

### March Public Meeting – “The Merciful Love of God”

Speaker: Monsignor Frank Eggleton

Mons Frank has a special gift in women’s ministry and his talk was a very practical talk. He spoke of forgiveness being a healing and explained that if you can’t forgive you cannot move on. He gave the women strategies to overcome and forgive. He asked us to forgive one thing that we had un-forgiveness for and to pray for that for 10 minutes every day for 30 days. Following his talk the women were led through a repentance liturgy while Mons Frank walked around the women sprinkling them with Holy Water. This was a very healing meeting and there was a sense of freeness in the women with lots of chatter and excitement during the fellowship at suppertime.

### April Public Meeting – “The Love of Jesus Through the Stations of the Cross”

Speaker: Margaret Meechia

Margaret Meechia, one of our beautiful Hamilton women, led us reflectively in ‘the Station of the Cross through the eyes of Mary’. As each Station was narrated a picture was put up on the data projector screen. This was a very reflective, contemplative evening and over supper women shared how they were very moved by the presentation and many had shed tears.

At this meeting two women shared their positive experiences on the teaching day that was held in Matamata.

Josie Olsen, who was in Hamilton while on her way from Wellington to Auckland on a Repentance walk carrying a cross, shared a brief testimony on her walk and the vision she had received that started her on her journey.

### May Public Meeting – ‘The Faithful Love of God’

Speaker - Shona Williams, from Tauranga.

Shona shared from her heart on how God had been faithful in her life, of how even when we can’t see how, we will get through, God will be there for us. She encouraged the women to pray a scripture in for each of their children and to claim them. She shared an experience she and her husband had, that taught them obedience to God’s will and showed them the blessings that follow. She touched the women’s hearts with her sincerity and had a very powerful prayerful presence.

### June Public Meeting – ‘The Fruit of the Spirit is Love’

Speaker Raewyn Brew, Hamilton Dove Team member

Raewyn was beautiful in her presentation and her message. She shared on the many obstacles she has faced as a mother and foster mother. She told us about the challenges she faced raising her three sons and of how her faith had got her through the difficult times. She also shared on her special needs foster daughter coming into their family. Raewyn’s message was one of overcoming through the power of prayer, faith in God and how love conquers all. Many women commented on how moved they were with Raewyn’s testimony.

July Public Meeting – “The Outpouring of God’s Love Through His Spirit”  
Speaker – Theresa Goulding

Theresa provided an extensive, solid, foundational and comprehensive teaching about the gifts of the Holy Spirit. Her presentation was lively and included humour which was very entertaining. Theresa used a powerpoint presentation as well to enhance her teaching. This was well received by the ladies. At the closing of her talk Theresa invited the women to look under their chairs. They received an envelope that was blue-tacked to the seat. Written inside the envelope was a word from the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. Theresa then invited the women to come forward for an anointing.

August Public Meeting – ‘Reap the Harvest of God’s Love and Promises’  
Speaker – Christine Kornman

Christine’s talk was encouraging, scripturally based and delivered in a gentle way. She held the women captive as she shared her personal experiences of Jesus touching and healing her physically during times when she persisted in her faith and cried out for healing. She emphasized to the women the necessity to hold on in order to reap the Lords harvest. She invited the women to close their eyes and see with their spiritual eyes. As the women closed their eyes she led them through a journey of Jesus visiting them in their home. She left the women feeling like they wanted her to keep talking longer. The women shared that it felt like they had been anointed.

September Public Meeting: ‘With unfailing love I have drawn you to Myself’  
Speaker – Val Morrison

Val brought the joy of the Lord with her. She called three women forward who had been to the Refreshment Days and asked each one questions to show us how different each one had responded to the day and how their needs were met. As part of her talk she told us a personal story to show us that today Father God is reaching out to us all and scooping us up into His arms. Val’s talk was joyful and affirming and love flowed from her to us. She finished her talk with a skipping ditty ‘My Daddy Loves Me’ and the handing out of ‘The Father’s Love Letter’. Many of the women had not thought of Father God as being their Daddy and went away with a new understanding of Father God and His love for us.

October Public Meeting: ‘Celebrating 11 years of journeying in our Faith’  
Speakers: Laura Van Veen (Team Member) and Brigid McLeod, who both had been to World Youth Day in Madrid

Laura shared on her discernment to go to World Youth Day, the Pilgrimage they did as part of their experience and what it was like at World Youth Day itself. Brigid too shared on her experiences and of the privilege she had of meeting with the Pope at the Blessing Ceremony where she was able to sit with him and hold his hand. We heard of the unity of the group and how God was in

everything they did or received at World Youth Day. It was wonderful to hear about this powerful experience and to hear these two young women share their love of God. Following their talk we had a time of Thanksgiving Praise and Worship to celebrate 11 years of Hamilton Dove. One of our women, Kate Baird, had made us a beautiful cake that was cut by Laura as the newest member on the Hamilton Team and then we had a celebratory supper.

#### November Public Meeting: 'Let God's Love Shine Upon You' Praise and Worship and Adoration

This was a beautiful night held in the Church. We had a very moving time of praise and worship during Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament followed by Fr Philip Billing, from our Cathedral Parish, bringing Jesus to each one of us individually, then benediction and a time of silence. Following this we had a reflection by Sr Briega McKenna titled 'Let God shine upon you' and then the women were invited to stay in the reflective silence and supper was in the meeting room when they were ready. The women were very appreciative of being able to spend quiet time with the Lord at this meeting. The praise and worship was beautiful and extra special as we were in the presence of Jesus in the Monstrance.

#### December Public Meeting: 'Family Thanksgiving Mass'

This meeting was a Thanksgiving Mass between Dove women and Joshua men and their families. The mass was celebrated by Monsignor Frank Eggleton. The music flowed well with the scriptures for the mass. It set a beautiful sense of thanksgiving. Mons Frank's homily was very thought provoking as he challenged us to have "faith" filled visions in life which will make the difference during times when it seems that life is not working out for the best. The mass was followed by a celebration Christmas supper.