

24TH MAY 2026  
PENTECOST



### REFLECTION

Gift giving is so often an expected part of our life, and yet we act like the world has unfolded for us every time we receive tokens of esteem and affection. In a way, it has. Every gift is a token of love, sacramental, even if just natural love. This works even when we practiced falsely, in the form of bribery, because we are made to receive gifts as things which build bonds of unity.

The Holy Spirit is often called by the name of *gift*. The Holy Spirit is gift of Father and Son to the Church. Jesus has promised this gift repeatedly to His apostles, especially at the Last Supper.

He also gives the Holy Spirit repeatedly: on Easter Sunday, again fifty days later, at Pentecost, and in every sacrament. Each time the Church receives the gift of the Holy Spirit as a kiss of divine love. The Church fully expects to receive the Holy Spirit in these first instances and in every sacrament and that expectation does nothing to dampen our affection for the giver.

Or, it should not. Children can be bad receivers of gifts, bratty or unappreciative, and so can Christian adults. St Thomas is, at first, unappreciative. He was not present when Christ first appeared and gave the Holy Spirit for the forgiveness of sins. He wanted to be there to receive directly from the mouth of Christ the Breath of new creation. Fifty days before Christ endows the universal Church with the special gifts of tongues and prophecy, He gives the first importance of the Gift we need to exercise the chief thing He commands of us, to forgive those who trespass against us. Pentecost is possible only for a church already united in mutual forgiveness, of a Church at peace. "Peace be with you," says Christ when He first gives the Holy Spirit. We want those particular gifts.

We want to feel God's special power working through us. Tongues, prophecy, teaching, administration. St Paul acknowledges all these at work in the Church, whatever particular gifts God has given us, they flow from and return the same one source. "There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit, there are different kinds of service but the same Lord..." They serve the one God the one Church.

Lets make a list like we do at Christmas, this Pentecost, of things we want from God. Let's put at the top of the list the things God wants to give us: Peace at home and abroad, forgiveness, knowledge of Christ, effective works of mercy, joy, hospitality, charity, and chastity to replace our greed and lust, a world in which all Christian virtue flourishes, a place safe for our children and elderly and watch God give us the world we want. Extracts from the writings of Rev. Peter A Healey

### Parish "Planned Thanksgiving"

Dear Parishioners, starting from the weekend of the 6th & 7th June, we will commence the Offertory Giving Campaign in our parish community which will run over the next three weeks. The call to generosity is God's invitation to us to deepen our faith and is a vital part of our identity as Christians. You are encouraged to prayerfully engage with this time. We look forward to growing deeper in our relationship with Christ through this process. **Together we grow to reflect the face of Christ**

### INVITATION!

Our Parish Thursday Scripture Reflection: Theme "Evangelising with Scripture" continues in the Foley Centre  
Time : 10.15am to 11.30am

### 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 orcall 480 5959

### TAX RECEIPTS 2025-2026

For those on our Planned Giving Programme please email the office if you would like your receipt for the 2025 to 2026 tax period sent to you.  
office@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz

### STUDY THEOLOGY AT UNIVERSITY OF OTAGO

Otago offers many opportunities for the study of Theology, Biblical studies, Church History, Ministry, Pastoral Theology (including Chaplaincy) and Māori/Pacific approaches to Christian Theology. Either on campus or across Aotearoa New Zealand through our distance study programme. Semester 2 starts 13 July. For details of papers go to <https://www.otago.ac.nz/thrology/study/papers/>  
To enrol go to <https://www.otago.ac.nz/stdy/enrolment/>  
To keep up-to-date like us on Facebook

### CAN YOU HELP DE PAUL HOUSE?

You can get some good bargains at The Warehouse or Briscoes! De Paul House needs your help to restock their 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

**PENTECOST THANK YOU!**  
Grateful thanks to all of those who came forward to pray in their mother tongue this weekend, making our celebrations special for the great feast of Pentecost, the birthday of the church!

### MASS INTENTION

Sat. 5.30pm Willy Barit RIP (3rd Anniv.)

### TAIZE PRAYER EVENING

Friday 12th June Mary MacKillop Chapel, 56 Selwyn Avenue, Mission Bay 7 to 8pm  
Light refreshments will be served after prayer

### YOUNG ADULTS GROUP 2026!

Meeting Sunday 07th June 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](mailto:gnastrun88@gmail.com)

### 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](mailto:Childrensformation@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz)

### NURTURE OUR FAITH' 2026

Next Faith Nurturing monthly evening is on Monday 25<sup>th</sup> May, 7-8.30pm, in the Foley Centre. This is an opportunity to reflect, nourish, and strengthen our Faith by delving deeper into the meaning of what we believe. The topic that we will explore is "Mary Mother of God".  
New registrations, please email [office@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz](mailto:office@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz).

