

The Lamb of God Chronicle

April 2012

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REFLECTIONS... 'Faithfulness - My Dad Was Right...'



This month Veronica and I celebrate fifty years of marriage, and indeed it has been, and is, a blessed marriage. I recall clearly that about a week before we married my dad, a good and righteous man, sat me down for a 'father and son' talk and said he had something to say. He told me that a great blessing and strength in his marriage was that he married a faithful woman. He spoke of the strength and joy this brought into his marriage. He then affirmed he could sense the same fine qualities in my

Veronica and that I had chosen well. How true, dad. Then add to that the Lord's intervention in our lives in September and then October of 1974 when we were both baptised in the Holy Spirit within a month of each other. Wow!

We have faced many challenges in our lives, but by God's grace and mercy, nothing has shaken our love or commitment to each other, or to the Lord. The 'I do' we declared to each other and before God is still with us, and by God's grace may it be with us to the end of this journey and into eternal life in the Eternal Kingdom of God.

Roger Foley: Senior Coordinator

OUR PEOPLE...

Congratulations!

- We congratulate Johanna Van Doorn [Christchurch] on her recent engagement!

[Note to all Branch leaders: Please send your local news/snippets to Roger Foley or Tom Caballes so that we can acknowledge important occasions in the lives of our brothers and sisters and make sure we do not miss any of them.]

NEWS AND ARTICLES

LAMB OF GOD - AUCKLAND BRANCH UPDATES

Teachings: The branch members are delighted with the new series of talks on St Paul's Letter to the Ephesians and trust that there will be more Bible Studies in the future.

Youth: We are always filled with pride and joy when our youth do well in their schools and colleges. At a recent Sunday gathering, the following were honored:

- Neil Menezes for being chosen as Head Boy, Marcellin College
- Gail D'Mello chosen as Academic Leader, Marist College
- And Ayesha Carneiro chosen as House Leader, Marist College

Living in Community: One of the joys of Community Living is the wonderful opportunity one is given to be of service to the brothers and sisters and to share one's talents. In the West district, we are blessed by these guys:

Christopher Fernandes: Chris has a wonderful selection of Christian DVDs and every Sunday he brings his little case with all the DVDs and his notebook and shares his beautiful films/documentaries with all who are interested in watching them. One looks forward to a good family film and we thank Chris for his kindness.

Lionel D'Souza: Enjoys computers and is good at it. He thought of sharing his talent. Here's what one member has to say: "We are now enjoying additional teachings – from Professor Lionel. We are currently studying Microsoft Office Excel. The class has a big age group – from 14 to 60 years – from all walks of life. Every class has practical, theory and 'optional' homework. We are blessed with the classes, updating our skills and thank Lionel for his time and effort!!"

CHRISTCHURCH WOMEN'S COUNCIL PLAN AND PRAY

Early in March the Christchurch Women's Leadership Council spent a day together to prayer for each other, for the sisters in the branch, and to confirm plans for various social events for the upcoming year. Reports indicate it was indeed a blessed and fruitful time in the Lord. Praise be to God.

Veronica

ROGER AND VERONICA MEANDERINGS...

It is our intention to try to visit all of our works throughout New Zealand this year to touch base with our people. In recent weeks we have visited the Lamb of God works in Nelson, Blenheim, Kaikoura and South Canterbury and fellowshiped, dined, shared and enjoyed wonderful relationship and great company with many people. Additionally Roger has also been a second trip to Nelson and down south to Dunedin. And what do we see? Many great people who love God and live community life well. We applaud you and we are grateful to know you and share this call to community with you.

And we had intended to be way down south in March but this needed to be deferred due to some medical tests which caused a necessary temporary rearrangement of plans. But we will get there soon...

CHRISTCHURCH EARTHQUAKE UPDATE

We are seeing the beginnings of some repair work getting underway! John and Monica's home is currently under repair and they have needed to move out of the cluster for three weeks. They are living at the South Brighton Motor Camp in a motel unit. Next in line looks like John and Kath Murray, followed by a demolition and rebuild for Philip and Alison Middlemiss. There are several other repairs on the longer term horizon but likely into next year. Longer term we have currently three other homes to be demolished, with a possibility of at least another two complex repairs or demolitions and rebuilds. Some of our people will probably not have their properties attended for several years due to issues of land geotechnical reports.



