

28th JANUARY 2024
FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

REFLECTION

We know, perhaps too well, how much we human beings can be a mystery to one another. For better or for worse, even long standing spouses and best friends can discover things about each other that they never suspected.

For those who choose to be disciples of Jesus Christ this is a great truth and blessing.

No matter how well we think we know Him, there are depths in Jesus that we will never cease exploring.

He remains endlessly fascinating.

In the early chapters of Mark's Gospel Jesus appears as a person of impressive authority.

What He has to say has the ring of truth about it, and the power of His personality is such that he draws the most disturbed of human beings into the realm of well being.

Are we ready to follow Him?

FRIDAY EXPOSITION & BENEDICTION

Will Resume on Friday 16th February.

Exposition from after the 9.15am Mass through to Benediction at 4pm!

Come along and spare a little time with The Lord, All are welcome!

PARISH OFFICE

Please note that the parish office will be closed this Monday 29th January
To celebrate Auckland Anniversary.
We open again on Tuesday morning!

HIS Story = OUR Story
Five Week Lenten Reflection:
The Bible Timeline: The Story of Salvation
Prepare for Lent and deepen your faith by understanding the story of our salvation.
Starts Thursday 15 February 2024
Morning sessions: 10.15am to 11.30am
In the Foley Centre
Evening Session 7.30pm to 8.45pm
via ZOOM
For link please email:
adultformation@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz

NZ CATHOLIC NEWSPAPER

On sale in the church foyer at \$4 per copy.
(No price increase for 8 years!)
Some headlines for this issue:

- Cardinal Williams farewelled - requiem, obituary, editorial.
- The story of a married priest with children.
- Representations of Jesus in the first 300 years.
- Clergy moves for six NZ Dioceses.

LENT IS FAST APPROACHING

Ash Wednesday is on 14th February!

Please return your last years Palms to the parish over the next couple of weeks.

We need to prepare last years Palms for the Ashes to be used this year.

Thank you!

HAPPY NEW YEAR !!

Fathers Lio & Lalith, along with the parish team wish you all a Happy, healthy and prosperous 2024 and look forward to your participation and involvement in parish life to further enhance our already awesome parish!

NEW WEEKEND ROSTERS FROM FEBRUARY TO FIRST WEEKEND IN MAY 2024

Were sent out via email last Thursday
If you have not received your copy then please email me with your correct email address (students no school emails please) and I will forward a copy to you. If you need a hard copy please also let me know.

office@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz

WHY NOT MAKE 2024 THE YEAR THAT YOU AND YOUR FAMILY BECOME MORE INVOLVED IN YOUR PARISH?

We need helpers in all sorts of areas, some are on a monthly basis and some on an ad hoc (as required) basis a few are listed below:

Ministers of the Word for 5.30pm Vigil and 5.00pm Masses

Altar Servers for various Masses

Ministers of Holy Communion mainly for 10.30am and 5pm Masses

Mass Coordinator for 10.30am Mass

Car Parking for weekend Masses

Church Cleaning (family task for a Saturday morning)

Caring for Altar Linen

Arranging Flowers

Parent help with our Youth Group

Children's Liturgy at the 8.30 and 10.30am Masses during term time

All the above on a rostered monthly basis

Hospitality helping in the kitchen for parish functions usually at weekends or funeral receptions more often daytime in the week. Preparing a meal for a family in cases of illness. Making sandwiches or slices for funerals.

Driving Parishioners to weekend Mass, or, in an emergency to the doctors, Hospital, or medical appointments.

Ushering or Car Park Duties for special occasions i.e. Holy Week/Christmas
Handyman to fix small maintenance jobs around the church, parish hall or Foley Centre

St Vincent de Paul always looking for new members to help in their shops or join in to deliver food parcels to the needy etc.

The above are on an ad hoc (as needed) basis.

Just a few areas in which you could become involved. To participate in any of the above just email the office and you will be directed to the right area, full training is always available where needed.

office@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz

If you have any repair jobs that need to be attended to around parish property, then please email the office so we make sure they will be attended to as soon as possible.

