



11th MAY 2025
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY
ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!
HE IS RISEN!



REFLECTION

Of course, Jesus, as the Good Shepherd, is the ultimate flock-keeper and He must look after every one of His sheep, that is, each of us. There are about 8 billion of us in the world that Jesus is watching over.

We are His flock, sometimes lost in the dark, afraid, surrounded by the terrors of the night. But Christ the Good Shepherd comes and finds each one of us and leads us safely home. He is also the one who patrols the fences, and when danger approaches, He's the one who moves quickly to our defense.

The Good Shepherd knows His sheep and they follow (or should follow) His voice. Jesus the Good Shepherd intimately knows each of His sheep and, ideally, they follow His voice.

Today we read in the Gospel that *"my sheep hear my voice, I know them, and they follow me."*

Our challenge today is to hear the voice of Jesus—to recognize and to follow it, to tune into that voice of Christ asking us to know, love, serve, and follow Him. We listen to the voices of so many others: entertainers, athletes, media talking heads, and politicians. But do we listen to the voice of Christ, who speaks to us through daily prayer, scripture, the church, the sacraments, nature, and other people?

We should also ask ourselves if we are good shepherds in our own lives. Each of us is called to be a shepherd in our own way, whether that be in our families, in our concern for both neighbours and strangers, and in our concern for the spiritual good of our children, friends, and coworkers. Parents and grandparents must be especially careful in fulfilling their shepherding duties toward their children and grandchildren, giving them good examples and instruction, and training them in Christian principles and the moral life.

Today is also the World Day of Prayer for Vocations. And so, the church prays for an increase in vocations to the priesthood, diaconate, and religious life. Can you imagine a church without priests, or a church without nuns and deacons? Christ could do the job of shepherding all of us by Himself, but instead He enlists co-shepherds, co-workers to help Him tend His flock. And so in the church we have the Pope and bishops, and we also have priests and deacons and religious brothers and sisters shepherding us. While they don't always do so perfectly, we hope and believe that the vast majority of them attempt to defend and feed the flock that Christ has entrusted to them.

The beloved Psalm 23 tells us that the *"The Lord is our Shepherd."* May we follow the voice of the Good Shepherd and may we in turn shepherd those people the Lord has entrusted to our care.

Extracts from writings of Rev. Brian X Needles

PROPOSED ONEWA ROAD CHANGES
IMPORTANT MEETING THIS COMING TUESDAY 13TH MAY 7.00PM IN THE PARISH HALL
 We need to spring into action if we want **TO STOP THE NO PARKING AT ALL TIMES**, happening! **IT IS CRUCIAL THAT WE HAVE YOUR SUPPORT, HELP AND PRESENCE AT THIS MEETING !**

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.donate or you can use the QR Code. Special envelopes are also available from the church foyer , so please take one and return your donation next week.
 Please continue to pray for our seminarians.



THURSDAY MORNING SCRIPTURE GROUP
 10.15am to 11.15am in the Foley Centre. Topic "The Bible and the Blessed Virgin Mary" All Welcome!

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 on a Sunday morning. email for more details Email: childrenformation@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz

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. www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/catholic-schools-2/

TAX RECEIPTS
 For those on Planned Giving for the 2024-2025 period will be issued during this week Please send your up-to-date email address to the office to ensure we have the right address. office@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz

MENDED ROSARY BEADS
 Repaired Rosaries for Beulah, Jerry and Carlo ready for collection from the Parish Office.

MASS INTENTIONS
Sat. 5.30pm Joranis Kurera RIP,
Sun. 8.30am Filemon Bayangos RIP (7th Anniv.) **Sun.10.30am** Joanna Pokropek RIP (5th Anniv.) and Napoleon Pabico Sr RIP,
Fri. 9.15am Fred Bremford RIP (1st Anniv.)

"WHAT IS ECUMENSIM?"
 A Webinar ZOOM Lecture on it's history and relevance today. Presented by Rev. Dr Ray Williamson, Pastor from Sydney Anglican Church. Tuesday 20th May 7pm NZ time. A must for all Catholics. Register today with an email to louisar@cda.org.nz to receive the Zoom link.