TREVOR AND LINDA PERRY-THANK YOU...



We thank you, Trevor and Linda, for giving generously of your time and talents whilst here in Aotearoa for family time with Emily, Dave and your grandchildren. We appreciate your commitment and service to us. You certainly have much practical and spiritual wisdom, but above all of that your love of God and reliance on Him is inspiring. Please know we value you and very much see you as members of the Lamb of God whenever you are with us. May the Lord grant us many more occasions of enjoying you in our midst.

Roger and Veronica

GETTING TO KNOW YOUR NATIONAL COUNCIL MEMBERS: Tom Caballes

[Note: Starting this month, we hope to feature one of the National Council Coordinators so that Lamb of God members and friends can get to know each of them better. This month, we start with Tom Caballes from the Central Region/Wellington Branch, who recently moved from the Auckland branch. Tom has been working for the Lamb of God Community as a Senior Administrator since 2008 and has been added to the National Council since February last year.]



Sports and Hobbies: I used to play chess, volleyball and basketball when I was younger. But now, the spirit is willing but the flesh has become older and weak! I still try to play basketball with the brothers in Wellington every Saturday. I love tinkering with computer stuff – it is something I learned out of necessity as it was expensive to keep going to shops for computer repairs.

Working for the Community: I had a desire to work for the community back in Manila [The Joy of The Lord, a branch of the Sword of the Spirit] in the mid 1990's. I felt

I want to do something that will make a difference in the lives of people and that I am passionate about. It was just a dream then - until 2007/2008, when Roger talked with me about working for the Lamb of God as a National Senior Administrator. Mhel and I prayed about it; we sensed this is where God is calling me to work. Mhel has been very supportive with me ever since.

Goals and Dreams: I always think that God has blessed me so much with experiencing Christian community life from a very young age. I felt my personal call is to share the goodness of God to my children, to young people especially and all the people around me. Community life is not easy and it is not for everyone; but it is a great and blessed life. When I made my full covenant in the Joy of The Lord in the early 1990's, I heard the Lord told me that Christian Community will be my home away from my real home – with God in heaven. So I could never imagine living my life without Christian Community!



Favourite Bible Verses: I have heaps! But one Scripture verse I aspire to one day say in confidence is **Galatians 2:20**: *I have been crucified with Christ. It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me. And the life I now live in the flesh I live by faith in the Son of God, who loved me and gave himself for me.*

25TH WEDDING ANNIVERSARY: I'll do it all over again with you [Henri Zalamea - Wellington Branch]

I vividly remember the first time I met Cutie; it was during a casual get together. It was an evening I will never forget for the rest of my life. I learned of Cutie from friends as we both work in the same bank. Heard heaps about her but never had that chance to break the ice. So to my eagerness and excitement to meet her, my friends and I organized a “party” and invited common friends of Cutie so she can tag along! I met Cutie that night and oh, what a night! Life for me was never the same!

That was summer of 1984. After three years of getting to know each other, we tied the knot on the 5th of April, 1987. And what a wonderful and amazing journey that was...

After all these years, withstanding challenges and various phases in life together. Having three children, Kala (married to Anthony Toma), Kyle and Kenjo, now all adults, a grandson named Antonio (turning 5) and calls Wellington home after 9 years.



Cutie and I cherished and shared a wonderful and blessed past that we, as a family, regularly reminisce with fondness, picking up and exchanging amorous flashbacks from our life's memory album deeply embedded in our hearts. Life is not always a bed of roses – as I was told, and so is married life. But with God at the centre of your relationship, bleak and dispirited memories were obscured by blissful and affectionate recollection.

Looking back, I may have wasted valuable time away from Cutie and my children due to work commitments which I regretted the most in my life, but the Lord truly is magnificent! He paved a way and set up a “new” life for us in New Zealand. He handed me a job that I can be with my family 24/7 and brought my family alongside people who are fellow believers in Christ.

