

St Francis of Assisi

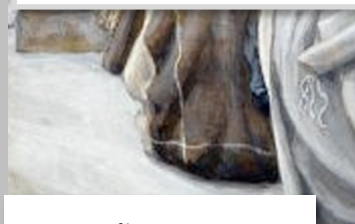
CATHOLIC CHURCH, THAMES

14TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME - YEAR B

8 JULY 2018



Long neglected because of its brevity, the Gospel of Mark is now recognised to be a work of genius. Mark's was the first gospel to be written. Combining something of the freshness of the earliest memories of Jesus' life with an ordered presentation of his material, Mark intends to provide a guide to authentic discipleship – as a following of the crucified Saviour. Today's incident – which tells of the rejection of Jesus by the people of his own town, at the end of his ministry in Galilee - illustrates this. Mark's telling of the story of Jesus comes to its climax with the Saviour's passion – the rejection of the Messiah by God's own people. It seems that Mark was writing for the Christians of Rome in the decade of the first persecutions, calling them to be true disciples of the crucified Christ.



Today's gospel also conveys the sense of immediacy often present in Mark. We have an echo of the reaction of those who witnessed the event (the 'disciples' who accompanied Jesus to his "home town") – they are surprised and disconcerted by the very human reaction of Jesus. Rejected by the people of 'his own country' and 'his own relations', Jesus seems to be disarmed, so that 'he could work no miracle there'. A very human situation and a typical human reaction – Jesus truly became one of us, our brother. What the gospel describes is so true to life that Jesus' summing up has become a proverb: 'No honour for prophets among their own'.

For Mark, of course, as we have seen, this rejection is a foreshadowing of the great rejection described in the final chapters of the gospel - something for which Jesus will repeatedly prepare his disciples as they make their way to Jerusalem: he is to be 'rejected', 'put to death', but he will 'rise again' (Mk 8: 31). The reading from Ezekiel reminds us that a pattern of rejection and rebellion runs through the whole story of the Scriptures. The patient but firm spirit of the Saviour, so well captured in Mark's gos-

pel, is an expression of the patient firmness of God as the divine plan unfolds in the life of an uncooperative and self-centred people.

Jesus made his own a life that shares in our common human experience. In the reading from Paul, the great apostle takes us into his confidence, explaining how he has faced his immense difficulties. It is uncertain what his 'thorn in the flesh' was: a physical ailment perhaps, or more probably the betrayal and persecution he had to suffer from those who should have been his friends. But he has learned the lesson of Mark's gospel, and he gives expression so well to what he has learned in this passage that it is very familiar. Having, at first, 'pleaded with the Lord' to be freed of his trial, he has come to recognise it as discipleship's taking up of the Cross, giving him a share in the divine power unleashed in the world through the Paschal Mystery. He will even 'boast' of his weakness, as bringing an assurance that 'the power of Christ' will 'stay over' him: 'For it is when I am weak that I am strong'.

Fr. John Thornhill sm

1st Reading:

EZEKIEL 2: 2-5

The people are rebellious; they shall know there will be a prophet in their midst.

CORINTHIANS 12:7-10

I will glory in my infirmities so that the power of Christ may dwell in me.

MARK 6: 1-6

A prophet is despised only in his own country.

Our eyes are fixed on the Lord, pleading for his mercy. Ps 122

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.





I see clearly that the thing the church needs most today is the ability to heal wounds and to warm the hearts of the faithful; it needs nearness, proximity.

Pope Francis June 2018



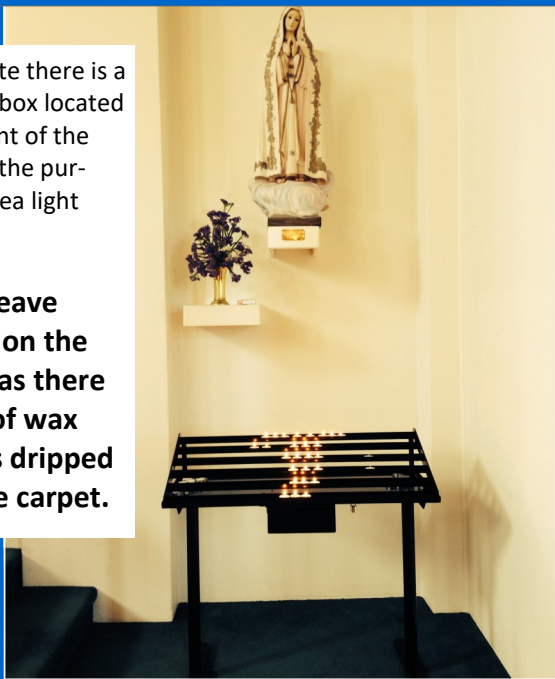
What does this mean in your life?

Who do you need to get close to, to listen to, to accompany? Who are the hurting, the lonely in your circle?

THE VOTIVE CANDLE STAND

Please note there is a donation box located at the front of the stand for the purchase of tea light candles.

Please leave candles on the stand—as there is a lot of wax that has dripped onto the carpet.



