

12 October 2017

Issue No: 163

From +John...

Dear Friends,

At the Closing Mass of our Synod on 17 September people were given a prayer card as they left the Cathedral. On the card was a photo of the stained glass window of the Josephite Convent in Mission Bay, Auckland. The window has the following words on it, words attributed to Nano Nagle, the Foundress of the Presentation Sisters.

“Go out, you may not rest secure for need calls loudly. You must seek God there. Loving shall be your flame.”

Need does call loudly. That need is in our homes, work-places, factories, offices, schools, on the streets; it is the needs of young children, teenagers, young marrieds and their families, the middle aged and the elderly. Various proposals out of the 96 I received spoke of all those age groups and the multi-faceted needs that are “out there.”

All of the proposals and the practical actions that came out of the Synod will be published in the next edition of WelCom on Sunday 5 November. The synod Outcomes booklet containing all the outcomes of the Synod will also be available at that time. That is also the day that I will formally promulgate the work of the Synod at the monthly Young Church Mass at the Cathedral at 7pm. I will ask every parish to read out my Promulgation Letter, and to draw attention to the Synod outcomes in WelCom.

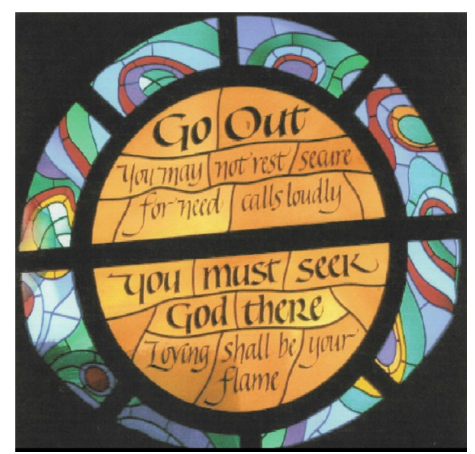
Need does call loudly. Nano Nagle has reminded us that we find God in these needs. The Archdiocese, its parishes and schools, organizations and departments will all begin to plan as to how these needs identified at the synod can be met. To assist parishes there is a section in the Outcomes Booklet on developing a pastoral plan which provides guidance on how to move ahead with implementing the Synod directions and priorities. This section will be sent directly to Parish Leadership teams and Chairs of Pastoral Councils in the next week.

Since the Synod I have been thrilled at how many people have commented about how much they appreciated the discernment process we used. They have said they are applying it to their own personal lives, their families and in some cases their work. Please continue to reflect on and use this process, it will help us all to discern

- where we are to go out to
- what the needs are that are calling loudly
- where will find God
- how loving will be our flame.

With all good wishes and blessings

+ John



NEWS . . .

- **Congratulations** to the 20 young men from St Bernard's College who on Thursday 28 September completed their RCIA initiation and were either baptised, confirmed or received Holy Eucharist for the first time. Please keep these young men in prayer as they continue their journey of faith. This was truly a moment of encountering Christ.
- Warmest congratulations to the **Sisters of Our Lady of Compassion** on the 125th Anniversary of the Foundation of the Order this Saturday 14 October. This is also the day of the Rededication of Our Lady's Home of Compassion and the Blessing of the final resting place of Mother Meri Hohepa, the Venerable Suzanne Aubert.
- **Father John Larsen SM**, a New Zealander, has recently been elected the Superior General of the Society of Mary at their General Chapter in Rome. We offer warm congratulations and prayerful good wishes to Fr John as he takes up this significant role and the responsibilities of being Superior General.
- **Mission Sunday** will be held on 22 October. Please support the fundraising efforts of Missionz.
- The **New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference** meet in Wellington from Monday 23 October until Friday 27 October. Please keep us all in prayer as we meet to discuss and discern.
- Also **remember in prayer** the people of the parishes of St Peter Chanel Motueka, Sacred Heart Takaka, and Our Lady of Perpetual Help, Richmond, St Joseph's Wakefield and Sts Peter and Paul's Waimea West who on Sunday 29 October amalgamate to become the Parish of Our Lady of the Bays.

We are called to live as people made in God's image. Suzanne Aubert wrote “we bow to material temples and images; why should we not salute one another reciprocally—we who are the living temples of the Holy Spirit.

Suzanne Aubert