

## NEW ZEALAND DOMINICAN SISTERS Nga Whaea Arahi Rongo Pai, o Aotearoa

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16 March 2018

## Dear Lay Dominicans

The New Zealand Dominican Sisters have great joy in welcoming the formal establishment of the Lay Dominicans of Aotearoa New Zealand. We affirm their leadership group, Dom Consult, and their charter. We know that this new branch of the Dominican family tree in this country has been developed slowly and carefully over many years and that the charter is the fruit of prayerful discernment and much discussion and consultation among the members. The document captures the seriousness of the lay members of the Order in this country, your commitment, and your fidelity to the charism of our father Dominic. We are honoured to be asked to recognise in a formal way the emergence of this new initiative and we rejoice with you as you mark the significant development you have achieved.

We welcome the enthusiasm and freshness you are bringing to Dominican life in this country and will be happy to assist you where we can, with friendship, advice, finance and shared activities. May we together as lay members, sisters and friars keep the torch of truth burning brightly in this land.

Following the advice given by David Kammler OP on his visit to New Zealand in 2013, we are therefore happy to validate the Lay Dominicans of Aotearoa New Zealand as one of the new initiatives he described, an official Dominican group within this country, part of the world-wide Dominican Family and called to further the mission of the Order.

May the blessing of Dominic rest upon your group as you continue to preach Truth in this land.

Sincerely

Raewyn Benzie

\_Judith W. F. M. Ginley Fudith McGinley

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New Zealand Dominican Sisters Leadership Team