

# **“ECO-JUSTICE” Winter Issue 2022**

## **“He Kākano i Ruia Mai” ( A Seed that is Planted)**

### **News from the Catholic Parish of Hastings Environmental and Social Justice Group (ESJ)**

**WINTER**

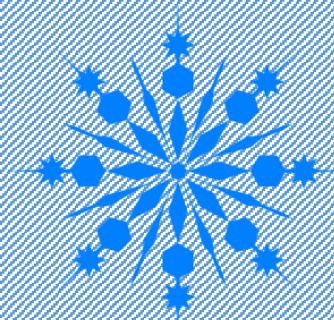
**WHEN**

**THE SEEDS**

**OF LIFE**

**ARE BEING**

**NURTURED.**



#### **Winter's Womb.**

Winter is the time when the life force of earth turns  
**back towards the root.**

Death appears on the surface, but in the darkness below,  
**life gathers itself.**

This life power sleeps below the threshold of our consciousness.

The earth tilts towards that moment of standstill  
where she hovers in that moment of choice:

*to hurtle into darkness*

*or*

*to turn again towards the light.*

Each year earth chooses to turn towards the light,  
drawing forth life from her winter's womb.

So we too can have confidence that as the earth turns, so shall we,  
as individuals, as communities, as nations.

**WHAT IS WAITING TO BE BORN IN US?**

#### **Looking Ahead:**

- ♦ **Breaking open the power of Laudate Si:**
  - The vision offered by Pope Francis.
  - Practical steps on the journey to caring for our earth.
- ♦ **The Season of Creation:**
  - Celebrating God's presence in all Creation.
- ♦ **Social Justice Week: Theme:**
  - "Say No to Racism.*
  - We are one in Christ"*

*"Our hope in the future  
commits us to the needs  
of the present" .*

*Bp Peter Cullinane.*

# REFLECTING ON OUR WINTER CELEBRATIONS

## MATARIKI: A Celebration of **WONDER** and **AWE**

*How wonderful is the vault of the clear night sky*

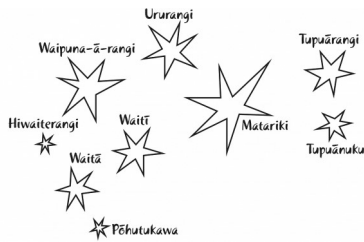
*And how magnificent are the stars in their glory.*

*As the sun rises it proclaims its greatness;  
reflection of the glory of its Maker .Sirac 43 1-2*

God our Creator the whole world breathes Your name.  
Your goodness reaches out beyond the stars .

*Filled with appreciation and awe at the wonder of creation  
we go forth filled with light to be signs of God's love in our world .*

A



## WORLD DAY OF PRAYER FOR GRANDPARENTS AND THE ELDERLY:

*"In old age they will still bear fruit" Ps 92:14*

The warmth of Pope Francis shines through his words:

*"This day may help those of us who are older to respond to God's call in this season of life."*

*"Without dialogue between young people and **grandparents** , history does not move forward."*

Pope Francis, 'The elderly are **"teachers of the revolution of tenderness"** to set the world free from loneliness and war.'



## OUR PARISH ON MISSION

Vatican 2 reminds us that we are all on Mission :

*"The joys and hopes of the people of our times,  
especially those who are poor or afflicted,  
the joys and griefs of the followers of Christ s well"*

are



*"Listen to the cry of the earth, and the cry of the poor." Pope Francis.*

**Support our local initiative "Homelessness in Hastings."**  
**We hold in prayer those who bring hope to a broken world.**

Each of our celebrations sows a seed, a life force, deep within us,

an energy to be called forth in the months to come.

To ponder .....

- ♦ *Be aware of winter as a womb in **which** new life is being formed.*
- ♦ *Reflect on a time when life has come out of darkness for you.*
- ♦ *Notice the rhythm of the seasons , Spring always follows Winter—*

**Resurrection is the order of the universe .**

