

The Pastor's Pen

Dear Parishioners,

Greetings! The readings this Sunday all speak of the need for faith. There are some very worrying developments in our world: wars and conflicts continue in the Ukraine, increased tension between the US and China, the decline of religion, the lack of morality, increasing violence and crime. We have global problems of famine and poverty, debt and disease, underdevelopment and the population explosion. Covid continues to affect us all. Inflation and interest rates make life harder for many. We can take all this and more on our shoulders, including our own guilt and sin, and feel completely and utterly inadequate faced with the enormity of our personal, communal, national and global problems.

Given our situation, Jesus' opening words in this Sunday's gospel can strengthen us: "There is no need to be afraid little flock." We will never see a perfect world in our lifetime but, like Abraham, we can still journey in faith, trusting in God's promise, trusting that God's kingdom will come. With faith, we can see that the Master is already here and he comes to serve us, here and now, with his own body and blood as food and drink for our journey in faith.

Priests away

Fr Rivan and myself will be away for the Diocese Clergy Assembly and meetings from Monday-Friday. In our absence Fr Roy will be celebrating daily masses during the week.

Hospital catholic pastoral care

Please be advised that when you take your loved ones who are Catholics to Middlemore hospital, register the patient in the form as religion Roman Catholic. Fr Maurice Ford, the hospital chaplain will visit the patient for any pastoral and sacramental needs.

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. 0223920189

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. Therèse
20 Kirkbride Road 10 Wickman Way

Mangere Bridge Mangere East

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

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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	8th August.	FRIDAY	12th August
	<u>St. Mary of the Cross (McKillop) (f)</u>		<u>19th Week of Ordinary Time Year C.</u>
	Colossians 3:12-17 Psalm 32		Ezekiel 16: 15,60-63 Cant Isaiah
	Matthew 6:25-34		Matthew 19: 3-12
St. Anthony	Mass 9am.	St. Anthony	Mass 9am
TUESDAY	9th August.	SATURDAY	13th August
	<u>19th Week of Ordinary Time Year C.</u>		<u>19th Week of Ordinary Time Year C.</u>
	Jeremiah Ezekiel 2:8-3:4 Psalm 119B		Ezekiel 18: 1-13,30-32 Psalm 51
	Matthew 18:1-5,10-14		Matthew 19: 13-15
St. Therese	Mass 9am.	St. Therese	Mass 9am.
WEDNESDAY	10th August.	Sunday	14th August
	<u>St. Lawrence, D.M. (f)</u>		<u>20th Sunday in Ordinary Time C.</u>
	2 Corinthians 9: 6-10 Psalm 111		<i>(Psalter W. 4)</i>
	John 12:24-26		Jeremiah 38: 46,8-10 :Psalm 39: He-
St. Anthony	Mass 9am.		brews 12: 1-4: Luke 13: 49-53
THURSDAY	11th August.		<u>Weekend Masses.</u>
	<u>St. Clare, V. (m)</u>		<u>St Anthony : Mass Saturday 5pm, Sun-</u>
	Ezekiel 12: 1-12 Psalm 78		<u>day 9am and Third Sunday Samoan</u>
	Matthew 18: 21-19:1		<u>Mass 10:30am.</u>
	St. Therese Mass with St Mary		<u>St Therese: Mass 8am, 10am & 6pm.</u>
	McKillop School 9:15am.		<u>Fourth Sunday Samoan Mass 12pm.</u>

CHURCH AND GROUNDS CLEANING IN BOTH PARISHES.

St. Anthony's.

Thank you to all the volunteers for looking after the Church grounds. Thank you to the Divine Mercy and Legion of Mary prayer groups for looking after the church cleaning this weekend. Samoan Community's turn for Church cleaning on Saturday the 13th of August.

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 other ethnic group for looking after the Church grounds this weekend. Tongan community's turn on Saturday the 13th of August.

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.

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.

WEAR YOUR MASK AT MASS.

