

Exploring The WORD

We spool forward a few centuries in the story of the Old Testament, to arrive at Abraham, "our Father in faith". Today we hear of another Covenant (like last week) - even though the word is not used. God promises Abraham descendants like "the stars of heaven", and the showering of blessings. This shows how much God loves Abraham, and all his children. This love is proved for us in Jesus: God loves us so much he sacrificed his only Son (just as Abraham was willing to do); but this is not all: Jesus also rose from the dead, to stand at God's right hand and plead for us. All this is revealed in the story of the Transfiguration, where Jesus is seen in the glory that is rightfully his as the only Son of God. Not until after the Resurrection will the disciples see this fully again.

PRAYER THIS WEEK

"And he was transfigured before them ."

Friends caught a dazed glimpse of him, as he really was!
In blinding brightness, his clothes turned dazzling white as no eyes on earth had ever seen.

O Christ, take us to your mountain.
Transform all our acts,
our very being,
into your love.

"We are all walking around shining like the sun."

Let us see it.
Let us glimpse your glory.
In beauty, in skies, and flowers,
and butterflies; in a happy child's face,
in music that our souls sing,
in joyful folks helping other folks. Amen

LENTEN SPIRITUALITY

A More Just Society

In the midst of our suffering and hardship, we must keep sight of the "light at the end of the tunnel." We know that Jesus is that light and that we must trust in that light the way Abraham trusted in God. We are suffering voluntarily in our Lenten fast. We are also acutely aware in this season of the suffering caused by our sinfulness. Easter, however, awaits us, the hope of resurrection, because "God is for us." Many in our world are suffering involuntarily. They are the poor, the hungry, the homeless, the victims of oppression and war and other injustices. Is there "light at the end of the tunnel" for them? When will Easter come to them? Who is for them besides God? Christians cannot allow the magnitude of social evils to overwhelm them. They must always live by the light of Christ and the hope of resurrection.." Gerald Darring/liturgy.slu.edu



SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION 13 March Orewa 7.00pm Wednesday 14 March East Coast Bay 7:00pm Thursday Tuesday 19 March Northcote 7:00pm 20 March Glenfield Wednesday 7:00pm Thursday 21 March Takapuna 7:00pm Friday 22 March Beach Haven 7:00pm Devonport 7:00pm Sunday 24 March



HOLY WEEK & EASTER SCHEDULE

PALM-PASSION SUNDAY 24 March 2024

5.30pm Saturday - 8.00am and 10.00am Sunday

MONDAY, 25 March 2024 CHRISM MASS

7.30pm St Patrick's Cathedral

WEDNESDAY, 27 March 2024 7.00pm Chaldean Washing of the Feet Mass

HOLY THURSDAY, 28 March 2024

7.30pm MASS OF THE LORD'S SUPPER Adoration after Mass at the Altar of Repose Collection for the Caritas

GOOD FRIDAY, 29 March 2024

9.00am STATIONS OF THE CROSS
10.00am DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET
11.30am Chaldean Stations of the Cross
3pm COMMEMORATION OF LORD'S PASSION
Collection is for the upkeep of Holy Places, Jerusalem

EASTER VIGIL, 30 March 2024

7.30pm THE LORD'S RESURRECTION
Parish to provide T-light candles. <u>DO NOT</u> bring your own.
Second collection for upkeep of Auckland Clergy

EASTER SUNDAY, 31 March 2024

9am Celebration of the Lord's Resurrection Second collection for upkeep of Auckland Clergy

11.30am Chaldean Easter Mass

THE WORD OF GOD

2nd Sunday of Lent

Genesis 22:1-2,9-13,15-18 Romans 8:31-34 Mark 9:2-10

Monday

Daniel 9:4-10 Luke 6:36-38

Tuesday

Isaiah 1:10,16-20 Matthew 23:1-12

Wednesday

Jeremiah 18:18-20 Matthew 20:17-28

Thursday

Jeremiah 17:5-10 Luke 16:19-31

Friday

Genesis 37:3-4,12-13,17-28 Matthew 21:33-43,45-46

Saturday

Micah 7:14-15,18-20 Luke 15:1-3,11-32

All welcome to share

in a cuppa after the 10am Mass hosted by the

Indian Community





Baptism Preparation Courses 2024

Contact the parish office to book **Ph**: 444 8624 Email: office@stthomasmore.org.nz







Please pray for our sick parishioners & their families

Simone Choromanski, Anselmo Salazar, Gaye Rhodes, Mary Baker, Israel Nathan, Lyn Cotter, Tamar Mathews, Mark Delaurier, Mary Anne Clark

Contact the Parish office if you wish to add names office@stthomamore.org.nz





First Friday

on 1 March 2024 Exposition 6:30pm Divine Mercy Chaplet Novena 7pm Mass 7.30pm

OSHUA

NORTH SHORE

An open invitation to all men to join others in a spirit of learning, camaraderie, prayer and fellowship. And a special welcome to those who we have not seen for some time. We look forward to your presence.

