

28th JUNE 2026
THIRTEENTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

REFLECTION

A key detail in the realm of hospitality is that of making room for another, whether in the home, at the table, or in conversation. If one is hospitable, then one "makes room". Indeed there is no clearer sign of being *unwelcome* than to have no space to maneuver in the company of others or no place to really call our own in the midst of community. Our readings especially the first reading and the Gospel, point to the important notion of hospitality - of being welcome in the home of another. In the reading of II Kings we hear of a woman and her husband who prepare a room in their home for the Prophet Elisha. Elisha is somewhat nomadic, moving throughout the region in order to call the people of Israel to fidelity to the Lord God. He does not have the luxury of time to remain in one place for long, for his mission is too urgent.

Even though the number of times Elisha will actually stay with this particular couple will be relatively few and far between, this does not prevent them from making sure that the room will always be ready for Elisha whenever he arrives, despite the fact that he is not a direct member of their family. The hospitality offered by this couple to Elisha foreshadows the message that Our Lord gives in today's Gospel. Speaking to the Apostles, in which He is preparing them for their prophetic mission, Christ reminds His chosen band that *"Whoever receives you will receive Me, and whoever received Me receives the One who sent Me."* And then, perhaps calling to mind this couple who received the Prophet Elisha, Our Lord outlines what it truly means to be a Christian: *"Whoever receives a prophet because he is a prophet will receive a prophet's reward, and whoever receives a righteous man because he is a righteous man will receive a righteous man's reward."*

Here, Our Lord gives us a greater sense of what truly binds us together as a people. Certainly there is never a moment in our lives when we are not called to love our neighbour, regardless of whether our neighbour loves us. However, here we get a sense that the ideal form of love is for our neighbour to call us to a deeper level of commitment to God, and that we, in turn, open up all that we have to our neighbour because we know that we belong to the same household as him, the household of God. In the given reality of our lives, it might be difficult to be completely hospitable to those around us, whether a neighbour or a prophet. The world in which we live is one in which it feels that dangers lurk on every side, or, at least, one in which we have to keep our guard up. And while there is certainly a need to maintain a healthy application of the virtue of prudence in all we do, we cannot fail to live out the queen of all the virtues - the virtue of charity, the true mark of the Christian. Let us, then, strive to continue to support one another as we, individually and as a church, aim to make room for those who belong to our household - the household of God - which shows no impartiality or limits. Extracts from the writings of Fr Ryan Ruiz & Fr Nicholas Colalella

INVITATION!

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

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

MONDAY 29TH JUNE

THE FEAST OF STS PETER & PAUL

Tomorrow, as it is the feast day of St. Peter & St Paul and a Solemnity we will have Mass at 9.15am rather than the usual Monday Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion.

NEW WEEKEND ROSTERS

From July through to end of October, have been emailed to you this week, together with a swap list for your ministry. We have tried to cover all known/advised unavailable personnel requests. Please note, it is *your responsibility* to make a swap if you need to on a day you are rostered. If for some reason you have not yet received your roster please contact the office with your current monitored email address. office@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz

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, July 06th, 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

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

PARISH "PLANNED THANKSGIVING"

Please return your pledge cards into the "Pledge Box" at the back of the church. After filling in your pledge cards, if you are ready to set up your pledge electronically, please scan the QR Code below and follow the steps to set up.



ST MARY'S NORTH COTE OF FAIRFAX AUCKLAND

You can also visit our parish website for more information by clicking [Ways to Give](#)

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

For those who are using the envelopes and wish to continue to do so or those new people who have opted to use envelopes please collect them from them from the parish office.

If you need any assistance please contact the parish office, we are happy to help!

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

Please pray for:

All families struggling to cope with illness or conflict at this time.

