

Parish lawns become

market gardens

Parish priest, Father Jim Meates, at Mangere Bridge has not turned vegetarian, but the presbytery lawns have been looking like a market garden for the past few months.

And that, indeed, is what they have become.

"We wanted to do something for the unemployed and help one another," says parishioner Michael Pio, an organiser who also works in the gardens "We enjoy working together. We have a shared breakfast and lunch each day. Parishioners call in to see how the gardens are progressing, have a chat and buy some fresh vegetables."

With a parish investment of \$1000 for top soil, fertiliser

started last December and within the first six weeks had returned \$400.

"The land was there, there were people willing and able to work it, so away we went," said Father Meates.

"Each day there are from 15-25 people in the gardens. It has provided some work and cheap vegetables for parishioners and boosted morale."

He also approached the New Zealand Employment Service which agreed to sponsor 11 people for six months at \$15 a week - money that will be pooled for six months, then divided.

"I see this as a long-term project," said Father Meates who is delighted with its almost immediate results.



The Mangere Bridge parish lawns have become a market garden providing work and cheap vegetables for parishioners.

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"ST. ANTHONY'S FAMILY SUPPORT SERVICES TRUST"

As our Parish grew, so did the needs of various services in our community. We were originally a foodbank but felt that there was a need to expand. We are now operating a full Social Service known as the "St. Anthony's Family Support Services Trust" or S.A.F.S.S.T..

This is situated at the back of the church and is operated by 5 voluntary helpers on roster duties.

Our aim and objective is to reach out to the socially disadvantaged people in our community.

On-going training programmes provide the necessary skills for the interested. Skills such as budgeting, counselling, parenting, etc.

We hope you continue to support us as you have been in the past 2 years with the food bank.

Many thank, Theresa Jones, Co-ordinator.



We would like to extend to all our guests, including many former parishioners, from far and wide a very warm WELCOME on this wonderful day of celebration.

We sincerely trust that you will enjoy your day with us.

A BIG THANK YOU TO ALL OUR PRESENT PARISHIONERS who contributed to make this a special occasion, that we will all remember a long, long time.

JUBILEE COMMITTEE

EDITORS: Margaret & Eddie Moesbergen.

THANK YOU! THANK YOU! THANK YOU to all who contributed to this Special Issue of "TATOU TATOU". Especially to our team who typed, collated, folded, stapled 750 booklets of 28 pages requiring 10,500 pages. A GREAT EFFORT!!