

## Pornography: A Looming Crisis

It might shock you to know that internet pornography is one of the looming threats for our society. Many social commentators and policy makers are becoming concerned about what this material does to young minds. This month Children's Minister Tracy Martin said that young people are being bombarded by internet pornography and she wants 'age verification' on porn sites to protect them. Research is currently being undertaken in New Zealand to gather evidence on the experiences of young people so that world-leading legislation can be enacted.

Today porn is easily accessed by anyone with a smart phone or computer - at home, work or class and in public or private settings. According to internet security website Webroot.com 25% of all search engine queries are related to pornography, or about 68 million search queries a day, every 39 minutes a new pornographic video is released in the US and 40% of teenage boys between the ages of 14 and 17 say they regularly watch porn.

So what is pornography and why the concern? The definition of pornography is "Printed or visual material containing the explicit description or display of sexual activity intended to stimulate sexual excitement." Pornography clearly plays on our basic sexual urges and offers a form of gratification.

So why then is porn such an evil?

My argument is based, not on the obvious practical problems of porn - lost production, the harm of racial stereotypes, failed marriages and sexual dysfunction - but rather on moral and theological grounds. Because as undesirable as these problems are, they stop short of a deep analysis of pornography and why it is so corrosive.

A Christian analysis, unsurprisingly, begins with chapter one of the book of Genesis where it says that humankind was made "in the image of God" (Gen 1:26). So from the beginning, both Judaism and then Christianity, have recognised the intrinsic value of every single person because we are 'made in God's image'. To be made in God's image means that we can reason, exercise free will, express our own creativity and engage with God personally.

A further consequence of being made in God's image is that we have been made for relationships of love. As God is love, so we are made to love, by love and for love. Jesus said we are to "love God with our heart, mind, soul and strength and our neighbour as ourselves." Christianity is all about love. Love is the central truth and central imperative of our faith.

Now a vitally important consequence of being made in God's image is that we must never use another person as an object or as a means to an end. People have intrinsic value and must never be taken advantage of.

And yet that is exactly what happens when a person consumes pornographic material. Consumers use those involved as things and objects of use. There is no relationship. There is no love. There is only fantasy. There is only gratification without the hard work and personal transformation required when we really love another person. The 'consumer' is separated from the 'product' so that a relationship of love and respect is not possible.

Furthermore because porn consists of a super intense stimulation, it is highly addictive and leads to entrapment to the detriment of relationships in the real world. Porn colonises the mind and heart and exerts a powerful grip on the user. As a result the mind is damaged, values and expectations are warped and the whole person is dehumanised. This is not the freedom we ought to enjoy as people made in God's image!

Sex itself, is of course, God's idea and as such is very good. But God placed restrictions around our sexuality as a way of guaranteeing and protecting it. So when we transgress these safeguards, part of our humanity suffers. If you or someone you know is gripped by pornography please know that our parish pastoral staff are here to help. Accountability is the only path to freedom. There will be no judgement only sympathy and support.

*Canon Mark Chamberlain*

## The Gothenburg Combo

This world famous classical guitar duo are performing in Christchurch for a one off concert at St Barnabas. They have toured the world and play classical, contemporary and popular music. This is a night out not to be missed!

**Saturday 29 September in St Barnabas Church**

**7pm Drinks and nibbles. Concert begins at 7.30pm**

**Tickets \$30 from parish office. Door sales.**





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## Weaving Relationships With CBHS Through Youth Service

Last week school principals, church leaders and youth workers from over 30 schools around Canterbury got together to celebrate 20 years of 24-7 YouthWork. As I stood with Nic Hill (Headmaster of Christchurch Boys High) he was overwhelmed by the scope and scale of the 24-7 Network his commenting "Almost every secondary school in Christchurch is here!"

I asked Nic what the 24-7 relationship has meant to him over the past 4 years we have been partnering together. "The proximity and interconnectedness of the St

Barnabas and CBHS communities is something that until the introduction of 24-7 Youth Work was not taken full advantage of."