ALTAR SERVER TRAINING

We are looking to train new Altar Servers, for all Masses but especially for the **5.30pm Vigil Saturday and 5.00pm Sunday Masses.** Training will be at **3.30pm on Thursday 30th July** in the church, so if you have been Confirmed and made your 1st Holy Communion recently and would like to join the ministry this is for YOU please check with your parents and ask them to register by emailing the office at office@stmarysnorthcote.org.nz If you are a current Server and would like a refresher you are welcome to also attend this session.

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



STARLIGHT 2026 SATURDAY 25TH JULY 7.00PM

VENUE TINDALL AUDITORIUM, ROSMINI COLLEGE, 36 DOMINION ROAD

Facebook @starlighttalentshowcase

Email: starlight.nstalent@gmail.com

ST MARY'S KNIGHTS (JUNIOR YOUTH GROUP AGES 8-12 YEARS)

Meets every 4th Friday of the month from 6 to 8pm in the parish hall. We discuss scripture, learn about significant people in the church and in the bible as well as focusing on key events in the liturgical calendar. Allow your children to learn and grow in their faith as well as have fun and make friends from other schools and year levels. Next gathering

Friday 24th July.

ST MARY'S YOUTH GROUP (AGES 13 TO 17 YEARS)

St Mary's welcomes youth aged 13-17 years to our youth group! Our youth Masses are every 3rd Sunday of the month at 5pm followed by our youth group session from 6 to 8pm in the parish hall. Come along for prayer, games and fellowship. We hope to see you at our next gathering on **Sunday 19th July.**

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP (AGES 18 TO 35 YEARS)

This group meets every 1st Sunday of the month after the 5.00pm Mass in the Foley Centre. Come along and meet other young adults in the parish for fellowship and to journey alongside one another in our Catholic faith. next meeting **Sunday 5th July.** Enquires Email: gnasrun88@gmail.com

MASS INTENTIONS

Sun. 5.00pm Dadu Balay RIP (11th Anniv) mother & mother-in-law of Usher & Mike Upperton; & for safe & successful surgery for Angelina Navarro on Monday; **Tues. 9.15am** Fr Tajo RIP (Anniv.)

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,

DAILY READINGS

Monday Sts Peter & Paul

1st Reading	Acts	12: 1-11	Ps.	34
2nd Reading	II Timothy	4: 6- 8,17-18		
Gospel	Matthew	16:13-19		

Tuesday

Reading	Amos	3: 1- 8,4:11-12	Ps.	5
Gospel	Matthew	8:23-27		

Wednesday

Reading	Amos	5:14-15,21-24	Ps.	50
Gospel	Matthew	8:28-34		

Thursday

Reading	Amos	7:10-17	Ps.	19B
Gospel	Matthew	9: 1- 8		

Friday St Thomas, Apostle

Reading	Ephesians	2:19-22	Ps.	117
Gospel	John	20:24-29		

Saturday

Reading	Amos	9:11-15	Ps.	85
Gospel	Matthew	9:14-17		

14TH WEEK ORDINARY TIME

1st Reading	Zechariah	9: 9-10	Ps.	89
2nd Reading	Romans	8: 9,11-13		
Gospel	Matthew	11:25-30		

NOTICES FROM THE DIOCESE

Clergy Jubilee Mass Parishioners are invited to join the priests for the Clergy Jubilee Mass on Tuesday 30th June at 11am in Christ the King Parish, Owairaka.

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>.

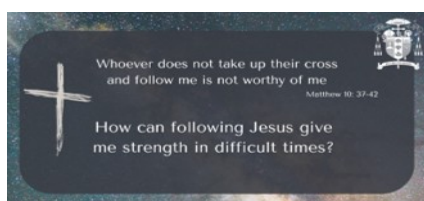
Calling all young Northcote parishioners 13 to 35 to join our parish group register here <https://forms.gle/KrgRMwaV6bDjzSo27>

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 in 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



Whoever does not take up their cross and follow Me is not worthy of Me. Matthew 10: 37-42

How can following Jesus give me strength in difficult times?

CHURCH CLEANING

04 July Nissa T
11 July Butler family
ALTAR LINEN
28 June Jan S.
5th July 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.