

**12th APRIL 2026
DIVINE MERCY SUNDAY**



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

REFLECTION

The Sunday that follows Easter has had many names. One was Sunday in White Robes ("Dominica in albis" in Latin) because it concluded the week in which the newly initiated wore their baptismal garments for daily instruction. This custom is no longer observed, but the Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults has this to say "Since the distinctive spirit and power of the period of postbaptismal catechesis derived from the new, personal experience of the sacraments and of the community, its main setting is ... the Sunday Masses of the Easter season" (#237). Today was also called Low Sunday, either because the liturgy was not as high in ritual as the Paschal Triduum or because the word "laud", meaning praise, was misheard as "low". Either way this Sunday is distinctly high, not low, in spirit. The word of God bursts with inspiration. Luke pens an appealing portrait of life in the first Christian community. The Apostle Peter waxes eloquent with an encouraging prayer of blessing, and John brings His gospel to a close with themes of peace, joy, faith and mission. The day pulses with the power of the Spirit, As the psalm says "This day was made by the Lord, we rejoice and are glad".

NEW PARISHIONER LUNCH!

SUNDAY 19TH APRIL AFTER THE 10.30AM MASS
St Mary's warmly welcomes new parishioners, so if you have arrive here over the last six months, we would love to get to know you a little better. If you have already registered with us you will receive a personal invitation via email over the next week. If you have not yet registered then please contact us to let us know you will be coming we need numbers for catering purposes. Email your name and number in the family to office@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz

MASS INTENTIONS

5.30pm Saturday Teresito Tiongson and Ralph Parades, both celebrating birthdays.
10.30am Sunday Daniel & Kathleen O'Brien RIP

Message from Pope Leos' Ester Message

"Pope Leo invites all this weekend to join him in praying for peace in the world. We will have a short prayer for peace after Mass today, asking for Our Lady's intercession for peace and invoking peace in our own lives."

**CONGRATULATIONS AND
WELCOME TO**

*Yang Tracy CUI Lihua Catherine LIU
Yen Ning Jocelyn LAI Tauese Ketty FAAEE
Santannah ALLEN Matthew Richard KING
Gang Leo LIU Ying CHENG
Max Wen Bo LI FeiLong YAN
Layla Emily JAYNES Kate NOH
Lily ANDERSON Ryubi TOWSEND-PALEY
Jack Rey Thoms HITCHCOCK
Forest Yuebin LIU Eddy Yuedong LIU
Ethan CHENG Kingston VEA
Braxton VEA Ming Kai Ryan LI
Ziyi YAN*

Baptised, Confirmed and received First Holy Communion

*Ximena BALLANTYNE
Hannah Mary Leloir Pamela SANDO
Pesley FA'AU Amelia SANDO
Confirmed and received
First Holy Communion*

*Adele JANYES Zachary ANDERSON
Arthur Reuban Fredrick HITCHCOCK
Daisy ANDERSON Ella LIU
Baptised
ALL AT THE HOLY SATURDAY
EASTER VIGIL!*

Invitation!

You are cordially invited to our Parish Thursday Scripture Reflection:
Theme "Evangelising with Scripture"
Re-start date: 16 April 2026
Time : 10.15am to 11.30am
Venue: Foley Centre
ALL WELCOME!

TAX RECEIPTS 2025-2026

For those on our Planned Giving Programme will be issued from week beginning Monday 20th April 2026

GIRL TIME!

We extend an invitation to all women for our "Girl Time" meeting, a group for friendship, laughter, and inspiration. Join us for morning tea, as we explore topics that resonate with our lives and faith. A light luncheon will be provided. 10:15 AM on Monday, April 20th, in the Foley Centre, next to the church. We look forward to seeing you there!

FOOD BANK SHELVES ARE EMPTY!

De Paul House needs food and especially personal and household care products. Shampoo, soap, hand-wash, deodorant, dish wash, clothes wash, spray and wipe. Basics like crackers, biscuits, pasta sauce, tinned fish and meat, coconut milk and cream, jam, vegemite, milk powder, long life milk, milo. Every little contribution makes a difference. If you want to run a food drive, please contact Lesley Farmer lesley@depaulhouse.org.nz or call 480 5959

**COMMISSIONING OF ALL
MINISTER'S OF THE WORD AND
MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Will be done over this weekend 11/12th April.

