

05th MAY 2024
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER



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

REFLECTION

"This is my commandment, that you love one another..." in our readings on this 6th Sunday of Easter, we hear much about Our Lord's commandment to love. Yet this seems a strange thing to modern ears:

a commandment to love. Many in our society today believe that love is simply a feeling, an inclination caused in us by encountering someone or even something outside of us. Some may ask, "How can we be commanded to love?" More than this though, even if we can will ourselves to love, what kind of love is Jesus commanding us to give? Are we to love one another as we may love our favourite TV programme or favourite sport or our favourite piece of music? We love these things for the pleasure they give us, not for the good we wish to give them. Jesus is not commanding us to love these things, this kind of love falls far short of the mark.

Well, let's listen to Jesus, "love one another as I have loved you". Yes we are to love one another with the same love which Jesus loved us, and with which the Father loved Him. In other words, we are to love with the love of God. A love that is unselfish, a love that looks outward toward the other, a love that understands that the person before you is made in the image and likeness of God, and so, should be loved, not used, cherished, not discarded, a love that asks what good can I give, rather than what good can I get. Every human being desires to be loved, yet every human being also desires to love. To pour oneself out for the other without counting the cost, to lose oneself in loving so as to find themselves in love, even to the point of loving to its most eminent degree-to lay down ones life for one's friends. You see, love is not merely a feeling, but is in the will. As such, no matter the situation or our emotional response to it, we can always will to love. As St John of the Cross said, "Where there is no love, put love, and you will find love". More than this, though, as Christians who have had the love of God "poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit who has been given to us" (Rom.5:5), we are now enabled by God's grace to love as God loves, and thus, to fulfil the commandment of the New and Eternal Covenant, to "love one another, as I have loved you."

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.

SAD NEWS!

We regret to advise you that Fr Lio's eldest brother, Paul Victor, passed away suddenly Wednesday afternoon. This was a great shock to Fr Lio and his family. Father has left behind his elderly mum and the family in Manila. He will be away until the end of the month. Please keep Fr Lio and his family in your prayers at this very sad time for them.

While Fr Lio is away we WELCOME FR PHILIP SULLIVAN, who will stay in the presbytery and be here for our Masses. Fr Philip is no stranger to St Mary's, so help make him feel "at home".

ROSMINI COLLEGE ENROLMENTS 2025

Year 7 Students online www.rosmini.school.nz
Limited spaces yrs 8-13 Enq. Eunice
Ph: 488 3750

LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH HOLY COMMUNION

The Liturgical Centre of the Catholic Diocese of Auckland offered training & formation for Lay Leaders of Liturgical Prayer, who would lead people in worship through the Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion. The training took place over five Saturdays last year from March to July. Saint Mary's Parish Northcote were fortunate to have generous lay leaders participate in this program. They were commissioned during the 10:30am Mass last Easter Sunday. **Starting this Monday, 6 May 2024 and Mondays henceforth**, these Lay Leaders of Liturgical Prayer would be leading a Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion at 9:15am in lieu of Mass. This will further enhance the liturgical life of our parish community, expanding and respecting the baptismal priesthood of each one of us. Our commissioned Lay Leaders of Liturgical Prayer are: Sean Gardiner, Jeffrey Ng, Joyce Ng, Brian O'Neill, Rose Silay, Adriana Janus, and Miken Madamba. We are grateful for the spirituality and generosity of our Lay Leaders. *Together we grow to reflect the face of Christ...*

NEW WEEKEND MINISTER'S ROSTERS

will be emailed to your early next week.

DE PAUL HOUSE FOOD BANK 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.

WHAT IS THE SOCIETY OF ST.VINCENT DE PAUL?

It is an international organization, founded in Paris in 1833 by Frederic Ozanam and his fellow students, to address the poverty they saw around them. It has now spread throughout the world. The first Society in New Zealand was formed in Christchurch in July 1867 and reached St Mary's Northcote in September 1965.

We are not affiliated to De Paul House. Although we share the same dedication to the poor as they do, we are not a part of their organization. They concentrate on housing those in society who are homeless.

Our mission is to care for those who are needy in the Northcote area. We visit those who are lonely or unwell and have a chat. We help those struggling financially to feed their families, by delivering food parcels to them. We help families with expenses for school uniforms & stationery. We transport people to appointments, shopping or to Mass. Some of our Members help with serving food after Funerals and other parish gatherings. Every week we pick up bread from a local baker and distribute it to the needy families, local schools, for their 'school breakfast programme' to people living in motels and motor camps and to De Paul House for them to distribute to their Residents and others in need.

We rely on you our parishioners for the finances to keep our work going in the area and we are very grateful to those of you who donate to our cause. **You can contribute to our monthly collection** at the entrance of the church on the 1st Sunday of the month, or online to our bank Account: no. 12-3035-0505571-00. Our small committee of 6 who meet on a monthly basis, Wednesday at 7pm- parish meeting room. Do come and join us! contact the parish office for details, or Phone me on 021 154 3428 *Cath Slykerman, Secretary*

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!!

