

CTC Net work

A fortnightly newsletter of Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College

IMPORTANT DATES

- 04 March - Academic Advisory Board Meeting**
- 04 March - Research Committee Meeting**
- 11 March - Board of Studies Meeting**
- 18 March - L7 Auckland Staff Meeting**

ANNOUNCEMENT / PANUI

Praying the Holy Rosary at CTC



We would like to invite students and staff to join in praying the Holy Rosary every Monday and Thursday starting at 12:05 pm in the CTC Chapel.

Either Deacon Monty or Deacon Alfred will lead.

By fostering the spiritual life of the college, regular praying of the Rosary at lunchtimes was incredibly fruitful for many staff and students in 2021 – as such this initiative of the CTC students will be continued.

Online students can join via Zoom. Click [here](#) to join.

Meeting ID: 818 6435 4871
Passcode: 253896

Congratulations

Congratulations to Dr Edwina Pio, Chair of our Academic Advisory Board for her appointment to the *Rutherford Discovery Fellowship 2022 Humanities and the Social Sciences Panel*. For more information about the Rutherford fellowship grants, click [here](#):

Message from the Dean

Dr John Evangelista

Lenten Season

This week, we have gathered around to celebrate Ash Wednesday liturgy at our CTC Chapel with the “sprinkling” of the ashes. The practice of Ash Wednesday which apparently started in the 11th century reminds us that we are mortal. This is especially significant for us who live amid the Covid pandemic and at the start of a heinous war in Eastern Europe. The Lenten season is a special period of self-examination and self-denial which allows us to focus our attention on how we strive to live that friendship with God in our search for the true meaning of life.

Friends of CTC

The College is forming the Alumni and Friends of CTC network to raise awareness of CTC activities and achievements as well as to create CTC champions in the community/parishes as an avenue to catalyse our growth and development.

Free membership to the network is open to anyone with an interest in supporting the College and being involved in its activities. The Friends of CTC will also offer opportunities for networking, professional development, and lifelong learning through various activities and events. For more information, kindly go to the CTC website.

Fools and Peacemaker

Reprinted from CathNewsNZ

It was around 4 pm on Thursday when I checked the global news and saw the words of Vladimir Putin’s invasion speech coming through minute by minute; I had just finished an overnight tramp, something I had done in-part to escape the overwhelming-ness of the local and global situation.

I often check international news sites and so seeing devastating media coverage is normal, but I knew this was different.

It then hit me all at once that I was, through my computer screen, witnessing the beginning of a war.

Needless to say, I was horrified.

As I continued watching the events unfold, I was, in a rather unusual way, called to prayer.

My typical response to major events like this is to talk with people about it and eventually I will often remember ‘I should probably pray about this.’

But yesterday was different.

And as so, I responded to God. I made the sign of the cross, and asked God for peace, for the protection of the people of Ukraine, and to provide the world with an alternative to this violence.

I then took to Facebook and asked my friends to do the same, quoting Pope Paul VI who famously said: “No more war, war never again.”

Fools

Later that day it came to me in thought, maybe a divine thought, that God has already given us an alternative to this violence – Jesus.

And especially the cross.

The weakness of Jesus’ cross is the very anthesis of human violence.

It was then I remembered learning in biblical studies that Paul had called the message of the cross “foolishness.”

Admittedly, in a phone call with my brother discussing the Ukraine crisis, I felt like a fool when I restated my commitment to non-violence.

But that’s exactly why Paul said what he did; ‘in the way of the world’ responding to airstrikes, tanks and armed soldiers with more airstrikes, tanks and armed soldiers is the thing to do – in some sense, it’s what we’ve always done, and responding any other way would be foolish.

Peacemaking is about interrupting injustice without mirroring injustice, resisting oppressors without becoming oppressors.

Peacemakers

But as Christians, as people, we cannot love our enemies as Jesus commands us to, and simultaneously prepare to kill them.

This is not the way of Jesus; this is not Christ-like.

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CTC Staff Feature

Kevin J Waldie sm

Know more about your lecturers and staff. In this issue, we talked to Fr Kevin Waldie and here is a summary of his personal and professional background.

Born and bred in Timaru, South Canterbury, I grew up in a strongly Catholic community, being educated by the Mercy Sisters, Marist Brothers and Marist Fathers. Looking back, I am most grateful that my secondary schooling nurtured in me a flare for languages. And I give thanks for my Mum and Dad who were committed Catholics and taught me to make wise life choices and to value my personal gifts.

