

The Pastor's Pen

Dear Parishioners,

Happy Corpus Christi Sunday! The gospel reading on this Sunday reveals so much about how to live and celebrate our Christian life. At the heart of our Christian lives is the celebration of the eucharist. We come together each week as a faith community, to share, remember and celebrate God's great gifts. Since our gospel reading is focused on the significant place of eucharist in our faith lives, let us consider some aspects of its message.

We find Jesus welcoming the crowds, talking to them, and healing them. This can make us reflect on our own arrival at church today. How many people have we greeted? Have we noticed anyone new, and reached out to welcome any newcomer? Have we been aware of those around us who might need an encouraging word? Have we stopped and listened, ready to engage with what they were saying? There is also a lesson to be learned from the crowd here. We must imagine that many in the crowd were inspired to give to others what they had been keeping for themselves. After all, everyone was fed in the end, and there was a lot left over. Are we always so generous with our precious time, resources and energies?

Today we are celebrating the Body and Blood of Christ. It is the eucharist that is at the centre of our faith and all that we do. It is the eucharist that sustains us. It is through celebrating, receiving and sharing the eucharist that we continue to be nourished by the body and blood of Jesus. But celebrating the eucharist is not a one-way action. We are compelled to do more than receive. It is in the very act of receiving, that we are compelled to act as Jesus acted, and in so doing, we are ensuring that Jesus is the living centre of our faith. As we gather each Sunday as a community to celebrate the eucharist, let us be as ready and available to give as to receive.

Corpus Christi blessings,
Fr Anthony Tran CSsR



SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Book an appointment with any of the priests after Mass or use phone numbers listed below.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Contact Fr Anthony Tran OR Fr Rivan Narang.
Private Baptism until the month of October.

MARRIAGES

Require at least **SIX months' notice**
Contact Fr Anthony Tran OR Fr Rivan Narang.
Booking St. Anthony OR St. Therese Church for Wedding ☎ 275 5401

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS

RCIA/RCIC Contact Hila Tuli 02102233342
First Reconciliation, Confirmation & First Holy Communion Contact Talei Solomon Mua.

Mangere Catholic Parishes Pastoral Team

Parish Priest: Anthony Tran, C.Ss.R. ☎ 0226543680
Assistant Priest : Nathanael Rivandi Narang, C.Ss.R. ☎ 02108154804
Presbytery ☎ 275 3559 Parishes' Office: Parishes' Secretary ☎ 275 5401



The Mangere Catholic

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Diocese of Auckland

Bulletin of the Parishes of

St. Anthony **St. Thérèse**
20 Kirkbride Road 10 Wickman Way

Mangere Bridge Mangere East

www.mangerebridgecatholic.org.nz www.mangereeastcatholic.org.nz



Parish Office 10 Wickman Way • Mangere East • ☎ 275 5401 •
PO Box 59027 • Mangere Bridge • Auckland 2022 • office@mangerecatholic.org.nz

Presbytery • 20 Kirkbride Road • Mangere Bridge • ☎ 2753559

St Anthony Family Support Trust 0272533537 & 09 2750357

SCHOOLS IN THE PARISHES

St Mary MacKillop Primary Years 1-8 • McNaughton Avenue ☎ 257 1435 ☎ 257 1436

St Joseph's Catholic School Years 0-8 125 Church Street Onehunga ☎ 6368102

De La Salle College • Years 7-13 • Gray Avenue ☎ 276 4319 ☎ 276 7992

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

MONDAY [PSALTER W 4]	20th	St. Therese	Mass	9am.
June.		FRIDAY	24th June	
		<u>12th Week of Ordinary Time C.</u>	<u>Sacred Heart. (s)</u>	
2Kings 17: 5-8,13-15,18	Psalm 60		<u>First Matariki Public Holiday.</u>	
Matthew 7: 1-5		Ezekiel 34: 11-16	Psalm 23	
St. Anthony	Mass	9am.	Romans 5:5-11	Luke 15:3-7
			NO MASS	
TUESDAY	21st June.	SATURDAY	25th June	
		<u>St Aloysius Gonzaga, religious. (m)</u>	<u>Immaculate Heart of Mary.</u>	
2Kings 19: 9-11,14-21,31-36	Psalm 48		Lamentations 2:2. 10-14. 18-19	Psalm 74
Matthew 7:6,12-14			Matthew 8: 5-17	
St. Therese	Mass	9am.	St. Therese	Mass
			9am.	
WEDNESDAY	22nd June.	Sunday	26th June	
		<u>12th Week of Ordinary Time C.</u>	<u>13th Sunday in Ordinary Time C.</u>	
2Kings 22: 8-13;23:1-3	Psalm 119H		<i>(Psalter W. 1)</i> 1Kings 19:16,19-21:	
Matthew 7:15-20			Psalm 16: Galatians 5:1,13-18: Luke	
St. Anthony	Mass	9am.	9:51-62.	
			<u>Weekend Masses.</u>	
THURSDAY	23rd June.	<u>St Anthony : Mass Saturday 5pm and</u>	<u>Sunday 9am.</u>	
		<u>St Therese: Mass 8am, 10am & 6pm.</u>	<u>Fourth Sunday Samoan Mass 12pm.</u>	
<u>12th Week of Ordinary Time C</u>				
2Kings 24:8-17	Psalm 79			
Matthew 7:21-29				

**CHURCH AND GROUNDS
CLEANING IN BOTH PARISHES.**

St. Anthony's.

Thank you to all volunteers for looking after the Church grounds and Church cleaning this weekend. St Anthony Youth group's turn on Saturday 25th of June.

