

ABBOT'S NEWS.

From the desk of Abbot Brian Keogh OCSO on 1st July 2009.

Easter and Pentecost 2009. We celebrated Easter and Lent with the solemn liturgies. There was a good crowd who shared in carrying the large wooden cross along Kopua's own *Via Dolorosa*. The Easter Triduum was observed with due solemnity climaxing in a really joyful Easter Vigil.



One innovation this year was that we kept the large wooden cross with its white veil of the Resurrection in place for the whole of the Easter season. It was finally draped with a red veil for Pentecost before being taken down.

Golden Jubilee of Priestly Ordination Fr Max
Immediately after Easter on April 16th Fr Max Palmer OCSO celebrated the Golden Jubilee of his priestly ordination. Friends of his, including Bishop Jeremiah Coffey, came over from Australia to be with him on the day.



The Eucharist with Fr Frank McGloughlin STD.

From May the 9th through until May 14th Fr Frank McGloughlin STD gave the community a course on the Eucharist. This was a wonderfully rich series of conferences filled with new insights into the history of the Sacrament and its meaning for us today. Fr Frank has also agreed to return to deliver another course in 2011 on the Sacrament of Penance.

New Companions.

Mr Daniel Morrow joined the Companions for six months. Daniel, who is from Australia, is a fine singer and has a music degree. An old friend of the monastery, Jeffrey Russel, joined the community as a Companion. Jeffrey is from Dannevirke originally and so knows the area and the people well.

First Anniversary of the Opening and Blessing of the New Guesthouse. The 7th of June was the first anniversary of the opening of the new monastery guest house. With everyone working hard it has been a very successful year.

Work on the Property. A great deal of work has been done on the grounds of the monastery in the last few months. The old dam has been cleaned out and deepened, there is a beautiful new walk through Totara Grove to the South of the monastery, new tracks have been developed in the valley and the road to the cemetery is currently being upgraded.

Conference Travel. I am in Australia for the AGM BUANZ/CRA from the 20th – 27th June. After a brief return to Kopua I will attend the Regional Cistercian meeting in Rawaseneng from July 14th – 22nd.

Upcoming Silver Jubilee for Bro. Kalolo. We are now looking forward to celebrating the silver jubilee of profession for Brother Kalolo. This will be held in Kopua on August 18th 2009.

We thank and bless all our associates, benefactors and guests for their constancy in prayer and support.