



St Francis of Assisi

CATHOLIC CHURCH, THAMES

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - YEAR B

6 MAY 2018

1st Reading:

**ACTS 10; 25-26,
34-35, 44-48**

The gift of the Holy Spirit was poured out upon the gentiles also.

JOHN 4: 7-10

God is love.

JOHN 15: 9-17

No one can have greater love than to lay down his life for his friends.

JESUS LOVES* YOU

*Conditions do not apply

REFLECTION

**The Lord has
revealed to
the nations his
saving power.**

Ps 97

This gospel is like a vision statement or a mission statement from Jesus. About finding joy in listening to Jesus, how to live the good life in love one another, how to love oneself in the love of God, and in directing our lives to bear fruit that will last. It's a vision of love, call and service.

Central Statement

It is so central that it is read at many really important moments of a Christian life. It is one of the most popular readings at a wedding, linking the love of God and human love at such a special time.

Jesus' love was to lay down his life in a

specific way. Our love lays down our life often in small, unforgotten ways. Hours spend with a sick child or parent, years caring for someone ill, leaving home on missionary assignments; giving up something for children. The message is a big challenge in simple ways for most of us.

Joy

Isn't it a joy to know that the most enjoyable mystery of life – love, is the biggest commandment of God. It shows us that God is on our side. His commandment is to do what we want most to do and experience – to love and be loved. Even when the love costs us something.

Can we sing/say Alleluia to that?

Fr. Donal Neary SJ



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.



House Blessing

Immediately after Easter it is traditional for Father to visit each household in our parish and bless the house.

Father Vally and Fr Albert are keen to begin this tradition here, please let them know if you would like to participate. A clip board is available to record you name and phone number. **BOOK YOURS NOW!**



12-hour prayer vigil for our nation and our community,

held on the last Friday of each month,
10am – 10pm at
THE LAMP,
corner of
Mary and
Mackay
Streets.

Prayer Vigil



ALL WELCOME

Any enquiries phone
02102231805

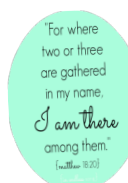
MASS INTENTIONS

Have you got something special to celebrate or acknowledge?

Birthday, anniversary, safe travel, healing? Mass Intentions are for any and every life occasion.

You will find Mass **Intention envelopes at the front of church on the right beside the votive candle stand.**

Place your completed envelopes in the collection plate—or hand to Fr.



PLEASE OFFER
HOLY MASS

INTENTION
(Ill health, anniversary, deceased etc)
FROM _____



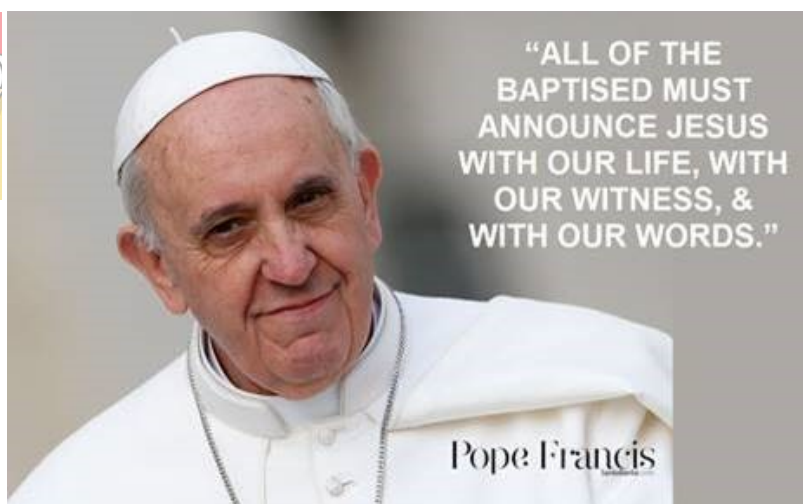
The latest issue
in your church
Sunday
May 6



During this Easter season, may we come to appreciate ever more fully the unmerited gift we received on the day of our Baptism, and resolve to live faithfully the new life we have received in Christ.

Pope Francis Homily April 11, 2018

How do you live your Christian life?



PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT

Can you help continue the tradition of giving?

Last weeks collection

Loose \$129

Pledge \$370

TOTAL \$499



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.

PLEDGE RECEIPTS

Please find your pledge receipts at the back of church. If you have any queries, please see Robyn.

2018 Bishop's Forums

Youth and faith

Evenings 7:30 - 9:15pm

Tues 15 May
Christ the King

Owairaka
Richmond Rd

Tues 22 May
St Anne's, Manurewa

126 Russell Rd

Daytime

Sun 27 May 1-3pm

St Columba Centre
Ponsonby

Sat 11 August 10am
St Therese, Moerewa
Come to whichever suits you



ALL WELCOME!

Parish Priests & Parishioners
especially
Pastoral Councillors, Youth
Pastoral Workers, Ethnic
Community Members
Everyone!



**TUESDAY 15th MAY at
6:30pm**

in the parish Centre

A fun evening of music and singing.

Whatever instrument you have

(or use one of ours) come along

and join us for a great night.

Contact Murray Pharaoh

027 4398787 muzz@muzz.co.nz

'Why do we shout in anger?'

A saint asked his disciples, 'Why do we shout in anger? Why do people shout at each other when they are upset?'

His disciples thought for a while, one of them said, 'Because we lose our calm, we shout for that.'

'But, why do you shout when the other person is just next to you?' asked the saint. 'Isn't it possible to speak to him or her with a soft voice? Why do you shout at a person when you're angry?'

Disciples gave some other answers but none satisfied the saint.