St. Therese

CHURCH CLEANING.

Thank you to the Legion of Mary for looking after the church cleaning this week.

CHURCH GROUNDS.

Thank you to the Cook Islands community for looking after the Church grounds this weekend. Samoan community's turn on Saturday the 25th of June.

Social Justice.

Retreat – 9am-4pm Sat 18 June with Fr Merv Duffy on the Gospel of Luke. St Francis Retreat Centre 20 Hillsborough Rd. \$20 (including lunch). A few places still available. Please contact: Peter Garrick peterg@cda.org.nz phone 022 1300 730.

PREFERENCE FORMS.

Preference for enrolment form for school, all enquiries are directly to the priests. Please contact Fr Anthony Tran OR Fr Rivan Narang for an appointment or for further explanation. Priest's contact numbers on page 4 of the bulletin.

LEGION OF MARY CENTENARY PROGRAMME.

Upcoming event Recollection Saturday 25th June, Theme: Immaculate Heart of Mary. Time: 9am to 3:30pm. Venue: St. Anne's Parish Hall. 26 Russell Road, Manurewa. More information on display in the foyer.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM.

Due to the COVID19 pandemic regulations at orange traffic light and to prevent the spreading of the virus during winter. Private baptism continues in both parishes until the month of October. Please book an appointment to see one of the priests' by using their numbers on page 4 of the bulletin.

FUNERAL ENQUIRIES IN BOTH PARISHES.

Planning a funeral service for a loved one.

1. Contact the parish priest. [priest's number on page 4 of the bulletin.]
2. Booking of the Church. Contact the parish office.
3. Slideshow for display and livestreaming. If using a professional company for livestreaming, please contact the parish office.
4. Parish office 09 2755401 leave a message. OR
email: office@mangerecatholic.org.nz.
5. Bike escorts/sendoff are not allowed on Church grounds.
6. Families are responsible for the cleaning of the Church afterwards.

Health and safety in the parishes is paramount and caring for Church properties is important.

Thank you for your understanding and co operation.

Volunteers Catechists Children's Sacramental Programs

As you know we have had a couple of very hard years with Covid and many of our sacramental programs in some way may have suffered. Our children are still very much in need for all you do for them in preparing them for their first sacraments. We wish to cordially invite you to a **½ day retreat on Saturday 9th of July 2022 from 9am to 12:30pm** In our time we will look at resources, share some morning tea together, have a small talk and you will have the opportunity to be prayed with for a refresh of the Holy spirit. Please register with Deacon Steve on stephenf@cda.org.nz or call on 021439407.

NZ Catholic headlines June 19 - July 2.

NZ Catholic for sale in church foyers again. Price \$4 (unchanged for 8 years). Some headlines for this issue: New transitional housing helps families. Diocese GM and two principals prepare for polar plunge. Graduates told to shape the future. Hope that principals and boards will be supported over school uniforms.

19th June, 2022. The Body and Blood of Christ. (s)

TODAY'S READINGS Genesis 14:18-20: 1 Corinthians 11: 23-26: Psalm 110: Luke 9: 11-17

Gifts of bread and wine.

Today's readings introduce us to the mysterious High Priest, Melchizedek, who has an encounter with Abraham, the better-known Israelite figure. Abraham, as we know, became the founding father of Judaism, Christianity and Islam.

However, it is Melchizedek who prefigures Jesus' actions at the Last Supper by giving Abraham gifts of bread and wine. This is brought to further light in today's Psalm which acknowledges Melchizedek as "a priest forever" thereby foreshadowing Jesus' royal priesthood demonstrated through his sacrifice at Calvary.

Although our celebration of Corpus Christi – literally, the Body of Christ – has these wonderful connections to the world well prior to God's special covenant with the Jewish people, the focus of our feast is on Jesus of Nazareth, who was both faithful Jew and centre-point of our Christian faith. Christians keep this focus on Jesus our High Priest and Saviour alive especially through the prayerful celebration of the Eucharist.

The Eucharist does not just keep alive for us the memory of Christ's actions at the Last Supper and the sacrifice of his earthly body for us but the Eucharist re-enacts the reality of God's saving presence among us in the here-and-now. In a particular way, the Eucharist is linked to the Exodus-event of Israel's liberation from slavery by the Egyptians. God continues to shelter us from all life's trials and tribulations and to shower us with gifts for the road ahead.

Pope Francis tells us the Eucharist is "not a prize for the perfect, but nourishment for the weak!" In saying this he is not suggesting we should attend the Eucharist without thoughtfulness, prayer and presence of mind; but he is also reminding all of us that we come to the Eucharist as sinners in search of God's healing grace and mercy.

Pope Francis also provides guidelines for how the Eucharist should make a real difference in our lives and relationships with others – whether rich, poor, young, old, neighbour or stranger. He suggests the Eucharist should lead us to "see the face of Christ" in the poor, sick and marginalised people of our world. The Eucharist is also especially connected to our experience of being "forgiven sinners", empowering us to reach out in forgiveness of others, to heal broken hearts, and to overcome division. The pope notes the Church's very identity and mission flow from the Eucharist enabling us to become "other Christs" through loving service and compassion for others.

The Anglo-Catholic poet TS Eliot says Christ is "the still point of the turning world". It is especially through our celebration of the Eucharist that our distracted, busy, turning worlds are stilled by the overpowering, silent mystery that camouflages the saving, liberating, loving presence of Christ in the broken bread and sweetened wine.

Gerard Hall SM
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