

It is important to note that Catholic Social teaching has a lot to say about participating in a democratic process. Pope John Paul II says, "If we want a society that is committed to promoting the common good, we need to be prepared to engage with it and those who govern."

We are asked to be "active citizens" who engage socially and politically. Prayer and reflection are only part of a full and active Catholic life. Pope Francis leads us in this.

Teaching our young people to engage critically with politics and political ideas is an essential part of our Catholic tradition. I suspect it has led to a strong tradition, amongst our students, to engage in law and social justice when they leave school.

Schools don't direct students how to vote but they can facilitate opportunity for them to engage and reflect on the impact of policies. Informed debate and active listening help generate passion for causes and respect for diversity. The NZCBC's 2017 election statement, Step Out and Vote, is a helpful document to start this discussion with students.

The September election provides a genuine opportunity to highlight these experiences and develop a lifelong commitment and respect for democratic participation.

Greetings

Ngā mihi o te wā ki a koutou.

We hope you enjoyed your July holiday time and are refreshed for the winter term.

Catholic Education Convention 13-15 June 2018

Christ's call: to love, to be, to do. Te karanga tā te Karaiti: kia arohaina, kia ora, kia tīnā

We are looking forward to you joining us for our triennial Catholic Education Convention to be held in Wellington 13-15 June 2018. Our theme will be: Christ's call: to love, to be, to do. Te karanga tā te Karaiti: kia arohaina, kia ora, kia tīnā. Keynote speakers will be announced shortly.

Please allow for registrations in your 2018 budget. While we cannot give you an exact figure yet, we are hoping that we will only need a small increase on the early bird cost for the last convention in 2015, which was \$550 inc. GST.

Caritas Social Justice Week 10 – 16 September

Congratulations to Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand on the excellent material prepared and distributed to schools and parishes for Social Justice Week.

Dragons' Den Competition (YES)

Campion College students Jenna Deere, Amaprett Singh, Rachel Jackson, Simeon Hopkins and Jake Wheeler have won first prize of \$1,000 in the Dragons' Den competition, which is part of the Young Enterprise Scheme (YES). Their team, called Wheelers and Dealers, demonstrated a revolutionary butterstick product pitched towards one-handed convenience, children and people with arthritis.

Congratulations to Principals New to Leadership in a Catholic School

Carmel Jolly, St Francis Xavier School, Mornington, Dunedin.

Ange Edhouse, St Patrick's Catholic School, Taupo.

Sarah Morris, St Patrick's School, Inglewood.

More Congratulations

- Francoise Heenan, Assistant Principal in charge of pastoral care at Villa Maria College, is one of the Pasifika Education Grant recipients for 2017. This grant will allow her to continue to focus on the Pasifika mentoring project which she helped start in 2016 and in addition to this start her second project which will focus on identity and language.
- At the official launch of ERO's online resource *Improvement in Action / Te Ahu Whakamua* Principal Anne Miles and the staff of McAuley High School Otahuhu were congratulated as one of the four schools showcased in these videos.
- Yvette Krohn-Isherwood, Deputy Principal Garin College, Nelson, has been elected as the president of the New Zealand Association for the Teaching of English.

Environmental Entrepreneurship Competition

Eamon Walsh, student of John Paul College, Rotorua, has won the top prize at the National Environmental Entrepreneurship Competition. He invented a turbine mechanism to collect rubbish from streams using convection currents and received \$2,500 as a "seed fund" towards the invention being made into reality.

"Learn the heart of God from the word of God."

Pope St Gregory I

Teacher-led Innovation Fund Round 3 Successful Projects

Congratulations to:

St Patrick's Catholic School leading the Taupo Community of Schools on a project 'Student agency, using STEM to improve boys' writing. Also supporting children's transition to primary schools through play, and supporting Māori students.

St Joseph's School, Pukekohe, leading South Auckland Catholic Community of Learning, on spreading pedagogical practices that better suit Māori and Pasifika learners.

St Thomas of Canterbury College leading Christchurch Catholic Community of Learning, on using principles of gamification in teaching and learning to engage students.

St Paul's College, Ponsonby, leading Auckland Central Catholic Community of Schools, on how teachers can develop high expectations and practices so students are investing in higher order thinking and experiencing improved achievement outcomes.

De La Salle College leading South Auckland Catholic Community of Learning, on raising achievement for Pasifika learners through robust inquiry processes.

New Principals Programme

Starting this year, NZCEO has facilitated a successful New Principals Programme via video conference. This provides new principals in Catholic schools the opportunity to hear from experienced principals and diocesan staff about specific topics, such as property, the appraisal process, and how to prepare for ERO. We are happy to share recordings of the sessions via YouTube. Contact our office to arrange.

Youth Custody Index Aims to Break Cycle of Youth Incarceration

St Thomas of Canterbury College students launched their latest National Youth Custody Index at the Nga Hau E Wha National Marae in Aranui, Christchurch in June. The index, which is in its fourth year, was collated by eight students and facilitated by the Chief Ombudsman, Judge Peter Boshier. Index leader, Te Aotahi Rice-Edwards, said that the information the students gathered was not positive but contributed to the ongoing debate about the incarceration of young New Zealanders. See www.stuff.co.nz/national/crime/94198107/youth-custody-index-aims-to-break-cycle-of-youth-incarceration

Launch of OneLicense for Copyright Compliance for Music for Prayer and Worship

Schools will be aware that the use of hymns and songs for worship is not covered by the NZSTA licence for education. The NZ National Liturgy Office has worked to enable schools and parishes to have an easy means of improving copyright licensing, and access to OneLicense is the result. See www.nlo.org.nz, or contact your diocesan liturgy person: Dunedin Fr Tony Harrison, tonyharr@es.co.nz; Christchurch Marianne Daly, mdaly@chch.catholic.org.nz; Wellington Mary Anne Greaney m.greaney@wn.catholic.org.nz; Palmerston North Mark Richards mrichards@pndiocese.org.nz; Hamilton John Coulam johnc@cdh.org.nz; Auckland Philip Mahoney philipm@cda.org.nz

"Aspire not to have more but to be more."

Archbishop Oscar Romero

Helen Clark Praises the Pope and Churches

In early August the Rt Hon Helen Clark, until recently administrator of the United Nations Development Programme, was asked about the role of religion in addressing the world's problems. She stated that religion and faith organisations are "absolutely critical" in developing and securing peace. "You take a faith leader like the Pope. He has influence that transcends religion. I said to someone the other day, 'I am not a religious person but thank God for the Pope.'... On the basic issues of poverty, climate, justice – this man is speaking for the hopes of so many."

Pope Francis in his Homily at Mass on Monday 8 May 2017

'Peter had the courage to be surprised by the novelty of the Holy Spirit, to break the rigid response of "this is the way it has always been done". He was not afraid of creating "scandal" or of not fulfilling his mission as the "rock". He had the freedom not to hinder "God's grace", and not to "silence the din that the Spirit makes when he comes to the Church".'



"As you can see boys and girls, the alphabet comes in 'caps lock on' and 'caps lock off.'"



KONICA MINOLTA

Kia kaha, Kia māia, Kia ū!

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