

Diocesan Theologian

The central ongoing purpose of this role is to encourage theological study and reflection among both clergy and lay people throughout the diocese. My personal mission is to encourage all members of our church, young and old, to see themselves as theologians and to engage in this shared task with confidence. It is vital to the health of our church that we share the task of thinking deeply about our faith, so that we can engage confidently with the world around us as followers of Jesus.

For the last year I have been continuously engaged in locum roles, in the Ruahine mission and then in Taupo, that have directed me to express this theological purpose in some local contexts but limited my opportunities to spread myself more widely. Nevertheless, I have responded to every invitation that did not directly clash with my parish responsibilities.

With those locums behind me, and as we welcome a new diocesan ministry educator, I look forward to making some fresh starts in the four areas named in last year's report...

1. Responding to diocesan calls on my time.
2. Updating and extending the waiapuacademy.org website.
3. Invitations to conduct parish-based seminars.
4. Making a diocesan theological library more accessible.

I trust that God will open up new paths for us to explore together in the coming year.

Howard Pilgrim