Nic has built a strong relationship with Canon Mark Chamberlain. The two have found a lot of common ground as they've shared stories and struggles of leading organisations, managing rebuild projects and dealing with bereavements.

24-7 is based on the weaving of relationships within a local community between a whole church and a whole school who both want the same things for our young people. We are all a part of this relationship which was shown beautifully when we were able to provide a morning tea 'shout' for the staff team at school. We do this once a year and it is always so appreciated. One staff member told me "One thing about the churches, you guys know how to feed people." What a great thing to be known for!

Recently Boys High has welcomed a new Head of Guidance and opened a new Guidance House that we are now able to base ourselves out of. We are really enjoying using this space for some of our mentoring and small groups. The longer we spend at Boys High the more we find ourselves woven into the culture and the more valuable we are able to be.

Recently we suffered the death of a Year 13 student. While this was a really sad time for the school community, and for me personally given I had got to know the student reasonably well coaching his football team two year ago, I was encouraged that I had the opportunity to support a number of students who I had good relationship with through this time.

Dave Bosma and I wish to thank everyone who supports us as youth workers and involves themselves in this ministry partnership with Boys High. As I mentioned the nature of 24-7 youth work is a weaving of relationships within the community. Every time you pray for our work or Boys' High itself, every time you chat to a Boys' High boy or his family in the street, you are adding another strand to our weave that strengthens this work and allows God's Kingdom to advance.

Matt Meek | Lead 24-7 Youth Worker at Christchurch Boys' High




**Youth Ministry at St. Barnabas**

**Youth Group: FRI 6PM - 9.30PM**  
- Christian Youth Community in hall. Intermediate 6 - 8.00pm.  
High School age 7.30 - 9.30pm.

**The Revs: SUNDAY 10 - 11.00AM**  
- Christian group for high school aged young people.

# Welcome to Watiri Maina – Pastoral Care Coordinator

*Watiri began as the parish's Pastoral Care Coordinator recently with a warm welcome by the parish on Sunday 12 August.*

My name is Watiri Maina. Watiri is my given name which means "from the soil". I immigrated to New Zealand with my family nearly ten years ago as my husband Steve had accepted the role of NZCMS National Director. We have two daughters, Rinna (18yrs) and Tanielle (15yrs). We live in the Burwood area and have been attending St. Stephen's Anglican Church where I have been serving as the Prayer Ministries Coordinator. My background is in community development, counselling psychology, pastoral care, adult education, theology and spiritual direction.

My decision to follow Christ was progressive. However, in 1986, I consciously yet cautiously surrendered to Christ's Lordship. I felt that God was inviting me to carefully consider Psalm 34:8 "Taste and See that the LORD is good; Oh, the joys of those who takes refuge in him!" I engaged this path as an experiment initially but very soon I encountered deep joy and goodness that I had never known before (this story is for another day)!

My journey and interest in pastoral care began as a youth leader. For many years I served in leadership, informal pastoral care and prayer ministry coordination for the youth in our parish and in Diocesan Youth leadership. I married Steve in 1997, and we planted a Church in Nairobi. In my role as a Pastor's wife, I engaged in pastoral care alongside Steve establishing different ministries such as prayer, counselling and discipleship with a specific emphasis on couples, women's groups and young adults.

I am passionate about journeying with people and joining in what God is doing in their lives, in the church and the community. Pastoral care is God's work and I enter each context and relationship conscious of the sacredness of the moment, person and concern and desiring to see God kingdom come as we walk with each other through the seasons of life. I am confident that God desires and is present to comfort, heal and restore. God offers us generous hospitality in Christ expressed through our care for each other as the Holy Spirit enables us.

I enjoy a cup of rooibos tea, walking and reading. I am looking forward to joining you all at St. Barnabas. Thank You.