CHILDREN'S FORMATION

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 the faith. **The classes are a requirement for those children wishing to register for the Sacramental Programme later this year.** Classes are on a Sunday morning.
Enq. Childrensformation@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz

PLANNED GIVING PROGRAMME

Are you in our Planned Giving Programme? Would like to join? If so please contact the office for a personal number. office@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz
If you join you can gain a tax rebate at the end of the tax year (April) of 1/3rd of your contributions, a way of saving, perhaps for a winter treat!!

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE

Next Course, 2026 will be held on 12 & 13th May. It consists of Two 1 1/2 Hr. sessions, 7.30-9pm, and is held in the Foley Centre. This Course is mandatory for your first child prior to Baptism, can be completed prior to baby arriving.
Reg. office@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz

CAN YOU HELP DE PAUL HOUSE?

Cold weather is fast approaching, and De Paul House needs your help to restock our warm bedding and towel banks. You will be helping homeless and low-income families and senior citizens stay warm this winter. De Paul House has had a huge increase in calls for help both with housing and support services. Please share the message with friends, family and work colleagues.
Matthew 25:40 The King will reply "Truly I say to you, whatever you did for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did for me."
admin@depaulhouse.org.nz ph: 480 5959

**WE ARE STILL URGENTLY WANTING
YOU TO BECOME INVOLVED IN
YOUR PARISH NOW!!!**

**Hospitality people (AD HOC)
Car Parking attendants
(ALL Sunday & Special Masses)
Mass Coordinator for 10.30am Mass
Contact the office on
office@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz
more Details/training will be given!**

PARISH NEWSLETTER



You can now subscribe to get a link to our weekly newsletters via email for updates on Parish and Diocesan activities.

We encourage you to scan the QR Code, above, and subscribe now!

ST MARY'S SENIOR YOUTH GROUP IS BACK FOR APRIL!

Due to many requests, we are shifting youth gatherings to **3PM** to conclude with the summit of our faith - the **5PM youth Mass** on the third Sunday of every month. Our next youth night is **19 April** - we will be having a Quiz night as we delve deeper into the Mass! All youth from school year levels 7 and up are welcome, so bring a friend and come along for fun, fellowship and to learn more about our faith!

WYD 2027 WEBINARS

In preparation for World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul Korea, Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College invites young people and everyone to grow in their faith, hope and missionary discipleship, with this year's webinar series, "Take Courage! I have overcome the world". (John 16:33) More information at www.tekupenga.ac.nz/webinars-2026

ST MARY'S KNIGHTS (Junior Youth Group)

Calling all parents of children aged 8-12 years old!

We have a youth group called 'St Mary's Knights' which is run by senior students and graduates from Carmel, St Mary's and Rosmini College. We provide a safe environment where children can socialise, have fun and learn more about their faith. **These nights are run every 4th Friday of the month from 6-8 pm in the Parish hall which is adjacent to the Church. Please tell your kids about it and see if they are interested in coming along! If you have any questions please don't hesitate to contact Frankie (Youth Leader) on 022 059 852 initially. Updates are provided on the youth Instagram page: @smy_northcote We look forward to- seeing you there!**

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 can be used to repair other Rosaries.

ST JOSEPH'S GIFT SHOP.

Come see us at our new location in Albany Village (Opposite Albany Toyota) or visit us online at www.stjosephscentre.co.nz (09) 489 5613 **St Josephs Gift Shop Supplying quality Christian & Catholic products for every need** 253 Dairy Flat Highway, Albany, Auckland 0632

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, James F, Lu P, Caroline C, Connie B, John H, Emily D, Sebastian C, Lucia, Anselmo S, 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, Aesop N, Patricia W, Elizabeth S, M O'S, Jason P, Maria & Andre T, Chike E, Emily G, June B, John R, John S, Patricia Maunsell, Mary G, Cath S, Anne J.

