

29th SEPTEMBER 2024
TWENTY SIXTH WEEK IN ORDINARY TIME

Each week we recite in the Nicene Creed that we believe in "One, Holy, Catholic and Apostolic Church." It sounds pretty clear, there is one church, gathered by the Holy Spirit and made holy by the body of Christ. She is Catholic on account of her totality and being endowed with the fullness of faith.

And she is apostolic because she is taught, ministered to, and shepherded by the Apostles and their ordained successors, the Bishops. But, as we all know, there are Christians who live a moral life, read the Bible, and have a prayerful relationship with Jesus, but they are not members of the Catholic Church. How should we understand our relationship to them?

Our readings today give us a roadmap to answering that question. The book of Numbers says that God commanded Moses to select seventy elders to be prophets who would assist him in proclaiming God's message. Moses picked seventy and then the Spirit fell on them in the tent, the place where God was to be worshipped.

God's command to select seventy, however, involved a bit of a mystery. How did Moses fairly select seventy elders from the twelve tribes of Israel? Mathematically, ten tribes would have gotten six elders, and two tribes just five. Not fair? The Jewish rabbinical tradition wrestled with this mathematical dilemma. Eldad and Medad, the text tells us, experienced the Holy Spirit's inspiration outside the tent, in the camp. Perhaps they came from tribes which were underrepresented among Moses's seventy. Counting them as prophets meant that an exact multiple of twelve was possible: six per tribe. It turns out, God planned seventy-two prophets after all. Yet Joshua's first reaction was to reject them. "Stop them," he says. Moses, however, replied in wisdom: "would that all the people of the LORD were prophets!" Moses, it seems, did not feel threatened by those prophesying without his authority.

Our first takeaway should be a warning against jealousy. Are there ways that one's ministry for the kingdom might be outshined by someone else labouring in the same vineyard? Is your first reaction to be jealous or rejoice? All of us are called to be prophets and missionaries of the Gospel, and so humility requires us to give thanks when others bear fruit. John's Gospel tells us that Christ intended His Church to be so united that people could look at the church and believe - precisely because of her unity - that He was sent of the Father (cf. Jn. 17:21). Yet the way to bring about that unity is not necessarily to halt the Spirit's activity outside the tent. When we recognise the Holy Spirit's activity elsewhere, we place our hope in the love of Christ that is capable of forging the unity He wills. In fact, our recognition of the action of the Holy Spirit in others is perhaps the best way to help others see the same in us. It shows them that we are of the same Spirit.

Let us therefore put aside all pretense and jealousy and open our hearts to the action of the Lord "in the camp". Let us rejoice when we find others both inside and outside our communion who minister in the same name of Christ. In this Eucharist today, let us glorify the Holy Spirit who comes into our midst and conforms us to Christ's body, guiding us into perfect unity.

NZ CATHOLIC LAST PRINTED COPY

If you would like a copy (\$4) please ask at the parish office, we have a few copies left.

CHILDREN'S FORMATION
(EDUCATION IN FAITH)

If your child has been baptised, attends a non-Catholic school and would like to know more about their faith, these classes provide an opportunity for them to learn and grow in understanding of our Catholic religion.

The classes are a requirement for those children wishing to register for the Sacramental Programme later this year.

Classes are held on a Sunday morning. Please email for more details, dates etc.

Email: childrenformation@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

The programme will be starting up again in November. This year parents are asked to book an interview before the classes start. Interview times till the end of September email

childrenformation@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz for your appointment options as soon as possible. **All registrations must be in prior to the compulsory parent- only session on Tuesday, the 1st of October, at 6:30 p.m., or Sunday the 6th of October, at 11:45 a.m.** Both sessions will be run in the Foley Centre. The cost of the programme is \$40. It covers the cost of the resources, the books and the party.

We will also need to sight the children's baptismal certificates, please have them, and your payment, available for the parent-only sessions in October.

FUN, PRACTICAL & FREE COOKING COURSE FOR OLDER PEOPLE

Learn to plan and cook simple healthy meals for 1 or 2 people, plus shopping tips, label reading and time-saving strategies.

3 hour Friendly and social classes include morning tea and lunch - SEE NOTICE BOARD for MORE INFORMATION.

URGENT CALL FOR SUPPORT

De Paul House still needs to fill shelves!

Can YOU help refill our empty shelves?

We have no stock of: Flour, sugar, coffee, honey, vegemite, crackers, muesli bars, biscuits, school lunchbox snacks.

Personal Care: deodorant, toothbrushes, toothpaste, shampoo, soap, toilet paper.

Cleaning Products: dishwashing liquid, laundry liquid, spray & wipe, cleaning clothes. **Running out of:** Pasta, rice, pasta sauce, jam, 2 minute noodles, long-life milk, Coconut milk, meat - mince, sausages, chicken or supermarket vouchers.