*Watiri Maina | Pastoral Care Coordinator*



## Prayer and Praise Service

At 5pm on Sunday 29 July a special service of prayer, based on the Lord's Prayer, was held in the church. Musicians from the Antioch band led the lovely music, which included modern songs and traditional chants and hymns. Readers from all five of the St Barnabas congregations led the prayers, drawn from the New Zealand Prayer Book's daily devotions. Several touching video clips also encouraged us all to reflect on the meaning of particular aspects of the Lord's Prayer.

The service provided a special opportunity for church members of all ages to gather together to reflect on God's faithfulness and to pray for the people and situations on our hearts. Thank you to Phil Parkes and the Antioch musicians, all of the readers, the technical team who ensured everything went smoothly, and to the Prayer Ministry Oversight team and helpers for their work behind the scenes.

The New Zealand Prayer Book includes some very beautiful prayers for personal use. The whole Prayer Book is available on-line. Check out [www.anglicanprayerbook.nz](http://www.anglicanprayerbook.nz).

*Anne Shave*



## Youth Leaders Gain Skills At Leadership Event

This past month, several of our youth leaders have had the privilege of attending 'The Abbey,' a nationwide Anglican youth leadership training weekend at 'El Rancho' in Waikanae.

Our youth workers Phil Parkes and Kathryn Fee, along with Emma Parkes and four of our teenage junior leaders all flew up for two nights of fellowship with other leaders, worship, prayer – and most importantly for this weekend – expert youth leadership workshops and seminars.

The Abbey is always a special time away, and this weekend was no exception, particularly as a team-building weekend for our junior leaders. The trip was partially sponsored by the Diocesan Lay Training Fund, as well as a large donation by a very generous parishioner.



## Association of Anglican Women

*Aim: To unite in prayer and participate in the mission of the church. To promote, safeguard and nurture Christian family life.*

### Daytime Group

Wednesday 5 September at 2pm in the Tui Room.

Guest speakers are Rachel and Simon Tipping who will be sharing their ongoing work for St Andrews High School through the Hornsby Trust. Sales table.

**Leader:** Madeleine Price  
**P:** 354 4299 **M:** 021 188 5138

### In Betweens

Tuesday 18 September at 7.30pm in the Hall.

Our speaker will be Dr John Milligan from City Harvest Food Rescue speaking about "Rescuing Food for Canterbury's Hungry."

**Leader:** Trish Carrick-Leslie  
**P:** 351 5179

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## Youth Leaders Get Married At St Barnabas

Two youth leaders were married at St Barnabas in April. Anthony Murray has been a youth leader at St Barnabas for a number of years and Miriam Hulston was a youth leader at Upper Riccarton Methodist Church. They share their thoughts and feelings about being married at St Barnabas with us.

On Saturday 14 April this year, our beautiful St Barnabas church was once again filled with the joyful celebration of a new marriage – this time to our very own Anthony Murray and his bride Miriam. Anthony, now 25, has been part of the parish since his family joined when he was 8 and has found a great home here – three familiar faces among his groomsmen reflected this. Miriam is part of the Upper Riccarton Methodist community, her minister Rev. Dale Peach shared a great homily as part of the service. The newlyweds have known each other since the beginning of high-school and were dating for a year and a half before marriage.

**For each of you, what was a highlight of your wedding day?** Anthony: Apart from getting married, being on top of the port hills. (Check out that photo!) Miriam: Apart from getting married, having all my family in one place for the day.

**What was St Barnabas like as a wedding venue?** It was a dream come true for Anthony to get married at St Barnabas. The facilities are great, we had a big crowd thanks to our combined large church families, so the capacity of the church was great and it was nice to be able to host everyone in the hall for afternoon tea as well.

**Tell us why you got married?** Because we believe that God brought our lives together for a purpose and we wanted to spend the rest of our lives together - plus it's pretty cool to live with your best friend!

**Has marriage changed the way you look at things?** Our decision-making process has definitely changed. We dream a lot more about our future now than we did before.

