

21st JUNE 2026
TWELFTH IN ORDINARY TIME

REFLECTION

Not only do we have a biological DNA, but there is also a *spiritual* DNA that we received from our first parents that has caused us a great deal of anxiety as long as human beings have been inhabiting this planet. The inheritance we have received explains a lot about the often-unpleasant conditions that we live in. Sickness, war, violence, poverty, temptations, death, all have a common denominator, and that denominator is found in our spiritual DNA. Original Sin.

In the second reading we heard this morning from the Letter to the Romans, St Paul tells us about this defective gene of ours. He reminds us that through one man sin entered the world, and through sin death, and between sin and death a whole host of other abnormalities have crept into our lives, abnormalities that led the Prophet Jeremiah to call on God to protect his life from the power of the wicked who were trying to entrap him, abnormalities that led Our Lord to encourage His disciples to *not be afraid of those who can kill the body*.

But all of these abnormalities of life - violence, disease, death - are actually antithetical to God's original plan for us. Our great ancestors, Adam and Eve, were created by God as perfectly complete human persons living in paradise with God, walking and talking with Him as if He were an intimate friend. Everything was going just fine for our first parents until those two fateful moments when Eve and then Adam decided that they no longer wanted to live in perfect communion with God, rather, they decided to *be* God, and so they ate of the fruit of the tree that God specifically told them not to partake of. As such, their eyes were opened, and they recognised that they were naked and were, for the very first time, ashamed. It is because of this Original Sin that sin and death entered the world, and as we are interconnected beings, the sin of the first two persons has been transmitted to us, their posterity. So basically, we have a problem with some of or spiritual DNA, specifically the sin we have inherited from our first parents.

But fortunately for us, there is another inheritance that we received: the redemption wrought for us by Our Lord, Jesus Christ. One of the greatest consolations that we receive from our Faith is knowing that we are worth so much to our God, that He looks past our failings, looks past our spiritual deformities, and gives us a second chance at life. There is nothing we can do, no sin that we can commit, that God is not willing to forgive if we only come before Him in humility and acknowledge His Son before others.

God walked on this earth and breathed its air.

All of us belong to the church because we love God and want to do His will. To do this we must accept that we receive many crosses and should carry these crosses with patience and hope, trusting that the One who carried His Cross will be there to guide us in whatever trials may come or have come our way. Our biological DNA is not perfect, nor is our spiritual DNA, but what is perfect is the God who made both. God knows the number of hairs we have on our head, what it is like to live in an imperfect world. A God who never gives up on His creation.

Extracts from the writings of Fr Ryan Ruiz & Fr Nicholas Colalella

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP

Meet on the first Sunday of the month. Next meeting Sunday 05th July 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: gnasrun88@gmail.com

INVITATION!

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

JOSHUA FELLOWSHIP FOR MEN

Wed. 24 June at St Thomas More Church 7pm Fellowship 7.30pm Praise & Worship Topic: The Joy of the Gospel *Evangelii Gaudium*. All men warmly invited. More info. Tet-Woo 021 0380 196 or Dominic 021 1003 694

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

MASS INTENTIONS

Sun. 8.30am Owen Franklin RIP (father of Steve, Angela and the late Pat); **10.30am** Maria Ornelas RIP **Wed. 9.15am** for a speedy and full recovery for Amalia.

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@stmarnorthcote.org.nz

TRANSFORMING CHRISTIAN-MUSLIM DIALOGUE

With Fr Joseph Victor Edwin SJ Mo, 20th July 7-8pm ZOOM www.studyoy.nz/2026/05/22/transforming-christian-muslim-dialogue

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 letters 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 AUCKLAND

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 who were Commissioned last weekend: Markus KLOSE - Chair Fr Lalith AMARASINGHE Eddie ALESANA Marina CASABUENA Christopher KOE Adrian MEYS

NURTURE OUR FAITH' 2026

Next Faith Nurturing monthly evening is tomorrow 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@stmarnorthcote.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@stmarnorthcote.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



WINGS.NGA PARIUA

Ponder and pray-Encyclical Letter-Magnifica Humanitas of His Holiness Pope Leo XIV on Safeguarding the Human Person in the Time of Artificial Intelligence. Join us to read and reflect on Pope Leo's own words together on ZOOM. **Wednesdays 8th, 15th, 22nd & 29th July 7 to 7.30pm.** Ponder and pray. For the ZOOM link or further information contact Dianna Fouhy diannaf@cda.org.nz

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.

