



The Church has a single intention: that God's kingdom may come, and that the salvation of the whole human race may come to pass (Gaudium et Spes 45a).

This is an inspiring vision for the activities of all those involved in running and supporting our Catholic schools.

On a daily basis, the interaction that principals, teachers, school staff, trustees, clergy, parents, parish workers and all those associated with the administration of our schools have with students and their families, enables them all to implement this vision in various structural and practical ways.

At the outset of a new year it is worth reflecting that in our Christian world view striving for greatness is called magnanimity or greatness of the heart. The magnanimous person seeks to do work deserving of honour.

Mother Teresa, Nelson Mandela and so many unsung heroes of our own times have been and are individuals of great magnanimity.

Khalil Gibran, in 'The Prophet', states: "Work is love made visible." This is another way of saying that work is another form of leadership which in turn is a gift for the uplifting of humanity.

Our schools are great places to show and teach our students that they have a calling to greatness, which requires a commitment to the Church's highest goal given to it by God, through Jesus. To achieve that goal requires practical 'landing gear' which is realised in a commitment to greatness and hard work.

Pope Benedict XVI is on record saying, "The ways of the Lord are not comfortable. But we were not created for comfort, but for greatness".

In a world where achieving high levels of comfort is all that many individuals seek for, our Catholic schools are able to put other more aspirational visions and goals in front of students, which in the long run lead to greater levels of happiness and life satisfaction.

Best wishes and support are extended to you in this New Year.

Greetings

We trust 2010 has commenced well for you!

**Kia tau, kia tātou katoa te atawhai ō tō tātou Ariki a Hehu Karaiti.
I Runga i te ingoa o te Matua, o te Tamaiti, o te Wairua Tapu.**

Dates for Your Diary

- 8-10 August, 2012, NZ Catholic Education Convention
- Catholic Schools Day, 19 May 2010. Posters and information about this day of celebration are being distributed.

A Correction to the 'Choose a Career as a Catholic School Teacher' Poster

In printing our new edition of this poster an old file was transposed into the text. As a result, the contact names for Hamilton diocese and Christchurch diocese reverted to previous names. We apologise to the diocesan staff affected, and to all recipients for this mistake. The poster will be reprinted in August, meantime please could you note that the correct contacts are:

Hamilton diocese: Cynthia Piper, ph 07 856 6989, email cynthiap@cdh.org.nz

Christchurch diocese: Charles Shaw, ph 03 366 9869, email cshaw@chch.catholic.org.nz.

Caritas Lenten Programme Materials

Caritas is congratulated on the quality of the materials provided to schools for use during Lent and other times of year.

Congratulations to our Newest School Community

Sancta Maria Catholic Primary School, Flatbush, Manukau City, opened at the start of February, with a roll of 208 children. It is established on the Sancta Maria College campus. Best wishes and congratulations are extended to Principal Gina Benade and her staff, the Board of Trustees, and to Proprietor Bishop Pat Dunn and his team.

Congratulations to Principals New to Leadership of Catholic Schools

Paul Coakley, St Pius X School, Glen Innes, Auckland
Maraea Herbert, Te Kura o Hata Maria, Pawarenga, Northland
Michele Mill, Pompallier School, Whangarei
Carol Sullivan, St Ignatius School, St Heliers
Jim McCabe, Bishop Edward Gaines School, Tokoroa
James Murray, St Mary's School, Gisborne
Margaret Campbell-McAuley, Sacred Heart School, Reefton

Handbook for Boards of Trustees of Catholic Schools

The 2010 edition of this handbook is currently being prepared, and should be available at the start of May. Diocesan Offices will be responsible for making the handbook available to schools.

The Trading Circle

The Trading Circle, an initiative of the Sisters of the Good Shepherd, sells a charming range of items whose production helps empower women in Third World countries to earn the money they and their families need to survive. Email Margaret at thetradingcircle@xtra.co.nz to find out more. Products can be sold at community events, schools or parishes on request.

"Education is the movement from darkness to light."

Allan Bloom



Any policy to protect the environment must respect the inviolable dignity of the human person.

“More sober lifestyles” and reduced energy consumption are essential.

Latin American Fee Paying Students

The recently appointed Ministry of Education Counsellor for Latin America, Dion Burns, is working to ensure that schools have the information they need to attract fee paying students. He is accredited to Latin America in general, and will be most active in Chile, Brazil and Colombia. Marketing information is available from www.educationnz.org.nz. Dion can be contacted directly at Dion.Burns@minedu.govt.nz.

Good Practice in School/Parish Baptism Programmes

Marian School, Hamilton, St Teresa’s School, Riccarton and St Joseph’s School, Waitara are congratulated on their programmes, which have seen significant numbers of students baptised.

Two Interesting Websites

www.miat.org.au/page/jesus_laughing_exhibition.html has a wonderful range of multi-ethnic portrayals of Jesus.

www.praythnews.org.nz is a new site led by Fr Denis O’Hagan SM which, as well as providing information about a range of prayer styles, has a special focus on prayerful reflection on daily news items. It would be of interest for school staff, parents and senior secondary school students, and could be relevant for senior Social Studies as well as Religious Education.

New Conjoint Programme Available

Those considering undertaking study to qualify as a primary school teacher will be interested to know that Otago University offers a programme that includes a specialist year in Religious Education. Contact jm.ogilvy@otago.ac.nz for more information.

Immersion Experience in India

During the summer holidays St Thomas of Canterbury College, Christchurch, St Kevin’s College, Oamaru and Villa Maria College, Christchurch sent students to India for a month’s immersion programme, to help develop a social conscience for our leaders of the future. The group worked with those on the margins of society in Mother Teresa’s homes in Calcutta. Congratulations are extended to both colleges.

E-Handbooks Available for School and Parish Marketing

A detailed and practical e-Handbook for school marketing has been developed in Australia by a former Catholic school principal, Bryan Foster. It is available at www.schoolmarketinghandbook.com or www.schoolmarketing.co.nz. The cost is AU\$14.95. A Church Parish Marketing handbook is also available, at www.churchparishmarketing.com or www.churchmarketing.co.nz. The NZ websites have interactive blogs, hints and tips.

New Resource from Choicez Media

Australian Catholic company Choicez Media has recently released a 3-part DVD and support manual, Beautiful. Drawing on high level research, it gives young women an insight into the aggressive role of the media and marketing in the premature sexualisation of young women, and provides strategies for creating change. See www.choicez.com.au or email nthomas@choicez.com.au.

Pope Benedict on the Environment

In his message for the 2010 World Day of Peace the Pope stressed: Care for the earth is essential – it is God’s gift to us and deserves our respect.

Creation is God’s gift to mankind – we must care for it on behalf of future generations, and the poor among us.

Industrialised nations bear a special responsibility for the situations of ecological crisis they have caused, but developing nations must also adopt policies that protect the environment.

“Do not walk through time without leaving worthy evidence of your passage.”

Pope John XXIII

better off
bnz partners



KONICA MINOLTA

Mā te Atua koutou e manaaki, e tiaki.

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