



THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY AUCKLAND

Newsletter & Programme

TRINITY - PASSIONTIDE - HOLY WEEK - ESTER March, April and May 2019

**Management Committee of the
Auckland community:**

Kate Korver 816 8350
Hartmut Borries 021 259 8555
Loretto Cairns 027 288 5009
Peter Sargent 022 067 5085
Dmitry Pavlenko 021 165 0806

Auckland Treasurer

Rosser Thornley 07-852 5662

Newsletter/Programme

Hartmut Borries 09 525 2305

Servers

Hartmut Borries

Flowers

Loretto Cairns 636 4774

Maintenance

Dmitry Pavlenko 021 165 0806

Vestry

Hartmut Borries

Garden

Peter Sargent 525 2334

Music

Peter Patterson 817 8360

Social Care Coordinator

Heather McKay 816 9448

National Council Rep.

Peter Sargent 525 2334

Priests Working in Auckland

Hartmut Borries work 525 2305

Active Retired Priests

Kevin Coffey 09 816 9272
Elke Baubles 06 651 1774

Our Web Site

www.thechristiancommunity.net

Priests away from Auckland:

Hartmut: 27/3-3/4 in Spring
Valley/USA
4/4-7/4 in Christchurch
9/5-12/5 in Hawkes Bay,
24/5-26/5 in Wellington

Dear Members and Friends of our New Zealand Communities

Last year we had the good fortune of first having Roger Druitt visiting us for almost six months and then, in the second half of the year, Martina Alexi. Both colleagues have been able to visit most of our New Zealand communities, and what a privilege it has been to have them stay with us. Looking forward to the future, you will read in this newsletter a letter from our lenker Cheryl Nekvapil addressed to all of us. Cheryl is sharing with some momentous news about a colleague being sent to New Zealand. This is of course what we have been hoping and asking for. The last time this happened was some five years ago when Darryl Coonan joined us for one year. At the time we had been very hopeful that his sending would be for much longer. However, it was not to be and as a consequence we had to reduce the frequency of visits to Hawkes Bay and Wellington drastically, focusing on special events like retreats or confirmations. After Elke Baubles became more available to help out in our communities, we could return to more regular visits last year. With another colleague in the country we are of course very hopeful that we can establish more of a rhythm of community visits that will be beneficial for everyone. While aiming for that we must also be very careful not to repeat mistakes of the past. When Darryl visited two communities every month, he experienced that he was a visitor wherever he went, also in Auckland where he was living. It was something he could not do long term. When I myself was in a similar situation of almost constant travel, some 15 years ago, I got quite sick with almost constant pain. That of course cannot be the purpose of our work either. We will therefore need some time to find out what is humanly possible as well as most beneficial for all of our communities. We very much hope that you can support us in this endeavor.

In February we had a wonderful celebration and 'thank you' for Andrea's work and contribution to our Christian Community in Auckland and New Zealand. She has been working for us for almost ten years, so that she is now a permanent resident of New Zealand. Already half way through last year Andrea started to work at the Titirangi Rudolf Steiner School where her new colleagues are relieved and grateful to have her on the team.

Looking forward to the coming weeks and months, there is a lot to share:

At the end of March, I will be travelling to Spring Valley/New York to attend the priest ordinations. In the first Easter week we will host our regional synod in Auckland with our Australian colleagues joining us. On Saturday 27th of April we will have a community dinner with games, which will be a great opportunity to meet and get to know one another. This will be followed by three contributions on the theme, "Community and Priesthood".

On Sunday 28th April, Cheryl Prigg will be inducted into our Auckland community by our lenker Cheryl Nekvapil. This is what we have been hoping for, for many years and hopefully it will be possible for many of you from all over New Zealand, to attend this special event.

On a more personal note, Alix and I would like to thank you all who were able to celebrate our wedding together with us, either by being present in person or by sending us your greetings and good wishes. We are deeply grateful to Martina Alexi who celebrated our wedding. With only one day's notice she had a sermon ready which was most meaningful, memorable and humorous. We could not have wished for more. Even the weather was on our side. While it rained on the days before and after, for our wedding day we had the most beautiful sun shine, so that many of us went swimming in the river in the afternoon. For us it has been a cause of great joy and gratitude to experience so much good will and generosity.

Something similar must be said to all of you who are members and friends of our Christian Community in New Zealand. As we are approaching the end of the financial year I would like to thank you for your generous gifts and donations that make our work in New Zealand possible. Our goal is to form communities where Christ can be present. Whenever we share ourselves and resources, we make community possible which will be needed more and more in times to come.