We would like to start up our

- playgroup again
 - Daytime group for craft or the like?
- Maybe you can help with either of these ideas. Come and talk to us, please!

INVITATION!!

PLEASE COME AND CELEBRATE FR LIO'S 60TH BIRTHDAY!

On Sunday 18th February, after the 10.30am Mass in the parish hall.

Please bring a plate of 'finger food' for a shared lunch. The hall will be decorated, 'birthday style', there will be cake, music, games and lots of fun for all!

Our Parish Council chairperson, Quintin, will MC the event. ALL are invited to join the celebrations for our much loved

Parish Priest who has already completed seven years of devoted ministry to us all.

BAPISM PREPARATION COURSE

The first Preparation Course for 2024 is scheduled for 12 & 13th March 7.30 to 9.00pm in the Foley Centre.

This course is mandatory prior to baptism.

It's a good idea to do it prior to baby's arrival, if possible!

For bookings please contact the parish office for a registration form.

office@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz
or ph: 480 7357

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 ONLINE 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!!

DE PAUL HOUSE FOOD BANK DEPLETED!

The shelves are again bare in most products.

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.

Families getting back into making lunch for children returning to school, frozen meals or meat!

Personal Care

shampoo, soap, toothpaste, toothbrush, baby wipes,

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.

NB see the lovely messages of Thanks from grateful recipients of your Christmas efforts on the church noticeboard - well done Northcote!

PARISH HALL AVAILABLE TO HIRE

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

CATHOLIC SINGLES (IN THEIR 30'S & 40'S)

Lantern Festival at Manukau Sports Bowl, Te Irirangi Drive, Manukau City Centre 6pm 24th February - see noticeboard for more information.

JOSHUA CATHOLIC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP, NORTH SHORE

First meeting for 2024 is on Wednesday 31st January 7.30pm at St Joseph's Centre, Takapuna. All men are invited and we hope you will join us for a cuppa and fellowship.

MASS INTENTIONS

Sun. 10.30am Miriam Toma RIP (1st Anniv.) mother of Thair Kyriakos

CARE OF ALTAR LINEN 28 Jan. Peta Pule
CHURCH CLEANING 03 Feb. Upton Family

CONGRATULATIONS TO:

Maximillian LUKE who will celebrated his 21st Birthday on 7th February and his brother, Ryan LUKE, on his wedding day 15th February!



This Lent change *hearts and minds* by publicly witnessing to the dignity of every human person from conception, and praying for an end to abortion

- Ash Wednesday (14th February) - Palm Sunday (24th March)
- Monday to Saturday - 7am to 1pm
- Corner of Dominion Rd & Prospect Terrace, Mt. Eden (near AMAC)

Sign up for your hour at: FLI.org.nz/prolifeevents

For more information contact Simon - 021 400 729 or simon@fli.org.nz

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, Sylre C, Billy G, M. Angus C, Eileen Kit Yung D, Keira, Kelly & Craig N, Max W, Ava, David P, 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, Maselino L, Ann C, Helen B, Yvonne P, Helen McBride, Orille F, Connie B, Elizabeth S, Paula O'S, Jason P, Maria & Andre T, Pina G.

DAILY READINGS

| | | | | |
|--|---------------|---------------------------|--------------|--|
| Monday | | | | |
| Reading | II Samuel | 15:13-14,30;15:5-13 | Ps. 3 | |
| Gospel | Mark | 5: 1-20 | | |
| Tuesday | | | | |
| Reading | II Samuel | 18: 9-10,14,24-25,30-10:3 | Ps. 86 | |
| Gospel | Mark | 5:21-43 | | |
| Wednesday St John Bosco | | | | |
| Reading | II Samuel | 24: 2,9-17 | Ps. 32 | |
| Gospel | Mark | 6: 1- 6 | | |
| Thursday | | | | |
| Reading | I Kings | 2: 1- 4,10-12 | Cant. Chron. | |
| Gospel | Mark | 6: 7-13 | | |
| Friday Presentation of the Lord | | | | |
| 1st Reading | Malachi | 3: 1- 4 | Ps. 24 | |
| 2nd Reading | Hebrews | 2:14-18 | | |
| Gospel | Luke | 2:22-40 | | |
| Saturday | | | | |
| Reading | I Kings | 3: 4-13 | Ps. 119B | |
| Gospel | Mark | 6:30-34 | | |
| 5th Week in Ordinary Time | | | | |
| 1st Reading | Job | 7: 1- 4,6-7 | Ps. 147A | |
| 2nd Reading | I Corinthians | 9:16-19,22-23 | | |
| Gospel | Mark | 1:29-39 | | |

