



Christchurch Congregation  
of  
**The Christian Community**  
Movement For Religious Renewal

*Trinity* Visit from 8<sup>th</sup> – 10<sup>th</sup> February 2019

Dear members and friends of the Christchurch Community,

I am very much looking forward to visiting your community again for a second time on the weekend from 8th to 10th of February.

Friday night's talk at 7.30 will be about "Self-determination of Our Soul".

Today we are very aware and sensitive about our freedom. Personal rights, the chance for individual development are highly estimated values for us.

In our time and culture, our freedom is more threatened from the inside than from the inside than from the outside.

**Visiting Priest:**

Martina Alexi 0224 235 369  
[martinaalex@web.de](mailto:martinaalex@web.de)

**Services are held at:**

Hohepa Recreation Centre  
23 Barrington Street, Spreydon

**Heart Group:**

Hartmut Borries 09 525 2305  
Paddy Gilgenberg 03 332 2458  
Elizabeth Heybrook 03 303 0780  
Gabriella Martinka 03 337 19 16  
István Martinka 03 337 19 16

**Christchurch Treasurer**

Mike Sargent 03 261 2046

**Newsletter/Programme**

Clifford van Wely 03 325 5778  
[tcc.chch@gmail.com](mailto:tcc.chch@gmail.com)

**Servers**

Paddy Gilgenberg 03 332 2458

**Music**

Marinus La Rooij 03 331 7677

**Vestry**

Ulla van Erp 03 337 0024

**National Council Rep.**

István Martinka 03 337 19 16

**Our Web Site**

[www.thechristiancommunity.net](http://www.thechristiancommunity.net)

A wise quote from Buddha's teachings: "No one outside ourselves can rule us inwardly. When we know this we become free".

What prevents us and what can help us on the path to become inwardly free and self-determined, and what has this to do with Christianity are the questions the talk is about.

Then there will be the usual programme for priest visits on Saturday and Sunday.

If you want to contact me for any questions or personal appointments, you can do this by telephone: 0224 235 369 or email: [martinaalex@web.de](mailto:martinaalex@web.de)

With the very best wishes,

*Martina.*

## **"Wedding bells, wedding bells, ringing away...."**

Days after the wedding and the camp I still find myself humming 'Weddings bells, wedding bells...' as sung at the wedding of Alix and Hartmut.

What a joy to sing together a song written for the occasion and rehearsed under the professional guidance of Anne Odile: we practiced, refined and practiced again. I felt as a group we had joined heaven and the songs of the angels. We also enjoyed several circle-dances with our own camp-musicians playing for us. On the day of the wedding we were able to 'sing with the birds and dance a pattern of a stars on the earth'.

The day before the wedding, anticipation and excitement was evident - reminding me of a hive of bees. Flowers, instruments, musicians practicing, decorations, food, vases, oh the smell of wedding cake....

The same day, despite some rainy clouds, some of us took the opportunity to explore some of the many beautiful walks with all the waterfalls, white crystal rock, lakes and native forest, wildlife in the National Park including the unique landscape of the Tongariro Crossing.

As long as the clouds would hold on to their rain drops on the wedding day!

On the morning of the wedding-day I am certain that the birds' morning chorus was already taking on a special song, with the tui and bell-birds faithfully taking the lead.

Once more, in the morning-circle, we could practice songs and dances. Breakfast was prepared as the kitchen got even busier with the additional cooks arriving to prepare the wedding lunch.

The chapel experienced the most creative, unique transformation: floor, chairs, and walls were creatively decorated ready for the occasion. After the Act of Consecration a little time was left to polish shoes and greet guests joining the celebration.

We are grateful for Martina, taking on at very short notice conducting the wedding sacrament and giving a sermon to be remembered.

I am blessed to have heard the words of the sacrament again. Every time it seems to contribute to my own marriage, widens my understanding of and strengthens my relationship to my husband.

It was heart-warming, funny and bringing some of us to tears having Hartmut share some the biographical journey of the challenges, determination, patience, trust and orchestration of the two people finally to be married. For me it became evident once again that life is orchestrated with melodies, harmonies and rhythms, and woven with many patterns, colours and fibre - clearly heaven and earth contributed to this special day.

"Wedding bells wedding bells ringing away...."

Thank you Alix and Hartmut for sharing this special day with us at camp on a place where the stars shine brightly, where the eyes can lift up to the mountains and the birds sing day and night. We are truly blessed to know you and that you are a part of our community. We hope to welcome you in Christchurch sometime soon. "Wedding bells ...ding dong, ding dong, ringing away."

Sigrid

### **Fundraising Together**

Again we are invited to join the Community of Christchurch Rudolf Steiner School on

their 4th  **Community Autumn Harvest**

**Festival and Market**  **to be held on Sunday March 31st from 10am - 1pm**

As by last year's wonderful festive atmosphere it will be yet another fantastic day.

We will be there again with our 'Little Market' - candles, candle holders, crafts, cards, honey, seeds, plants and more.

You are invited to join the team to make items, set up, mind the stall and give a hand at the end of the market.

### **Making items together for the Fundraising**

Come and join us on **Saturday 1-3.30 pm** for sawing, carving, cutting, dipping stitching.

\*Sawing and carving cardholders

\*Dipping candles as we did on 4th Advent we will continue with.

\* Making autumn lanterns

Materials for all the above are provided.

Please, feel free to bring your own projects or ideas.

For enquiries/ coordination please contact Sigrid on 03 3129208 or

[02102250705/musicsigrid@gmail.com](mailto:02102250705/musicsigrid@gmail.com)

**Everybody welcome**