With the very best wishes to all of you

Hartmut Borries

LETTER FROM OUR LENKER CHERYL NEKVAPIL

Dear Members and Friends of The Christian Community in New Zealand,
2019

25th February

At this time of writing, I am preparing to travel to Auckland from Melbourne for the New Zealand Council meeting 2nd & 3rd March 2019.

At the meeting I will announce to our Council members that Cheryl Prigg who is Australian (she might refine that to say she's a Victorian!) will be sent to Auckland after her Ordination on 29th March in Spring Valley, NY, USA. Cheryl has been studying at the Spring Valley Seminary for over two years now, and has found the priest training course inspiring, challenging and transformative, some of you would have met her when she visited the Auckland congregation in winter 2018. Her journey has led to this really wonderful outcome that she is to be ordained and sent to work in our Region. She is really looking forward to her new vocation and to finding her feet on southern ground again, and doing that in New Zealand.

Before setting out to do the full-time seminary training, Cheryl completed 20 years of being a class-teacher in Steiner Schools. She had completed university studies in primary teacher education, and also studied at the Melbourne Rudolf Steiner Teacher Seminar. Initially she taught in a Steiner stream government school in Melbourne, and then at Sophia Mundi Steiner School. Then she completed a class teacher cycle at the Orana School in Canberra. All the while, Cheryl was a member of The Christian Community – she can tell you more of that story at her induction. While teaching in Canberra, Cheryl also completed a Masters Degree in Education, and was a foundation participant in the Pro-Seminary which has been facilitated since 2013 in Sydney by Lisa Devine and Martin Samson. We all appreciate that she has studied and worked extensively out of Rudolf Steiner's impulse, and has now fulfilled her long dreamed calling in becoming a priest of The Christian Community.

Cheryl Prigg's induction into the Auckland congregation, and therefore into the filial congregations in New Zealand will be held in the church in Auckland on Sunday 28th April 2019. It would be wonderful if many of you can come and welcome Cheryl and mark this next phase of life in The Christian Community in New Zealand, something we have been planning and working towards ever since that big disruption when Darryl Coonan was sent to Australia in 2015. We have been assisted by many generous and adventurous visiting priests in the mean-time, now we will seek a way forward with Hartmut Borries and Cheryl Prigg working as resident priests, with retired priests Kevin Coffey and Elke Baublies continuing to support them and our congregations.

From Tuesday 23rd – Saturday 22nd April our priests will meet at a Synod in Auckland, reviewing and looking forward to how we can respond to the call for more priest visits and services in the New Zealand congregations given this new situation.

Concurrently, our congregations and New Zealand Council will be stimulated and challenged for a response. Programming, planning, resources and support will be refocussed around the potential activity and responsibilities that will emerge.

But, we will take this good news a step at a time – walking with each other and with our ‘Helping Guide’, the true purpose of all our strivings and achievements.

Warmest greetings,
Cheryl Nekvapil
Lenker for Australia New Zealand
cheryl.nekvapil@thechristiancommunity.net

Passing the Bowl

The Christian Community Incorporated, a national picture

In 2019 we are hoping to fill our bowl with an extra \$30,000!
Here's why.....

Summarised numbers for YE December 2018 for all congregations in NZ:

INCOME

Donations	142,768
Camps, retreats etc	13,134
Interest received	168
Rents received (Auckland, Hastings)	31,775

TOTAL REVENUE **187,845**

EXPENSES

Donation to Headquarters in Berlin	9,000
Contribution to Lenker costs	5,000
Employee related costs (2 full-time, 2 retired)	130,830
Property expenses (Auckland, Hastings)	17,505
Other costs	49,689

TOTAL EXPENSES **212,024**

DEFICIT FOR THE YEAR **-24,179**

For the last few years we have been eating into our capital reserves, so our bank balances are becoming depleted. Now we have an exciting challenge ahead of us, to turn this trend on its heels, and show our positive commitment to the future of The Christian Community in New Zealand.

Rodnie Whitlock, national treasurer

passing around the bowl



to fund our new priest in New Zealand we appeal to you to help fill the bowl with an extra \$30 000

Every extra dollar counts

- | | | |
|-------------------------|--------------|--------------------|
| - in the bowl | Auckland | 03-0259-0112730-04 |
| - monthly contributions | Christchurch | 03-0531-0795113-03 |
| - bequests | Hawkes Bay | 03-0259-0165146-01 |
| - special donations | Wellington | 03-0531-0795084-02 |

thank you for your commitment to our future

The Christian Community – March 2019

National Council of New Zealand

NEWS FROM THE REGION...

HAWKE'S BAY

We were blessed to begin the year with a visit from Martina Alexi.

