

St Francis of Assisi

CATHOLIC CHURCH, THAMES

17TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

29 JULY 2018



1st Reading:

KINGS 4:42-44

They will eat and have some left over.

EPHESIANS 4: 1-6

There is one body, one Lord, one faith, one baptism.

JOHN 6: 1-15

He distributed to those who were seated as much as they wanted.

**The hand of the Lord
feeds us; he answers
all our needs. Ps 144**

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.



Our gospel readings from Mark have brought us to his account – typically brief – of the feeding of the crowd with the loaves and fishes. The liturgy of this and the next four Sundays develops this theme by switching to readings from the extended meditation on the Eucharist in the sixth chapter of St John's Gospel. (A comparison of the two gospels shows that, in this chapter, John follows a sequence of events that Mark had adopted before him.)

As we become familiar with the style of John's gospel, we recognise that today's account of the feeding of the crowd – the introductory section of this long meditation – has strong overtones of the Eucharistic celebration: it is announced that the 'feast of Passover' is approaching; Jesus 'gives thanks' as at the Last Supper; Jesus himself distributes the loaves to all present.

This incident reminds us that the Saviour, whose Paschal Mystery we share in as we celebrate the Mass, is concerned for the welfare of God's people at every level. We must have a concern for our

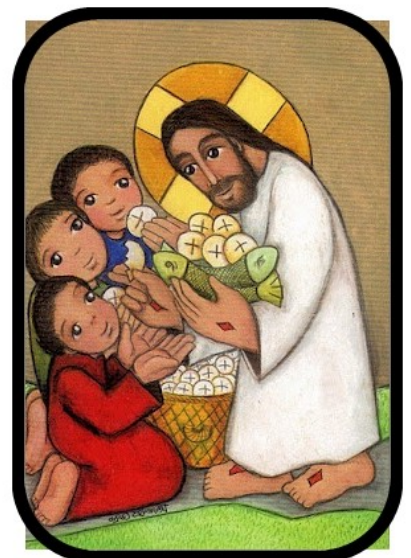
brothers and sisters that is more than words and pious thoughts, if we are to show in our lives the true fruits of the Paschal Mystery. It has often been pointed out that, in the miraculous feeding of the crowd, Jesus called upon the generosity of collaborators. The 'small boy' was certainly generous to give up his meal when asked for it. But he was to see his generosity make possible an explosion of divine generosity that is still remembered as we tell the story of Jesus. Surely, there is a clear lesson here for disciples of every age.

As we will find so often, the divine simplicity of the essential message of the Scriptures makes it easy to link the second reading with the central theme of the liturgy. Our reading from Ephesians speaks of our Christian communion – the sharing in the Paschal Mystery that unites the Christian community. This passage speaks of the unselfish charity and the unity that should mark communities brought together by the 'vocation', or God-given calling, which they have received.

The charity that binds the Christian community is the practical expression of the unity established by the Saviour's Paschal Mystery. Our reading from Ephesians reminds us that the roots of the unity brought by the Holy Spirit, as we become 'one Body', are very deep. We have 'one and the same hope' of eternal life with our God in a new creation; we have only 'one Lord', the Saviour who is also our brother, 'one faith' in what God has done for us in Christ, 'one baptism' in which we have died and risen to new life in him, and 'one God who is Father of all' in whom we can place all our trust.

The Eucharist, Vatican II insistently tells us, is the 'basis and centre' of the Church's life. It is not surprising that the same term 'communion' is used for all that we share 'in Christ' and for our sharing in the Eucharistic celebration.

Fr. John Thornhill sm





POPE FRANCIS: GAUDETE ET EXSULTATE
SETTING OUT ANEW TO THE FRINGES OF LIFE

God is eternal newness and impels us constantly to set out anew, to pass beyond what is familiar, to the fringes and beyond. God takes us to where humanity is most wounded, when men and women continue to seek an answer to the question of life's meaning.

Let us ask the Lord for the grace not to hesitate when the Spirit calls us to take a step forward.

Pope Francis G & E 135 & 139

Where shall you set out today?



