

**19th MARCH 2023
FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT**

REFLECTION

There are two main points of today's gospel: the blind man's journey towards faith and belief, and the contrast between the attitudes of the blind man and his interrogators.

Like the Samaritan woman at the well in last week's gospel, the blind man gradually moves from lack of faith to faith. First the blind man refers to the one who effected his cure as 'the man called Jesus', then he proclaims him a prophet and a man from God, and finally he declares, 'Lord, I believe' and worships him. This openness to the revelation of God acting in Jesus is contrasted with the 'blindness' of the Pharisees, who, though physically able to see, do not recognise Jesus. The blind man tellingly declares, 'Now here is an astonishing thing! He has opened my eyes and you don't know where he comes from!' John's use of the term 'the Jews' indicates that this group is from the religious leadership, the very people who are trained in the Law and ways of God. They, of all people, should know what is from God!

- Are there still things that block your total belief?
- What are the signs of God's presence in your life?

THURSDAY SCRIPTURE REFLECTION

With Bishop Robert Barron's *The Mystery of God: Who God is and Why it Matters*. All welcome to our DVD Lenten Reflection. 2 sessions 10.15 to 11.30am and 7 to 8.15pm in the Foley Centre.

THE UPPER ROOM

An awesome opportunity for young adults to come grab a drink and dive into some relevant topics that don't usually feature in your Sunday homily! Join us for an awesome evening, including fantastic guest speaker (to be announced soon), bar snacks, good music and even greater vibes! 18yrs + 23 March 7pm at The Shakespeare Tickets \$10 available through Evenbrite <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/the-upper-room-tickets-559216911837>

**CATECHESIS OF THE GOOD SHEPHERD
NATIONAL CATECHIST FORMATION COURSE
14-16 APRIL 2023**

Sacred Heart Parish Centre, Ponsonby. Catechesis of the Good Shepherd use Montessori principles to present the most essential realities of the Catholic faith to children through sensorially rich materials based on age appropriate scriptures and Liturgy. The National Course will form adults to pass on the Catholic faith through the CGS method. More information go to cgsaotearoa@gmail.com

EDUCATION IN FAITH

A programme for children not attending Catholic Primary Schools is on a fortnightly basis during term time. Classes this Sunday at 8.30am and are held on alternate Sundays. Next session 5th March. If you wish to enrol a child for the Sacramental Programme this year and the child does not attend a Catholic Primary School, the child must attend EIF Classes for at least 6 months to be accepted on the Sacramental Programme Course Enquiries 480 7357.

EASTER EGGS!

We would love to help De Paul House again and collect Easter treats for those children in need who may not have an Easter Egg without our help. Please Buy an egg or two with your shopping, if you can, and bring it to Church (or the parish office) over the next week or two. We will pass them to De Paul House to distribute to their families in time for Easter Sunday. Thank you for your generous response!

**GO FORWARD IN HOPE INTERNATIONAL
PRO-LIFE & FAMILY CONFERENCE
23 TO 26 MARCH, AUCKLAND**

Be informed, inspired & equipped to boldly proclaim the Gospel of Life and counter the sexual revolution with compassion. More information and registration visit Fli.org.nz/conference2023 or Michelle Kaufman 027 526 1199

**SCHOOL ATTENDANCE DUES
FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE**

Financial assistance is available to assist families who may need financial support with payment of Attendance Dues for preference students attending both primary and secondary Catholic Schools in the Auckland Diocese. Families facing financial difficulties can contact their school office, ACFL Operations Manager On (09) 360 3069 at the Catholic Diocese for further info. can be downloaded from www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/catholic-schools-2/

**DE PAUL HOUSE FOOD BANK
THE CUPBOARD IS BARE,
SHELVES ARE EMPTY**

Please help if you can Tinned fish, corned beef, pasta sauces, biscuits, crackers, rice, long life milk, powdered milk, tinned fruit, muesli bars, tea coffee, milo, spreads Vegemite, Jam, Peanut Butter etc. Personal Care shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, baby wipes, frozen meals or meat. The foodbank is shared with 45 family residents, but also with a growing outreach in the local community, this includes elderly pensioners. 'Whoever is kind to the poor lends to the LORD' *prov.19:17* Thank you for your kindness and support.

**IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO JOIN OUR PLANNED
GIVING PROGRAMME THE EASIEST WAY TO
CONTRIBUTE IS ONLINE (FEW PEOPLE CARRY
CASH ANYMORE). TO ARRANGE FOR ON LINE
DONATIONS PLEASE CONTACT THE PARISH
OFFICE**

info@northcotecatholic.org.nz
Or call (09) 480 7357. If you join you can obtain a Tax Receipt at the end of the Financial Year and claim back 1/3rd of your donations, a great form of saving!!