STARLIGHT 2026 SATURDAY 26TH JULY 7.00PM

VENUE TINDALL AUDITORIUM, ROSMINI COLLEGE, 36 DOMINION ROAD

Facebook @starlighttalentshowcase

Email: starlight.nstalent@gmail.com

JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP

Calling all parents with children aged 8-12!

THIS FRIDAY (26th June) is our next St Mary's Knights gathering! This Youth Group takes place every fourth Friday of the month from 6 to 8pm 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 Friday we will be looking at St Josemaria Escriva and the Gospel of Matthew. Please bring a plate of snacks to share if you are able. Contact 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 M, Mary G, Cath S, Anne J, Pat C

DAILY READINGS

Monday				
Reading	II Kings	17: 5- 8,13-15,18	Ps.	5
Gospel	Matthew	7: 1- 5		
Tuesday				
Reading	II Kings	19: 9-11,14-21,31-36	Ps.	48
Gospel	Matthew	7: 6,12-14		
Wednesday Birth of St John the Baptist				
1st Reading	Isaiah	49: 1- 6	Ps.	139
2nd Reading	Acts	13:22-26		
Gospel	Luke	1:57-66,80		
Thursday				
Reading	II Kings	24: 8-17	Ps.	79
Gospel	Matthew	7:21-29		
Friday				
Reading	II Kings	25: 1-12	Ps.	137
Gospel	Matthew	8: 1- 4		
Saturday				
Reading	Lamentations	2: 2,10-14,18-19	Ps.	74
Gospel	Matthew	8: 5-17		
13TH WEEK ORDINARY TIME				
1st Reading	II Kings	4: 8-11,14-16	Ps.	89
2nd Reading	Romans	6: 3- 4, 8-11		
Gospel	Matthew	10:37-42		

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

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 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/ **World Youth Day Auckland 2026** 10am to 8.30pm **Saturday 01st August** at Victory Convention Centre. Join over 1,800 young Catholics at Victory 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>.

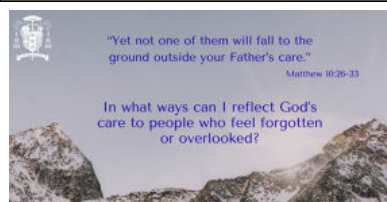
Calling all young Northcote parishioners 13 to 35 to join our parish group register here <https://forms.gle/KrqRMwaV6bDjzSo27>

Marriage and Family Life invite and welcome all whanau with babies and children 0 to 5 years to a newly established Catholic Coffee Group, **starting Sat. 4th July** 11am to noon at Sacred Heart Church Hall, 16 Vermont Street, Ponsonby. Lots of parking for more info call Gerry on 021 0224 7442.

Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College now accepting enrolments for Micro-credential on Management of Church Organisations. online course for 6 weeks. Classes start 20 July more info. www.tekupenga.ac.nz/churchmanagement

WYD 2027 WEBINARS

Will have it's 3rd session on WYD 2027 webinar series on July 7, 5-6pm via ZOOM in this session, Hope rooted in the Resurrection of Christ, the youth are Called to Grow in Hope. Prof. Renee Kohler-Ryan will inspire our rangatahi to live as witnesses of hope in today's world. For more info, go to www.tekupenga.ac.nz/webinars-2026



"Yet not one of them will fall to the ground outside your Father's care." Matthew 10:26-33

In what ways can I reflect God's care to people who feel forgotten or overlooked?

CHURCH CLEANING

27 June Mailia & Tofu O

04 July Nissa T

ALTAR LINEN

21 June Birgitte R

28 June Jan S.

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/thology/study/papers/> To enrol go to <https://www.otago.ac.nz/stdy/enrolment/> To keep up-to-date like us on Facebook

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.