

**NEWSLETTER FOR NEW ZEALAND CATHOLIC EARLY CHILDHOOD CENTRES,
KINDERGARTENS, PLAYGROUPS AND INTERESTED PARTIES
MARCH 2015**

GREETINGS

Tēnā koutou katoa, malo e lelei, talofa lava, ni sa bula vinaka, talohani, kia orana, fakalofa lahi atu and blessings and warm greetings to you all.

Mā te Atua koe e manaaki - God is watching over you. We trust that the New Year has started well for you.

INTRODUCTION

This newsletter is focused on prayer, reflection and liturgical support. I hope you enjoy it.

KARAKIA/PRAYER IN MĀORI

You will, perhaps, have some brief karakia/prayers in Māori that you use in your services. If you have not investigated it before, the following website may be of interest <http://www.catholic.maori.nz/PrayersinCommonUse.htm>

Alternatively, here are some karakia from the 'Māori at Otago' website (University of Otago). You may find them helpful.

He hōnore, he korōria ki te Atua He maungārongo ki te whenua, He whakaaro pai ki ngā tāngata katoa. Hangā e te Atua he ngākau hou, Ki roto, ki tēnā, ki tēnā o mātou, hakatōngia to wairua tapu, Hei awhina, hei tohutohu i a mātou, Hei ako hoki i ngā mahi mō tēnei rā. Amine

Honour and glory to God, Peace on Earth, Goodwill to all people. Lord, develop a new heart inside all of us, instil in us your sacred spirit, help us, guide us in all the things we need to learn today. Amen

Nau mai e ngā hua o te wao o te ngakina o te wai tai o te wai Māori.

Welcome the gifts of food, from the sacred forests, from the cultivated gardens, from the sea, from the fresh waters.

RESOURCES FOR HOLY WEEK

Anne Kennedy, Co-Director of the National Centre for Religious Studies with responsibility for the early childhood Catholic curriculum, has sent through some great websites, with ideas for Holy Week that could be used in Early Childhood Centres. Here they are:

<http://www.loyolapress.com/multimedia-stations-of-the-cross-for-children.htm>

<http://www.catholicicing.com/lenten-activities-for-children/>

<http://catholicblogger1.blogspot.co.nz/>

http://www.going4growth.org.uk/growth_through_the_year/lent/ (The Church of England).

A BLESSING ON YOUR SOUL

And thanks to Thelma Chapman, who placed the text below in her March 2015 newsletter for CECEAA. It seems very appropriate for early childhood educators and so I am passing it on to you.

From A Blessing of Longing and Belonging (John O'Donohue)

'May your soul be as free as the ever-new waves of the sea.
May you succumb to the danger of growth.
May you live in the neighbourhood of wonder.
May you belong to love with the wildness of dance.
May you know that you are ever-embraced in the kind circle of God'.

FINALLY

Reminder: share this newsletter around, and send us news of your service, to share in the next newsletter.

If you know anyone that wants to receive this newsletter, please get them to email me (see below), and I will add them to the list. Alternatively, the newsletter goes up on the website, (address below), at about the same time as it goes out to you by post.

Mā te Atua e manaaki
God bless

Susan Apáthy
Deputy CEO, NZCEO

New Zealand Association of Catholic Early Childcare Organisations
C/- New Zealand Catholic Education Office
PO Box 12 307
Wellington 6144
Phone 04 496-1739, fax 04 496-1734
www.nzceo.org.nz
Email nzceooffice@nzceo.org.nz or s.apathy@nzceo.org.nz

Catholic early childhood curriculum: Anne Kennedy, National Centre for Religious
Studies (NCRS)
PO Box 6144
Wellington 6144
www.ncrs.org.nz
Email: ncrs@catholicinstitute.ac.nz
Or: a.kennedy@tci.ac.nz