Immediately after secondary school my Marist religious vocation took off. And eventually in late 1978 I was ordained. My first two assignments were parochial appointments to Island Bay and St Mary of the Angels, Wellington. Then in 1982 I commenced post-graduate biblical study. With a BA in German I embarked on an incredible journey, getting to



grips with Hebrew, Greek, Syriac and Italian at Catholic University of America (Washington DC). A three-year stint at the Pontifical Biblical Institute (Rome) followed that. The post-graduate degree from the Biblicum (Licence in Sacred Scripture) has proven to be an award I cherish most dearly.

Over many years now I have lectured in

several tertiary institutes, both Catholic and ecumenical. That has contributed significantly to my academic expertise. Also, while working in the Auckland tertiary sector I gained my PhD from the University of Otago. Currently, I am honoured to serve as the President of the Australian Catholic Biblical Association.

For relaxation I am an avid movie-goer. I love all kinds of films. My interest in cinema has a dual purpose, both for entertainment and academic engagement with the world around us. Because of this particular research interest I have delivered many conference papers on the relationship between film and the Bible.

As a Marist Father, biblical lecturer and researcher I happily do what I find academically rewarding and inspiring.

Kevin Waldie sm is a Marist priest and lecturer in Biblical Studies in the Bachelor and Graduate Diploma programmes.

Fools and Peacemaker

Cont from p1

And so, Jesus calls us to another way – what the theologian Walter Wink calls the ‘third way.’

But Jesus didn’t just call us this way, he lived it too.

The Prince of Peace scolded Peter as he resorted to violence saying to Peter, “Live by the sword, die by the sword.”

By accepting the cross, the Prince of Peace chose not to respond to violence with more violence, or sin with more sin.

Jesus chose to be a peacemaker. And yet we continue again and again to live by the sword and die by the sword.

Christ-like in the current Ukraine crisis

- First, like Jesus, and as God called me to yesterday, we must pray. Pope Francis has called us to the “weakness of prayer” in response to this crisis, including a day of prayer and fasting for peace on Ash Wednesday.
- Second, and again like Jesus, we must stand against the oppressive powers and with the oppressed. In other words, we must be in solidarity Ukraine.
- Third, like Jesus on the cross, we must actively resist violence with non-violence. In other words, we must be peacemakers.

Being a peacemaker does not mean passivity.

Peacemaking involves the active resistance of violence, but not by playing by the same set of rules as violence.

The Christian pacifist Shane Claiborne writes that “Peacemaking is about interrupting injustice without mirroring injustice, resisting oppressors without becoming oppressors.”

How we do this?

We must turn again to prayer and ask God to show us.

As well as prayer we might also

- Apply a negative screen to our investments in companies that might be even remotely associated with war.
- Consider applying a positive screen to ethically safe peace-based investments.
- Consider contributing to [Aid to the Church in Need](#) where we know all contributions are directly spent on the cause.
- Protest outside the Russian Embassy in Wellington.
- Write to the Russian Ambassador.

Tim O’Farrell is a Catholic committed to Jesus’ way of peace and non-violence. He is a master’s student at the National Centre for Peace and Conflict Studies, University of Otago.

The New Code of Pastoral Care

Mayte Ramos, Pastoral Care Lead

Outcome 1: Having a learner wellbeing and safety system

In order to achieve this CTC commits to:

- Having strategic goals and plans to ensure our students wellbeing and safety
- Regularly reviewing the quality of our practices
- Publishing information about strategic goals and practices, revisions, and self-review reports
- Enabling a responsive wellbeing and safety system that includes efficient communication to identify and respond to concerns, ongoing training for staff, and a solid system for emergency situations.

CTC as a whole endeavours to maintain a strategic and transparent learner wellbeing and safety system that responds to the diverse needs of our students. A strategic plan is being developed this year. We are collecting your input and feedback through different surveys and feedback forms. Feel free to contact us with concerns or suggestions.

What’s new at Colin Library

Mark Hangartner

Many people have taken up our offer to become registered members and enjoy the online resources that are password protected. For those who are not members the catalogue can be a pathway to Open Access material. This is scholarly material in the public domain. Here is a search for [Catholic social teaching limited to open access material](#).

An example article: Thomas Massaro, S.J. “Social Welfare and Catholic Social Teaching: Foundational Theological Principles for Case Studies” 12, no. 288 (2021): 288–88. <https://doi.org/10.3390/re12050288>.

Open access search engines include [Google scholar](#), [DOAJ](#), and [OATD](#). Using the library catalogue gives a focused search result.