**You attended marriage preparation courses with both Rev Mark and Pip Chamberlain and Rev Dale Peach. How were they beneficial?** We learnt more about each other. We learnt about balancing family, resolving conflicts and so much more. The most important thing that our pre-marriage course reinforced is that marriage is something you work at, and in partnership with God it is so much better. It definitely made the transition into married life easier.

**What difference does faith make to your daily life?** We both feel lucky to have grown up in Christian families, with parents of strong faith. We feel lucky to be surrounded by two church families. Our relationship is stronger because we have the same beliefs and our personal relationships with God help us when things are more difficult than usual. Without faith, we wouldn't be able to have great hope for the future, find peace when things are tough and get guidance when we are both feeling lost.

**Thank you Anthony and Miriam for sharing your special day with us. Any final words?** We wanted to say thanks to everyone at St Barnabas and Upper Riccarton Methodist who played a part in making our wedding day a success. It was a beautiful day, and we feel blessed to have been supported by both church communities in many ways throughout our lives, during the beginning of our relationship and now our marriage!



# Young Adults Retreat to Hanmer Springs

Over a beautifully sunny, but cool and frosty, weekend in July, St Barnabas' Young Adults crew retreated to Hanmer for the weekend. It was a weekend to remember full of laughter, singing, prayer, concentration, baking and of course relaxation.

The retreat kicked off with a worship session filled with song and the testimony of guest speaker, Noah Cremisino. He came to challenge and encourage the group of 28 individuals including 4 accompanying children of varying ages, who attended over the weekend. The next morning, we made it up Conical Hill for morning prayer as the sun was rising. Followed shortly after by a cooked breakfast, more singing and talks from Noah.

Lunch was next, followed by the all essential trip to Hanmer Springs Hot Pools. The sun was shining, the air was fresh, the queues were long but the pools were very relaxing and proved a great time of fellowship.

After dinner we were back into worship. A lot of prayer and sharing words with one another occurred and people were greatly moved by the Spirit. A candlelit Night Prayer service finished the night off around a toasty fireplace inside the Church of the Epiphany which was so kindly opened up for us that starry evening.

Sunday morning was pack up time but we all managed to check out of our campsite on time and make it to the Church of the Epiphany morning service. The retreat concluded with a group photo outside the church before we all dispersed.

Many thanks go to all who helped organise and bring us together over the retreat weekend, in particular to our Younger Person's worker, Phil Parkes. Thank you to those who helped support the camp with monetary donations and with your prayers.

Lastly, but most of all, we give thanks to God for such a successful weekend, for blessing the food and allowing it to go far, for beautiful weather and safe travels, and for the prayer and fellowship we all had, strengthening the bonds between the Young Adults community at St Barnabas.

Elizabeth Yeoh



## What is Liturgy?

Chaplain to Christ's College Rev Bosco Peters helps us understand the richness and importance of Anglican liturgy. Bosco preached at Antioch on Sunday 19 August on the same subject.

The word 'liturgy' has been used in the English language for almost five centuries. It comes from Greek, and you can find it in the New Testament

(which was originally written in Greek). Two Greek words combine. 'Litos' meaning 'people' (we get our word 'laity' from this). And 'ergos' meaning 'work' (we get our word 'ergonomics' from this).

'People's work' is ambiguous in English. The same is true for the meaning of 'liturgy'. Liturgy can mean the work of the people – we (God's people), together, do God's work (primarily of prayer and worship). Liturgy can also mean doing work for the people. Collecting the rubbish, keeping the public streets tidy and clean – these sort of activities were referred to as 'liturgy' in Greek. So, when we gather to pray and worship, we are not simply doing this for ourselves – our prayer and worship is for the sake of the surrounding community - for the world.

It is not surprising, then, that in English we use the word 'service' for both the prayer and worship we do as Christians and for the work we do for others - for people (and the environment) in the world.

