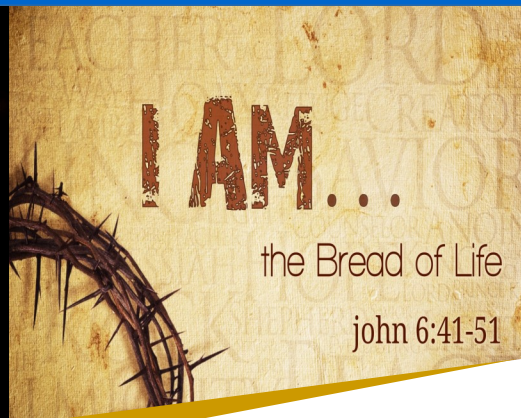
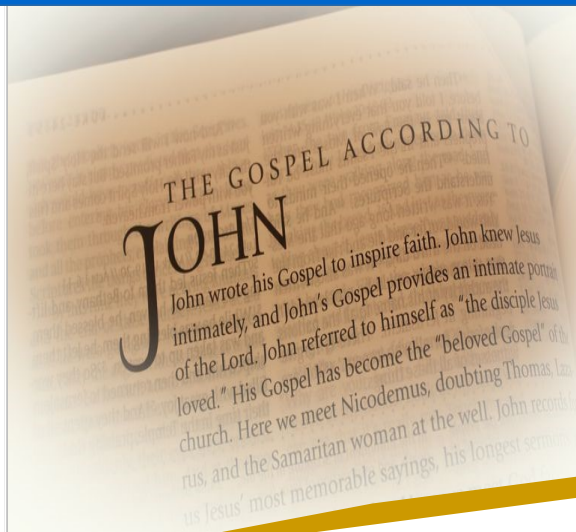


St Francis of Assisi

CATHOLIC CHURCH, THAMES

19TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

12 AUGUST 2018



1st Reading:

KINGS 19: 4-8

Strengthened by the food, he walked to the mountain of the Lord.

EPHESIANS 4: 30-5:2

Walk in love, just as Christ.

JOHN 6: 41-51

I am the living bread come down from heaven.

Tate and see the goodness of the Lord.

Ps 33

We continue the Eucharistic meditation from John's gospel. Last week Jesus called his audience to be open to the gift of faith that will enable them to appreciate the Eucharistic mystery. In today's reading he explains further what this faith implies. Understanding that this passage is a meditative recollection of what Jesus had done for us, we are able to share in the outlook of the community in which this gospel was written. This passage echoes many of the themes that were fundamental to the faith of that community. John's gospel begins with a declaration of faith in the Incarnation: 'The Word became flesh'. This momentous truth is constantly reaffirmed in the writings of this community. Jesus is confronted, in our passage, by the complaints of those who find it hard to accept: 'Come down from heaven! This is Jesus the son of Joseph'. The faith to which Jesus calls us, however, is not an embarrassing burden. It is a blessing that comes to us from the depths of the divine generosity and freedom - we are 'drawn by the Father', setting out on a journey which leads to 'eternal life' in God. The Father and the Son share in all things, and so he declares that faith is also his gift, a gift that will be ours when we 'come to him' - we must live in his company as his first disciples did. For Christian faith, Jesus is the revelation of the Father - he has truly 'come from God', and 'has seen the Father' - an echo of the memorable words of the gospel's

opening: 'it is the only son who is close to the Father's heart who had made him known'. The teaching is like a commentary on his words at the Supper: 'Eternal life is this: to know you [Father], the only true God, and Jesus Christ whom you have sent'. Those who live by the faith Jesus is offering share in the divine wisdom itself; they 'hear the teaching of the Father and learn from it'. ('Knowledge' in the Scriptures, and in the outlook of the community of John's gospel, has a rich and profound meaning; it is personal and life-giving, far more than the gaining of information.) Referring to the manna - symbol of God's caring for the people of the Exodus - Jesus reminds his listeners that the time of foreshadowing has ended. (Our first reading mirrors this theme - in the strength of heavenly food, the prophet walks for forty days until he reaches 'Horeb, the mountain of God' - another name for Sinai where the old covenant was given.) The faith Jesus offers recognises that all the promises that sustained Israel's faith are being fulfilled: 'I AM the living bread come down from heaven'.

Fr. John Thornhill sm



WELCOME VISITORS, to St Francis of Assisi, Thames. Whether you are here for the first time or visit periodically you are most welcome. Please join us in the Parish Centre for morning tea after Mass.



"A cheerful face and eyes full of joy; these are the signs that we're following this path of all and nothing, of fullness emptied out." *Pope Francis Homily April 9, 2018*



'Living the Splendour of Truth' International pro-life, pro-family conference: This amazing weekend conference will help you, your family and our entire culture rediscover the newness of the faith and its power to enlighten and transform our communities. This is also once in a lifetime opportunity to meet the daughter of St Gianna Beretta Molla – the daughter she gave her life for. Experience beautiful liturgies, pray and learn how we can live of Christ and allow Him to encounter our culture– a culture that is in desperate need of His Love and Mercy. 5-7th October. Epsom Girl's Grammar School. Early bird rates apply only for a short time. Register now at www.fli.org.nz/prolifeconference2018 or phone 09 629 4361.