MARY'S PANTRY PASTA CLASS FUNDRAISING EVENT!

Join us on Saturday 11 May for an afternoon filled with pasta-making fun at the Puglia Pasta Classes Fundraising Event. Prepare to get hands-on, enjoy the camaraderie, and learn the art of making authentic fresh Italian pasta, all while supporting a worthy cause! Proceeds will be directed towards Mary's Pantry, aiding them in their mission to provide essential support to families in need. Spaces are limited to 12 per class, so don't miss out! Secure your spot and make a difference while mastering the art of pasta-making. For further details and ticket purchases, please visit <https://events.humanitix.com/puglia-fresh-pasta>



**ST MARY'S PARISH YOUTH GROUP
SAMOSA FUNDRAISER**

Buy for yourself and/or donate a pack to De Paul house. Easy as 1,2,3 ...
Choose your flavour from Vegetarian, Lamb, Butter Chicken, Spiced Chicken



Confirm and pay for your order by Saturday 25th May
Collect your order on Thursday 6th June, 4 - 8 pm, St Mary's Parish Hall/Carpark
To make an order Photograph the QR code (left) or use this link <https://fundraising.surti.co.nz/s-marys-parish-northcote>

Youth Group Members will attend all weekend Masses 11 & 12 May in case you need help with your order.

Thanks so much, we appreciate your support!

DO YOU SPEAK SPANISH?

We have a lovely new parishioner from Columbia who would love to make friends with someone who can speak Spanish. If you can help please call the office. 480 7357!

MASS INTENTIONS

Sat. 5.30pm Special Intention for Georgia Valladares, Sun. 10.30am Special Intention for Anne Brigid & Family.

SEMINARY APPEAL

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



HOMESTAYS FOR PRE-SEMINARY STUDENTS

The Diocese has a few students from Vietnam discerning vocations to the priesthood. They are learning English with a view to entering our seminary at the start of 2025. Homestay hosts for the next 8-10 months needed. Full costs of board will be covered. Can you offer a supportive home with a room of their own please email alisonm@cda.org.nz

CHILDREN'S FORMATION (EDUCATION IN FAITH)

Classes are opening soon. If your child has been baptised, attends a non-Catholic school and would like to know more about their faith, these classes will provide an opportunity for them to learn and grow in understanding of our Catholic religion. These classes are also a requirement for those children wishing to register for the Sacramental Programme. Classes are held on a Sunday morning; dates and times are still to be confirmed. Please email queries to childrenformation@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz

CARE OF ALTAR LINEN 12 May. Birgitte R - 19 May Jan S
CHURCH CLEANING 11 May Malia & Tofu O—18 May Lai 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	16:11-15	Ps. 149
Gospel	John	15:26-16: 4	
Tuesday			
Reading	Acts	16:22-34	Ps. 138
Gospel	John	16: 5-11	
Wednesday			
Reading	Acts	17:15,22-18: 1	Ps. 148
Gospel	John	16:12-15	
Thursday			
Reading	Acts	18: 1- 8	Ps. 98
Gospel	John	16:16-20	
Friday			
Reading	Acts	18: 9-18	Ps. 47
Gospel	John	16:20-23	
Saturday			
Reading	Acts	18:23-28	Ps. 47
Gospel	John	16:23-28	
ASCENSION OF THE LORD			
1st Reading	Acts	1: 1-11	Ps. 47
2nd Reading	Ephesians	1:17-23	
Gospel	Mark	16:15-20	

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/
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
The Israel Palestine Conflict-A Perspective from Prof. Mazin 18 May 1pm St Mary's Parnell The talk will be livestreamed. see noticeboard.
Marriage & Family Life Ministry at the Diocese is seeking married couples of 5 years or more who would like to train as Marriage Educators to prepare engaged couples for marriage in the church. This is a very rewarding and significant role in the church. Enq. Gerry 021 0224 7442
Jubilee Bursary Semester 2 2024 For Theology and RE Courses at tertiary level. Applications close 6th June enq. michellej@cda.org.nz
CDA Connect catch up with happenings in the diocese and get a 'heads up' on upcoming events www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/services/cda-connect/
Mass of Welcome 19th May 4.30pm Pentecost Sunday at the Cathedral Bishop Steve and the diocesan community invites All those that were baptized at Easter



How do I let my heart be formed with love?

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

Most hospices in New Zealand now allow hospice patients to be assessed for eligibility for assisted suicide in the hospice, although there is no legal requirement to do so. The Registrar for Assisted Dying has revealed eight patients have died through assisted suicide in a hospice setting in New Zealand, but as yet many hospices do not allow assisted suicides on their premises. Right to Life warns that assessing patients for assisted suicide in hospice settings may be a first step towards assisted suicide becoming widespread in hospices. Right to Life currently has a petition request to New Zealand Parliament, that the House of Representatives repeal the End of Life Choice Act 2019. (Google Right to Life Petitions to access the link). Right to Life invites pro-life people to consider taking a moment to add their support to this petition.

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