

A Testimony...

HAWKES BAY DAY of REFRESHMENT 18 June 2011



Come to the Father's Heart

It was obvious that much prayer had proceeded this day. It was a whole day with no guest speaker, no discussion, no moving into groups, no program with a planned and assessed outcome.

Doomed, one might think, but --- as planned --- the Holy Spirit filled the space.

It was the 2011 Refreshment Day in Hawkes Bay organised by the National Dove Team with President Helen Funnell leading. About seventy women attended.

The hope was to bring those present to a closer and more personal relationship with Jesus.

The Holy Spirit had reign.

Through the Word, music and song, worship and prayer, words of wisdom and the love, laughter and humour circulating throughout the room, the Holy Spirit healed, touched gently, the spirit of the women present.

Helen gently explained the charismatic element of Dove and how it is an integral part of Catholic Church, the Eucharist itself being essentially charismatic. I know this understanding was reassuring to those who had not been to Dove before.

I believe we all left with a new vitality, a deeper love and above all a desire to let the Spirit guide our lives.

Thank you to the Team and especially to Helen, to Fr. Carr who presided over the evening Mass, and to Denise Verway who provided a most magnificent meal.

God go with you all.

Cheryl Sugden.