



ST JOHN THE BAPTIST, PARNELL
NEWSLETTER
TWENTY-FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
12 SEPTEMBER 2021

Pastor's Note

Spring is officially upon us, and as you go out on our walks, you will start to see the first signs of spring in the vegetation around you. Several of our plants around the presbytery are starting to bud and come into flower, and we hope that some of these flowers will bear fruit like they did last season. These flowers and the fruit that follows are clear signs of the health of the plant. When it comes to us as humans, we can also ascertain the health of a person in what they say and do.

A healthy person can do things that those who are injured or are sick are unable to do. We are also able to recognise the goodness in others and this goodness attracts us. These goodhearted people attract us and it is natural for us want to be around them and ultimately, we want to be their friends. St James, in this Sunday's second reading, encapsulates the origin of this attractive goodness. He also makes a clear link between faith in God and external words and actions that are good and attractive.

St James ultimately tells us that the good deeds that we do are the evidence of the gift of faith that has been given to us by God. The phrase "faith by itself, if it is not accompanied by action, is dead." (James 2:17) is a strong statement. It conveys a reality, that belief must lead to action. Therefore, someone who really believes in a certain way of life would then conform their life in accordance with that belief. For example, someone who comes to the realisation that family relationships are essential for a balanced and fulfilled life would spend energy and resources to achieve this. They would take time out of their day to get in contact with different family members, they would make sure that they would be able to attend family reunions (lockdown levels permitting). Living out the principles that they hold dear would change them, they would be formed and transformed by this and people looking from the outside would be able to see that they clearly prioritise their family relationships. Essentially, people would be able to clearly identify that they would be practicing what they preached.

This practical example also works when it is translated to the spiritual life. When we have faith, it makes demands of us, it governs how we will talk and how we will act. These are the "works" that St James refers to, when we keep alive our life of faith it will manifest in visible works. When we live by faith, we will desire good outcomes for ourselves and for others, we will want other people to share in the good things that we already have. We will desire that all have access to the essentials of life, for example, food, water, clothing, and housing. However, the ultimate good that we as Christians possess is that bond, that relationship with God, that we have by virtue of our baptism. This ultimate good that we possess also needs to be shared, it is a scary thing to think about sharing something that is so personal. Even if it is intimidating, it is important to bear witness to the good that Jesus has worked in your life, to share with others the fruit of your faith in Christ. This is faith in action, and when you choose to share this aspect of your life it is a sharing of the good works that God has manifested in your life and ultimately is a compelling witness to the faith that you have.

God Bless ~ Fr Tony King-Archer

Liturgy of the Word

~ **Isaiah 50:5-9** The just person is sustained in all their trials by the firm belief that God is with them.

~ **Psalm 114** I will walk in the presence of the Lord in the land of the living

~ **James 2:14-18** Faith without good works is dead.

~ **Mark 8:27-35** Even though Peter declares his belief in Jesus as the Messiah, he has no idea what that implies.

Next Week's readings: Wisdom 2:12.17-20; Psalm 53; James 3:16-4:3; Gospel: Mark 9:30-37

For Sunday and weekday readings see: mobilegabriel.com AND www.livingtheword.org.nz

Please pray for those who are sick, recovering from surgery or needing our prayers, especially:

Maura Just, Allisa Elten, Malu Beltran, Frank Guzzo, Avelino Tibudan, Fr Ramon Fruto, Natalie Keane, Aaron Abla, Jenny Fewtrell, Lucas Arnet, Annabel Kalin, Dennis Matthew, Marlee Owens, Samira & Raj, John Sullivan, James L. Cu, Sepi Fe'ao, Teresa Gudex, Ben Hunt, Ana Laura Robles, Ana Denisse Manjarrez, Brian Murphy, Sue Bedford, Christopher Hughes, Alberto Olarte, Joe Raymond, Ambi Joseph, Ivy Hi, Emy Calma, Chris Dwyer, Royston Beckham, Margaret Everett, Alice Swann, John & Rosa Williams, Ann Sayegh, Marie Mole, Linda Mole, BC, Fr Andrei Centeno, Mary Bratton, Kirei Tua, Elizabeth Beckham, Alana North, Maurice Robinson, AS, Michael Wong, Maree C, Kanawat Cheevachit, Yaroslav Khmel, Anne Telles, Linus Broughton, Sue Wynne Davis, Rosily Chacko, Thils Vern, Joy Agon, Patricia Wright, Luigi & Dawn Rocca, Bonifacio Sanches, Neira, Gavin Alexander, Chonusi William, Rosa Santos, Teana Jones, Judy Hanna, Eric & Rachel Smith, Maria Martho, Jon Manson, Francisco Billinilanz, Benny Clynes, Lynn Barnett Welsh, Christopher Browne, Barry Spooner, Nicholas James, Pamela Vincent, Shane McGruddy, Michelle Bergin, Rosita Galarg, J. Harrington, Rodolfo Paragas, Serena Coughy, Martin Harriman, Ann Gordon, Adelaida Sison, Frank Van Nieukerk, John Kainuku, Noeline Levick, Jin Shu Qin, Jill Hopgood-Luyers, Virgilia Velasquez, Wilfred Mansoor, Baden McPherson, Shannon Kavanagh, Gloria Gillespie.

We remember those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time . . .

