

The Pastor's Pen

Dear Parishioners,

Greetings! We have come to the end of the liturgical year – year of Luke's gospel. On this last Sunday of the year we celebrate Christ the King of the universe – king of love and compassion. Christ asks us, his followers, to be kings and queens like him. That means looking out for others, taking care of the weak and the poor, those without friends or families to care for them properly, those without hope for the future, those without any real sense of their own value. He wants us to be kings and queens to these people, to care for them, even if it costs us, even if it isn't easy, even if it means we get rejected and misunderstood.

To be royal like Christ, we need to be associated with the unattractive and unpopular, the weak and the poor, people who are different or despised. When we do this, we are living up to our baptismal calling to be Christ's body, his presence in the world. We are truly kings and queens when we put flesh and blood on God's love for humanity.

Fr Anthony away

I will be away for meetings from 22 November – 9 December. Fr Rivan will also be away for a period of time. Fr Roy Noreng will be in residence during my absence. Please contact Fr Roy for any pastoral needs.

Fr Anthony Tran CSsR

On Sale at the parish office.
Columban Calendar \$12 & 2023 Diary \$20



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 further notice.

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

878



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

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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	21st November.	FRIDAY	25th November
	<u>Presentation of Mary (m)</u>		<u>34th Week of Ordinary Time Year C</u>
Apocalypse 14:1-5	Psalm 24	Apocalypse 20:1-4,11-21:2	Psalm 84 Luke 21:29-33
Luke 21:1-4		St. Anthony	Mass 9am
St. Anthony	Mass 9am		
TUESDAY	22nd November.	SATURDAY	26th November
	<u>St. Cecilia, V.M. (m)</u>		<u>34th Week of Ordinary Time Year C</u>
Apocalypse 14:14-19	Psalm 96	Apocalypse 22:1-7	Psalm 95
Luke 21:5-11		Luke 21:34-36	
St. Therese	Mass 9am.	St. Therese	Mass 9am.
WEDNESDAY	23rd November.	Sunday	27th November
	<u>34th Week of Ordinary Time Year C</u>		<u>1st Sunday of Advent. (Psalter W. 1)</u>
Apocalypse 15:1-4	Psalm 98	NEXT WEEK (1st Sunday of Advent, Year A) Isaiah 2:1-5; Ps 122; Romans 13:11-14; Matthew 24:37-44	
Luke 21:12-19			<u>Weekend Masses.</u>
St. Anthony	Mass 9am.		
THURSDAY	24th November.		<u>St Anthony : Mass Saturday 5pm, Sunday 9am and Third Sunday Samoan Mass 10:30am.</u>
	<u>St. Andrew Dung-Lac, priest & Comp. Mm. (m)</u>		<u>St Therese: Mass 8am, 10am & 6pm. Fourth Sunday Samoan Mass 12pm.</u>
Apocalypse 18:1-2,21-23;19:1-3,9			
Psalm 100 Luke 21:20-28			
St. Therese	Mass 9am.		

**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 Monica Pua and family for looking after the church cleaning this weekend. Parish youth group's turn for Church cleaning on Saturday the 27th of November.

**St. Therese
CHURCH & GROUNDS.**

Thank you to the Cook Islands community for looking after the Church grounds and the legion of Mary for Church cleaning this weekend. Samoan community's turn on Saturday 24th of November.

Columban Calendar on Sale

Calendar Sale \$12 per calendar after Mass or parish office during office hours.

Daily Mass Prayer Book 2023

Prayer book Sale after Mass or parish office during office hours. \$20 per copy.

CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK

ST. ANTHONY

Celebration on Sunday 4th of December starts at 5pm in the evening. Families are to pack their picnic lunch and join the live entertainment. Please see poster on page 4 for more information.

PRIVATE BAPTISM.

Private baptism continues until further notices. Please contact the priests for booking a private baptism. Your child's birth certificate is required for completing the enrolment form when meeting the priest. Priests' numbers are on page 4 of the bulletin.

ST. FRANCIS RETREAT CENTRE

Fulfilled Retreat - Fri 2 - 4 Dec 2022. Weekend retreat on the life-changing series by Christopher West, *Fulfilled - The Promise of the Christian Life*. Visit <https://www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz/events/fulfilled-weekend-retreat/> or email re-treats@stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz for more information.

