

St Valentine's Day Christchurch: was celebrated with a Mass (instead of a liturgy) for the first time at St Mary's Pro-Cathedral on Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup> of February, 2012. As the bishop was unavailable, Father Simon Eccleton, the Episcopal Vicar for Marriage, celebrated the mass in his place. Mike Stopforth organised the music which, along with the couple anointing of oils, and the great homily, made for a very joyous occasion. A glass of bubbly and 'wedding' cake followed.

St Valentine's Day, Auckland was celebrated with Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral on Saturday 11 February 2012. Fr Paul Farmer, the Episcopal Vicar for Marriage was the celebrant. During Mass all couples renewed their wedding vows, couples who celebrated silver and golden wedding anniversaries received a special blessing and a candle. After Mass couples were offered a celebratory drink and there was an opportunity to dance on music from a live band in Cathedral square.

The Sacrament of Marriage was celebrated in Dunedin with a Mass at St Joseph's Cathedral on Tuesday the 14<sup>th</sup> of February 2012.

Bishop Colin Campbell concelebrated with Monsignor John Harrison and Fr Michael Dooley.

There were a positive and enthusiastic group of couples. There was a special anointing of hands and blessing for married couples. At the conclusion, all enjoyed the opportunity to gather for a glass of bubbly together..