

## Catholic Schools Day

On May 16th Catholic Schools celebrated 41 years of integration as state-integrated schools. The transition from private schools to state integrated schools has been a wonderful journey in which both parties have had to discover what the meaning of this relationship is.

In the early years the Ministry of Education defined what they considered were the boundaries of our inclusion and funding. In more recent times, as both parties have unpicked their understanding of the Act, we have developed an understanding that for funding purposes our schools have similar, if not equal, entitlement to the State.

In the next iteration of understanding we will need to look at how our respective networks complement, provide choice and meet the needs of the 66,000 students whose parents value Catholic education. There are discussions to be had about our Network and the way it has planned to meet the needs of roll growth and respond to roll decline. Without this discussion we will struggle to provide for the needs of our children.

We might also ask what is it we have to do to ensure that our schools retain their mission – to be central to the mission of Church and yet remain within the state-integrated network.

In recent weeks we have begun negotiations to look at ways we could update the PSCI Act, and this has raised the consciousness of many about what was achieved and gained over the past 41 years. It has also highlighted that times have changed in the interim - the environment in which the Act was conceived is very different to the Post Modern Church of today. The PSCI Act needs to be able to respond to those changes without losing any of its key provisions for partnership with state and preserving Special Character in our Schools. Changes to the PSCI Act will not change the nature of our agreement with the Crown. The review will remind both parties of what was agreed and what is expected of us in a successful partnership going forward.

**Ngā mihi nui ki a koe me to whānau.**

**Hopefully the year so far has been good to you! We offer you our support and goodwill.**

## A Farewell Comment from Sir Br Patrick Lynch

“As I leave the CEO role at NZCEO, I am confident our schools are being faithful to their founding mandate in a much stronger way than some decades ago. More teachers are qualified to teach Religious Education and special character professional development opportunities are more readily available for trustees, teachers and support staff. We are long term players in education whose ultimate focus is the reign of God in all levels of humanity. Long may our schools be agents of positive change in the world.” Sir Br Patrick Lynch

## Catholic Schools Day 2016

We hope you had a wonderful Catholic Schools Day. Thank you to those schools that sent in news of their celebrations – clearly there were a lot of wonderful happenings throughout the country. Catch up on the powerpoint presentation circulated to schools and parishes for the day, and some of the news and photos showing various celebratory events at [www.nzceo.org.nz](http://www.nzceo.org.nz)

## A New Catholic Primary School for Takanini, South Auckland

Plans are well underway for Holy Trinity Catholic Primary School to open in February 2017. Congratulations to Peta Lindstrom, currently AP at Our Lady Star of the Sea School in Howick, who has been appointed as the Foundation Principal of Holy Trinity Catholic Primary School. Peta took up her appointment at the start of Term 2, 2016.

## Congratulations to Principals New to Leading Catholic Schools

Peta Lindstrom, Holy Trinity Catholic Primary School

Kevin Kannan, St Anthony's School, Huntly

Andrea Colebourn, St Joseph's School, Morrinsville

John Maguire, Garin College, Richmond, Nelson

Cath Blacklow, St Joseph's School Ashburton

## New Paraparaumu Catholic School Building, Our Lady of Kapiti

Construction has begun in Paraparaumu on Our Lady of Kapiti School, scheduled to open at the start of 2017. The school will replace the 63 year old St Patrick's School and will cater to the same number of students.

## Director Appointed to NCRS

Congratulations are extended to Colin McLeod of Kavanagh College, Dunedin, who has been appointed as Director of NCRS. We believe that his knowledge and skills will make him a highly effective leader of NCRS. He takes up the position a little later this year.

## New Relationship between NZCEO and the Catholic Enquiry Centre

A relationship is being established between NZCEO and the Catholic Enquiry Centre with an aim to jointly develop ways to share resources and knowledge and to support and encourage participation in the Mission of the Church through evangelisation activities. Initiatives are being developed and will be publicised.

**“A candle loses nothing when it lights another candle.”**

Louie Kerr

## CathNews.co.nz – do you receive the newsletter?

News about and of interest to the Catholic Church in New Zealand and the Pacific is available as a twice-weekly email. Every school and proprietor would find this email worthwhile. It could also be worthwhile alerting families to the opportunity to receive this news. Go to <http://cathnews.co.nz/newsletter/> to sign up. Email [jmurphy@CathNews.co.nz](mailto:jmurphy@CathNews.co.nz) if you would like to receive a formatted sign-up sheet, for use with groups.