LIFEFEEST 2018: Attention **young people and youth groups!** A one day hands-on event providing young people, 13 to 19 years, with important tools to build a new culture of life into the future! Amazing overseas speakers. Formation-Food-Prayer-Prizes. An October holiday day well worth the \$20! Sponsorships available. **Thursday 4th OCTOBER: 9 am to 9 pm** . Epsom Girls' Grammar School, Auckland. ALSO: **cheap accommodation** available for those travelling a distance for the nights of the 3rd and 4th Oct. For more info or to book the accommodation email: clare.fli@xtra.co.nz txt: 021 2317954 ph: 04 2378343 or Michael on 021 825 955.

Sunday Evening Series with Fr. Linus Clovis: Fr Linus Clovis, will be continuing his series of talks on "The Natural Law and the Family: rediscovering the writing on our hearts" for the next three Sundays (12th, 19th and 26th August) at the Bugler Centre beside the Church at Holy Family Parish, 94 Taikata Rd Te Atatu Peninsula at 7pm. All welcome. For more information call Michael on 021 825 955.



JOURNEY IN FAITH COURSE

Every year we gather a group of people who want to enter more deeply into the faith of the church. This group is made up of:

- people who have never been baptised;
- people who were baptised but have been "resting" from their faith;
- people who practice their faith but have never been Confirmed;
- people who were baptised in another Christian Community but now want to practice their faith in the Community of the Catholic Church

We will be starting this course again soon and if you are interested in joining this group, then please contact any of the following:

Sister Paula 021 206 8062

or Olivia 021 083 25403 or Murray 027 439 8787



Feast days coming up...15th August
The Feast of the Assumption is a day of Holy obligation



12-hour prayer vigil for our nation and our community, held on the

last Friday of each month, 10am – 10pm at (new location) ELIM CHURCH by the wharf

ALL WELCOME

Any enquiries phone 02102231805

Prayer Vigil



PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT

Can you help continue the tradition of giving?

Last weeks collection

Loose \$163

Pledge \$535

TOTAL \$698



RC Bishop of Auckland Parish Account Thames
02—0100—0120990 — 008

PLEASE NOTE: WE ONLY HAVE ONE COLLECTION

Have you considered giving your gift to the Parish through **Auto Payment?**

This is a way to show a strong commitment to your Parish. AP's continually support even when you are away on holiday.



St Francis School News

CONGRATULATIONS TO

Hattie Alsbury
Toni Davis
Stella Hair
Bridgette Marshall
Harriet Marshall
Franklin Marshall
Ian Franklyn
Rose Thomsen
Takalia Turner
Annabelle Hutchinson-Wong



Receiving First Eucharist and Confirmation today.

Please pray for our school as they prepare for the ERO (Education Review Office) visit commencing on the 20th August



Volunteers required to assist with:



- ⇒ Hearing reading & key words
- ⇒ Other reading support

SITUATIONS VACANT

St Francis School Caretaker

Our St Francis School requires a caretaker to undertake 2 hours of work per week on the following activities:

- Garden maintenance - weeding, pruning, spraying as required
- Building maintenance - minor repairs, minor painting, minor cleaning works
- Grounds maintenance - weed control, spraying as required, other works as directed.

This would suit a person with a good range of maintenance skills. Note: this does not involve classroom cleaning as this activity is undertaken by another contractor. This role is a paid position based on \$16.50 per hour. The work is normally undertaken after school hours. Please note that the successful applicant may be required to undergo a Police Verification prior to employment commencing.

If you have the necessary skills to undertake this role, please contact our School Principal Geraldine Sumner

principal@stfrancis-thames.school.nz

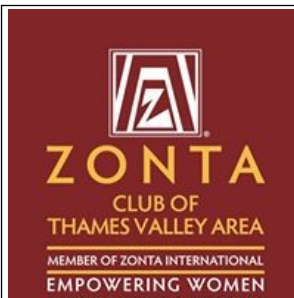
Welcome back Fr Vally!

Pictured below saying good bye to his family at the airport in India



Thames Book-a-rama

The Zonta Club of Thames Valley is collecting books for its annual Book-a-rama fundraiser on Friday 31st August and Saturday 1st September in Thames.



If you have books, CDs, DVDs or jigsaws you'd like to donate, the club will gratefully accept them. Details are as follows:

Thames drop off:

- Wintec in Thames between the hours of 9am – 3pm or at the
- ANZ Bank on Pollen St .

The contact for Thames is Chris Hovell on 021 514 674

Funds raised at Book-a-rama will be used to support initiatives such as the local education fund for women over 25 years.