NOTICES FROM THE DIOCESE

A conversation with Msgr Thomáš Halík. Help my Unbelief! How can we find the "Galilee of Today"? Ordained secretly as an underground priest, Thomáš Halík is now a theologian at Charles University Prague. Come and listen to Mons. Halík. St Columba Centre 5th Feb. 7.30pm, followed by supper. RSVP to Fr Merv Duffy m.duffy@ctc.ac.nz by 2nd Feb.

Waitangi Day 2024 Miha All are welcome to the celebration of Mass in Te Reo Māori and English to pray for our nation as we acknowledge the signing of Te Tiriti Waitangi in 1840. Begins with Pōwhiri at 8.30am. See noticeboard for more details.

Year of Prayer Pope Francis has dedicated 2024 as a Year of Prayer in preparation for the Jubilee year of 2025. Resources are available on Diocesan website www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/yesr-of-prayer/

Diocesan Commission for Ecumenism and Interfaith Relations, past, present members, and those interested in these aspects of Church life are invited to a meeting to explore how the diocese moves forward in these important relations, particularly in light of the Synod's call to engage. Wednesday 7th Feb. Poynton Room, Pompallier Diocesan Centre 6.30 to 8pm. RSVP to pastoraloffice@cda.org.nz by 5th Feb.



Mass on Shine TV resumes Sunday 4th February at 2pm

ROSARY BEADS FOR REPAIR

Can be left in the container provided in the church foyer with your name/contact number. They will be collected and repaired by a kind parishioner **FREE OF CHARGE**. You can also place beyond repair blessed beads in the container, they will be used to repair other Rosaries.

CHRISTINE BELL COACHING

Achieving your goals, step by step Phone: 021 234 4765 Diabetes | Weight loss | Relationships Mental Health | Addictions

YOU AND ME PILATES!

Monday evenings commencing 12th February, from 6.45pm to 7.35pm, in the parish hall, classes only \$11 - come and join them!

UPCOMING RETREATS & EVENTS AT ST FRANCIS RETREAT CENTRE

Women's Prayer Retreat - A reflective prayer retreat in the Catholic tradition for Women Fri. 16th Feb 5pm to Sun. 18th Feb.3pm (Earlybird by 31 Jan.) \$300 Standard after 31st Jan \$330.

Time Out Days for those who seek a day retreat, 9.30am to 2.30pm (\$30 includes lunch) Wed. 21 Feb - Thurs. 21 Mar. - Tues. 16 Apr.

Homecoming - A Lenten Retreat that will reflect on the spiritual implications of Rembrandt's painting and Henri Nouwen's book "The Return of the Prodigal Son" Fri 22nd Mar.7pm to Sun. 24th Mar. 4.30pm (earlybird \$300).

TITIPOUNAMU STUDY & JOY ONLINE

Bible Stories - What do they mean?

Join us in unravelling Bible stories and looking for answers within a group, and with Bible Scholar Kieran Fenn fms. Sundays 4th Feb, 3rd Mar. 7th Apr. 5th May 2024 5-6pm ZOOM. Koha www.studyjoy.nz/2024/01/19/bible-stories-what-do-they-mean/

The Mystery of Miracles Mondays 8,15,22,29 April 2024 7-8.30pm www.studyjoy.nz/2024/01/11/the-mystery-of-miracles/

GRATEFUL THANKS

To all parishioners, trained for weekend ministries, who volunteered over the holiday period