Liturgy is a plural word; it is something we do together. Even when praying or serving alone, we do it as part of Christ's Body. We need to take care we don't lose the understanding that it is community worship, common prayer. And it takes priority. The sixth-century Rule of St Benedict, which refers to the community's prayer as 'The Work of God', advises us, "Let nothing be put before the Work of God."

Rev. Bosco Peters - [www.liturgy.co.nz](http://www.liturgy.co.nz)





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## Young Couples Prepare for Marriage

It is such a privilege helping couples prepare for their marriage at St Barnabas! There are 15 weddings booked for the Spring and Summer and a total of seven couples are currently undertaking Marriage Preparation.

Don Rowlands and Olive Lawson run the five week course and the feedback from couples has been very positive indeed. Sam and Lucy who have just completed the course said "We thoroughly enjoyed the 5-week marriage course at St. Barnabas...and believe that it has been really valuable in the preparation of our marriage. We learnt new tools which we will definitely benefit from in years to come and thank Don and Olive for sharing their stories and making it easy to relate."

Topics such as Communication, Commitment, Resolving Conflict, Keeping Love Alive and Shared Goals and Values are covered. Clergy work with couples to plan the service itself – the atmosphere in St Barnabas on a wedding day is very special indeed!



Lucy Ewing and Sam Chappell

## Blanket Donations Gratefully Received!

The urgent need for donations of blankets for those living in the eastern suburbs has been highlighted over the cold winter months. As usual, St Barnabas parishioners have been generous in their response.

Marjorie Smart goes to St Chad's every Friday where Patty Nieuwenhuize is the Community Outreach Facilitator. She took some of the blankets and then sent Marjorie to the New Brighton Blanket Bank, an organisation created in 2012 as a spin-off from the Curtain Bank. Other blankets were donated to Te Hui Amorangi.

Peggy-square blankets knitted by parishioners at St Peter's Church in Queenstown have also been appreciated by locals. One grateful recipient found that her 18-month-old baby slept all night once he was wrapped in one of the blankets. Much of this work has been done by a woman aged nearly 90.

Margaret Harper



## What's Coming Up?

**Sat**

**1st Sep**

### First Aid Course

Parishioners who have a First Aid Certificate are invited to renew it at this special First Aid Course in the Tui Room. Certificates need to be renewed every two years. Contact the office to register.

**Sun**

**2nd Sep**

### Operation X-mas Child

We invite all parishioners to get involved with Operation Christmas Child this year to reach out to children from Pacific countries. It involves filling a shoebox with toys, school supplies, and hygiene and craft items.

**Sat**

**22nd Sep**

### Messy Church

All children, families and young people are invited to this outreach event which includes food, fun, faith, family craft and a meal – St Barnabas Hall – \$5 per family. Also a great opportunity for grandparents to bring grandchildren!

**Fri**

**5th Oct**

### Deeper Camp

This is a youth camp for years 9 – 13 held at Waipara Riverside Park from 5 – 7 October. Run by Diocesan Youth Coordinator Sammy Mould, this is an exciting event for high school age young people.

**Sat**

**13th Oct**

### Book Fair

Support the Parish Book Fair this year by donating books to sell and buying second hand ones at the Fair! Doors open at 9am. For more info or to volunteer contact the parish office.

**Sat**

**24th Nov**

### House and Garden Tour

Save this date! This is still a few months away but put this date in your diary now! It is the day of the St Barnabas House and Garden Tour – a fantastic fundraiser and a wonderful day out. More info to follow.

[www.stbarnabas.org.nz](http://www.stbarnabas.org.nz)

# Vestry News

**Rata Foundation Grant:** Vestry were informed that the Rata Foundation has approved a grant of \$12,000 for the 24-7 Youth Work service at Christchurch Boys' High. Vestry were informed that next year, with three workers in place the total cost would be \$50,000. This funding is sourced as follows; Community funding groups \$26,000, Boys' High, \$12,000, St Barnabas \$6,000 and the Riccarton Community Church \$6,000.

