



St Francis of Assisi

CATHOLIC CHURCH, THAMES

22ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

2 SEPTEMBER 2018

Then Jesus called to the crowd to come and hear.
"All of you listen," he said, "and try to understand."

You are not defiled by what you eat;
you are defiled by what you
say and do.

1st Reading:

DEUTERONOMY 4: 1-2, 6-8

You may add nothing to the world which I speak to you—keep the commands of the Lord.

JAMES 1:17-18, 21-22, 27

Be doers of the word.

MARK 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

You forget the commandments of God and hold on to human tradition.

Right and Rites

Now a days people ask a lot of questions about proper way of doing things in the Liturgy. Shall we kneel, or do we stand in the prayers after the consecration? Do we open our hands in the position of *Orans* (pleasing) during the *Pater Noster* (Lord's prayer). Do we turn around and shake hands of people near us during the sign of peace? Can couples kiss during the sign of peace? Etc. First let us keep in mind that there are rubrics, or red-letter instructions that govern the proper celebration of the Public Rites (Liturgy) of the Church. The Church also can perfectly prescribe these because the Liturgy is signs and symbols—everything that we say or do have corresponding meanings. Also, a degree of uniformity is good to express our oneness—our Catholicity that is shared everywhere, across boundaries of language and culture. On another point, prescriptions can help us avoid abuses and excesses in the liturgy.

Clearly though, our Gospel reading on Jesus' commentary about the ways of the scribes and Pharisees and about the casuistry that they have created in their lifestyle, reminds us that we should not

reduce faith and religion to externalizations. God is interested in our hearts, in our thoughts, in what it is that we lift up with sincerity. Being too absorbed in externalities and forgetting the value of spontaneity is another form of fundamentalism.

Fundamentalism at all levels is dangerous. It destroys true thought and freedom. It distorts faith and religion into mere sets of observances and 'dos and don'ts.' God is placed in a box, and even His responses are made to look like the operation of a vending machine.

Shall we do right things not as the rituals but to enhance life within us and in others? God bless us all. *Fr Vally*

Bible

in a...



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.



"Looking ahead to the future, no effort must be spared to create a culture able to prevent such (abuse) situations from happening, but also to prevent the possibility of their being covered up and perpetuated," Pope Francis stated. He said the words of St. Paul, that "'If one member suffers, all suffer together with it'... forcefully echo" in his heart.

(Aug 20, 2018)

Let us pray together in repentance for the suffering caused.



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



29 August 2018

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

Re: Cathedral Annual Appeal – 8-9 September 2018

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

It is Annual Appeal time for our Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph. As you know, I am very grateful to those of you who give so generously and have done so in previous years. It is also an opportunity for us to remember with gratitude our sacred treasure; this precious taonga we have in our Diocese and City.

For some 175 years, the Cathedral has been "home" to all Catholics in the Diocese of Auckland – a treasury of our Catholic heritage and history in Auckland and New Zealand. The Cathedral is also a haven for people of other faiths who visit frequently, along with the many visitors and overseas tourists who come to Auckland and find our Cathedral to be a place of quiet and worship for them while they are travelling. It is for them, and us, a place of peaceful beauty and hospitality with its reflective prayerfulness and welcoming presence.

Maintaining the Cathedral in pristine condition requires ongoing care, attention and considerable funding. Each year, close to \$100,000 needs to be found to keep up with the long-term maintenance of the church, over and above the day-to-day maintenance costs. This year has seen the exterior of the Cathedral repainted and as a result it is in pristine condition for all to enjoy.

It is my hope that the Cathedral will continue to be a 'House of God', an 'Icon of Christ', a 'Place of Prayer', an 'Oasis of Peace' and the 'Mother Church of the Diocese'. From a well-maintained, prayerful Cathedral, we can all draw our strength for Christ's mission and continue that mission in our homes, neighbourhoods, work places and parishes, as Pope Francis would encourage us to do.

I am grateful for the financial support you have given for the upkeep of the Cathedral in the past and I am well aware of the many calls that are made on your generosity today. Your support means so much to me personally and to those entrusted with the care of the Cathedral.

My grateful thanks.

Yours sincerely in Christ

+ Patrick Dunn
Bishop of Auckland

Pa Peter Tipene
Dean of the Cathedral

PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT

Can you help continue the tradition of giving?

Last weeks collection Loose \$166.50
Pledge \$444.00
TOTAL \$610.50



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.

For priestly maintenance you can contribute into the House account.

RC Bishop of Auckland
Coromandel Region House Account
02—0100—0726108 — 00



AGM & Leadership Team Elections

Sunday 9th September, 9:30am (after Mass)

At the end of Mass there will be the AGM (in the church) Morning tea, Parish planning for the next 2-3 years facilitated by Sr Ann Nevin.

All welcome and you are never too old to support one another so we have a vibrant parish. This will finish around 12:30. Many thanks, Fr Vally

Could you please hand in your completed nomination forms today. Elections, if required will be held at the AGM on 9th Sept

St Francis School News

Principal's Pen

Kia Ora whānau,

This week we have our Thames Valley Cross Country at Ngatea, well done to Jonathan and Parker for qualifying, this is a huge achievement. Good luck to you both you are already winners in our eyes. Thank you to all those people who came on Tuesday to support the children at Puriri School, all the children did really well, we are very proud of them all.

