

21st APRIL 2024
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



**HE IS RISEN! HE IS RISEN!
ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!
ALLELUIA!**

REFLECTION

Jesus, depicted As the Good Shepherd, epitomises the profound intimacy between the divine and human.

His knowledge of His sheep extends far beyond mere acquaintance; it delves into the depths of our being, encompassing our joys and sorrows, our triumphs and struggles. This intimate knowledge echoes the divine intimacy shared with the Holy Trinity itself, where God the Father's knowledge of Jesus the Son transcends mere awareness to a profound understanding of His essence. Likewise, Jesus intimately knows each one of us, from the intricate complexities of our hearts to the smallest details of our lives. His love for us surpasses our comprehension, embracing us in our entirety, flaws and all. In His unwavering devotion, Jesus desires nothing more than for us to remain within the safety of His flock, under His watchful care. His promise never to forsake us stands as a testament to His boundless love and mercy, offering solace and reassurance in the midst of life's uncertainties.

In contrast to the steadfast devotion of Jesus as the Good Shepherd, a hired man lacks the deep-rooted commitment that characterises genuine care. When faced with adversity, the hired man's allegiance falters, and he swiftly abandons his post, leaving the flock vulnerable to danger. The Gospel passage vividly illustrates this as the hired man flees at the sight of a wolf, prioritising self-preservation over the well-being of the flock. In such moments of crisis, the flock is left scattered, devoid of guidance and protection, gripped by fear and uncertainty.

However, Jesus stands in stark contrast to this portrayal, exemplifying unwavering dedication and selflessness. Instead of retreating in the face of adversity, He remains steadfastly by our side, His voice resonating with reassurance and compassion. In times of fear, trouble, grief or pain, Jesus does not shrink away; rather, He emerges as a beacon of hope and strength, leading us forward with unwavering love and guidance, ensuring that we never walk alone in the journey of life.

John's letter confirms this relationship between us and God: "See what love the Father has bestowed on us that we may be called the children of God". "Beloved, we are God's children now..." What a gift! Being known as a child of God means that we feel unconditional love of a parent despite the times when we might stray away from that relationship on account of our own sins. God does not abandon us, rather He continually leads us back to the one flock with the one shepherd of Jesus Christ.

TAX RECEIPTS FOR THE TAX YEAR APRIL 2023 TO MARCH 2024

If you are on our Planned Giving Programme and would like a tax receipt for the above period please email the office, office@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz giving your PG number if known, and we will forward the receipt to you as soon as possible. We need up-to-date email addresses please.

NEW WEEKEND MINISTER'S ROSTERS

Will be prepared for the next 4 months shortly. If you are to be away for any period during that time, or you need to change your Mass availability please email the office as soon as possible office@stmarysparish.org.nz

CDA CONNECT

The latest issue, a roundup of happenings in the diocese and what's coming up is now out
<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/services/cda-connect>

PARISHIONER LOOKING FOR A SMALL UNIT TO RENT

1 bedroom, toilet, kitchenette for herself and daughter attending Westlake College Reasonable rent happy to assist with care of older person. Please contact the office initially office@stmaryscatholic.org.nz

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE

Preparation Course scheduled for 14 & 15th May 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

GREGORIAN CHANT GROUP

For parishioners interested in traditional Catholic liturgical music, the St Mary's Gregorian group, which usually sings at the Saturday vigil mass on the 3rd weekend each month, will be singing at 5.00pm Sunday 28th April

DE PAUL HOUSE FOOD BANK STILL IN NEED OF FOOD! 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. Thank you for your kindness and support.

BOOK SALE!

We have some religious/spiritual and various other books that you can acquire, including some new 2024 Claretian Diaries, for a Gold Coin Donation, which will go to the Claretian Missions. Just pop into the Parish Office during the week or in between the weekend Sunday morning Masses to view and purchase. i.e. 10am to 3pm weekdays or 9.45am to 10.15am on Sundays.

