

14TH JUNE 2026
ELEVENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

REFLECTION

My dear brothers and sisters, Last Sunday, on the Solemnity of Corpus Christi, we launched our Parish Planned Thanksgiving programme. We reflected on the Eucharist and how Jesus gives Himself completely to us. We spoke about gratitude, stewardship, and our shared responsibility for the mission of our parish. Today, the Gospel brings us one step further. Saint Matthew tells us that when Jesus looked upon the crowds, "He was moved with compassion for them, because they were troubled and abandoned, like sheep without a shepherd." This is where it all begins: with the compassionate heart of Jesus. When Jesus sees people struggling, searching, hurting, or distant from God, He does not simply feel sorry for them. He does not stop on "feeling sorry". He acts! He sends His disciples. He entrusts His mission to ordinary people. Then He says: "The harvest is abundant but the labourers are few." These words are still true today as they were then.

There are people who need to hear the Gospel. There are families looking for hope. There are young people looking for meaning. There are elderly parishioners who need companionship. There are people who need prayer, encouragement, and practical support. There are people searching and yearning for a deeper relationship with God. And how does Jesus respond to those needs? He sends His disciples. He sends us. He sends you and I.

That is why our Planned Thanksgiving initiative is not simply about maintaining parish finances. It is about sustaining the mission of Christ in our parish. It is about ensuring that our parish can continue proclaiming the Gospel, celebrating the sacraments, forming our young people, caring for those in need, and welcoming people into the life of the Church. Every time someone is baptized (last Easter Vigil, we had more than 30 people baptized or received into the Church), every time a child prepares for First Holy Communion (last Sunday we had more than 40 children receiving their 1st Holy Communion), every time a family receives support in a difficult moment (your offerings of goods and food go to families in need in De Paul House), every time the Holy Eucharist is brought to the sick (we have a good number of Ministers of Communion bring Jesus to the home bound in their residences and in the six homes for the elderly in our parish), every time someone comes or returns to the faith, every time all these happens, the mission of Christ is being carried out among us. And that mission belongs to all of us because we belong to St Mary's, we are one parish community of St Mary's.

I know all of you contribute through prayer. Many through volunteering. Many through the different ministries. A good number through financial support. And most of us do a combination of these. Together, we become the labourers in the Lord's harvest. We respond to our vision, our motto: *together we grow to reflect the face of Christ*.

I would like to thank those who have already responded positively to our Planned Thanksgiving programme and those who have faithfully supported the parish for many years. I heard that some have already enrolled online. Your generosity helps make our mission possible. For those who are still reflecting, I encourage you to continue praying about it. truly part of the mission. **Contd../**

For some who might not have yet received our envelope, kindly collect it by the foyer or from the office during the week. Ask the Lord how He is inviting you to participate in the life and mission of our parish. Remember, the amount is not the most important thing. What matters is the spirit of gratitude and the desire to share in Christ's work, to be truly part of the mission.

In today's Gospel, Jesus sends His disciples with a simple instruction: "Without cost you have received; without cost you are to give." We have received so much from the Lord. Our faith, our families, our parish community, the sacraments, and countless blessings. Planned Thanksgiving is simply one way of responding to those gifts with grateful hearts. May we continue, together, to grow and reflect the face of Christ, serving His mission with generosity, faith, and joy.
Amen.

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

INVITATION!

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

BAPTISM PREPARATION COURSE

Next Course will be held on 07th & 08th July. 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

MASS INTENTIONS

Sun. 8.30am Monica Reid RIP (2nd Anniv.) daughter of Gabrielle and Nicholas Reid; Stanley Thomas RIP (Anni.) father of Beulah Bonugli

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

PARISH "PLANNED THANKSGIVING"

Please collect your envelopes after Mass or from the parish office during the week. When you have prayerfully considered your offering, please fill the pledge cards and drop them into the "Pledge Box" at the back of the church or in the donation basket in coming weeks. If you are ready to set up your pledge electronically, please scan the QR Code below or by the exit doors in church and follow the steps to set it up. You can visit our parish website to set up too by clicking [Ways to Give](#). If you need any assistance please reach out to the parish office.



ST MARY'S NORTHCOTE PARISH AUSTRALIA

Parish Registrations If you are a regular parishioner, it is important you register with us so we have you and your family recorded on our database. Easily done by visiting our website and click on [New Parishioners Registration](#)

FINANCE COMMITTEE

We congratulate and welcome our new Finance Committee as we Commission them today:
Markus KLOSE - Chair
Fr Lalith AMARASINGHE
Eddie ALESANA
Marina CASABUENA
Christopher KOE
Adrian MEYS

NURTURE OUR FAITH' 2026

Next Faith Nurturing monthly evening is on Monday 22nd June, 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 "The Lord's Prayer". To register, please email
office@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz.

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. Childrenformation@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz

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!



MARY'S PANTRY MID-WINTER FEAST FUNDRAISING DINNER JOIN US!

Friday 03rd July 6-11pm at St Mary's Parish Hall, an evening of food, fellowship and community spirit. Enjoy a great night out while supporting local families in need.

\$40 adults / \$20 children / Tables of 8 available— tickets
<https://events.humanitix.com/marys-pantry-mid-winter-feast>

We are also seeking raffle prize donations email:
hello@maryspantry.org.nz Can't attend?
You can still donate via the ticket link



TE KUPENGA CATHOLIC THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Is now accepting enrolments for the micro-credential on Management of Church Organisations. This is an online course over six weeks. Class starts on 20 July. For more information go to www.tekupenga.ac.nz/churchmanagement.