DAILY READINGS

Monday			
Reading	Acts	4:23-31	Ps. 2
Gospel	John	3: 1- 8	
Tuesday			
Reading	Acts	4:32-37	Ps. 93
Gospel	John	3: 7-15	
Wednesday			
Reading	Acts	5:17-26	Ps. 34
Gospel	John	3:16-21	
Thursday			
Reading	Acts	5:27-33	Ps. 34
Gospel	John	3:31-36	
Friday			
Reading	Acts	5:34-42	Ps. 27
Gospel	John	6: 1-15	
Saturday			
Reading	Acts	6: 1- 7	Ps. 33
Gospel	John	6:15-21	
Third Sunday of Easter			
1st Reading	Acts	2:14,22-28	Ps. 16
2nd Reading	1 Peter	1:17-21	
Gospel	Luke	24:13-35	

NOTICES FROM THE DIOCESE

Diocesan Youth Mass Last Sunday of each month 4.30pm February through November at St Patrick's Cathedral. For more info contact youthmin@cda.org.nz

Prayer Retreat for Women Prayer and the Interior Life, Friday 17th April 6pm to Sunday 19th April 3pm. Time for Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, Personal Prayer and Spiritual Direction. St Francis Retreat Centre, Hillsborough. Earlybird registration and more details www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz

Rise up and Shine Festival Taste the World, Celebrate the Culture 30th May. Starts at 10am with Thanksgiving Mass. Followed by Social Entertainment until 3pm. Music, Zumba, Food Stalls and Cultural show. Join us at the Migrant Chaplaincy Rise Up and Shine Festival, where every bite tells a story and every dance sparks joy. Venue Malaeola Community Centre, 16 Waokauri Place, Mangere.

world" (John 16:33) more info www.tekupenga.ac.nz/webinars-2026

Charis NZ Chevalier Cyril John will be leading a 1.5 day, hosted by Current of Grace Auckland at Christy he King Church, Owairaka. 11/12th May. Training on Prophetic Intercession.

THE WEEK OF PRAYER FOR CHRISTIAN UNITY

Falls on 17-24th May. Gather your people, join us and other Christian communities to the Ecumenical Day of Prayer for Christian Unity 7pm on Friday 29th May at St John's Presbyterian Church, 422 Mt Albert Road, Mt Roskill. Let us respond to Christ's prayer to the Father, "that they may all be one". It is our calling to be synodal, to 'reshape' our ways, to be Catholic.

CALLING ALL AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS!

There is a large, vibrant, Catholic student community in the Auckland CBD. Join us in 2026! To find out more please contact Daniel Story at dans@cda.org.nz and/or check out our socials search [aucklandcatholicchaplancy](https://www.facebook.com/aucklandcatholicchaplancy).

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP 2026!

Next Meeting Sunday 03rd May after the 5.00pm Mass. Anyone between the ages of 18-35 is most welcome. Come along and meet other young adults in the parish for fellowship and to journey alongside one another in our Catholic faith. Enquires Email: gnastrun88@gmail.com



HE IS RISEN!
ALLELUIA! ALLELUIA!



PRAY MASS
Sundays @ 2pm
SHINE TV
Free-to-air TV Channel 25
SKY TV Channel 201

CHURCH CLEANING 18 April Hoa N - 25 April Upton Family

ALTAR LINEN 12 April Eresha D - 19 April Anne H

PRAYER RETREAT FOR WOMEN 'Prayer and the Interior Life'

Friday 17th April 6pm to Sunday 19th April 3pm 2026 - with time for Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, Personal Prayer and Spiritual Direction. Location: Hillsborough, Auckland. To Register www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz

PROLIFE FACTS

Twenty-six countries joined the 40 Days for Life campaign during Lent 2026. The movement centres on peaceful prayer, fasting, and a compassionate presence outside abortion facilities, reminding communities that support and life-affirming alternatives to abortion are always available. A recent story from El Cajon, California, shows the impact this pro-life presence can have. A young father shared that doctors had urged him and his wife to abort their baby due to predicted abnormalities. After seeing volunteers praying outside the clinic, they reconsidered and chose life. The father showed volunteers a photo of himself, his wife, and their baby boy, who was in fact born perfectly healthy, despite the doctor's predictions. Stories like this reflect the quiet but powerful mission of 40 Days for Life.

For more pro-life information, visit www.voiceforlife.org.nz.