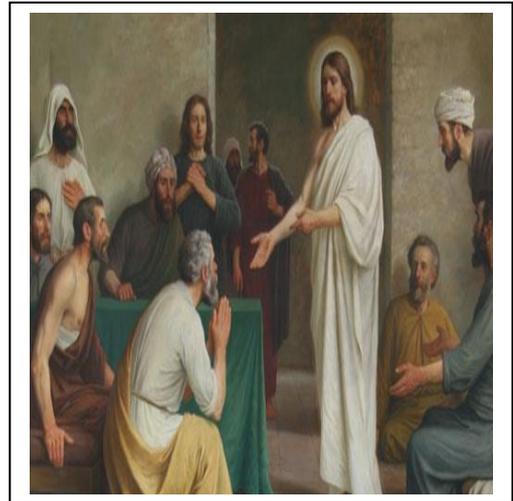
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### Reflecting on The Word

**Acts 4:32-35:** *No one claimed for their own use anything they had, as everything was held in common.* This was a radical shift in the people who came to believe in Jesus. But what about today? Perhaps the mentality of realising it is not a matter of owning but being entrusted with. That is just as difficult.

**1 John 5:1-6:** *Whoever believes that Jesus is the Christ has been begotten by God.* We know this because Jesus was one with God, which means encountering Jesus is the same as encountering God.

**John 20:19-31:** *The doors were closed, but Jesus came in and stood among them. Peace be with you, he said.* The Risen Jesus is not subject to space, time, buildings etc. Where we are, is where we can encounter him. Experiencing this peace provides the proof that Jesus is alive. Ultimately, that would have been what caused Thomas to believe, not just seeing Jesus. Without the peace, Thomas would have soon believed he was deluded.



### LITURGY TIMETABLE THIS WEEK:

The clergy are at an Assembly at Tatum Park. This week, so apart from Tuesday at 9 a.m. there will be no weekday Masses. Cardinal Dew will celebrate this Mass. All are welcome to attend.

**FIRST COMMUNION:** today we welcome to the Table of the Lord for the first time, *Felix Lewin & Kiwa Ogle.*

**AFTER MASS TODAY:** The School have a jumble sale. All welcome to attend.

**REST IN PEACE:** Lucy Clark; Kevin Kingsbeer.

**Tena koutou katoa, Dear Parishioners,**

*After the drama of Holy Week and the contrast with the Resurrection, what we focus on in our readings is the formation of the Christian Communities. Unfortunately in the readings from the Acts of the Apostles, we can easily believe that there is nothing there relevant for us today. After all, do you want to put your bank account in common with everyone else!! But that doesn't mean we own what we have. Simply entrusted. Have it by all means, but caring for one another is not a thing for any season, and being watchful about what is happening to my heart, is not something we do just once a year.*

*So we need to ask just how could one be such a person? Well, some may work it out, but I think that if we know the peace that Jesus brings, if we know what it is to encounter him frequently, then the heart will soften and become like his: compassionate!*

*My feeling is that you already know that!*

*Kia whakapaingia koutou ma te aranga ake o Hehu Karaiti.*

**Pa Alan**

## **BENEFIT IMPACT UPDATE WEEK 4.**

**12-16 April, 2021.**

**To be held at the Supper Room: Otaki Memorial Hall,  
10 a.m.- 3.00p.m.**

On Monday, Benefit Impact starts. We have 15 people from the Otaki community willing to train as advocates, to support people to navigate the WINZ Benefit System. This is very complex and people don't necessarily know their entitlement. By us working alongside them they may find they are entitled to more financial support from WINZ.

Thanks to all who have been willing to support this project from our church community. People have come forward to help with hospitality, providing food and do the training. Thanks for your generosity and your ongoing prayers, as we step out in faith to help people less fortunate than ourselves.

All are welcome to **Mass at 9 a.m on Tuesday with Cardinal Dew**, who is coming to support this project.

*“None of us can think we are exempt from concerns for the poor and for social justice”. Pope Francis.*

**RE PARISH MINISTRY:** All parishioners who have an upfront role in the parish are required to participate in the safeguarding program and to undergo a police check. This is diocesan policy and from Easter on this is required. Please see:

<https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/about/safeguarding/>

**THANKS:** Our thanks to Phil McIntyre who is stepping down as Office Administrator after four years of voluntary service. If someone with reasonable computer skills would like to take up this position, please contact Fr Alan. It is a non-paid position requiring a couple of hours a week.