But most of all, He introduced us to a community called the Lamb of God. Loneliness and desolation, I thought would be unbearable living away from family back home, but these perceptions were displaced with cheerfulness and contentment being with brothers and sisters in community.

Today, much older and venerable through the years, I am still thanking the Lord for abundant blessings; such as love, support and caring from people in community and for the presence of Cutie in my life and the children He chose for us to have. Though I thought by now, I am over the “surprises” in my life, but not too long ago, out from nowhere, Cutie asked me, “If you're given another chance to look for someone to be with in life, who will it be..?” Surprised but responded calmly and collected... “I'll do it all over again with you...”

Happy Anniversary Cutie ;)

Henri Zalamea

CHALLENGES IN LIVING TOGETHER AS COMMUNITY

Resource for House Group Discussion by Tom Caballes

Growing in the Gift of Generosity

April 2012

The point is this: whoever sows sparingly will also reap sparingly, and whoever sows bountifully will also reap bountifully. Each one must give as he has decided in his heart, not reluctantly or under compulsion, for God loves a cheerful giver. And God is able to make all grace abound to you, so that having all sufficiency in all things at all times, you may abound in every good work.

[2 Corinthians 9:6-8]

Our God can never be outdone in generosity. If He did not withhold His only begotten Son to us, why would He hold back anything else? He has given us the Holy Spirit and the promise of eternal life. As Ephesians 1 say, *we have been blessed with all the spiritual blessings in the heavenly places* [verse 3]. Yes, we may be in some material need at the moment, but God has also promised to take care of us. If God is so lavishly good, faithful and generous to us, are we not to be generous to God and His people? How much faith do we have to be generous now and that God will provide later? Who do we primarily trust: God or our bank accounts? Our lack of generosity may be a symptom of something deeper: that in our hearts we do not trust God enough for our future needs. Our lives should be characterised by our generosity to God and His people: our time, talents, energy and resources. Our generosity [or lack thereof] should how grateful we are to God for all that He has given us.

So How Do Grow in the Gift of Generosity?

1. As God's stewards of the resources that we have, it is good to have a budget and have a plan for all our resources – including our time and talents. It is good to take of our personal and family's needs. But let us also open our eyes; who else can share our resources with?
2. Remember the widow's mite in Mark 12:41-44? God is not primarily concerned in how much we actually give, but in the disposition of our hearts. Do we truly depend on God for everything?
3. If we learn about a need of a brother or a sister, it is good to pray about it and see if you can help, rather than being closed-minded because you too are in need.
4. Consider also how you can support those in real need: those who are not able to eat three times a day say in Asia and Africa; the victims of global calamities; and other less fortunate.
5. Have we considered bequests and our wills for generous giving? Have we considered donating to say mission and youth work [Kairos NZ ministries] or other community appeals such as the earthquake or Winter Appeals?
6. Learn to invest wisely on the eternal things: *As for the rich in this present age, charge them not to be haughty, nor to set their hopes on the uncertainty of riches, but on God, who richly provides us with everything to enjoy. They are to do good, to be rich in good works, to be generous and ready to share, thus storing up treasure for themselves as a good foundation for the future, so that they may take hold of that which is truly life.* **[1 Timothy 6:17-19]**

Other Scripture References

1. *Will man rob God? Yet you are robbing me. But you say, 'How have we robbed you?' In your tithes and contributions. You are cursed with a curse, for you are robbing me, the whole nation of you. Bring the full tithe into the storehouse, that there may be food in my house. And thereby put me to the test, says the LORD of hosts, if I will not open the windows of heaven for you and pour down for you a blessing until there is no more need.* **[Malachi 3:8-10]**
2. Other Scriptural references: **Mark 12:41-44; 2 Corinthians 8:1-3; Romans 12:6-8.**

For Personal Reflection and Group Sharing:

1. Am I 'robbing God' of what is due to Him? In my life, am I sowing sparingly or generously?
2. What can I do or change so that I can grow in the habit and gift of generosity?