Finally he explained, 'When two people are angry at each other, their hearts distance a lot. To cover that distance they must shout to be able to hear each other. **The angrier they are, the stronger they will have to shout to hear each other through that great distance.**'

Then the saint asked, 'What happens when two people fall in love? They don't shout at each other but talk softly, why? Because their hearts are very close. The distance between them is very small...'

The saint continued, 'When they love each other even more, what happens?

They do not speak, only whisper and they get even closer to each other in their love. Finally they even need not whisper, they only look at each other and that's all. That is how close two people are when they love each other.

'MORAL' said the saint: 'When you argue do not let your hearts get distant, do not say words that distance each other more, else there will come a day when the distance is so great that you will not find the path to return!'

E	S	S	W	O	R	L	D	E	S
R	E	E	P	N	E	S	N	N	E
E	L	T	M	E	E	K	A	S	T
H	P	R	A	R	E	H	T	A	F
T	I	U	E	C	P	K	S	A	L
O	C	T	V	R	O	P	R	E	E
N	S	H	O	W	I	V	E	S	S
A	I	E	L	R	V	S	D	K	Y
E	D	S	I	V	O	L	N	A	M
N	A	T	R	E	D	N	U	R	T

DISCIPLES

ANOTHER

TRUTH

UNDERSTAND

LOVE

ADVOCATE

WORLD

SHOW

FATHER

SPIRIT

ORPHANS

MYSELF



IN THE MAIL THIS WEEK

Mercy Spirituality Centre

104 The Drive, Epsom. Ph. 638 6238 or [in-fo@mercyspiritualitycentre.org.nz](mailto:info@mercyspiritualitycentre.org.nz) or www.mercyspiritualitycentre.org.nz

- **TRINITY Series: Relating to oneself, relating within God, relating between God and ourselves** with HELEN BERGIN op. Thurs' 10, 17 & 24 May, 10am-12noon. \$15 each or 3 talks for \$40 incl. morning tea.
- **Weekend Workshop: EVERYTHING IS CONNECTED Completing the Works of God** with KATHLEEN RUSHTON rsm. Fri 18 May, 7-9pm & Sat 19 May, 9.30am-4pm. \$50. BYO Lunch. "Everything is interconnected, and this invites us to develop a spirituality of ...global solidarity which flows from the mystery of the Trinity" (Laudato Si, 240). In this reflective time together, we shall take up the invitation by exploring the role of the Spirit in completing the works of God as in the gospel according to John.
- **The LAUDATO SI Pledge Talk 1: 'Pope Francis' call for an ecological conversion'. What does this mean for all of us?** with Fr NEIL DARRAGH. Tues 22 May, 7-9pm & repeated on Wed 30

WEEKLY CHURCH ROSTERS

Readers

6 MAY Grace Visser Margaret Mabey
13 MAY Lyn Hopkins Mike Hopkins

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS of the EUCHARIST & SACRISTANS

6 MAY Elizabeth Govorko-Clark Mary Connors
13 MAY Richard & Geraldine Sumner

PRIEST'S ASSISTANT

6 MAY Eric Hamilton
13 MAY Mary Connors

GIFTS

6 MAY Herb & Margaret Mabey
13 MAY Gill Benton Shelley Johnson

MORNING TEA

6 MAY Team Lois
13 MAY Team Eileen

CHURCH CLEANING

MAY WK 1 Gill Benton / Frank Schnuriger / Mary Wenzlick
MAY WK 3 Mary Dixon / Tania Scarborough / Margi Humphrey

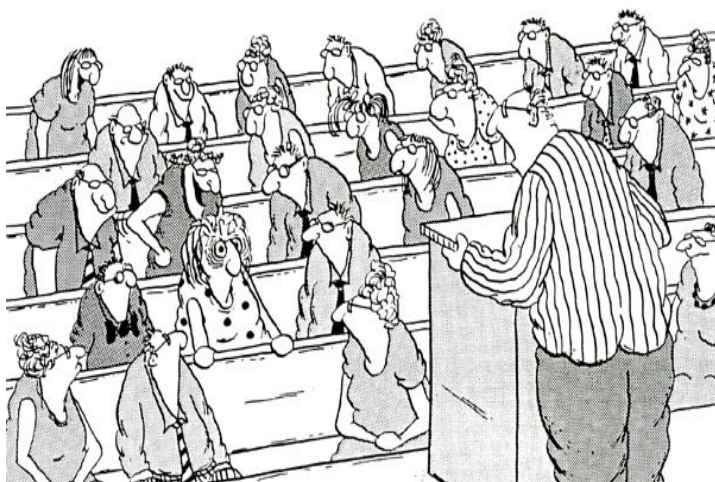
FLOWERS

MAY Mary Connors Margi Humphrey

May 10am-12 noon. \$15 (talk 2 in Oct)

Writers Weekend Workshop with JOAN ROSIER-JONES. Fri 25 May 6.30-8pm, Sat & Sun 26 & 27 May 9.30am-4.30pm. \$200. Tea/Coffee, morning \$ afternoon tea, lunch incl. Accommodation available at extra cost See our website for more details. Bookings essential.

Choral Vigil Mass for Pentecost Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful and kindle in them the fire of your love. and You shall renew the face of the earth. With the Cathedral Vocal Ensemble. Saturday 19 May at 7.30 pm at the Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph, 43 Wyndham Street, Auckland City. Validated parking available at the Wilson Car Parks on Hobson Street (\$4) and Durham Lane (\$2). Please bring your ticket to validate in the Cathedral.



"Once again, I want to stress that the story I just related during my sermon is purely fictional and is no way based upon anyone here in the congregation."

CALENDAR

MAY

Tues 8th	9:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Wed 9th	9:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Thurs 10th	9:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Fri 11th	12:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Sat 12th	9:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Sun 13th	8:30am—Sunday Mass

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

Eileen Campbell (Coordinator) Ph 8687473

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.