MASS INTENTIONS

9.15am (Sat. 27.4) Special Intention of Anne Brigid & Family

JESUS THE GOOD SHEPHERD PRAYER GROUP

Invites young adults (18 to 30 years) to: CALL OF DUTY A Life in the Spirit Seminar for young adults. An unforgettable experience where you could rekindle your faith, connect with like-minded seekers, and uncover the unique role you play in God's extraordinary plan. A one day event includes talks, worship, Mass, rejuvenating conversations and good food. Sat. 27th April 8.30am-4.30pm at St Joseph's Takapuna-FREE!!
Register at bit.ly/-callofduty

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

office@stmarysnorthcote.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!!

THE SISTERS OF ST. JOSEPH OF THE SACRED HEART

Have a new executive management position available, NZ Services & Property Manager. This role supports the Sisters throughout NZ and is a member of the executive team. It calls for an experienced Manager in either business and/or philanthropy, with collaborative and genuine care for the Sisters values, Services, and mission. Diverse capability in strategy and hands-on management of planning, communications, property, IT, HR, Health and Safety is sought and ideally a tertiary degree in business, social services or similar. More info. On the ad in Seek, under the heading "Community Services & Development Management" Applications close 06 May 2024.

YOU AND ME PILATES!

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

PARISH HALL AVAILABLE TO HIRE

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

SEE DETAILS ON NOTICE BOARD

A Time for Every Season pt. 2 Autumn Mary Mackillop Centre 04 May 10am-1pm. **Fr Chris Skinner Concert** Mary Mackillop Chapel 05 May
Let's Talk About Mary 08 May 7.30pm Pompallier Centre, register at pastoraloffice@cda.org.nz

IGNATION SPIRITUALITY NZ

Is offering 3 individual guided retreats 8 days 21-29th July \$950; 6 days 18-24 August \$729 & 6 days 22-28 September. All to be given at Mary Mackillop Centre and include full board-bookings info@ignationspirituality.nz

TE KUPENGA CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Is offering a lecture series called A Taste of Theology. Topic 2 is Entitled "Celebrating Christian Identity, Life and Mission rooted in the Word of God", revisiting *Dei Verbum*, speaker is Rev Kevin Waldie sm. Tues. 07 May 5.30-6.30pm Zoom Fee \$60 gives access to all 9 curses in this series. To register www.tekupenga.ac.nz/tasteoftheology

VOCATIONS SUNDAY

Today is Vocations Sunday. Bishop Steve Lowe asks us to support our seminarians studying towards their priestly vocations at Holy Cross Seminary. Your contribution will positively influence the future of the Church here in Auckland. Donate at www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/donate OR via the QR Code



Please continue to pray for our Seminarians

JOSHUA CATHOLIC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP NORTH SHORE

An invitation to all men to the next meeting, Wednesday 24 April 7.15pm, start with a cuppa/fellowship followed by a meeting at 7.30pm. The venue is St Thomas More Church Glenfield. Guest Speaker: Dr David Legg, lecturer in Philosophy & Theology, topic Importance of Philosophy in the Christian Tradition More info: Russell 022 034 5678

RELICS TOUR

From 26 April-05 May there is a unique and historic opportunity to welcome the relics of saints from both the Eastern and Western Catholic Churches. More details www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/Calendar/

CARE OF ALTAR LINEN 21 Apr. Ninette C - 28 Apr. Orille F

CHURCH CLEANING 27 April Antonella & Andre L - 04 May Upton Family

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, Katya, S Perry, Kathy M, Matthew S, Ronald B, Syrel 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, Letalie V, Yvonne P, Helen McBride, Orille F, Connie B, Elizabeth S, Paula O'S, Jason P, Maria & Andre T, Chike E, Ted H.