There was a potluck dinner and talk on the Saturday evening and services for children and adults on the Sunday, followed by a Gospel study.

It was really lovely for all present to meet her.

Several families made it to the wonderful camp and the very special addition of Hartmut's and Alix's marriage.

Christmas services were given by Elke, with a midnight service included.

It was very special to have this happen here again after so many years without.

The regular monthly visits, shared between Hartmut and Elke, have been very gratefully received. These began in September last year.

The maintenance issues beginning to arise with Rangimarie are something that we will need to begin addressing. This became especially apparent at our recent 2019 AGM.

On behalf of the Christian Community Hawkes Bay,

Martin Mallow

SUMMER CAMP AND WEDDING

“Wedding bells, wedding bells ringing away...”

Days after the wedding and the camp, I still find myself humming the song we sang at the wedding of Alix and Hartmut.

What a joy to sing together; under the most 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 practiced a circle dance with musicians playing for us. On the day, we were able to dance a pattern of a star on the earth. A wedding is indeed a wonderful occasion to share the joy of singing and dancing.

The day before the wedding, anticipation and excitement was evident. The special busyness reminded me of a beehive: in and out, checking, brief exchange, flowers, musicians practicing, decorating, food, vases, ...oh the smell and wedding cake....

That day, despite some rainy clouds, some of us did walk the Tongariro crossing or one of the many other beautiful walk in the district-- waterfall, white crystal rock, lakes and native forest, wildlife and the song of the birds.

As long as the clouds would hold on to their rain drops on the wedding day!
And so it was heaven and earth in harmony.



On that morning of the wedding 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. In the morning-circle we had space for one more practice of songs and dances. Breakfast was prepared in a really busy kitchen as the support team arrived to prepare the wedding lunch.

The greatest transformation was experienced in the chapel. Floor, chairs and walls were creatively decorated in readiness for the occasion. After the Act of Consecration, little time was left to polish shoes and greet the extra guests joining the celebration.

We are so grateful for Martina, who, at very short notice, stepped in to conduct the wedding sacrament and sermon. We now have the pleasure of welcoming a newly wedded couple to our community.

For me, being part of a Christian Community wedding is certainly special even unique. I

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

It was heartwarming, funny and I was touched to the point of tears having Hartmut share some of the biographical journey of the challenges, determination, patience, trust and orchestration of the two people finally to be married – So..clouds and sunshine! Heaven and earth have contributed to the day.

Sigrid McTurk



AUCKLAND

We have a small library outside the vestry for the benefit of members and friends of our community. Please feel free to browse and borrow. There is a book to record your borrowing. Just note down the title of the book, and its author, your name and the date of borrowing.

A reminder to those of us who have long overdue books: please return them as soon as you can so that their treasures may be available to others.

Loretto Cairns

Serving Appeal

Attending the Act of Consecration of Man for over twenty years now it is only in the last two years that I have begun serving. I had always felt too shy and afraid of making a mistake.

It was during Franziska Hesse's visit that she asked me if I would serve and she so very kindly and warmly gave me the confidence to do it. I still struggled when serving with other priests with a "stage fright" kind of feeling – where I know what to say but cannot open my mouth and do it. Hartmut helped here by saying: take in a deep breath then let it out with the words. All the other servers and priests have been most helpful and supportive. Each time I learn a little more from the experience.

I love serving on either side but feel a special grace when holding the incense and it is wafting around me. It feels so healing.

It has also helped me focus better on the service itself – the words and ritual.

I have been blessed to have the space in my life to serve often at the moment and I encourage anyone who could possibly clear that time in their day to be present in this way, to seriously consider it.

The congregation and priests are always quite supportive too – so you are never alone with the angels at the altar. Thank you to all who have served for us and continue to do so over the years, making our biweekly celebrations possible.

Sylvie Souchan



THE CHRISTIAN COMMUNITY AUCKLAND

Program: March – April – May 2019

TRINITY – PASSIONTIDE – HOLY WEEK – EASTER

Services & events are at: The Church - 10 Rawhiti Rd, One Tree Hill – Tel: 525 2305

Friday 8 March

5-7.30pm Confirmation Class

Sunday 10 March – TRINITY

- 9.00am **Confirmands and their parents meet to prepare for the Confirmation**
10.00am **The Act of Consecration of Man (Matthew 4: 1-11)**
11.30am **Deepening our Understanding of the Sacraments I**

Wednesday 13 March

- 10.00am **The Act of Consecration of Man**
11.30am **Gospel Study**

Sunday 17 March - TRINITY

- 10.00am **The Act of Consecration of Man (Matthew 17: 1-13)**
11.30am **Deepening our Understanding of the Sacraments II**