EASTER CHOIR

If you can sing and would like to join or Choir for Palm Sunday (10.30am Mass) or the 3pm Liturgy on Good Friday please contact Vai or Kirsten in the parish office 480 7357

**IMPORTANT NOTICE TO ALL
WEEKEND MINISTERS**

Mass Coordinators, Computer Projectionists, Ministers of the Word, Ministers of Holy Communion, Altar Servers Please advise the office of your availability over the Easter Liturgies (Palm Sunday, Holy Thursday, Good Friday, Easter Sunday) and through to August to enable preparation of a new Roster info@northcotecatholic.org.nz

MASS INTENTIONS

8.30m Sun Capt Archie Ferreira RIP
Tues 9.15am Jeanne Lamers RIP

COME JOIN US!

A big thank you to our group of volunteers who have sown the seeds for the Economy of Charity initiative! By generously sharing your ideas and talents, we are growing and looking for others to join us in creating a supermarket for those in need to shop at no cost to them.

We are inviting ALL parishioners with a wide array of skills and backgrounds to get involved. Additionally ..

Our marketing group is looking for people with: *graphic design - social media & general marketing skills.*

Our donors group are looking for people with

sales experience - a flair for Fundraising & skills in event planning.

To learn more, please email

antonellastudio28@gmail.com Or
mirellasoratroi@hotmail.com

LENT PRAYER WEEK 4

He Opened my Eyes

Lord, give us clarity to see clearly the world around us. Reveal to us the needs of vulnerable people in our own community networks in this coming week. E te Ariki.

Whakarongo mai rā ki a matou.

FLAT MATE WANTED!

Respectful, clean, tidy, non smoking Female flat mate. The house is a three bedroom elevated sunny house, located in a quiet cul de sac in Unsworth Heights.

Approximately 20 mins. Walk to Constellation station. Bedroom is Unfurnished, one car park available.

Please contact Melly 022 350 0490 for more details.

**FUNDRAISING FOR WORLD YOUTH DAY
TRIP!**

Local IT Support, young parishioner, Joseph, with IT expertise offers support if you have any problems with your devices or you just need a computer lesson!

Please contact Joseph at Stayintouch.jp@gmail.com or 022 199 3298

PARISH HALL AVAILABLE TO HIRE

Please contact the office for terms of hire and hire rates phone: 4807357 or email info@northcotecatholic.org.nz

STAYING SAFE ON SOCIAL MEDIA
A WEEK LONG CAMPAIGN BY NZ CATHOLIC BISHOP'S CONFERENCE
 This week long campaign starts on Monday 20th March and goes through to Sunday 26th March. There will be 7 tips, one each day, to help you stay safe on Social Media—look out for them!

LENTEN RITE II RECONCILIATIONS, NORTH SHORE DEANERY

21st March Orewa 22nd March Glenfield

23rd March St Mary's Northcote

26th March Devonport 28th March Mairangi Bay
 29th March Takapuna 30th March Beachhaven

ALL START AT 7PM ON THEIR RESPECTIVE DAY

WOULD YOU LIKE TO HELP THE PARISH????
 Just once a month. It would help you to concentrate, understand and appreciate Mass a little more? You would be guaranteed a seat! Just come and operate the computer projector - full training given, name your day and time! The need is especially for 5.30pm (Sat), 10.30am and 5pm (Sun.) can't wait for your email with details and preferred Mass time. info@northcotecatholic.org.nz



Mass on Shine TV resumes on Sunday at 2pm

CARE OF ALTAR LINEN 19 March Anne H
CHURCH CLEANING 18 March Malia & Tofu O

Please pray : For the elderly and frail and the sick in our parish, especially, Philip, Yohann, Linda F, John McC, Megan S, Peter D, Peter C, John W, Mary L. Shannon, Owen B, Susan C. Brian, Neil M, Katya, S Perry, Kathy M, Matthew S. Ronald B. Paula & Peter O'S, Syrel C, Billy G M. Angus C, Eileen Kit Yung D, Keira, Kelly & Craig N, Max W, Ava, David P, Anne C, Yvonne S, Andrew C, Lauren S, Fe T, Jamie S-W, Adam S, Roxanne V-R, Colleen S, James F, Lu P, Caroline C, Connie B, John H, Emily D, Sebastian C, Lucia, Victoria R, Huda AW, Hilda P, David K, Maria O, Alice C, Najla Petros A, Denise C, Jocell D-V, Luca M, Tui O'S, Maselino L, Ann & Merv C, Helen B, Yvonne P, Helen McBride, Connie B, Helen B, Maureen McG, Ted H, Elizabeth S.