ST. TERESE MONEY DONATION.

Thank you to all parishioners who donated to the parish money donation fundraising last Saturday. Total funds raised \$28,230. Fundraising committee wishes to express their sincere thanks to all parishioners and their families, community and prayer groups for their contributions. Fundraising amount will be updated in the following week.

See the Holy Land pilgrimage

There are still some places available for a 21-day pilgrimage to Israel, Jordan and Palestine, leaving on May 2, 2023, led by Pat McCarthy, with Fr Chris Denham as chaplain. The itinerary includes all the major sacred sites of interest to Christian pilgrims, as well as Petra and the Dead Sea. Details from Pat on patsuzie@slingshot.co.nz or (09) 480-4463. Go to tinyurl.com/43atbdjr for a short YouTube video on the trip (less than 5 minutes).

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

Starts in February 2023. Enrolments starts in December. Baptism certificate is required for enrolment. Forms are available at the parish office. Please contact Talei Solomon Mua for more details.

POLICE VETTING RENEWAL.

Attention all volunteers, before you go away on holiday this Christmas, please collect a copy of the police vetting application from the parish office or after Mass on Sunday in the foyer to complete and drop it back to the parish office. All applications submitted in 2020 is due to expire on January, 2023. Please bring driver's license or passport for verification with you when you drop off your form. For more information, please contact Teresa Ah Wa, Safeguarding liaison person.

ST. FRANCIS RETREAT CENTRE

Casual/Part Time Work @ St Francis - We are looking for and experienced cook to work weekends and to help out in our kitchen. Contact Sam kitchen@stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz for more information.

20th November, 2022. Christ the King. [Psalter W2]

2 Samuel 5:1-3; Colossians 1:12-20; Luke 23:35-43

The king who saves others.

We often associate the word 'king' with power and majesty. Also, a king's position is often not dependent on his personal abilities, virtues or goodness, but on family lineage: power and status through inheritance. But Jesus never displayed that kind of power or majesty; after all, he was born in a stable!

Jesus, the King of the Universe, doesn't reign from a golden throne. He does not wear a crown adorned with jewels or wear glittering royal robes. No, he hangs from a wooden cross (an instrument of brutality, pain and death for the 'lowest of the low'); he wears a crown of thorns; and his body is covered with the marks of his passion and torture. This is our King. This is the king we follow. With outstretched arms he invites us to embrace him and, in embracing him, to embrace all creation by living as merciful and self-giving people.

The cross is how God's kingdom is established and where our life as committed disciples begins – allowing ourselves to be formed by the cross of self-giving. Jesus demonstrates his kingship not by saving himself but by saving others. Jesus demonstrates his kingship not by power and domination over others, but by a loving and hope-filled assurance that the fullness of the kingdom (paradise) awaits his faithful disciples. The promise we have is that our lives will end like the Good Thief's, hearing Jesus say to us, "Amen, I say to you, today you will be with me in paradise."

Jesus was crucified because he chose not to run away, not to revoke his message of love, justice and peace, not to dilute his determined resolve, not to lose hope or to surrender his dream. Rather, he placed his hope and trust in God to make all things new. His integrity and determination in the face of unthinkable and unbearable suffering reveal his utter self-giving and his profound commitment to God's kingdom.

So often the world tries to seduce us into choosing to be ruled by other powers: greed, violence, indifference, manipulation, domination, intolerance, prejudice and exclusion. So much of Jesus' reign is still incomplete or disjointed in our world. Today's headlines will confirm that! Being members of God's kingdom, under Jesus' kingship, can at times be very discouraging.

Therefore, accepting Jesus' kingship needs to be renewed each day by the deliberate choices we make. By the way we live, by our words and deeds, we're challenged to make real the kingdom that Jesus dreamt of, hoped for, and poured out his life to bring about – "a kingdom of truth and life, a kingdom of holiness and grace, a kingdom of justice, love and peace." (Preface)

May Jesus' kingship inspire us to let go of whatever is contrary to the Kingdom of God and to give ourselves generously in love and service of others.

David J Hore CSsR
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