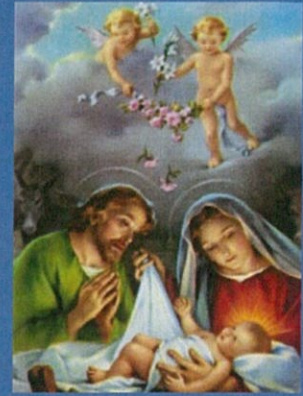


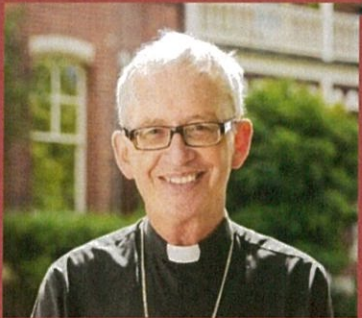


Catholic Social Services  
*Te Kupenga o te Atawhaitanga*



## Newsletter December 2017

### *A message from the Bishop*



*The Name of God is Mercy* is Pope Francis' first book published as Pope in 2016, in conjunction with the Extraordinary Jubilee of Mercy. Pope Francis here invites all humanity to an intimate and personal dialogue on the subject closest to his heart - mercy - which has long been the cornerstone of his faith and is now the central teaching of his papacy.

The Holy Father continues to stress that the greatest work of the Church is to assist and support those most in need.

The work of **Te Kupenga o te Atawhaitanga - Catholic Social Services** is very much at the forefront of meeting the needs of the poor and marginalised in our Diocese of Auckland.

It is with heartfelt gratitude that I pray for the dedicated team of your Board, staff and volunteers that God may richly bless your work as you continue to be disciples of God's mercy and compassion to all those you serve.

+ Patrick Dunn

✠ Patrick Dunn  
**Bishop of Auckland**  
3 November 2017

2017 has proved a busy year for Catholic Social Services and its Staff in response to a social environment of substantial social need relating predominately to housing, debt, family violence, drugs and alcohol. However, in providing social work and counselling services and in working with other agencies the agency has good reason to be proud of what has been achieved in supporting our clients and their families.

This year this agency provided services to 793 people including 120 families with 251 children. The main issues has been poverty, advocacy, people needing decent housing and basic needs.

Our poorest families and their children, who feel that the spirit of Christmas has passed them by are supported by this agency through gifts of food and toys. We are thankful for all your support and love



throughout the year and during this time where we celebrate the birth of our Lord Jesus Christ.



*Catholic Social Services members at their strategic planning day at St Joseph's centre.*

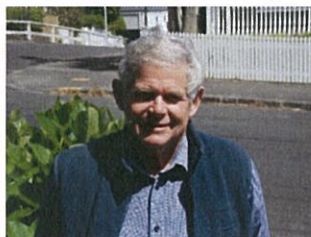
*Back row from left; Edwina Lobo, Otara Reception; Brigid McGilly, Social Worker; John Metherell, Director; Maryanne Hall, Reception Ponsonby; Lucia Loheni, Fundraiser; Craig Young, Management Board member; Patrick Dunn, Bishop of Auckland; Rose Lythe, Social Worker; Emma Anthony, Reception Ponsonby.*

*Front row from left; Susana Quilodran-Valdebenito, Counsellor; Sr. Patricia, Volunteer; Sr. Cabrini Makasiale, Psychotherapist; Mina Lalakai, Social Worker; Natalie Hoeflich, Counsellor; Ruth Mather, Psychotherapist.*

The staff and members look forward to 2018 to provide services and achieve goals of our strategic plan. Where we continue to provide to people and their communities on behalf of the Bishop and Catholic Parishes of Auckland.

Warmest Regards

Manaaki te Atua ia tatou katoa – God bless us all



John Metherell

Director

I would like to be a friend (tick box) ☐ and/or donate ☐ \$ \_\_\_\_\_ cheque ☐ direct credit ☐

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Address \_\_\_\_\_

Contact Phone \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

***All donations over \$5.00 is tax deductible and issued a receipt.***

***Please post to: Catholic Social Services, PO Box 47118, Ponsonby, Auckland 1144 or deposit to:***

***Bank account: 020100-0120931-29, or***

***Call us on: 09 378 9650 or visit our website: [www.cssauckland.org.nz](http://www.cssauckland.org.nz)***