De Paul House have had 100% increase in demand for food support compared to 2023. Any support would be most appreciated as we support the most vulnerable, low-income families and Senior citizens struggling with the hard economic times. We are also needing good used furniture and items such as duvet covers, sheets, towels, pots & Pans new or nearly new pillows, towels, hand towels and flannels, single duvet inners, kitchen electrical appliances, things that make a house a home etc.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR HELP!

IMPORTANT NOTICE FOR ALL IN WEEKEND MINISTRIES

New Rosters through to Christmas were sent out last week via email, several were returned as not being able to be delivered! If you do not have your copy please EMAIL office@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz URGENTLY!

A BIG THANK YOU!

To all who contributed to, helped and participated in the *BEATS BY BINGO NIGHT* last Friday, it was a great success and a happy time was had by all!

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, or the ACFL Operations Manager on (09) 360 3069 at the Catholic Diocese for further information. Application Forms for this assistance are available from the school office, or can be downloaded from www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/catholic-schools-2/

RETREATS & EVENTS AT

ST FRANCIS RETREAT CENTRE

Time Out Days for those who seek a day retreat 9.30am to 2.30pm (\$30 incl. lunch) Tues. 15 Oct. for bookings call 625 6651 www.stfrancisretreatcentra.org.nz

PILGRIMAGE WITH THE SAINTS TOUR 2025

Fr Chris Friel from Timaru will lead this 17 day tour of Portugal, Spain and France in June next year. For full details and itinerary please email Pilgrimage Tours in Auckland at info@travlink.co.nz or phone 0800 99 7788. See full itinerary on notice board.

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION & MASS

on Friday 4th October 7:00pm at St Mary's Parish, 20 Kitemui Ave, Mt Albert. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Mercy Sung, Benediction, Mass, followed by veneration of St Faustina's relic. All Welcome.

JOSHUA CATHOLIC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP NORTH SHORE-INVITATION!

One-Day Men's Retreat, directed by Bishop Steve Lowe, Sat. 19th October 8am to 4pm at St Thomas More Church. A special time of formation, prayer, worship, Fellowship concluding with Mass. Bring a packed lunch or buy from nearby shops. Koha \$20 contact Greg 021 437 747 or Russell 022 034 5678 ALL MEN WELCOME!

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.

LITURGY OF THE WORD WITH COMMUNION ON MONDAYS

St Mary's Parish Northcote is adopting the Liturgy of the Word with Communion on Mondays. This has been an on-going practice since May this year.

This is a step forward in preparation for the future where the projection of the number of priests is declining and will be declining further.

The Diocese has an on-going plan of training lay liturgists as one of the solutions so that Holy Communion will still be available for parishioners. St Mary's have trained lay liturgists for this purpose. The other parishes are also practising this – Beach Haven, Orewa, East Coast Bays and especially in the rural areas where Mass is celebrated once or twice a month.

This might not be the final solution to the shortage of priests but it is the interim step we need to take to arrive at a future renewed church. The way forward can be exciting. The benefits include a deepening of faith, more sense of responsibility for our worship life and a letting go of our clericalism. Our priests need a rest on their off day too.

Thank you for your support and understanding.

THURSDAY SCRIPTURE GROUPS

In recess for next two weeks (school holidays)

BE A MEMBER OF THE LEGION OF MARY IN OUR PARISH



The Legion of Mary is the largest apostolic organization of lay people in the Catholic Church. Is under the powerful name of Mary Immaculate, Mediatrix of all Graces and is sanctioned by the church, has over 10 million members worldwide and is present in about 170 countries including New Zealand.

“presents the true face of the Catholic Church” - (St. Pope John XXIII)

CANS FOR CHRISTMAS



Is a charity that has run for 10 years now. They coordinate Catholic Primary Schools and Colleges to collect canned food items for St Vincent de Paul. Over the last 9 years they have collected 160,000 cans and \$10,000 for the St Vincent de Paul Society to help those in need. Please join us by donating to us. QR Code attached

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, Max W, David P, Yvonne S, Andrew C, Lauren S, Fe T, Jamie S-W, Adam S, 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, Jocell D-V, Luca M, Maselino L, Ann C, Letalie V, Yvonne P, Helen McBride, Orille F, Connie B, Patricia W, Elizabeth S, P & M O'S, Jason P, Maria & Andre T, Chike E, Ted H, Eileen B, Dorothy T, Bridget & Helen R. Emily G