Family Safety Services

Working for Peace in the Home
Te Ohu Whakaāio Kāinga

We are turning 30

Friends and colleagues of Family Safety Services – formerly Hauraki Safety Network, formerly Men's Education Network, you are cordially invited to come and help us celebrate

Date **8/8/2018**

Venue: **Family Safety Services**
415 Pollen Street Thames

Time **11:30am**

RSVP: **3/8/2018 on 07 868 8320 or**
karen.fss@xtra.co.nz

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



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



COMBINED CHURCHES

SERVICE

TODAY at (earlier time) 5pm

HOSTED BY ELIM CHURCH

by the wharf

All donations will go to the Bible Society **ALL WELCOME**



Feast days coming up...15th August

The Feast of the Assumption is a day of Holy obligation



PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT

Can you help continue the tradition of giving?

Last weeks collection

Loose \$154

Pledge \$305

TOTAL \$459

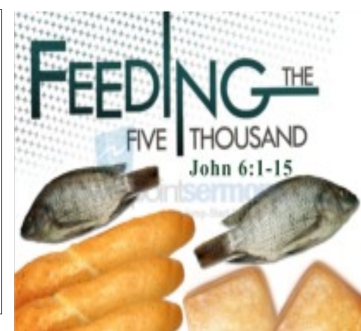


RC Bishop of Auckland Parish Account Thames
02—0100—0120990 — 008

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

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY

12th AUGUST

with Bishop Pat

The last session in preparation for Confirmation will commence after Mass 5 Aug,

For more information, call
Mary Hamilton 027 503 5505,
Eric Hamilton 021 509906 or
Sr Paula 021 2068062



• **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

Seven Signs of Jesus

Jesus Turns Water into Wine	John 2:1-11
Jesus Heals the Official's Son	John 4:43-54
Jesus Makes the Lame Walk	John 5:1-15
Jesus Walks on Water	John 6:16-24
Jesus Feeds the Multitudes	John 6:1-15
Jesus gives sight to the Blind	John 9:1-38
Jesus raises Lazarus from the Dead	John 11:1-44



THAMES 150TH

(12 MONTHS OF EVENTS COMES TO A CLOSE WITH)

AN EVENING OF REFLECTION

Entertainment, song, story telling and much more.
A chance to reflect on the past and to thank all those wonderful people in our heritage community that have helped commemorate 150 years since the opening of the Thames Goldfields

Thames Civic Centre
Tuesday 31st July
7pm – 9pm
Gold Coin entry

AGM & Leadership Team Elections will be held **11th September.**

There will be a future planning session to follow facilitated by Sr Ann Nevin.

Please consider offering your gifts to this great Team of people.



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.

WYD Panama: People aged 18+ who are keen to join the national pilgrimage group accompanied by Bishop Charles Drennan have until Monday 23 July to indicate their preferred pilgrimage option. For more info text Teresa on 021 649 012.

WEEKLY CHURCH ROSTERS

Readers

29 JULY Lyn Hopkins Mike Hopkins
5 AUG Lois Wright Margaret Quinn

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS of the EUCHARIST &

SACRISTANS

29 JULY Liz Govorko Clark Mary Connors
5 AUG Richard & Geraldine Sumner

PRIEST'S ASSISTANT

29 JULY Eric Hamilton
5 AUG Mary Connors

GIFTS

29 JULY Herb and Margaret Mabey
5 AUG Gill Benton and Shelley Johnson

MUSIC

29 JULY Team Hamilton
5 AUG Team Hamilton

MORNING TEA

29 JULY Team Lois
5 AUG Team Eileen

CHURCH CLEANING

AUG WK 1 Jenny Cooper / David Cooper /
Mary Connors

AUG WK 3 Indian Group

FLOWERS

AUG Mary Dixon Pat Feliciano
SEPT Margie Humphrey

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.

COME AND SEE – Priesthood vocations afternoon with Bishop Patrick Dunn, **Saturday 18 August at 1.00 pm** at Pompallier Diocesan Centre. Refer noticeboard for further details or email aucklandpriests@gmail.com or Facebook aucklandpriests.



CALENDAR

JULY

Tues 31st	9:15am—Mass in the Chapel
-----------	---------------------------

AUGUST

Wed 1st	9:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Thurs 2nd	9:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Fri 3rd	12:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Sat 4th	9:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Sun 5th	8:30am Mass in the Church

Sun 12th	8:30am Mass and Confirmation with Bishop Pat
----------	--

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.