Wednesday 20 March

- 10.00am **The Act of Consecration of Man**
11.30am **Gospel Study**

Friday 22 March

5-7.30pm Confirmation Class

PASSIONTIDE

Sunday 24 March - PASSIONTIDE

- 9.00am **Confirmands and their parents meet to prepare for Confirmation**
10.00am **The Act of Consecration of Man (Luke 11: 14-36)**
11.30am **Community Meeting**

Wednesday 27 March

- 10.00am **The Act of Consecration of Man**
11.30am **Gospel Study**

Sunday 31 March - PASSIONTIDE

- 10.00am **The Act of Consecration of Man (John 6: 1-15)**
11.30am **In Conversation with Kevin Coffey part I**

Wednesday 3 April

- 10.00am **The Act of Consecration of Man**
11.30am **Gospel Study**

Sunday 7 April – PASSIONTIDE

10.00am **The Act of Consecration of Man** (John 8:1-12)

11.30am **In Conversation with Kevin Coffey part II**

Wednesday 10 April

10.00am **The Act of Consecration of Man**

11.30am **Gospel Study**

HOLY WEEK

Sunday 14 April – PALM SUNDAY

10.00am **The Act of Consecration of Man** (Matthew 21: 1-11)

11.30am **Holy Week Course: The Soul's Journey towards Easter I**

Monday 15 April

10.00am **The Act of Consecration of Man**

11.30am **Holy Week Course: The Soul's Journey towards Easter II**

Tuesday 16 April

10.00am **The Act of Consecration of Man**

11.30am **Holy Week Course: The Soul's Journey towards Easter III**

Wednesday 17 April

10.00am **The Act of Consecration of Man**

11.30am **Holy Week Course: The Soul's Journey towards Easter IV**

Thursday 18 April

10.00am **The Act of Consecration of Man** (Luke 23:13-32)

11.30am **Holy Week Course: The Soul's Journey towards Easter V**

Good Friday 19 April

10.00am **The Act of Consecration of Man** (John 19: 1-15)

11.30am **The Holy Week Course: Soul's Journey towards Easter VI**

2- 3.00pm **Vigil with seven Words from the Cross** with a Close of Day Service at 2.45pm

Holy Saturday 20 April

10.00am **The Act of Consecration of Man** (John 19: 16-42)

11.30am **Preparing our Church for Easter**

EASTER

Easter Sunday 21 April - EASTER

9.00am **Easter Family Circle** followed by the Sunday Service for Children

10.00am **The Act of Consecration of Man** (Mark 16: 1-8)

11.30am **The New Human Being**

[A Regional Synod starts at 6pm this Tuesday 23 April here in Auckland. It finishes on Sunday 28 April.]

Wednesday 24 April

No Act of Consecration of Man and no Gospel Study today

Saturday 27 April

5.30pm Potluck dinner and games together with the members of the synod

7.00pm **Three contributions on the theme of "Community and Priesthood"**

Sunday 28 April -EASTER

10.00am **Induction of Cheryl Prigg and The Act of Consecration of Man** (John 20: 19-31)

11.30am **Welcome to Cheryl Prigg**

(Please bring something to share for a celebration and a meal.)

Wednesday 1 May

10.00am **The Act of Consecration of Man**

11.30am Gospel Study

Friday 2 May or Saturday 3 May (yet to be determined)

5.30pm Potluck dinner

7.00pm **Introducing the Confirmands to the Community**

Sunday 5 May - EASTER

10.00am **Confirmation Service** (John 10: 1-16)

Followed by a celebration and shared lunch

Wednesday 8 May

10.00am **The Act of Consecration of Man**

11.30am Gospel Study

Sunday 12 May - EASTER

10.00am **The Act of Consecration of Man** (John 15: 1-27)

11.30am **Sharing our Stories part I** with an introduction by Cheryl Prigg on
'Crossing the Rubicon' (age 9 and 10)

Wednesday 15 May

10.00am **The Act of Consecration of Man**

11.30am Gospel Study

Sunday 19 May - EASTER

10.00am **The Act of Consecration of Man** (John 16: 1-33)

11.30am **Sharing our Stories part II**

Wednesday 22 May

10.00am **The Act of Consecration of Man**

11.30am Gospel Study

The river never drinks its own water.
The tree never tastes its own fruit.
The field never consumes its own harvest.
They selflessly strive for the well being
of all those round them.

Proverb, Rajasthan

Only your donations to The Christian
Community make our work possible.
We are most grateful for your support.
A regular monthly donation is best ...

**The bank details are:
The ChristianCommunity Inc.
Bank: Westpac Branch: Remuera
Account: 03 0259 011273004**