

**I AM THE BREAD
OF LIFE**



ST PATRICK'S NEWS.
29 RUE LAVAUD AKAROA.

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18th SUNDAY OF YEAR. I AM THE BREAD OF LIFE. 5th August 2018

▼ **REFLECTION:** Jesus is a man of the ‘I’ word – and not in a boastful way. He speaks of the bread in the desert, the manna which nourished the people in their wanderings. He builds on their belief in a bread from heaven, but now that he himself is the bread. The bread gives life to the soul. He is this bread. Our Christian faith is centered on a person, not on a book. The gospel is the book of life because it is the book of Jesus. Jesus is our life because he comes from God. So we call this at times the bread of heaven. What more ordinary ways can heaven and earth be linked than in the most ordinary of foods? It means that in the ordinary events of our lives, God is very near in Jesus. He makes his home in us as the bread we eat becomes part of us.

▼ **CHURCH RESTORATION;** This past week saw the Heritage architect Dave Pearson along with Steve Baker and Simon Williams of “Greenstone Group” and Russell O’Malley of Farrell’s met with Bernie Rennell and Fr Shannahan sm to review progress. The new cladding on the tower was approved; newly made wooden louvers for the bell tower were delivered and installed. Discussions continued on sacristy design, carpet for flooring and inspecting the new roof which is 90 % completed. Church windows are being repaired.

▼ **JULY 29th COLLECTION.** Total **\$333**. Clergy Trust **\$111**. Parish keeps **\$222**.
Could you become an automatic giver? Or use P-Giving envelopes?

PSALM RESPONSE *“My soul is longing for your peace near to you my God.”*

▼ **PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL:** met on Tuesday at presbytery. Insurances on our buildings were discussed in the light of Rawlinson’s visiting and making a new valuation – so we await a new charge for this year. (\$3200 in 2017). ..Did a Gospel reflection at start of meeting... Want to promote our after Mass cuppa with fellow Christians this Sunday. Noted about 20 people have left the parish in past 5 years with only 4 arriving – which is reflected in the lower weekly collection. Suggested a 5 week programme inviting our many inactive Catholics be invited to participate...Ex New Brighton kauri pews being prepared for our restored Church. Brian and Kevin Phillips are doing this work. Confirmed that Bishop Paul Martin sm would lead a rededication liturgy on Labour Monday – 22 October

▼ **NO WEDNESDAY MASS** – All priests at AGM with Bishop Martin sm



▼ **OUR HALSWELL CARMELITE SISTERS** – who often have us in our prayers had Bishop Martin sm lead their annual feast day on 15 July 2018. They supply us with altar breads. Their chapel is open during daylight hours. Make a resolution to make a visit and pray for our Parish and your needs. We are blessed to have them in our midst.