Liturgy News

At our liturgy meeting we reflected on the need to be more inclusive of the different ethnicities within our parish community, this can only enhance and enrich our participation in the Mass. However In order to do this we would need your assistance. If you are willing to help by teaching a small group a greeting, a prayer, a hymn in your language or a particular custom associated with your tradition of the Mass we would be delighted to hear from you.

The liturgy team is:

Father Albert, Sister Paula, Liz Govorko – Clark, Yolanda Kirkbeck, Sheila Jones, Olivia Pharaoh, Ann Teklenburg and Viv Lander.

FLOWERS

The Team on church flowers are asking if anyone has flowers in their garden they could use for the church.

Please contact any of the Team:

**MARY DIXON,
PAT FELICIANO
MARGIE HUMPHREY,
OLIVIA PHARAOH
LIZ GOVORKO-CLARK,
PAULINE JENKISON,
JUDY THOMAS**

Thank You!

Will & Grant Bourke & Mike Hopkins have been at it again...check out how awesome the church porch looks!



PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT

Can you help continue the tradition of giving?

Last weeks collection

Loose \$140

Pledge \$428

TOTAL \$568



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.

House Blessing

See Fr Albert.

BOOK YOURS NOW!



Reflection Day at Mary Mackillop Centre, Mission Bay.

SPIRITUALITY of ELDERING **Tuesday 17th July 10am –2pm** **Facilitated by Sr Lyndall Brown**

This reflection day will offer ways to discover the richness of life when we age with grace.

Reflection around growing contemplatively, learning the art of letting go & the wisdom of years.

Anyone interested, please contact Sr Paula for transport options. 07 868 6310 / 021 2068062



Sr. Lyndall Brown



Sacramental Programme

commencing after Mass

Sessions

5 Aug, 12 Aug

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

SITUATIONS VACANT

St Francis School BoT Secretary

The School BoT requires the services of an experienced Board Secretary to take minutes at each St Francis School Board meeting.

The role includes attending an evening Board meeting each month (normally 3rd or 4th week of a month), transcribing meeting discussions so that an accurate record is kept, and then having these available soon after the Board meeting for distribution. Each Board meeting is approximately 1.5-3 hours in duration, along with time for minute corrections, being a total of 4-5 hours required per meeting, with the Board meeting approximately 11 times each year. This is a paid position based on \$16.50 per hour.

If you have the necessary skills to undertake this role, please contact our School Principal Geraldine Sumner on 07868 7655 or email principal@stfrancis-thames.school.nz

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

C U P S I M O N A Z J I Z G M
Q V X G H G L S U J P U M B D
I H Z T S R R T G I E C D L G
S M I F O E E U L Z S S G A T
M A H Q T H L T E A C H U C S
F R Q S P G R C N H D L R S O
F Y I O R S Y N A G O G U E Z
X S R Q H G O H L E D S V N S
W P S H O Z C A R P E N T E R
I W A E M J O S E P H P M Q H
S P B A E A M A Z E D A M T O
D I B R T B O I M M J C J P N
O S A D O Z J B F A U G I O O
M X T F W D I S C I P L E S R
T U H Y N M I R A C L E S E E

HEARD	HONOR	JESUS	DISCIPLES	AMAZED
JAMES	SISTERS	JUDAS	JOSEPH	MARY
CARPENTER	SYNAGOGUE	WISDOM	TEACH	FAITH
SABBATH	MIRACLES	SIMON	HOMETOWN	PROPHET

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.

Dove Women's Retreat Weekend - 27 to 29 July
Come and join us for a weekend to be "Refreshed - Renewed - Restored".

The theme for 2018 is "Harvest" with guest speakers Wilma

WEEKLY CHURCH ROSTERS

Readers

8 JULY	Michelle Sim	Barbara Hennessy
15 JULY	Grace Visser	Margaret Mabey

EXTRAORDINARY MINISTERS of the EUCHARIST & SACRISTANS

8 JULY	Jenny Cooper	Frank Schnuriger
15 JULY	Eric Hamilton	Robyn Smith

PRIEST'S ASSISTANT

8 JULY	Geraldine Sumner
15 JULY	Judy Thomas

GIFTS

8 JULY	Mary Connors	Liz Govorko
15 JULY	Natalie and	Hugh Strange

MUSIC

8 JULY	Team Pharaoh
15 JULY	Team Hamilton

MORNING TEA

8 JULY	Team Leadership
15 JULY	Team Merla

CHURCH CLEANING

JULY WK 1	Gill Benton / Frank Schnuriger / Mary Wenzlick
JULY WK 4	Mary Dixon / Olivia Pharoah / Teresa Yang

FLOWERS

JULY	Elizabeth Govorko-Clark
AUG	Mary Dixon Pat Feliciano

Conroy and Anne Claessens.

Venue: Willow Park Christian Camp, Eastern Beach, Auckland
There are optional weekend registrations for residential or non-residential.

To register or for further information visit our website www.dove.org.nz or phone Shona Williams 07 543 0101 email shonawilliams58@gmail.com

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.

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

CALENDAR

JULY

Tues 10th	9:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Wed 11th	9:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Thurs 12th	9:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Fri 13th	12:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Sat 14th	9:15am—Mass in the Chapel
Sun 15th	8:30am Mass in the Church
Tues 17th	Spirituality of Eldering

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.