## Congratulations

- Emeritus Bishop Denis Browne, has been recognised with the University of Waikato's highest honour for his outstanding leadership and contributions to the Waikato community.
- McAuley High School has been selected as a finalist in three of the five categories of the 2016 Prime Minister's Education Excellence Awards – Excellence in Engaging; Excellence in Leading; and Excellence in Teaching and Learning.
- St Peter's College, Gore, recently won the Bishop's Shield – the Dunedin Diocese Catholic secondary schools' public speaking competition.
- St Catherine's College, Wellington, recently won the O'Shea Shield Competition for the fourth time in a row. This is public speaking competition for the 17 Catholic secondary schools of the Wellington and Palmerston North Dioceses.

## A New Development

St Joseph's School Takapuna is hosting The Summit Academy, an educational service for approximately 40 primary-age children with diverse learning needs, in particular dyslexia. This groundbreaking and very successful project is directed by Rebecca Elias, [r.elias@thesummitacademy.co.nz](mailto:r.elias@thesummitacademy.co.nz). See [www.thesummitacademy.co.nz](http://www.thesummitacademy.co.nz) or <http://summitpoint.co.nz>.

## Unabashedly Catholic

A reminder to put Catholic Character items right at the top in every school newsletter.

## Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand Challenge 2016

Congratulations to Caritas on the successful Caritas Challenge 2016. The Challenge had a huge participation from youth around New Zealand and raised significant funding to help Caritas programmes in Cambodia.

## Handbook for Boards of Trustees of Catholic Schools

A new, significantly revised edition of the handbook will be available by the end of June. Diocesan offices usually arrange copies for Boards of Trustees. If you do not receive a copy through your diocesan office, and would like one, contact NZCEO for price and ordering details.

## Laudato Si – on Care for our Common Home

You are reminded that Pope Francis's encyclical letter on the environment is worth reading and discussing again and again. Pope Francis says "There needs to be a distinctive way of looking at things, a way of thinking, policies, an educational programme, a lifestyle and spirituality which together generate resistance to the assault of the technocratic paradigm. We can once more broaden our vision" (111, 112) Access the encyclical at [www.vatican.va](http://www.vatican.va). Pope Francis has named September 1st as the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. He emphasises that Christians are "called to an ecological conversion whereby the effects of their encounter with Jesus Christ become evident in their relativity with the world around them." LS 217. More from Pope Francis

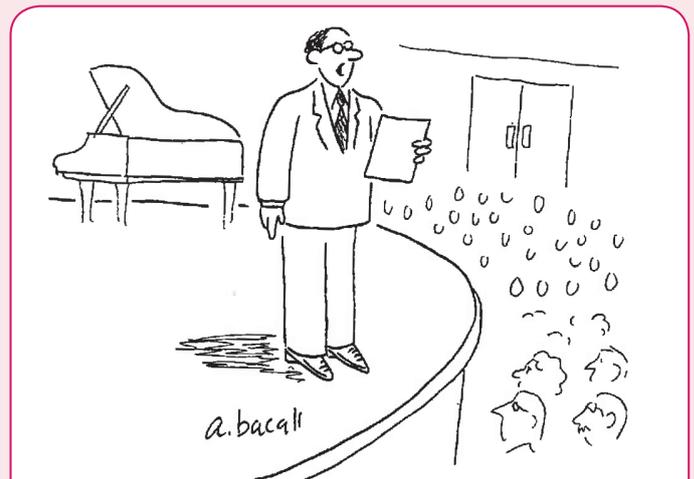
## From Pope Francis

"God always forgives. Men forgive at times; but the earth never forgives!"

"You are called to care for creation not only as responsible citizens, but also as followers of Christ!"

"When we exploit creation, we destroy that sign of God's love. To destroy creation is to say to God: 'I don't care.' And this is not good. This is sin."

"Let us sing as we go. May our struggles and our concerns for this planet never take away the joy of our hope."



*"Before we begin our student concert, note that, due to budget cuts, the role of the drum will be playing by banging on inverted paint cans and the role of the flute will be played by blowing breath across half-filled soda bottles."*



**KONICA MINOLTA**

## Kia kaha, Kia māia, Kia ū!

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*"The world is a fine place and worth fighting for."*

Ernest Hemingway