KAIROS NEW ZEALAND YOUTH NEWS

Kairos New Zealand Schedule of Events for 2012 and 2013

April 13 to 15, 2012	Pitstop in Blenheim
June 29 to July 1, 2012	Mid-Winter V in Christchurch
July 6 to 8, 2012	Winter Oasis in Auckland
January 6 to 11, 2013	Summer Oasis in Christchurch
January 4 to 17, 2013	Single Men's and Women's Households
April 26 to 28, 2013	Youth Event in Wellington
July 19 to 21, 2013	Winter Oasis in Auckland

PISTOP 2012 IN BLENHEIM

Our first event after the cancelled Summer Oasis 2012 will be Pitstop in Blenheim from April 13 to 15. The theme will be "**Come as You Are.**"

Please note that this will probably be the last Pitstop in Blenheim – we encourage all Kairos youth to start looking at going to the weekend youth camp – see you there! Online registration for Pitstop 2012 can be found here:

<http://www.kairossp.com/pitstop2012onlinerego.htm>

WEB SITES WORTH NOTING

KAIROS South Pacific Web Site – go take a look ...

Check it out at: www.kairossp.com

You can network and chat with other young people by going to this website:

<http://www.kairossp.com/kairosspnzchatroom.htm>

We designated every Friday night at 10pm as a time to meet other young people.

Go and visit the International Kairos Media website: <http://www.kairos-media.org/>

Sign up [free] for Youth Culture Newsletter

The most recent edition of the Youth Culture Newsletter is now available online. It will no longer be sent to you via the Lamb of God e-mail list but you can get it at this link:

<http://www.kairos-na.org/youthculturenewsletter.htm>

This is a recommended Sword of the Spirit publication for youth and parents.

Living Bulwark Sword of the Spirit - Highly Recommended!

This Sword of the Spirit on-line publication has received more than 43,000 visits (an average of 135 visits each day) in its first year. All back issues for the past 12 months can be found at: <http://www.swordofthespirit.net/bulwark/archives.htm>. The current issue of the online magazine can be seen at: www.swordofthespirit.net/bulwark/index.html .

SENDING NEWS FOR CHRONICLE PUBLICATION

Branches are encouraged to email news, photos, happenings and snippets to Tom Caballes at josehomascaballes@gmail.com. Each issue is closed around the 20th of the month.

IMPORTANT NOTICE ABOUT OUR RECORDS

Membership Records and Data: Branch leaders are responsible to keep updated records and then email all new attendee additions, deletions, address and phone changes, births, deaths, transfers, etc to -

Tom Caballes josehomascaballes@gmail.com
and copy to Lamb_of_God@clear.net.nz

BIRTHDAY INFORMATION

[Day and month, but year is optional.] Branch leaders are asked to keep updated records and email all new attendee additions to -

Tom Caballes josehomascaballes@gmail.com

GETTING CHRONICLE & OTHER NEWS BY EMAIL

[1] If you are receiving The Chronicle as an electronic edition, we just need hear if and when you change your email address. Notify Lamb_of_God@clear.net.nz.

[2] If you are receiving this by hard copy but you have an email address, please send your email address to Lamb_of_God@clear.net.nz.

[3] The Chronicle has a national and international mailing schedule. If you know of others wishing to be added, notify Lamb_of_God@clear.net.nz.

Wedding Anniversaries for April - Happy Anniversary!

NAMES	DATE	BRANCH
Mark and Mary Jackson	01/04	Blenheim
Peter and Debbie Anngow	03/04	Christchurch
Henri and Cutie Zalamea	05/04	Central
Terry and Sue Greig	09/04	Central
Steven and Judy Homes	11/04	Southern
Brian and Joan Lobo	18/04	Auckland
Steven and Lolita Machado	18/04	Auckland
Jonathan and Helen McKenzie	18/04	Christchurch
Russell and Gidget Mendonca	19/04	Auckland
Robert and Karin Van Doorn	21/04	Christchurch
Bernard and Andrea Forster	24/04	Christchurch
Joseph and Theresa Gomes	26/04	Auckland
Roger and Veronica Foley	28/04	Christchurch

Birthdays for April - Happy Birthday!

