

# 15TH AUGUST 2010 : ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

## In a Marist Parish

With my father coming from Brooklyn, my mother from Blenheim and those parishes at the time being served by Marist priests it was inevitable that I was to receive some Marist colour in my life. Added to that, my great uncle was Fr John O'Connor sm, who served in this parish and my brother Barry is also a Marist Priest (Otaki). I couldn't help but be influenced.

Over the years the spirit of the Society of Mary has come to mean more and more to me. Mary's spirit is of course the spirit of one who was totally devoted to Jesus. The founder of the Marists, Fr John Claude Colin picked two areas of Mary's life on which we could model ourselves; Mary at Nazareth and Mary at Pentecost. However, I've always found Mary at Cana very appealing. She sensitively saw the problem, sent the stewards to Jesus and let them work with him. The spirit of Mary is to guide people to the person of Jesus and allow that relationship to grow.

Someone once said to me that it was a pity there wasn't more about Mary in the Gospels. There certainly isn't much about Mary in early church life. She remained in the background, but supported the apostles and encouraged them in the mission given them. A central task of the Marist is to sustain and help others in furthering the mission of Jesus.

I believe that everybody can be a Marist by leading others to Jesus, and supporting them in the task of spreading Jesus' good news. This is what makes me tick.

*Tom O'Connor sm*

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**Recently Deceased.** Margaret Jones,  
Inocencio Angeles

**Anniversaries** Mattie & Hannah  
Nevin; Johan Ong;  
Charles & Elsa  
Nagle

**Special Intentions** 9

**Prayers for the Sick** Maria Kasperowicz,  
Patricia Smyth, Cecilia Dickson, Da Van Luyn,  
Oinah Macpherson, Dulcie Campbell, Ron Blair,  
Joan O'Neill, Des Cartright, Carlyne Collins,

Marie McWilliams, Bill Prior, Anna Zonotti,  
Mary Egan, Pat Smith, Marion Hyland, Paul Carr,  
Kath Cosgrave, Nomasa Sidima-Jacob, Paul Rajan,  
Jan Tuinman, Peter Schmidt, Angela Hong,  
Peter Tawhaki, Mary Jarvis

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## Becoming a Catholic?

Are you, or someone you know, interested in, or curious about the Catholic Church and its teachings?

Or do you want to know more about Jesus?

Or have you been baptised but know little about your faith?

Then come to an **Information Evening**  
on Tuesday 31<sup>st</sup> August at 7.30pm  
In the Parish Hall

The evening includes information about the process of preparation offered, namely RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults). We will discuss how this gentle process can help lead both leaders and newcomers to grow in faith.

**Contact People:** Cecilia Kim 479 0041 or one of the priests 473 8074.

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## Claudio Monteverdi

### Vespers 400

**7:00pm Saturday 14 August and  
Sunday 15 August**

St Mary of the Angels  
17 Boulcott Street, Wellington

Visit [www.vespers400.org.nz](http://www.vespers400.org.nz) for more information  
and to pre-book your tickets online.

Tickets are also available at the Parish Office

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## PAKISTAN FLOOD APPEAL

Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand is raising funds to provide aid to the millions of people devastated by recent flooding in Pakistan. Caritas is distributing water purification kits, food, kitchen supplies, mosquito nets, and health and hygiene items to thousands of affected households. Other relief efforts include setting up cash-for-work schemes employing local people, and providing shelter and hygiene kits to homeless families.

Donations to the Pakistan Flood Appeal can be made by:

- Phoning 0800 22 10 22 (during office hours) to donate a specified amount by credit card;
- Phoning 0900 4 11 11 to automatically donate \$20 through your telephone account;
- Donating online using a credit card at [www.caritas.org.nz](http://www.caritas.org.nz); or
- Posting a cheque to: Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand, PO Box 12-193, Thorndon, Wellington 6144.

More information at [www.caritas.org.nz](http://www.caritas.org.nz)