

CTC Net work

A fortnightly newsletter of Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College

Volume 2 Issue 21

02 December 2022

IMPORTANT DATES

- 02 December - TK Governance Board Meeting
- 02 December - Academic Advisory Board Meeting
- 02 December - CTC Staff Annual Advent Recollection
- 02 December - College closes for 2022
- 25 December - Christmas Day
- 01 January - Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God / New Year
- 09 January - College opens

ANNOUNCEMENT / PANUI

Thank You

The CTC Leadership Team would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to the members of the Academic Advisory Board, the Board of Studies and all the CTC standing committees who have worked so hard this year to support the College.

Tēnā rawa atu koe. E manaaki ana te Atua.

CTC Network

This is the last issue of the CTC Network for this year. We will be back next year.

Thank you for your continued support.

College Break

The Auckland campus and all Te Kupenga offices will be close from 23 December 2022 and will be back on 09 January 2023.

We wish you all a blessed Christmas and a grace-filled New Year!

Message from the Chief Executive

Robert Blucher



The academic year for 2022 has come to a close. It has been a year of change for many of us! It has also been a year of uncertainty due to the pandemic and everything associated with it.

Congratulations to all students who have achieved their academic goals in 2022 and thank you to all those who have supported them on the journey.

To do well has required preparation – have you reflected on how well you prepared?

This newsletter is going out in the First Week of Advent. It is also time for us to reflect about whether we

have made progress on our journey of faith.

How do we prepare ourselves for making further progress?

On way to do this could be to practice one or two of the beatitudes: be merciful, hunger and thirst after righteousness, bring peace and friendship to all.

I wish everybody a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Message from the Dean

Dr John Evangelista

Today (December 1) is the first day of summer (although it doesn't seem like it with all the rain and cold winds!). Much of the work that we need to do for the academic year is done and we start focusing on the academic year to come. We wish all our graduating students well and welcome our new students (and staff).

More importantly, this week is the first week of Advent. – a time of intense and joyful preparation for Christmas. Amidst all the tinsels and Christmas trees, soon we will see in churches and in many places, the image of the Child Jesus in the manger. The image evokes a myriad of emotions and thoughts. We accompany Mary and Joseph and the multitude of angels in joyful exclamation. We are moved to humility to see God who humbled himself for us. We are challenged to live the virtue of poverty when we see the new-born Child wrapped in swaddling clothes surrounded by the stable animals.

This year, let us pause for a moment to consider the invitation of Pope Francis to see in the Child Jesus the face of the Father's Mercy.

"Jesus Christ is the face of the Father's mercy. These words might well sum up the mystery of the Christian faith. Mercy has become living and visible in Jesus of Nazareth, reaching its culmination in him". (Pope Francis, *Misericordiae vultus#1*).

"Mercy is the very foundation of the Church's life. All of her pastoral activity should be caught up in the tenderness she makes present to believers; nothing in her preaching and in her witness to the world can be lacking in mercy. The Church's very credibility is seen in how she shows merciful and compassionate love. The Church "has an endless desire to show mercy". (MV #10)

A Blessed Christmas to one and all.



His humble birth gave us a renewed life.

May we be filled with love and joy!

Meri Kirihimete!





Student Life

Year-End Reflection

Lysa Ridling



This semester I have completed the last of my papers required for my bachelors' degree, as a part-time student. My inspiration to study at Te Kupenga – Catholic Theological College came after completing two years of the Walk By Faith Programme, a series of tutorials, readings and reflective writing to explore our journey of faith as

Christians and to understand our mission. When I began to study at the college I did not have a clear vision of where or what my studies might lead to, I simply enjoyed everything I was learning. During the first few years I was also working part time as a Teacher Aide, and discovered I loved the challenges of teaching, working alongside students and being a part of a school community. My decision to follow my passion working towards my bachelor of Theology so I can teach again is the result of both of these factors coming together. I have enjoyed my time at the college and there is a good chance I will be continuing, maybe towards my Post Graduate Diploma. I would highly recommend Te Kupenga – Catholic Theological College it is a wonderful place to study, the lecturers, support staff and the librarians go out of their way to assist you to succeed and support you.

Event

Reflections on the New Evangelisation



The Catholic Diocese of Hamilton organised an event for the Hamilton parishes entitled "Reflections on the new evangelisation" last 26 November 2022 at the Gerry Sullivan Events Centre. Dr John Evangelista gave a talk on how to be disciples and how to disciple others.

What's New at Colin Library

A Christmas List

Here is a [list of books](#) with a Christmas theme, most of them ebooks. Some are a little silly – they come in ebook packages. Remember during the summer all print books are issued until the 23rd of February so you won't be bothered by date due emails.

Wherever you are this Christmas

Meri Kirihimete!

