

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF CHRISTCHURCH
WEEKLY NOTICES
29 April 2018

SUBMISSIONS URGENTLY NEEDED for the Law Commission Opposing the Decriminalisation of Abortion

You are encouraged to speak up in defence of God's precious infants by making a brief submission to the Law Commission. Our PM, Jacinda Ardern, has directed that the Law Commission review our abortion laws to "make changes to ensure our abortion laws are consistent with treating abortion as a health issue that is a reproductive choice for women, and not a criminal issue".

This proposal will effectively mean that those unborn who are classified as unwanted will be deprived of the protection of the Crimes Act and allowed to be killed. However the unborn children who are classified as wanted, will retain the protection of the Crimes Act and of the state.

Submissions are required to be with the Law Commission **before 5pm on 18th May 2018**. Please make a submission in your own words.

Here are several suggested points you may like to use in your submission

I oppose the decriminalisation of abortion because....

- It would deprive the unborn child of current protection under the law. It would be a declaration by the state that *a woman can terminate the life of her child for any reason*, e.g, the baby being the wrong sex and for disability such as Down syndrome.
- It would no longer be a crime to kill the unborn child, an innocent human being. It would be a declaration by the state that it has no interest in protecting you or your child from the violence of abortion.
- It would provide a cover for crimes against women, rape, incest and sexual abuse. If we followed the Victorian model, it would allow abortion up to birth.

Law Commission- Post, PO Box 2590, Wellington, 6140. Email alr@lawcom.govt.nz. For further information go to www.chooselife.org.nz or www.righttolife.org.nz. Thank you for defending life.

WILDER: A time of adoration with praise and worship, the Sacrament of Reconciliation and prayer teams on offer! This is an event for all ages. Fri, May 11 @ Christ the King Parish Centre (90 Greers Rd, Burnside), 7:30pm-9:00pm. Got questions? Contact Sam at CYT ssivertsen@chch.catholic.org.nz or 03 353 0705.

FIRST FRIDAY MASS: You are invited to join with those in the Renewal on the first Friday of each month as we come together to celebrate Mass at 7.30pm, Christ the King Church, 90 Greers Rd, Burnside, followed by supper in the Parish Centre. Next Mass: Friday 4th May.

For more information about the Catholic Charismatic Renewal go to: www.ccrnz.org

CATHOLIC YOUTH TEAM (CYT) invite you to **Theology on Tap**, May 2 at 7pm, Bentley's Bar, 90 Ilam Rd. Theology on Tap is a young adult event that invites speakers to present on topics of theology. On May 2, David Jackman will present on the topic of God and Science. All over 18's welcome. Contact CYT Young Adult Coordinator, Sinead Gilgunn, for more info. 0220109828.

ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICE: All parishioners are warmly invited to an Ecumenical Prayer Service during the Week of Prayer for Christian Unity to be held in St Mary's Pro-Cathedral on **16th May** at 5.30pm.

CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL COLLEGE is holding an **open evening** on Thursday **24th May** from 6.30pm – 8.00pm at 62 Ferry Road. Everyone most welcome.

DOVE CATHOLIC FELLOWSHIP FOR WOMEN Welcomes you to join us **Saturday 12th May 1pm - 3pm** to hear Maria Schmetzer speak - '**A reflection on the practice of confident love, joyful acceptance of our weakness and abandonment to the Divine Will**' This is something that all Christian women can relate to as we journey through our daily lives, with all the ups and downs, joys and sorrows. All women warmly welcome – Christ the King Parish Centre, Greers Rd. Phone/txt Diane 0274312026 for more info.

SVDP RETAIL MANAGER NEEDED: Our new store in Hornby required a retail manager. Job includes managing day to day operations, coordinating drivers and managing stock. Ideally applicants will have retail experience and be compassionate and caring. CVs to penny@svdpchch.co.nz or PO Box 26007, Christchurch. Application close 12 May 2018. See the Diocesan website for more details www.chchcatholic.nz

SLAVERY IN THE NEW TESTAMENT AND MODERN HUMAN SLAVERY. Thursday **10 May** 7.30pm at Te Manawa Atawhai Catherine McAuley Centre at Villa Maria College. Presented by Dr Kathleen Rushton rsm. Slavery is often unseen and not named for what it is. Sr Kath offers scriptural background and insights from the "Tip of the Iceberg" Conference of 2017. Rosary House Spiritual Life Centre event. Indication of attendance helpful to roho@xtra.co.nz or (03) 379 1298.