We encourage all parishioners to please wear your face mask during Mass and only remove when receiving holy communion. Thank you for your cooperation.

AV OPERATORS NEEDED FOR BOTH PARISHES.

This ministry needs more volunteers, if you or your child ages 13 to 18 are good with computers, then we need your help! St Anthony 5pm Vigil Mass please, see Teresa Ah Wa after 5pm Vigil Mass and St Therese 6pm Mass, please see Ana Taumata after 8am Mass. Thank you in

advance for helping out with the parishes' Weekend Masses.

MISSION MAP.

AUCKLAND DIOCESE.

You are invited as pilgrim people of God to a day of prayer, formation, information, and collaboration around our call to missionary discipleship. The day will begin at 10.30 and conclude at 2.15. Due to the nature of the sessions and the space available we are limited to 80 participants. Please register through the [website: https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/missionmap/momentum/](https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/missionmap/momentum/) There are three opportunities for participation:

1. Saturday 27 August Whangarei Church Hall **RSVP 22 August.**
2. Saturday 24 September. Onehunga Church Hall **RSVP 19 September.**
3. Saturday 15 October Takapuna Church Hall. **RSVP 10 October.**

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. Motorcycle escort/sendoff are not allowed on Church grounds.
6. Families are responsible for the cleaning of the Church afterwards.
7. We encourage all parishioners and visitors to please wear a mask inside the Church.

Health and safety in the parishes is paramount and caring for Church properties is important. Thank you for your understanding and co operation.

7th August, 2022. 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time Year C. [Psalter W.3]

TODAY'S READINGS Wisdom 18: 6-9: Psalm 33: Hebrews 11: 1-2,8-19: Luke 12:32-48

Waiting for Jesus' return!

A priest walked into a bar and made an announcement. "Anyone who wants to go to heaven, please stand up now."

Everyone stood except for one man who continued to sip his drink at the bar. The priest said to him, "Sir, don't you want to go to heaven when you die?"

The man looked up and said, "When I die? Yes. But I thought you were gathering a group to go now."

In today's gospel, the Evangelist Luke brings together several of Jesus' parables that focus on the call to persevere and to be vigilant as we await the final end-time drama.

As Christians, we inhabit a strange situation where we must live out our busy, work-a-day lives while always conscious that Jesus will one day return and utterly transform the world as we know it. The very ordinariness of our lives is always threatened by a possible outbreak of the extraordinary. As Luke's Jesus warns us, his return will come on "a day and at an hour we do not expect" (Luke 12:40)

Like the man in the story above drinking quietly in the bar, however, we are not quite prepared for that final day to happen any time soon. While each day we pray the words of the Our Father, "may your kingdom come", we silently add the caveat, "but not right now". We have plans and dreams yet unrealised; tasks unfinished; and hopes unfulfilled. If the second coming of Jesus is imminent, it would prove inconvenient.

This reaction is, in part, due to fear – fear of the unknown. Jesus told us very little about the when and the what of the end times. Indeed, in Mark's Gospel (13:32) Jesus says that not even he was privy to the exact timetable of the last days. We are told that we must remain at our posts, be on guard, and be ready for Jesus' return.

But generations have passed since the time of Jesus, and little has changed. War and want, pandemics and politicking, disease and death continue to define our world. So, it isn't simply fear that has led to trepidations about the end, it is also weariness; we have grown weary of waiting for Jesus' return.

Today's gospel suggests that because of this weariness, our focus has turned from Jesus' return and the coming of the God's kingdom to the acquisition of worldly wealth and the attainment of personal success.

We must ask ourselves, have we lost sight of what ultimately matters in life? If so, then it may be time to reboot and to renew; to reconsider our priorities and reorder our plans and dreams, tasks and hopes. We may not know the day or the hour when Jesus will return. But 'right now' is the perfect day and hour to reflect on our goals, our achievements, and our values to determine if they are helping or hindering our faith journey.

Ian J Elmer

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