DAILY READINGS

Monday	Reading Acts	11: 1-18	Ps. 42
	Gospel John	10: 1-10	
Tuesday	Reading Acts	11:19-26	Ps. 87
	Gospel John	10:22-30	
Wednesday	Reading Acts	12:24-13: 5	Ps. 67
	Gospel John	6:35-40	
Thursday Anzac Day	1st Reading Wisdom	3: 1- 9	Ps.116
	2nd Reading I Corinthians	1:18-25	
	Gospel John	12:23-28	
Friday Mark, Evangelist	Reading Peter	5: 5-14	Ps. 89
	Gospel Mark	16:15-20	
Saturday	Reading Acts	13:44-52	Ps. 98
	Gospel John	14: 7-14	
Sunday 5th Week of Easter	1st Reading Acts	9:26-31	Ps. 22
	2nd Reading I John	3:18-24	
	Gospel John	15: 1- 8	

NOTICES FROM THE DIOCESE

University Ministry Coordinator –Diocese of Auckland

Are you a self-motivated relationship builder who can be the driving force behind a new project? We are looking for someone who answers "Yes". To become our full-time University Coordinator. Part of a tight-knit team implementing a bold new strategy for ministry to young people in the Diocese. more info. aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/
Towards October 2024 Local churches are invited to contribute to the Synod on Synodality by deepening aspects of the Synthesis Report.

More details and to register aucklandcatholic.org.nz/towards-October-2024/
Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand Executive Assistant (EA) vacancy to support Chief Executive. Caritas is the Catholic Bishops' Agency for justice, peace and development, part of a global federation. Ideal candidate will have plenty of EA experience, excellent communication skills and the ability to manage time well. An exciting opportunity within a close-knit Wellington based team caritas.org.nz/work-with-us

Pilgrims of Hope - Bishops create a special webpage for Jubilee 2025
 The NZ Catholic Bishops Conference has created a special online page of resources for parishes and individuals to use as we walk together towards Jubilee 2025-Pilgrims of Hope www.catholic.org.nz/about-us/jubilee-year2025/

The Fifth Gospel Project Father John O'Connor's Food For Faith Forum is collecting and collating for publication stories of personal experience of God. Send and experience (up to 400 words - before the end of April) by email to john@fff.org.nz for more information on this go to <https://foodforfaith.org.nz/2024/-/3/telling-the-story/>

Credit Controller & Admin, Pompallier Centre –Part-time Fixed term 7 months this role is to provide credit control and administration support to the Operations Manager for the collection of attendance dues in Auckland Diocese. To view full advert and position description please visit www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz under Diocesan Services and Staff Vacancies



Am I willing to learn as God's Child?



If you can, please support Peter & Chinecherem, with their baby son's medical bills. Bryan is improving thanks to your prayers, so please continue to pray <https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/help-us-save-our-little-fighter-clearing-medical>. Every small donation will help.

NEW! Young Adults Group

Due to high demand we have started a young adults group this year in the parish! Meeting on the first sunday of every month in the Foley Centre we'll reflect on the Gospels, listen to talks, study Catholic theology and the church's teachings on hot topics, pray and go eat dinner together!
 All parishioners 16 - 35 yrs are welcome. Next meeting will be TODAY **Sunday May 05 from 6:00pm - 7:30pm (after the 5pm Mass)** To register your interest please contact Dan Story : dandcstory@gmail.com / 0212993270

PROLIFE FACTS

Dame Colleen Bayer, DSG, has served for thirty-two years as Family Life International (FLI) Chief Executive, and now her daughter Michelle Kaufman has been appointed as the new Chief Executive/ National Director, taking on the role of leading this vital pro-life and pro-family apostolate into the future.
 Michelle is passionate about educating people on various life issues and motivating them to take action. She has written numerous articles, spoken at local and international events, and produced several resources. Colleen will retain an active role as Founder and Senior Executive, and will remain on the Board of FLI. She will also continue to lead Gianna's Choice Pregnancy Options and Support (which includes Saint Gianna's Home for Mothers and Babies and the Mobile Life Centre).

Visit voiceforlife.org.nz/ak24 to find out more.