CAMINO DE SANTIAGO MEETING: A meeting is being held on Monday 30 April in the 'Sydenham Room,' at the South Library, (entry via the Night Entrance,) 66 Colombo Street between 7 and 9 pm for past and future pilgrims to discuss all things Camino. As numbers are limited please RSVP (and for more information) to either; Deb at debflaming78@gmail.com or Philip at nzphoe@gmail.com

MASS OF THE NEOPHYTES: Parishes throughout the Diocese celebrated the rites of initiation at Easter. The Church envisions all newly initiated, or neophytes, to share Mass with their Bishop. All are welcome to this Mass of the Neophytes, **Saturday 5 May** at 9:00 am at Christ the King. A reception will follow.

A DAY WITH MARY will be held at St Peter and Paul's Church Halswell on Saturday **5th May 2018** commencing at 9 30 am and concluding at 3 00pm. Ring Janet on 9605294 for details

THE BILLINGS OVULATION METHOD™ FAMILY PLANNING NATURALLY : The Billings Ovulation Method™ is used by millions of women around the world. It was developed by Doctors John and Evelyn Billings, validated by eminent international scientists and successfully trialled by the World Health Organisation. By learning to identify natural signs of fertility, you can use the Billings Ovulation Method™ to achieve or avoid pregnancy and to safeguard your reproductive health. The method is easy to learn and can be used at any and all stages of a woman's fertile lifetime, including during breast feeding and in the perimenopause. Accredited Billings Teachers are available throughout New Zealand. A distance learning service is available for those that do not have a service in their area. **Website:** www.billingslife.org.nz **Call Free:** 0800 NZ Fertility (693 378) **Email:** info@billingslife.org.nz

P.A.T.H.S. (Post Abortion Trauma Healing Service) is a charitable group based in Christchurch, which provides support nationally for those negatively impacted by a recent or past abortion. It also offers education and training around post-abortion issues and healing needs. We have been operating for 20 years and have reached another crisis point. For this vital ministry to continue, we are seeking people to come on board as trustees. We also require help with administration, funding, and the financial accounts; and we need a counsellor with a passion for this area to become the new Co-ordinator of Services. At present, these are voluntary roles until such time as funding becomes available. If you have a heart for this area of healing and have skills that you can offer, please consider coming forward to help. For more information about our service, visit www.postabortionpaths.org.nz and for expressions of interest in any of the roles mentioned, please email Karen or Carolina at admin@postabortionpaths.org.nz

CATHOLIC SHOP: For reflections & rosaries, candles & cards, books & bibles, NZ Catholic and more. Open Mon-Fri 9.30am-4.30pm, Sat 10am-1pm. Visit us at 373 Manchester Street, Christchurch, next to St Mary's Pro-Cathedral, ph 03 366-2853, e-mail catholicshop@chch.catholic.org.nz, or 'like' us on Facebook www.facebook.com/chchcatholicshop

VILLA MARIA COLLEGE : Open Day: Tuesday **8 May** 2018 9.00am-2.00pm. Villa Maria College invites friends, parents, and their daughters to see the College at work on our Open Day. The Principal, Ms Deborah Brosnahan, will address parents and girls in the College Auditorium at 9am, 11am, and 1pm. For further information, please contact the College Office, telephone 348 4165 or go to www.villa.school.nz

PRO-LIFE FACTS: A non-invasive screening programme is offered in NZ to identify babies with Down syndrome or other conditions. Mothers are then offered and are often encouraged to choose to abort their preborn child who may have Down syndrome or another condition. This is a form of genocide, targeting members of a specific group for elimination. For more pro-life information, visit www.righttolife.org.nz.

NATIONAL MARRIAGE TRAINING WEEKEND: Those involved in marriage education (or those wishing to be involved) are invited to the *National Catholic Marriage Training Weekend* on the weekend of **18th – 20th May 2018**, at Chateau on the Park, Christchurch. The theme is "Christian Marriage: Radical Demands – Extravagant Mercy". The Weekend is held every two years to form and encourage those involved in Marriage Education in the Catholic Church. For more information, speak to your parish priest and view the website www.chchcatholic.nz/mtw

THINKING DIOCESAN PRIESTHOOD? Speak to any priest or contact Vocations Director Fr. John O'Connor vocations.chch@gmail.com

PROMOTING VOCATIONS: The New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference has endorsed the promotion of vocations and asks that you regularly promote vocations with the following (with or without the logo as space is always at a premium).



Holy Cross Seminary
www.holycross.org.nz