We are having family prayer every Wednesday in Room 4 at 9am. This is being organised by Sr. Paula to give people an opportunity to come together and pray for our school. Everyone is welcome.

We would really like to get our PTA up and running again and really need people to come forward to establish a core team of about four people. It would be good to get some events organised for term 4. If you would like to join us then please contact either Julie Burchell, Fiona Webster or myself, so we can organise a AGM .

Have a wonderful week.

Kia te wairua tapu ki runga ki a koutou katoa.
May the Holy Spirit be upon you all.
Geraldine Sumner
Principal.



PARISHIONERS ALL WELCOME

JOIN THE PTA

TOGETHER WE CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE



Sat 15th Sept

Led by Pat Lythe from
Auckland Diocesan Centre

- Commencing with 9:15am Mass in the Chapel
- Then we proceed to a venue in Thames for a day of reflection & prayer.
- Lunch provided
- Finishing by 2:30pm

Please RSVP by 10th Sept to Sr Paula, Fr Vally, Fr Albert or email stfrancisthames@xtra.co.nz



Social Justice Week: 9th – 15th Sept 2018

Enabling Communities: Everyone has a part to play.

"Each of us has a part to play, a gift to share, a service to offer, for building up the Body of Christ in love." – Pope Francis

Social Justice Week occurs every September and is promoted by the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference. Every year we focus on a social justice issue in New Zealand, and this year we are focussing on removing obstacles that prevent those of us with disabilities from fully participating in society. Our theme is "Enabling Communities: Everyone has a part to play."



Exposition

For the month of October Mass will be in the church on Fridays, and will include the Rosary and an Hour of Prayer.

11am—Rosary

11:15am—Hour of Prayer

12:15pm—Mass

Commencing Friday 5th October

IN THE MAIL THIS WEEK

Life Teen Info Evening: Youth leaders, priests, parents and PPC members are invited to the Life Teen Info Evening on Fri 7 Sept, 7pm Pompallier Diocesan Centre, Ponsonby. Randy Raus, CEO of Life Teen USA, will share how their resources and camps lead teenagers and their families into a deeper relationship with Jesus Christ and His Church. Please RSVP with Rochelle on 022 309 2022.



ALONE AGAIN? Widowed, Separated or Divorced? The Beginning Experience is a non-profit organization with the motto a "Weekend Away for a Lifetime of Change". The retreat will help you work through your painful loss. The participants find new hope, increased emotional health and renewed energy. Date Friday evening 5 – 7

October Sunday afternoon. Cost \$295 or early bird price of \$245 if paid by 2nd September. Includes accommodation, meals and materials. Contact Carol 022-089-0458 or leave message on (09)360-3054. Visit www.beginningexperience.org.nz

Mercy Spirituality Centre

104 The Drive, Epsom. Ph. 638 6238 or info@mercyspiritualitycentre.org.nz or www.mercyspiritualitycentre.org.nz

• **DREAMWORK 202: Skill Development Group** with MARGARET BOWATER. Fri 7 Sept, 9.30am-12.30pm. \$35. This workshop is open to people who have previously attended an Introductory workshop, and seek to improve their skills. Booking essential.

• **Retreat Day with Pip Nicholls:** Wisdom needs no scapegoat with PIP NICHOLLS. Sun 9 Sept, 10am-4pm. \$60

• **Desire for CONNECTEDNESS** with LAETITIA PUTHENPADATH. Tues 11 Sept, 10am-12noon. \$15 incl. morning tea. How can we

remain connected with ourselves, our family, our friends and society?

Gathering in MERCY We are gathering to reflect on Mercy values that continue to be relevant for us today. The programme includes a presentation by an invited speaker, followed by afternoon tea. Sun 16 Sept, 1.30-3.30pm. Donation/ Koha.

See our website for more details.

Bookings essential, email: info@mercyspiritualitycentre.org.nz to register.

WEEKLY CHURCH ROSTERS

Readers

2 SEP Gill Benton Shelley Johnson
9 SEPT Lois Wright Margaret Quinn

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS of the EUCHARIST & SACRISTANS

2 SEP Margie Humphries Judy Thomas
9 SEPT Liz Govorko-Clark Mary Connors

PRIEST'S ASSISTANT

2 SEP Robyn Smith
9 SEPT Eric Hamilton

GIFTS

2 SEP Wenzlick Family
9 SEPT Viv and Mike Lander

MUSIC

2 SEP Team Pharaoh
9 SEPT Team Pharaoh

MORNING TEA

2 SEP Team Kerela
9 SEPT Team Lois

CHURCH CLEANING

SEP WK 1 Gill Benton / Frank Schnuriger / Mary Wenzlick
SEP WK 3 Mary Dixon, Olivia Pharoah and Jane

FLOWERS

AUG Mary Dixon Pat Feliciano
SEPT

CALENDAR

SEPTEMBER

Tues 4th	9:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Wed 5th	9:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Thurs 6th	9:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Fri 7th	12:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Sat 8th	9:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Sun 9th	8:30am Mass in the Church After Mass—AGM/Goal Setting. Finish 12:30
Sat 15th	9:15am Mass—Day Retreat

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.