

### **Exploring The WORD**

Faith is the most precious thing in the world. But it is exposed to the harsh winds of doubt which blow through the modern world. In our gospel for the second Sunday of Easter we meet Doubting Thomas. Each of us has something in common with Doubting Thomas because at times we too are assailed by doubts. Instead of denying our doubts, let us bring them to the Lord. One of the greatest mistakes Thomas made was to cut himself off from the other apostles, that is, from the community. In his doubt and grief he walked alone. It was only when he rejoined the community that he encountered the risen Jesus and so found faith again. To be a believer, or just a spiritual person in today's world can be a lonely business. With the help of the community we are able to resolve our doubts and sustain our faith. Community is an essential part of Christian witness.

#### PRAYER THIS WEEK

"He said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands, and bring your hand and put it into my side, and do not be unbelieving, but believe"

The Lord God formed them out of clay and blew into their nostrils the breath of life.

My Lord and my God!

Jesus breathed on them and gave them his own Spirit.

My Lord and my God!

Christ Jesus, fill us with your very own life so we can take your love and forgiveness to every single person on earth.

My Lord and my God! Amen

#### **EASTER SPIRITUALITY**

#### One Heart, One Mind

The Easter sacraments of initiation have called us to become a community of God's people. The program for this "community of believers is to be of one heart and one mind." The Second Reading deals with the one heart part of being community: loving God and loving God's children. The Gospel deals with the one mind part of being community: belief in Jesus even among those who have not seen. What is such a community like? Look at the Reading from Acts. The early church of Jerusalem respected the apostles and their witness to the resurrection, and along with that they shared their possessions. Voluntarily surrendering their right to private ownership, they created a situation in which no one among them was needy. All members of the community had what they needed, or if they didn't have it, they got it from the community. The passage from Acts does not attempt to impose on us a specific economic system. Rather, it tells us that whatever economic system the followers of Jesus Christ espouse, it had better be a system that provides for the needs of all the people. "Gerald Darring/ liturgy.slu.edu

#### **Daylight savings**

Clocks go back 1 hours at 3am on 7 April 2024

"I, the Lord, am your healer." Exodus 15:26

COMMUNAL CELEBRATION
OF THE ANOINTING OF THE SICK AND
THE ELDERLY WITHIN MASS
Saturday, 13 April 2024 at 9:15 am



#### **Confirmation/First Eucharist**



Classes resume on **Sunday, 21 April 2024** at **4:30pm** in the Parish Hall.

The Sacramental Handbook has been completed. Parents please collect your copy from the church foyer and discuss the topics before each session.





#### **Parish Seniors Group**

Our next gathering will be on Tuesday April 16.
Join us in the Hall after Morning Mass.
We look forward to seeing you for Fun and Fellowship.

# Mums & Bubs

Socialise / cuppa / play / songs / fun

Mums and Grandmas bring along your preschoolers for some fun social time together.

St Thomas More Hall, Wednesday 10 April 2024 from 10–11am



Contact Sylvia on 021 088 22990

#### THE WORD OF GOD 2nd Sunday of Easter

Acts 4:32-35 1 John 5:1-6 John 20:19-31

#### **Monday**

Isaiah 7:10-14,8:10 Hebrews 10:4-10 Luke 1:26-38 **ANNUNCIATION** 

#### Tuesday

Acts 4:32-37 John 3:7-15

#### Wednesday

Acts 5:17-26 John 3:16-21

#### **Thursday**

Acts 5:27-33 John 3:31-36

St Stanislaus, B.M.

#### Friday

Acts 5:34-42 John 6:1-15

#### Saturday

Acts 6:1-7 John 6:16-21

#### All welcome to share in a cuppa after the 10am

Mass hosted by the



#### South

African community



#### **Baptism Preparation** Courses 2024

5 May 2024 9 June 2024 14 July 2024 4 August 2024 8 September 2024 6 October 2024 3 November 2024

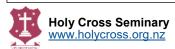
Contact the parish office to book **Ph**: 444 8624 Email: office@stthomasmore.org.nz