DAILY READINGS			
Monday St Joseph, husband of Mary			
1st Reading	Samuel	16: 1,6-7,10-13	Ps. 23
2nd Reading	Ephesians	5: 8-14	
Gospel	Matthew	1:16,18-21,24	
Tuesday			
Reading	Ezekiel	47: 1- 9,21	Ps. 46
Gospel	John	5: 1- 3,5-16	
Wednesday			
Reading	Isiah	49: 8-15	Ps. 145
Gospel	John	5:17-30	
Thursday			
Reading	Exodus	32: 7-14	Ps. 106
Gospel	John	5:31-47	
Friday			
Reading	Wisdom	2: 1,12-22	Ps. 34
Gospel	John	7: 1- 2,10,25-30	
Saturday Annunciation of The Lord			
1st Reading	Isaiah	7:10-14, 8:10	Ps. 40
2nd Reading	Hebrews	10: 4-10	
Gospel	Luke	1:26-38	
5th Week in Lent			
1st Reading	Ezekiel	37:12-14	Ps. 130
2nd Reading	Romans	8: 8-11	
Gospel	John	11: 1-45	

NOTICES FROM THE DIOCESE
Credit Controller & Administration Pompallier Centre
 This is a full time role to provide credit control and administration support to the Operations Manager for the collection of Attendance Dues for Schools in the Auckland Diocese. Hours are flexible to incorporate some evening and Saturday morning work. Key Tasks Include; collection of compulsory school attendance dues, contact with school parents via outbound phone calls, follow-up unpaid accounts & debtors ledger management. To view full advertisement and to apply visit www.aucklandcatholic.org. under Diocesan Services/Staff Vacancies.

Marriage Educators
 If you are able to volunteer 2 hours per week and willing to train as Marriage Educators, then you are just the married couple we are looking for to join our Marriage Educators Team. Couples married for more than five years, with strong Catholic faith to journey with couples preparing for marriage. We are especially interested in couples fluent in English or Māori, Samoan, Tongan, Mandarin, French or Spanish. For more information contact gerrys@cda.org.nz - also see notice board in the church.

Divine Renovation (DR) Is a framework for parish growth and renewal - a tool for missionary discipleship. DR NZ are excited to announce an upcoming online event, *Clothed in Power: Transforming Parishes Through the Holy Spirit*, which will take place on Wednesday 22nd March at 9am. Fr John Adams of Christchurch Diocese is one of the panel of speakers.

Lenten Reflections Earth Stations-two contemplative evenings on Zoom where the Stations of the Cross will be interwoven with Pope Francis' Encyclical, "Laudato Si" Tues.2 March & 28th March 7-7.45pm with Lyndall Brown rsj Register lyndallb19@gmail, com or 021 185 6750 Zoom details sent on day.

Encounter God in awe and wonder in the Mass
 Zoom Wed.in Lent 7-7.40pm reflect on Pope Francis' letter *Desiderio Desideravi* to register: diannaf@cdo.nz

Good Friday Stations of the Cross Procession
 On Good Friday, the Diocese will continue our traditional Stations of the Cross procession through Auckland CBD. We will begin by gathering at Albert Park Rotunda at 9am. The procession will conclude at St Patrick's Cathedral at 11am. We would love you, your family, and your faith community to join us in this powerful public witness through the streets of Auckland.

Te Kupenga Theological College
 Offering a course PM501 *Prayer and Liturgy* Sats. 01 Apr. 06 May & 03 Jun. I Ponsonby. Ideal for people in ministry or wanting to grow in their faith. Can be credited towards Certificate qualification or solely for personal interest. For schedule of fees www.tekupenga.ac.nz/Fees or call 361 1053

TITIPOUNAMU STUDY & JOY ON LINE Online Sessions (Evenings)
Genesis - In the Beginning ... (Repeat on Special Request). The Creation Stories (incl. study material) with Kieran Fenn FMS 7-8.30pm Monday 20 March ZOOM Free \$25 www.studyjoy.nz/events/in-the-beginning/
YouTube Recording The Notion of Church with Prof. Thomas O'Loughlin <https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/03/02/muffin-talk-with-prof-thomas-oloughlin/>

SYNOD ON SYNODALITY
 The journey towards the October Synod of Bishops on Synodality Continues. Our diocese and country continue to participate with listening hearts. To keep up-to-date with this historic event go to www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/synof/

PROLIFE FACTS
 Are you concerned about abortion and euthanasia in New Zealand, but unsure what to do about it? The Voice for Life website features a map of NZ showing all the branches around the country. Click on the branch near you to find contact details and names. Voice for Life Facebook reveals the activities of some of the branches in different localities, and your local branch would welcome your involvement. For example, running a stand at a local A & P show. Another example is attending VFL movie nights. The next movie night is March 24th at 7:30 p.m. to be held at the Reformed Church of the North Shore in Auckland (74 Trias Road, Totara Vale) The movie is "Sophie Scholl – The Final Days".. (for older audiences), and is based on the true story of Sophie Scholl, who was a student in Munich in 1943 and a member of the anti-war movement "White Rose". Aucklanders are warmly invited to attend. Wherever you are in NZ, please consider reaching out to the VFL branch near you
 For more pro-life information, visit voiceforlife.org.nz or righttolife.org.nz