Date: 28 Feb 2024 - 7.30pm-9.30pm New Venue: St Thomas More Catholic Church. 336 Wairau Road, Glenfield, Auckland Speaker: Fr Carl Telford SM Fostering a strong Prayer Habit

Private Confession would be available on request.



Eftpos is available every 4th Sunday of the month for SVDP collection

We thank you for your generous contribution.

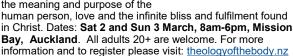


Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass on Friday 1st March 7:00pm at St Mary's Parish, 20 Kitenui Ave, Mt Albert. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament.

Chaplet of Mercy Sung, Benediction, Mass, followed by veneration of St Faustina's relic. All Welcome.

THEOLOGY OF THE BODY (TOB) - UPCOMING COURSE

Human Love in the Divine Plan: Beginners Course - ideal for those new to TOB. It focuses on the meaning and purpose of the





Voice for Life Auckland warmly invites

Theology of the Body

you to attend their "Real-life Law & Ethics for Medical and Legal Professionals" Training Day. As well as medical or legal professionals, anyone wishing to be a voice for life in their day-to-day interactions will benefit from attending, with more than 10 incredible, varied sessions. Hear from legal, medical and ethical experts including policy and culture experts, legal experts, medical experts, and social support experts. Learn about the limits of the current abortion and euthanasia laws. Learn what you can do and say to maintain your pro-life values while having compassionate conversations in the workplace. All are welcome to attend this free event, which will be held at the Reformed Church of the North Shore, Trias Road, Sunnynook, on 2 March, 2024. Morning tea and lunch provided. Visit voiceforlife.org.nz/ak24 to find out more.

TITIPOUNAMU Study & Joy

Bible Stories - What do they mean?

Join us in unravelling Bible stories and looking for answers within a group, and with Bible Scholar Kieran Fenn fms. Sundays, 04 Feb, 03 Mar, 07 Apr, 05 May 2024, 5-6pm (Zoom). Koha https://www.studyjoy.nz/2024/01/19/bible-stories-what-do-they-mean/

The Mystery of Miracles

Mondays, 08/15/22/29 April 2024, 7-8.30pm \$25/session or \$80/series, incl. study material. https://www.studyjoy.nz/2024/01/11/the-mystery-of-miracles/

For more information: www.studyjoy.nz

CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

Kids Corner: https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wpcontent/uploads/2024/02/Celebrating-Third-SUNDAYoflent.pdf

Parents pondering: Lifting our eyes to the Heavens https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/ uploads/2024/02/Lifting-our-eyes-to-the-Heavens-andreceiving-a-kiss-of-God.pdf



Envelopes are in the church foyer for your donations.

NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE

"Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College is offering a course on Mission and Ministry for three Saturdays, 02 March, 06 April and 04 May 9am-4pm in Ponsonby Auckland. This can be for personal interest or credited towards Certificate in Christian Studies. Fee is \$374. Go to www.tekupenga.ac.nz/apply to enrol. For more information go to www.tekupenga.ac.nz ' -000-

<u>The Upper Room</u> Young adults, this event is a fantastic opportunity to grab a drink, enjoy some (free) bar snacks, meet other young Catholics, and dive into some relevant topics. Our guest speaker for this Upper Room is Danielle Mourits. Thursday

7th March 7pm at Good George Mission Bay. Tickets \$10. Go to our Facebook page @AKCYM or email felicity@cda.org.nz for details.

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SUMMIT Young Leaders' Weekend Young leaders, are you ready for an incredible weekend of FORMATION, FELLOWSHIP and being spiritually FILLED? We can't wait to see you at the SUMMIT 22-24 March at Sonshine Ranch Clevedon. Go to our Facebook page @AKCYM or email felicity@cda.org.nz for details. –-იОი-

Parish Renewal Are you a lay leader wishing to learn more about what leadership, renewal and vibrancy in your parish can look like? Then this evening event is not to be missed. Fr Chris Ryan (MĞL) Author, Parish Priest and founder of The Arete Mission Discipleship program will be sharing the ways to help in invigorating your parish. Registration is essential Https://divinerenovation.org/events/

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Ministers of the Word and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

The Liturgy Centre is offering liturgical ministry workshops across the deaneries, which will cover training/refreshers for Ministers of the Word and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. These workshops will consist of context, prayer, and practical formation in these areas.

Participants will only need to attend ONE of these workshops. All will receive a certificate at completion, which will be posted to their parish and presented at mass on a chosen date/time. Each session will be held on a specific Sunday at a parish within the designated deanery, from 1pm-3pm (with light lunch provided).

3rd March | Central/City (Good Shepherd Balmoral)

10th March | West (Our Lady of Lourdes Glen Eden)

14th April | East (St Mark Pakuranga) 5th May | South (St Anne Manurewa) 19th May | North Shore (St Joseph Takapuna)

Register via the link below or contact your parish office/priest: https:// www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/liturgy-prayer/ formation/

Please **DO NOT double park** in the main carpark and block access for drop-offs and emergency vehicles. Also please **DO NOT** park along ST Thomas

More Lane - the residents are inconvenienced by the weekly congestion. Your vehicle will be towed

away. Thank you