**Fundraising:** An updated fundraising plan was presented to Vestry to raise approximately \$30,000 this year. Major events still to come include a Classical Guitar Concert, Book Fair, Regifting Stall and the House and Garden Tour.

**Financial Update:** Income for the seven months to the end of July was \$302,145 which was \$2,156 more than budget. Expenditure was \$333,197 which was \$12,794 under budget. The net deficit was \$31,052.

**Variation of Trusts:** CPT is about to undertake a review of parish trusts to ensure that the purposes under which they are held remain relevant and to propose variations where parishes could better utilise the funds or income from the funds. It is planned to do this all at once to save money. There will be some costs associated with this exercise and it would need to be worthwhile. Our parish does not hold significant trust funds.

**St Thomas:** An update of progress was received relating to the deconsecration of St Thomas Church in Strowan Rd.

**Pastoral Care Coordinator:** Watiri Maina has been welcomed into the parish as our new Pastoral Care Coordinator. Watiri will work 25 hours a week and initially work on Tuesday, Thursday and Friday.



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**Mooring Post deadline  
October Issue  
Friday 14 September**

## Sunday Worship

### St Barnabas Church

- 8.00am** Eucharist, followed by breakfast (Tui Room)
- 9.30am** Sung Eucharist then morning tea (Tui Room)
- 5.00pm** Evensong (1st & 3rd)  
Night Prayer (2nd)  
Eucharist (4th Sunday)

### St Barnabas Hall

- 10.00am** Lifestreams Eucharist with children and youth programmes followed by morning tea.
- 7.00pm** Antioch in the hall for students, young adults where all are welcome.

### Mid-Week Workshop

- 8.30am** Wednesday - Eucharist, in the church.
- 10.00am** Thursday - Eucharist in the church  
1st Thursday - Prayer and Healing

### Also Offered

Home Communion: Each 2nd & 4th Wednesday in the month.

Communion is also provided at Fendalton Retirement village fortnightly and St Winifred's & Holly Lea monthly.

## Spring Flower Sunday 9th Sept.

This annual service is a wonderful opportunity to celebrate God's creation and to offer some cheer and friendship to others. Beautiful posies will be made and delivered to people who find it hard to come out to church, are having health problems or who have experienced a recent bereavement.

You can help by supplying spring flowers from your garden or by volunteering to help make up the posies. This will happen at 9.30am on Saturday 8 September in the Tui Room. Please bring scissors, tape for holding flowers together, posy baskets and cellophane or coloured wax paper.

We also need deliverers to take the posies to parishioners – we hope to deliver about 120 this year. Come to church on Sunday 9 September and pick up a posy at the end of the service along with the name and address of the person to take it to. Thank you!

## Directory

### PARISH OFFICE

**Secretary: Marion Cook**  
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### VICAR

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### ASSISTANT PRIEST

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### DEACON

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### PASTORAL CARE COORDINATOR

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### VICAR'S WARDEN

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### MOORING POST DESIGN

**Braeden McInnes**  
**E** b.mcinnnes96@gmail.com



# New Trees Planted At St Barnabas



## Children's Ministry at St. Barnabas

**St Barnabas Playgroup: WED 9.15 - 11:30AM**  
- Creative play for pre-schoolers in the hall  
Helen Wakefield 021 307 878.

**Mainly Music: FRI 10 - 11AM**  
- Music & movement for pre-schoolers and their caregivers,  
followed by morning Tea. Pip Chamberlain 021 085 77640.

**Fridayzone: FRI 3 - 5.30PM IN THE HALL**  
- After-school club for Primary School children  
and their families. With Meal. Angela Brown 027 335 0105.

**Kidzone: SUN 10AM**  
- Creative Sunday School for children 5 - 11 yrs.  
Angela Brown 027 335 0105.