NAMES	BIRTHDAY	BRANCH
Amelia Matthews	01/04	Christchurch
Isabella Matthews	01/04	Christchurch
Deanne D'Mello	02/04	Auckland
Cherylyn Donald	03/04	Auckland
Anila Collins	04/04	Auckland
Danielle McKenzie	04/04	Christchurch
Christopher Fernandez	06/04	Auckland
Blanche Hollingsworth	10/04	Auckland
Denver Saldanha	10/04	Auckland
Rachel D'Souza	11/04	Auckland
Stephanie O'Connell	11/04	Nelson
Imelda Van Der Werff	12/04	Christchurch
Deanne Antao	13/04	Auckland
Rico De Zoysa	13/04	Auckland
Stephen Sison	13/04	Central
Marie Fredericks	15/04	Christchurch
Nicole Sequeira	16/04	Christchurch
Diane Staite	16/04	Nelson
Ivan Carvalho	17/04	Auckland
Bill McElhinney	17/04	Blenheim
Ian Hamilton	17/04	Christchurch
David Hamilton	17/04	Christchurch
Mira D'Souza	18/04	Auckland
Bob Misst	18/04	Auckland
Ron Elliott	19/04	Christchurch
Kevin McCormick	19/04	Auckland
Bruce Joslen	21/04	Christchurch
Brian Lowe	21/04	Auckland
Alexa Caballes	22/04	Central
Patrick Forster	23/04	Southern
Tili Leatitagaloa	23/04	Auckland
Carol Cullimore	24/04	Blenheim
Sarah McCormick	24/04	Auckland
Gail Price	24/04	Blenheim
Judy Lim	25/04	Auckland
Michelle Amaral	25/04	Auckland
Bronwyn Harborne	25/04	Ch/Ashburton
Mary Anngow	26/04	Christchurch
Peter Anngow	26/04	Christchurch
Leander D'Souza	27/04	Auckland
Apollo Geneta	27/04	Central
Sandy Westbury	27/04	Nelson
Bruce Donald	28/04	Auckland
Elias Martis	28/04	Auckland
Allan D'Souza	30/04	Auckland
Harry Lowe	30/04	Auckland

PRAYERWATCH - SOLDIERS OF CHRIST, ARISE

Fight the good fight

The last time I wrote about the Intercession section for the Chronicle was way back in February 2003 and was the second topic I used so it is time we had an update on this section.

The Intercession Section is a part of the Prayerwatch which, because of its nature, has a higher profile than we want it to. As the main focus of the Prayerwatch is Spiritual Warfare, yet most of the messages sent draw focus on to the Intercession Section. Because of this, over the last few years, most additions to the Intercession List are with the weekly update. The exceptions to this are the Bereavement section and very, very serious needs. It is important if you are going into hospital that you think ahead and be added with the weekly update, not expecting a special e-mail to add the need as this will not happen. Again if you are on the Healing section and facing major surgery a mention can be made in the weekly update, not by a special e-mail. Normally once on the Intercession list you don't get mentioned again so I find it disappointing the number of requests that come in to me for people already on the list.

The only section where people automatically come off the list is the Bereavement section where depending on the relationship of the person who has died, dictates how long. Normally the time is 3 or 4 months or for a spouse 1 year. Otherwise we rely on somebody asking to come off when their need is answered. It is important that you come off when your need is taken care of as people coming off is a sign that prayers are being answered and is an encouragement to those praying the Watch. The parable Jesus told of the ten lepers is something for us to think about as only one returned to give thanks.

*As he was going into a village, ten men who had leprosy met him. They stood at a distance and called out in a loud voice, "Jesus, Master, have pity on us!" When he saw them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests." And as they went, they were cleansed. One of them, when he saw he was healed, came back, praising God in a loud voice. He threw himself at Jesus' feet and thanked him—and he was a Samaritan. Jesus asked, "Were not all ten cleansed? Where are the other nine? Has no one returned to give praise to God except this foreigner?" Then he said to him, "Rise and go; your faith has made you well." **Luke 17: 12-19 NIV***

Do we give thanks for the benefits we receive because of the Prayerwatch by taking our place on it and praying for the needs of the Lamb of God and its people? The Intercession section prayers have been written to also include those who are unnamed throughout the Lamb of God. If you feel you should be named on the list I urge you to think seriously about whether you are already covered by the prayers. If you feel the prayers don't cover all needs please send your thoughts to me and become part of the discernment process.