Please remember to pray for our new Pope Leo XIV

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
office@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz

REMINDER RE PARKING!
 You must not block the entrance and exit ways onto church grounds in case there is a need for an emergency vehicle to be called. Only park in the marked spaces, so as not to block another vehicle. **When parking on the street, DO NOT PARK ACROSS NEIGHBOURS DRIVEWAYS, if you do you WILL be TOWED AWAY!!**

JOB VACANCY
 The Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph are looking for a parish secretary. 36 hours per week 8.30am to 5.00pm Tuesdays to Fridays and half a day on Sundays. Hours/days could be negotiable for right applicant. Seeking a talented person able to ensure the efficient day to day running of the Cathedral office and support the Dean of the Cathedral. Applicants must have NZ residency or a valid NZ Work Permit. To view the full advert, position description and how to apply, please visit the Diocesan website www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz Diocesan Services, Staff Vacancies.

JUBILEE BURSARIES FOR THEOLOGICAL & RELIGIOUS EDUCATION

Applications are invited for Semester 2, 2025, applications close Thurs. 5th June. Applicants must be Catholic and making a contribution to the mission of the Catholic Church in Auckland. The Bursary is a contribution towards degree and Post Grad. Theology & RE Courses. Or more information and an application pack please contact michellej@cda.org.nz

"TE KUPENGA CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE"

Is now open for enrolment for Semester 2. Go to www.tekupenga.ac.nz/apply to apply or call (09)361 1053 for more Enrolments close on May 16th.

DIVINE MERCY CONFERENCE MAY 23-25

Fr Chris Alar, Keynote Speaker. Divine Mercy is excited to bring back to New Zealand Fr Chris Alar MIV from the US plus several other international speakers. This Conference will be in a real sense an encapsulation of all that has gone before, and yet more to the point, now that is lived out, witnessed in the 3rd millennium. Registrations are essential www.divinemercyconference2025.co.nz Pat Barrett 03 359 2087 omfo@divinemercy.co.nz

MAY EDITION OF NZCBC AUCKLAND & JUBILEE JOTTINGS AVAILABLE

WWW.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/NZ-Catholic-Issue-2-pdf
www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2025/04/MAY-2025-Jubilee-Jottings.pdf

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY COURSE

Fulfilled: The Promise of the Christian Life -17/18 May. Mission Bay, Auckland To register www.theologyofthebody.nz

JUBILEE-SING JUBILEE

Join Tony Alonso, a Grammy nominated composer of Sacred music and a scholar whose work responds to the diverse realities of contemporary culture. *Conversation with Tony* with drinks and nibbles, Friday 30 May 6.30pm Pompallier Diocesan Centre - \$20. Register at *A Conversation with Tony Alonso-Catholic Diocese of Auckland Retreat Workshop with Tony Sat. 31 May 1.30 to 4.00pm Baradene College Auditorium, Victoria Street, Koha, Registration* *Retreat Workshop with Tony Alonso-Catholic Diocese of Auckland Concert with Tony Alonso Sat. 31 May 6.30pm, Baradene College Auditorium Victoria Street -\$10 pp to register* A Concert with Tony Alonso-Catholic Diocese of Auckland.

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, 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, M O'S, Jason P, Maria & Andre T, Chike E, Ted H, Eileen B, Dorothy T, Bridget & Helen R. Emily G, June B, John R, John S, Pearl D, Jim & Patricia Maunsell, Norelle R, Mary G

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 St Mathias	Reading Acts	1:15-17,20-26	Ps. 113
	Gospel John	15: 9-17	
Thursday	Reading Acts	13:13-25	Ps. 89
	Gospel John	13:16-20	
Friday	Reading Acts	13:26-33	Ps. 2
	Gospel John	14: 1- 6	
Saturday	Reading Acts	13:44-52	Ps. 98
	Gospel John	14: 7-14	
FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER			
	1st Reading Acts	14:21-27	Ps. 145
	2nd Reading Apocalypse	21: 1- 5	
	Gospel John	13:31-35	

NOTICES FROM THE DIOCESE

Bishop Steve Speaks tune into the diocesan YouTube channel playlist Bishop Steve Speaks to hear him reflecting on the readings of Sunday and other moments of conversation

www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLYVVDAAh6gEBFpCz2XcTLhpW_gsxny4e

Invitation to join Bishop Steve on a special Jubilee Pilgrimage.