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 [aucklandcatholicchaplaincy](https://www.aucklandcatholicchaplaincy.org/).

ST JOSEPH'S GIFT SHOP - ALBANY VILLAGE

"Pope Leo XIV proclaimed **"The Year of St. Francis"** a special Jubilee Year running from 10th January 2026 until 10th January 2027. It commemorates the 800th anniversary of the saint's death (transitus). Inspired by this we have thoughtfully curated a collection of books, statues, crosses, and devotional items reflecting St Francis's message of humility, peace, and love for God and all creation. You can see in store or online.

JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP

Calling all parents with children aged 8-12!

Every fourth Sunday of the month from 6-8 pm we run a youth group in the Parish hall. There we discuss and learn about scripture - especially the gospels, we also focus on key events in the liturgical calendar and create our activities based on a particular theme each month. This month we'll be looking at St Josemaria Escriva and the gospel of Matthew. Please bring a plate of snacks to share if you are able. Save the date - Friday 26th June for our next gathering! Contact youth leader Francesca on 022 059 0852 if you have any questions.

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	I Kings	21: 1-16	Ps. 5
Gospel	Matthew	5:38-42	
Tuesday			
Reading	I Kings	21:17-29	Ps. 51
Gospel	Matthew	5:43-48	
Wednesday			
Reading	II Kings	2: 1, 6-14	Ps. 31
Gospel	Matthew	6: 1- 6,16-18	
Thursday			
Reading	Ecclus.	48: 1-14	Ps. 97
Gospel	Matthew	6: 7-15	
Friday			
Reading	II Kings	11: 1- 4,9-18,20	Ps. 132
Gospel	Matthew	6:19-23	
Saturday			
Reading	II Chronicles	24:17-25	Ps. 89
Gospel	Matthew	6:24-34	
12TH WEEK ORDINARY TIME			
1st Reading	Jeremiah	20:10-13	Ps. 69
2nd Reading	Romans	5:12-15	
Gospel	Matthew	10:26-33	

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

Canon Law in Practice Webinar Series, Msgr. Brendan Daly will be leading a 3 part webinar series during June. The series will focus on practical case handling, documentation, and rights-focused safeguarding. This series could be of interest to those involved in pastoral and safeguarding ministry. Session 3 17 June 7pm register [Spc-va-zom.us/webinar/register/WN_u7jEoiAQMKz5zcabJF7DQ](https://spc-va-zom.us/webinar/register/WN_u7jEoiAQMKz5zcabJF7DQ)

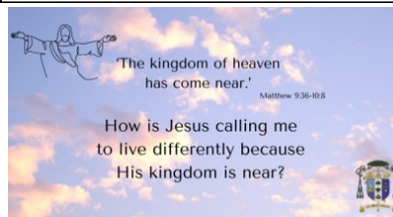
Marriage Preparation Programme The Catholic Diocese of Auckland are looking for volunteers to facilitate the Marriage Preparation Programme. Training starting soon, if you have been married for 5 years plus and feel drawn to helping engaged couples please call Gerry on 021 0224 7442
Alpha in a Catholic Context is presenting a series locally on "Why Alpha in our parishes", how it will help and how it will generate vibrancy in our parishes. All are welcome to attend any one or more. Sessions start 17th June through to 16th September, see notice board for details. Please Register Training Zoom for Alpha in a Catholic Context - Fill out form or more info [Clare Bell Claire@alpha.org.nz](mailto:ClareBellClaire@alpha.org.nz) or stephenf@cda.org.nz

University Ministry Assistant-Catholic Diocese of Auckland Are you looking for a meaningful role where you can make a meaningful impact in the lives of tertiary students? We're looking for someone to become our part-time University Ministry Assistant, supporting ministry to tertiary students across six campuses. You'll help to deliver events, support student leaders, and expand the vibrant Catholic communities on campuses across the Auckland Diocese. More info. Visit www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/
Auckland Inter-Faith Council is pleased to announce our next AIFC Anniversary Monday 15th June 7 to 9pm. Dr Melissa Derby is the Keynote Speaker. To register www.cdh.org.nz/events

World Youth Day Auckland 2026 10am to 8.30pm **Saturday 01st August** at Victoria 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.humanitix.com/world-youth-day-auckland-2026>.

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



The kingdom of heaven has come near
Matthew 9:36:10:8

How is Jesus calling me to live differently because His kingdom is near?



CHURCH CLEANING
20 June Upton Family
27 June Mailia & Tofu O
ALTAR LINEN
14 June Prisca T
21 June Birgitte R

PROLIFE FACTS

In the times of the Roman Empire, slaves were considered property to be used or discarded. Similarly, infants who were unwanted, inconvenient, or born with disabilities could be abandoned or killed. In contrast, early Christians held that every human being was made in the image of God and possessed intrinsic, unearned dignity. Therefore, they rescued abandoned infants and raised them as their own. To many Romans, this was bizarre, even foolish. But as the Christian community grew, their influence grew, and cultural norms were gradually transformed. This is an early example of a wider truth that inspires the pro-life movement today: when a society recognises the inherent value of every human life, it can become more humane, more just, and more compassionate
For pro-life info, visit w.voiceforlife.org.nz.