### JOSHUA CATHOLIC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP

Join us for an evening of fellowship and praise and worship.  
Topic: *A Journey of Hope - Combating Pornography on the Internet*  
Presenter Fr Robert Steele, priest and author helping people find healing, freedom and hope in Christ. Venue St Thomas More Church Glenfield. Time 7pm - fellowship - 7.30pm - Praise & Worship followed by the talk. Enq.021 038 0196 or 021 100 3694

### 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!

### JUBILEE YEAR OF ST FRANCIS (1226 –2026)

Franciscan Friars Vocation Dinner. You are warmly invited to join the Franciscan Friars for an evening of prayer, fellowship and conversation, Wednesday 27th May 6pm (Mass and evening prayer followed by a shared meal) at the Franciscan Friary, Hillsborough Road, Mt Roskill. This gathering is a wonderful opportunity for single men aged 18 to 40 years to learn more about Franciscan Religious Life and to ask questions in a relaxed and welcoming environment. RSVP/Enquiries to Br. Philip Jeffares OFM 021 414 642 or Br Yornes Panggui OFM 022 525 993

### 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/](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/catholic-schools-2/)

### Please pray for

Maria ORNELAS, long time parishioner who returned home to God last Tuesday evening. Maria's Requiem will be celebrated at St Mary's 11.30am on Monday 25th May

### May she rest in peace

Please note: **THERE WILL BE NO LITURGY OF THE WORD THIS WEEK AT 9.15am due to Requiem at 11.30am**

### ST MARY'S KNIGHTS (Junior Youth Group)

Calling all parents of kids aged 8-12!

We have an exciting group for our younger youth called St Mary's Knights which takes place every fourth Sunday of the month between 6-8 pm in the parish hall which is adjacent to the church. **However during this month of May, St Mary's Knights meeting will take place on the 5th Friday 29th of May, because of the Rosmini/Carmel Social on 22nd.** This group allows children to learn and explore their faith and also make friends across schools in a safe environment. The group is lead by graduates or current senior students from Rosmini, Carmel and St Mary's Colleges. Feel free to message youth leader Francesca on 022 059 0852 if you would like to receive monthly updates/reminders. Updates are also provided on the St Mary's youth instagram page - @smy\_northcote - Save the date, see 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.

### 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 Our Lady Help of Christians

Reading I Peter 1: 3- 9 Ps. 111  
Gospel Mark 10:17-27

#### Tuesday St Philip Neri

Reading I Peter 1:10-16 Ps. 98  
Gospel Mark 10:28-31

#### Wednesday

Reading I Peter 1:18-25 Ps. 14  
Gospel Mark 10:32-45

#### Thursday

Reading I Peter 2: 2- 5, 9-12 Ps. 100  
Gospel Mark 10:46-52

#### Friday

Reading I Peter 4: 7-13 Ps. 96  
Gospel Mark 11:11-26

#### Saturday

Reading Jude 17:20-25 Ps. 63  
Gospel Mark 11:27-33

#### Holy Trinity

1st Reading Exodus 34: 4- 6,8- 9 Daniel 3:52-57  
2nd Reading II Corinthians 13:11-13  
Gospel John 3:16-18

### 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

**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.

**Youth Day Launch** on 7th June at Holy Family Korean Parish, Flatbush. Begins with Mass at 2.30pm, Bishop Steve Lowe celebrant. Priests are welcome to join this Mass with their parishes' Young Adult groups, there will be sessions and programmes after Mass.

**Billings Life NZ Seminar** a two day Natural Fertility Awareness seminar in Whanganui on June 19 & 20th. This event is designed for couples using or considering the Billings Ovulation Method, health professionals or others wanting to learn more about the method, and people interested in becoming accredited Billings teachers. More info and to register [www.billingslife.org.nz/training-seminar](http://www.billingslife.org.nz/training-seminar)

**World Youth Day Auckland 2026** 10am to 8.30pm Saturday 01st August at Victory Convention Centre. Join over 1,800 young Catholics at Victoria Convention Centre for World Youth Day Auckland 2026—a massive joy filled day of faith, community and WITNESS. Inspired by the scripture chosen for the 40th World Youth Day, "You also are my witnesses, because you have been with me" (Jn 15:27). This year's event is about fixing our gaze on Jesus and becoming courageous witnesses of Christ in our world. For more info and to register to go to: <https://events.humantix.com/world-youth-day-auckland-2026>.

**Calling all young Northcote parishioners 13 to 35 to join our parish group go to <https://forms.gle/KrgRMwaV6bDjzSo27>**  
**To register!**

### 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 years webinar series, "Take Courage! I have overcome the world" (John 16:33) For more info and to register [www.tekupenga.ac.nz/webinars-2026](http://www.tekupenga.ac.nz/webinars-2026)

### 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](mailto:dans@cda.org.nz) and/or check out our socials search [aucklandcatholic.org.nz](https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz)



"If you forgive anyone's sins, their sins are forgiven"  
John 20: 19-23

How can forgiveness become  
A witness of faith to others?

### CHURCH CLEANING

30 May Valdez Family  
05 June Hoa N  
**ALTAR LINEN** 24 May Fleur B  
31 May Eresha D

### PROLIFE FACTS

Right to Life is an active pro-life organisation that has been defending the right to life from conception to natural death since 1975. It challenges unjust laws those that endanger the unborn, the elderly, the disabled, and others whose lives are vulnerable. The organisation monitors government health and justice agencies through complaints, submissions, and Official Information Act requests, escalating matters to the Ombudsman when required. It has taken abortion-related cases to the Supreme Court to ensure government accountability. Right to Life also holds media to account, issues regular releases, educates the public, and has led national campaigns opposing the End of Life Choice Act 2019 and the Abortion Legislation Act 2020. It supports women, joins vigils and marches, and collaborates widely to protect human life.

**For pro-life info, visit [w.voiceforlife.org.nz](http://w.voiceforlife.org.nz).**