DAILY READINGS

Monday St Jerome			
Reading	Job	1: 6-22	Ps. 17
Gospel	Luke	9:46-50	
Tuesday St Therese of the Child Jesus			
Reading	Job	3: 1- 3,11-17,20-23	Ps. 88
Gospel	Luke	9:51-56	
Wednesday The Guardian Angels			
Reading	Exodus	23:20-23	Ps. 91
Gospel	Matthew	18: 1- 5,10	
Thursday			
Reading	Job	19:21-27	Ps. 27
Gospel	Luke	10: 1-12	
Friday St. Francis of Assisi			
Reading	Job	18: 1,12-21,40: 3- 5	Ps. 139
Gospel	Luke	10:13-16	
Saturday			
Reading	Job	42: 1- 3,5-6,12-17	Ps. 119A
Gospel	Luke	10:17-24	
27th Week Ordinary Time			
1st Reading	Genesis	2:18-24	Ps. 128
2nd Reading	Hebrews	2: 9-11	
Gospel	Mark	10: 2-16	

NOTICES FROM THE DIOCESE

CDA Connect catch up with happenings in the diocese and get a 'heads up' on upcoming events www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/services/cda-connect/
Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College is accepting enrolments for the first semester 2025 from now to 11th November 2024. Courses offered are Bachelor of Divinity, Graduate Diploma in Theology, Diploma and Certificate in Christian Studies and a new microcredential on Managing Church Organisations.

Scholarship for Theological Study Bishop Steve Lowe, Bishop of Auckland, is pleased to call for applications for the **Ruth Miller Scholarship** for theological Study. This scholarship will be available ideally for those already teaching in a Catholic School, who intend to do one or more theology papers towards a Bachelor of Theology degree in 2025. For further information and an application form please email: scholorships@cda.org.nz Applications close 15th November.

The Walter Francis Darby Trust Scholarship for Medical Students If you are a 4th or 5th year Medical Student in 2025, are an active Catholic and normally reside within the Auckland Diocese, you may be eligible for this Scholarship – Applications close 15th November
 email:scholorships@cda.org.nz

The Upper Room Thurs. 17 October 6.30-9.00pm at Good George Mission Bay. A fantastic opportunity for young adults to grab a drink, enjoy some free bar snacks, meet other young Catholics and dive into some relevant topics. Guest Speaker this time Trim Wilson tickets \$10 more info.
 email felicity@cda.org.nz

Masterclass Sat. 5 Oct. 3-8.30pm venue 30 New St. Ponsonby quarterly event for Youth Ministry Leaders dedicated to equipping, empowering and energizing for ministry. More info. felicitym@cda.org.nz

Copyright Reporting and Training It is a legal requirement that all parishes who project lyrics or print them report. Zoom training session available 1st Oct from 6.30pm register with tinac@cda.org.nz by Mon 30 Sept.

Pregnancy Choice & Abundance Op Shop opening 18 Oct.at 272 Ti Rakau Drive, East Tamaki. Demonstrating love by fully informing and supporting women to explore their options in a stress-free nonjudgemental, safe space. More info contact Rebecca 021 149 1320, or rebecca@pregnancychoice.org.nz



Do my words and actions Reflect by belief in and Trust in Jesus?

CARE OF ALTAR LINEN
 29 Sept Birgitte R - 06 Oct. Fleur B
CHURCH CLEANING
 05 Oct. Malia & Tofu
 12 Oct. Lai family

DIVINE RETREAT CENTRE (DRCNZ)

Daily evening retreats from Mon. 7th-Thurs 20th Oct. 6.30 to 9pm at Christ the King Church, Richardson Road, Mr Roskill. Weekend Retreat on Sat. 12th Oct 11am to 5pm Sun. 13th Oct.2pm to 8pm, same venue. Refreshments will be provided, no registration required. All welcome!

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

Meeting NEXT Sunday 06th October at 6pm (straight after the 5pm Mass) in the Foley Centre. All parishioners 16 - 30 year olds are welcome! Join us as we reflect on the Gospels, listen to talks, study Catholic theology, pray together and eat dinner together! Also if you would like to join our Young Adults Choir please let us know. Contact Dan : dandcstory@gmail.com or text 021 299 3270

PROLIFE FACTS

Here are some facts from the recently released annual report on the EOLC Act: · 5% increase in assisted deaths in the last 12 months.
 · 11% increase in applications. · 83% NZ European/Pākehā. Pasifika <0.5%. Māori <4%. Asian 2%. Other 12%. · 60% aged 65-84. 19% 85+. 19% 45-64. · Virtually even split between male and female.
 · 12% of applicants had a disability. · 258 applicants died before 'needing' euthanasia.
 · The application process averages only 16 days.
 · One in four applicants were not receiving palliative care.

For more pro-life information, visit Voice for Life at www.voiceforlife.org.nz.