If you have any comments or questions concerning the Prayerwatch then please send them to me or give them to one of your branch leaders to send to me. God bless and watch over you all.

Alan McKenzie. National Coordinator: Prayerwatch

LAMB OF GOD PRAYERWATCH - PRAYER INTENTIONS

SPIRITUAL WARFARE

Against strongholds of Apathy, Witchcraft, Confusion and other named spirits.

INTERCESSORY PRAYER

COMMUNITIES Protect and bless the life and mission of SWORD OF THE SPIRIT, Patmos & Cornerstone Lamb of God [Fiji], Families for Christ [Melbourne], Vanuatu Group, Light of Christ [Nelson], The Covenanted Community For Christ, [Penang & Taiping], protect and bless their life and mission.

FAMILY Auckland: Keith & Rohini Lewis, Bernie MacNevin, Yvonne D'Souza, Peter & Margaret Stoddard, Stanley & Teresa D'Souza, Lovlin & Honorine Franswah, **Central:** Jun & Angie Briguera, Henri & Cutie Zalamea, Rose Buladaco, Joel & Tiza Sison, **Blenheim:** Jamie & Judith Rodgers, Mark & Mary Jackson, Mike & Cheryl Garrett, **Christchurch:** Roger & Veronica Foley, Robert & Karin Van Doorn, Darren & Julie Humphries, Tai & De Stirling, Bruce & Bronwyn Harborne, Niul & Coila Kay, Lyn Keane, Pauline Marsden, John & Monica Haughey, Annette Sargisson, **Southern:** John & Janet MacManus, Richard & Christine May, Mike & Judy Prendeville,

PREGNANCY Auckland: Anusha [Priyan] Jayamaha,

HEALING CANCER Auckland: **Blenheim:** Carol Cullimore, David Aberhart, **Christchurch:** Mary Anngow, Robin Corbett,

HEALING HEART Central: Paul Oliver, Dave Taylor, **Blenheim:** Chris Fredericks, **Christchurch:** Dorelle Ham, Undine Cavanagh, Philip Middlemiss,

HEALING Auckland: Teresa D'Souza, Annette Carvalho, Winona D'Costa, Olivia Fernandes, Lucy Misquita, Blanche & Denis Hollingsworth, Cheryl Donald, Mira D'Souza, Warren Holliday, Jemima Rebello, Peter D'Souza, Delia D'Mello, Charmaine Vessaokar, Fr John Rea, Bradley Pinto, Elizabeth Locke, Russell & Gidget Mendonca, **Central:** Stephanie O'Connell, Sharon Powick, Michael Powick, Jacob Muollo, Henri Zalamea, Aly Fernandes, Rae Taylor, **Blenheim:** Peter Greig, Josiah Grieg, Grace Weston, Mike Garrett, Micah Rodgers, Anita Fredericks, Jamie & Judith Rodgers, **Christchurch:** Lisa Borkus, Karin Van Doorn, Chris Aston Grieve, Veronica Foley, Siobhan Forster, Andrew Black, Bernie Black, John Murray, Maree Coutts, Chris Lyons, Monica Haughey, Joan Corbett, **Southern:** Fr Merv McGettigan, Daniel MacManus, Steven & Judy Homes & Family, Pat Forster, Michael Quigley,

BEREAVEMENT Central: Mhel & Tom Caballes, **Blenheim:** Julia Dekker, **Christchurch:** Robert & Karin van Doorn,

OTHERS NEEDS Auckland: Keith & Rohini Lewis & Family, Mark & Elizabeth Stolten, Bob Misst, Greg Hall, Alwin D'Souza, Allen & Judy Carneiro, Jacob & Petronella Kahonde, Gillian Puch,

COVERING PRAYER

National Council, Kairos Ministries, Branch Life, Lamb of God Centre, Branch Visits, Clustering in Auckland, Ministry of Fr John Rea, Employment of Members, Light of Christ Special Ministry, Wellington branch [sickness among extended family], Ashburton Group, Christchurch,

"I have made you a Watchman" Ezekiel 33: 7