REVERENDFUN.COM COPYRIGHT BIBLE GATEWAY



OOH, DO THAT BISHOP THING WHERE YOU MOVE DIAGONALLY

IN THE MAIL THIS WEEK

LifeFest 2018: 4th October 2018. Family Life International's wonderful youth event LifeFest will run again this October School Holiday and will be held at Epsom Girl's Grammar School on October 4th. Please make sure you register if you are aged between 13 and 18 for a full day of fun, food and prayer. Bring your entire youth group and all of your friends and meet the daughter of canonized saint, Saint Gianna Beretta Molla! She is also called Gianna and is a doctor, Dr. Gianna Emanuela Molla from Italy. LifeFest will be the youth event of 2018. Don't miss out. Just \$20 per person (sponsorships available). Please visit www.fli.org.nz/prolifeconference2018 for more information or ring Michael on 021 825 955.

"Full, Conscious and Active." A workshop presented by the Auckland Diocesan Liturgy Centre. **Saturday August 25th, 10 am – 12,** (cup of tea 9.30) **St Mary's Papakura.**

WEEKLY CHURCH ROSTERS

Readers

12 AUG Michelle Sim Barbara Hennessy
19 AUG Grace Visser Margaret Mabey

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS of the EUCHARIST & SACRISTANS

12 AUG Yolanda Kirkbeck Olivia Pharaoh
19 AUG Jenny Cooper Frank Schnuriger

PRIEST'S ASSISTANT

12 AUG Margie Humphries
19 AUG Geraldine Sumner

GIFTS

12 AUG Pauline Jenkinson and Yolanda Kirkbeck
19 AUG Lois Wright and Sheila Jones

MUSIC

12 AUG Team Pharaoh
19 AUG Team Hamilton

MORNING TEA

12 AUG Team Liturgy
19 AUG Team Leadership

CHURCH CLEANING

AUG WK 1 Jenny Cooper / David Cooper /
Eileen Henderson
AUG WK 3 Indian Group

FLOWERS

AUG Mary Dixon Pat Feliciano
SEPT

This workshop is intended for; those who participate in the liturgy, those with an interest in liturgy, Liturgy Committees, Parish Councils, musicians etc. The workshop will explore; the Liturgy as a means of our transformation, participation and what it requires of us, and unity within the backdrop of an individualistic culture. To register, email tinac@cda.org.nz or phone 093603061.

Society of Mary Priests & Brothers: Communities of men committed to lives of prayer and service, disciples of Jesus inspired by the example of His mother Mary, sharing the mission of the Church locally and internationally. If you know someone who might consider life as a Marist priest or brother, there is an information and prayer weekend on 24-26 August. Information at www.maristseminary.org.nz or facebook.com/marists or email Fr Pat Breeze SM on vocations@smnz.org.nz.

MAX18NZ – a National Catholic Event for Men, 28-30 September 2018, Kings College, Auckland. Great line up of international speakers, single room accommodation, excellent food, not to be missed. Details available at www.max18nz.info or by email enquiry@max18nz.info or phone Jim Gribble on 027 249 5378

Pope Francis has invited young people from around the world to gather with him in Panama in January 2019. Our young people have been planning, saving and fundraising for months. Last week we found out that the deposit due 31 August has increased from \$1,000 to \$4,000. That's a big difference for a young person! Can you help them by chipping in with a contribution to this urgently needed deposit? To donate go to: www.akyouth.org.nz.

CALENDAR

AUGUST

Tues 14th	9:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Wed 15th	9:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Thurs 16th	9:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Fri 17th	12:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Sat 18th	9:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Sun 19th	8:30am Mass in the Church

SEPTEMBER

Sun 11th	After Mass—AGM/Goal Setting
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PARISH INFORMATION

Fr Valarian D'Souza— Parish Priest

Email: dsouzavally@gmail.com

Fr Albert Pandu—Assistant Priest

Email: alberts.pandu@gmail.com

Friary

111 Baillie Street, Thames 3500

Ph. 868 6169

Pastoral Care

Sister Paula Cronin

2/103 Clarence Street, Thames 3500

Ph 868 6310 Mobile: 021 206 8062

Email: sisterp3@outlook.com

Parish Office

111 Baillie Street, Thames 3500

Robyn Smith (Administrator)

Ph. 868 9407 Mobile: 027 291 5165

Email: stfrancisthames@xtra.co.nz

www.coromandelcatholic.org.nz

St. Francis School

Principal: Geraldine Sumner

Ph. 868 7655

Parish Leadership Team

Margaret Mabey Ph. 868 9818

margmabey@xtra.co.nz

Ministry to the Sick/Elderly

Olivia Pharaoh (Coordinator) Ph 021 08325403

Catholic Women's League'

Lois Wright Ph 868 6600

1st Thursday of the month at Parish Centre

LITURGICAL TIMES

Sunday Mass

8.30 am

Tuesday—Thursday & Saturday Mass

9.15 am

Thursday

9.15am. Mass, Exposition, Benediction & Reconciliation.

Friday

12.15pm

Reconciliation

During Exposition, Thursdays
Saturdays after 9.15 am Mass.