Te Ara o te Tūmanako-The Way of Hope-29 September to 19 October Every 25 years the church proclaims a Holy Year, a special gift of grace and mercy for all God's people. The theme for Jubilee is "Pilgrims of Hope". Bishop Steve embarking on a pilgrimage from Lyon to Rome as we celebrate Jubilee 2025. On the way you will meet pilgrims of the past, who were known as saints, but were once pilgrims of the past who have influenced our local and the universal church and who will inspire us in hope as we journey to the Holy Door in St Peter's Basilica in Rome.

For more info. contact Harvest Journeys 0800 819 156 or info@harvestjourneys.com

Easter to Pentecost a time for prayer, a time for pondering, for being present in the church's journey with Jesus after His Resurrection. Here are some opportunities for you to be on The Way with a few others from your home, on Zoom. Contact Dianna Fouhy email diannaf@cda.org.nz For more details.

HOU MANA WAI MERCY WELLSPRINGS WEEKLY CHRISTIAN MEDITATION GROUPS

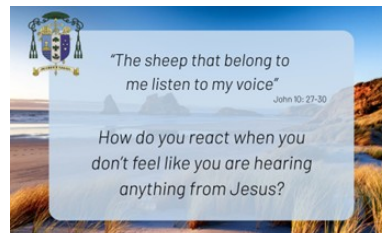
Mondays 7.30-8.15pm Thursdays 10.30-11.15am All welcome, just turn up! Contact Sr Cathryn Wiles-Pickard, 104 The Drive Epsom Phone 021 187 6986 Or cathryn@mercywellsprings.org.nz

CALLING ALL AUCKLAND UNIVERSTIY STUDENTS!

There is a large, vibrant, Catholic student community in the Auckland CBD. Join us this year! To find out more please contact Daniel Story at dans@cda.org.nz and/or check out our socials search aucklandcatholicchaplains.org.nz

Please Pray

for all families who are finding life difficult at this time.



"The sheep that belong to me listen to my voice" John 10:27-30

How do you react when you don't feel like you are hearing anything from Jesus?

CHURCH CLEANING

- 10 May Butler Family
- 17 May Valdez Family
- ALTAR LINEN**
- 11 May Anne H - 18 May Prisca T

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP 2025!

Meets on the first Sunday of every month at 6pm in the Foley Centre (immediately after 5pm Mass). Our next meeting will be this **Sunday 1st June** Anyone between the ages of 16-25 is most welcome. Come along and meet other young adults in the parish and learn more about our amazing Catholic faith. BONUS! - we also have a Young Adults Music Group. If you'd like to join please let us know. For more information or to register your interest please contact Dan: dandcstory@gmail.com / 0212993270

PROLIFE FACTS

It is five years since Parliament passed the Abortion Legislation Act in 2020. One of the most extreme abortion laws in the world, it permits lawful late term abortions to be performed by a medical practitioner up until birth, provided the medical practitioner reasonably believes that the abortion is "clinically appropriate" in the circumstances. A peaceful gathering was held on the evening of Wednesday 12 March at Parliament Grounds in Wellington, to remember the vulnerable, and reflect on the injustice of thousands of lives lost by abortion. Voice for Life has a petition calling on the House of Representatives to repeal the Abortion Legislation Act 2020. If you would like to learn more or sign the petition, please visit <https://www.voiceforlife.org.nz/petition>. For more pro-life information www.voiceforlife.org.nz