Ranulfo Zapanta, Ramon Preeda, Elizabeth Hales, Msgr Pat Ward, Myra Crawford, Maurice Churton, Barbara Bato, Dermot O'Leary, Fr Des Moosman, Ethel Marshall, Mary Herbert, Patricia Yambao, Reynaldo Yambao, Justyn Bianzon, Lenny Hidalgo, Ruby Holland, Maria Boles, Kath Allen, Carmel Jefferies, Brian Raju, Don Crawford, Aisla Duffy, Joann Swartz, Aisling Cooke, Juanita Banzon, Esther Gill, Jean Mullan, Ivan Main, Brendan Schollum, Dianne Molloy, George Fisher, Michael O'Reilly, Wayne Hotton, Lani Sinawari, Eng Hoc Ong, Apolinario Castano, Sheila Bamford, Kees van Hassel, Ira Divinagracia, Dorothy James, Ray Buisson, Moira Bryant, Cathy Sheehan, Julie Keesling, Emma Gill, Dorothy Jones, Bruce Sherlock, Joe Paraiso, Marie Early, Mark Gleeson

. . . Eternal rest grant to them.

COVID19 UPDATE

With Auckland still at Alert Level 4, The Church and Parish Office will remain closed until further notice. During this time, emails will continue to be monitored remotely from 10am-5pm Monday to Friday. For any urgent concerns, contact Fr Francis on 021 130 7932. Visit our website www.parnellcatholic.org.nz or connect with us on our Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/StJohnTheBaptistParnell> for the latest updates.



Sunday Mass on TV

Sunday Mass continues to be broadcast at 2 pm on Shine TV channel 25 or Sky channel 201. Or you can watch online from Sunday morning at <https://www.youtube.com/c/AucklandCatholic/playlists>

Resources in times of Lockdown

The diocese has a number of resources available on its website to support people during this time. Visit <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/home-2020-new-design/the-church-and-covid-level-4/>

Daily Reflections from Bishops Pat and Michael

Reflections from our Bishops on Facebook. Bishop Pat <https://www.facebook.com/bishoppatrick> and Bishop Michael <https://www.facebook.com/search/top?q=bishop%20michael%20gielen>

Outline of Liturgy of the Word for Sunday—with links to appropriate music videos, suggestions for reflection.

Accompanied by a PowerPoint for sharing from Pastoral Services Liturgy Centre <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/liturgy-prayer/ritual-prayers/>

Breaking Open the Gospel of the Day - Members of the

Diocesan Community proclaim the Gospel of the Day and reflect on its meaning in our lives and this situation on the Diocesan YouTube Channel <https://www.youtube.com/c/AucklandCatholic/playlists>

On-line Rosary - 8.30 am daily with the Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph. Email anita@stpatricks.org.nz to join.

Lectio Divina reflecting on the daily Gospel readings

Fr James Walsh is leading an introduction to this method of prayer, reflecting on the daily Gospel readings. All are welcome. Please email anita@stpatricks.org.nz to join.

NZ Catholic - the latest free digital edition is now available for everyone at: <https://indd.adobe.com/view/ac3b7938-55ec-43ec-a0b9-3c02cb565718>

Cathedral Spotify Page—St Patrick Cathedral's Acting Director of Music Nicholas Forbes creates a weekly Spotify Music list for Sunday. You can listen for free at <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/0J0zlb7QYYQmZIXpDzm9l9?si=0c2d5f9b3e064ef1>

Diocesan Vacancy

Chief Financial Officer for the Catholic Diocese of Auckland
Fantastic leadership role available. Become a trusted advisor and lead the strategic and operational financial functions of one of New Zealand's oldest and largest religious organisations. Applications close 5pm 13 September.
To view the position description, please visit the Diocesan website www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz, under Diocesan Services and Staff Vacancies.

ONLINE EVENTS THIS WEEK

Light of Hope - Online concert with Fr. Chris Skinner

7 pm Saturday 11 September 7pm

An evening of spirit-filled worship, led by the fantastic Fr. Chris Skinner. Video available on Bishop Pat's Facebook page. <https://www.facebook.com/bishoppatrick>

CYAC Vocations Series: A Journey to the Priesthood

6.15 pm Monday 13 September

The Catholic Young Adults Community continues their Vocations Series with newly-ordained, Fr. Isaac Fransen, share about his personal journey towards priesthood. <https://www.facebook.com/events/1298302237259435>

Living in Lockdown #4 - Mental Health

Wednesday 15/09, 7pm

Join the ACYM team for a laid-back, radio talk-show style event for youth & young adults on Facebook Live. This week's topic is mental health. <https://www.facebook.com/AKCYM>

An Evening with Internationally Acclaimed

Speaker and Musician, Fr Rob Galea

8 pm Saturday 18 September

Join us for a night of formation, music and Q&A with internationally acclaimed speaker and musician, Fr. Rob Galea! Fr. Rob will be joining us on Zoom to share practical ways that we can overcome fear and pursue our God-given potential.

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/82124381475>

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Social Justice Week - 12 to 18 September

Each year the Catholic Bishops of New Zealand set aside a week in September for Social Justice Week, inviting us to reflect and take action on a current social justice issue.

The theme this year will highlight the Beatitudes and is "**A Culture of Encounter: Be the Church**" "**He Ahurea Tūtaki ki Ētahi atu: Me Noho Ko Koutou te Hāhi.**"

This theme on encounter and community was inspired by Pope Francis' encyclical, Fratelli Tutti (2020).

St Vincent de Paul Needs Help

Our friends at St Vincent de Paul need donations to continue their work in the wider Auckland community.

You can donate by visiting their Give A Little Page <https://givealittle.co.nz/org/vinniesauckland>

Or with online banking—Bank Account Details
Name: Soc of St Vincent De Paul Ak

Account Number: 12-3017-0500224-00. Reference: Covid-19
For a tax receipt and enquiries email auckland@stvinnies.co.nz

If you require assistance with a food parcel you can phone them on 0800 680 090.

Follow them and the work that they do on their Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/stvinnies>

Catholic Caring Foundation - need your help to support struggling families. Our agencies are overwhelmed with requests for support. Want to help? Make a donation today. Visit <https://caringfoundation.org.nz/ways-to-give/>

