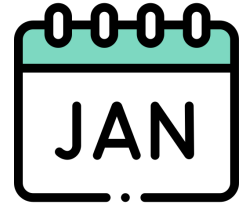


# PORT WATCH AUCKLAND

A monthly newsletter from the Auckland International Seafarers Centre



## By The Numbers



The Port has been quiet over the summer, with only 68 Cargo Ships visiting our city. However, our team managed 82 ship visits, with special thanks to Chaplain Annie for getting onboard a Cruise Ship!

Not surprisingly the Centre visitor numbers fell

below 300 for the first time in several months, although the team sees the Centre as the most valuable service we offer. Our ultra fast Wi-Fi provides better video connection for calls to friends and family than is available onboard. Crew often tell us how grateful they are for a “home away from home.”

## Sailor helped to get home to sick wife

A sailor contacted us to ask our assistance in being repatriated to attend to his sick wife.



*“My wife has made a request from the office in Fiji for the approval of my sign off due to the fact that she is sick and was suppose to attend her doctor's appointments... There will be no-one to say with my children at home and the school term begins on the 27th. My wife did not attend her doctors appointment as she felt that she will be admitted and no one will care for our children since I am not home yet. ...Two days before we arrived in Brisbane, I was informed that crew change has been cancelled until Auckland.*

*I am under a lot of stress and feeling depressed with this situation and I feel that the company is playing games with tactics not to sign me off though I have an emergency at home. I don't think i will be able to perform my duties and responsibilities onboard if I continue .... I can not endure anymore of this if I am not signed off the vessel.”*

Thanks to the local Port State Controller we were able to obtain confirmation that the crew change would take place and the seafarer is now home looking after his family!

## Catholic Mass onboard Port Vila Chief



The captain of PVC was pleased to learn that we can arrange for a Mass to be conducted onboard. Father Glen Lowe was accompanied by National Welfare Manager Aaron Ironside. A small group of the crew were encouraged to share in the Sacrament of Holy Communion.

Maritime Welfare Ltd delivers services at the AISC with grant funds from Maritime NZ and local partners.