#### 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@stthomasmore.org.nz



#### THE STUDIO OF JOHN THE BAPTIST PRESENTS

### DIVINE MYSTERIES

FOR OUR TIME



## 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

PROLIFE FACTS Right to Life (RTL) is an incorporated Society campaigning for the legal

recognition of the unborn child from conception as a human being, endowed by its Creator with an inalienable right to life. It is also campaigning for the repeal of the Abortion Legislation Act 2020 and the End of Life Choice Act 2019. The society's Annual General Meeting will be held on Friday 5th April 2024, at 7.30pm at Christ the King Parish Centre, 90 Greers Rd, Burnside, Christchurch. The quest speaker will be Mr. Paulo Garcia. MP for Grev Lvnn. who will be speaking on "Defending the right to life in 2024." If you are a pro-life person living in the Christchurch area, the executive of Right to Life is looking forward to seeing you there and giving you a report on what the Society has achieved in defending the right to life of the unborn and the vulnerable in our community during 2023. For more pro-life information, visit Voice for Life at

www.voiceforlife.org.nz.

#### CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

Kids Corner: <a href="https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/03/Celebrating-Third-SUNDAY-of-content/u EASTER.pdf

Parents pondering: The Horse who wanted more Beauty https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/ uploads/2024/03/The-Horse-That-Wanted-More-Beauty-1.pdf

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

#### **NEWS FROM THE DIOCESE**

Accountant - Graduate Role- Catholic Diocese of Auckland - The Accountant role will assist the Diocesan Accounting Manager and CFO with operational leadership for the financial management of the Diocese and its related entities. In this role, you will be responsible for ensuring all financial reporting requirements, imperatives are delivered accurately and add value to the organisation. You will provide accurate, timely and relevant statutory and monthly management reporting information for entities which ensures the Diocese both fully meets its statutory requirements and to support the Diocese in the achievement of its strategic goals. This role will suit a recent graduate of a Bachelor's degree or relevant tertiary qualification (Accounting). To view the full advert and the position description please go to our website www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz under Diocesan Services and Staff Vacancies. Applications close 12 April 2024

**University Ministry Coordinator - Catholic** Diocese of Auckland - Are you a self-motivated relationship-builder who can be the driving force behind a new project? We're looking for someone who answers "Yes!" to become our full-time

University Ministry Coordinator. You'll be part of a tight-knit team implementing a bold new strategy for ministry to young people in the Diocese of Auckland. To learn more, please visit: www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/

Northland Region Corrections Facility (Ngawha) - Catholic Prison Chaplaincy - We are seeking to employ a suitably qualified person to work as a member of Tira Tūhāhā Prison Chaplaincy Aotearoa Chaplaincy Team, which delivers Ecumenical Chaplaincy services to men in prison at the Northland Region Corrections Facility. The position is a permanent part-time position of 20 hours per week - days to be determined but with the expectation of some Sundays per month for Sunday Services. To view the full advert and the position description please go to our website www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz under Diocesan Services and Staff Vacancies. Applications close 12 April 2024.

Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand Executive Assistant (EA) vacancy to support the Chief Executive Caritas. Aotearoa New Zealand is the Catholic Bishops' agency for justice, peace and development, part of a global federation. We're on the hunt for an experienced Executive Assistant (EA) to support the Chief Executive. The ideal candidate will have plenty of EA experience, excellent communication skills, and the ability to manage time well. Reporting to the CE, they will need to be able to handle sensitive matters with discretion, demonstrate attention to detail, and understand modern business systems. Affinity with Caritas' mission is a plus. This role offers an exciting opportunity within a close-knit Wellingtonbased team. For more information, visit https:// www.caritas.org.nz/work-with-us

Join Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College for its new webinar series, A Taste of Theology from April-December 2024 every first Tuesday of the month. These are one-hour sessions with topics on Philosophy, Canon Law, Spirituality, Scripture, Moral Theology, etc. Four sessions revisit the documents of Vatican II. Cost of \$60 one -off. For more information and to register, go to www.tekupenga.ac.nz/tasteoftheology.



ST FRANCIS FRIARY Lenses of Love - From & RETREAT CENTRE missionary to bride of Christ- Come, meet and

listen to Nina Talau as she shares her story and experiences, answering God's call for her in consecrated life and as a missionary in the Middle East | Mon 22 Apr 7pm | Koha/Donation | Light refreshments provided | RSVP emily@sfrc.org.nz

Gospel of Mark Retreat - Join the Secular Franciscans for their Annual Retreat at St Francis Retreat Centre, directed by Fr Merv Duffy SM, focused on the Gospel of Mark | Sat 27 Apr 9am -Sun 28 Apr 3pm | \$225 per person includes all meals and accommodation| Contact Paul 0274 932 921, paulhitchfield@gmail.com