



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PARISH

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Sunday 21st August 2022 – Twenty First Week In Ordinary Time

Readings: Isaiah 66:18-21, Psalm 117, Hebrews 12:5-7, 11-13, Luke 13:22-30

The Pastor's Pen

Dear Parishioners,

Greetings, hoping that you're all well. This Sunday, we hear Isaiah, Paul and Luke speaking. However, what do they have to say to us who now live so many centuries after them.

The prophet Isaiah learned in a dream that the Lord was going to end Israel's exile. He would lead peoples of all nations to Jerusalem. Both Israel and Gentile converts would come to the temple, bearing gifts in clean vessels in worship.

The prophecy becomes meaningful for us when we understand that Jerusalem stands for the Heavenly City of God. All nations will have to come to the Church. God is not limited to any place or time but can be found everywhere by all who seek Him. Those who are purified in this life have a glorious inheritance awaiting them in heaven.

Perhaps, we do not need Saint Paul to tell us about the trials of life, everybody has a personal experience with them. But why does God permit such things?

The building of God's Kingdom is not a spectator's sport. It involves serious human sacrifice and endeavour. Ups and downs are not signs that God is angry with us. They are, in fact, the result of having a free will and the ability to make our own personal decisions. Through our choices and decisions, we grow in maturity and wisdom. In coping with our problems, we learn the value of discipline and purification. It is a very important lesson.

Suffering is part of our journeying and training. Unpleasant as it is, it bears fruits in peace and goodness for those who accept it. Take heart then and persevere. Gold is not harmed but purified in the fire. As Jesus' disciples, we are expecting to enter in by the narrow door, waiting for us, if we but remain faithful till the end. It is a sharing in a glorious place at the heavenly banquet table. So, let us begin now to strive and prepare for that narrow door by re-enforcing our discipline and continue to do the will of God. Keep in mind that salvation involves more than membership. Endure your trials as disciples and look forward to the narrow gate.

Enjoy your weekend and a safe week ahead.

Blessings

Fr Simone Ah Lo sm

The Parish Rosary Intention for August Is for: Priestly Vocations, Priests and Religious

MASS TIMES for the week of **23rd to the 28th August 2022**

Tuesday 23rd August: Church open for prayer
Wednesday 24th August: Mass 5.30pm
Thursday 25th August: Mass 5.30pm
Friday 26th August: Holy Hour 10.am followed by Mass at 11am - Reconciliation is available at this time
Saturday 27th August: Mass 5.30pm
Sunday 28th August: Mass 9.30am

MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND 27th and 28th August

PROCLAIMERS OF THE WORD

Saturday: 5.30pm – D McCarthy, N McCarthy

Sunday: 9.30am – Tongan Community

MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday: 9.30am – R Q Gilmour

GIFTS

Sunday: 9.30am – Tongan Community

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND DYING

Recent Deaths: Patricia O'Rourke

Death Anniversary: Pauline Molloy, Kath Gormanly, Sr Rose Harris, Menga Gilmour, Maud Campbell, Gerald Dragicevich and Jack Fannon

Sick: Reginald Warren (Andrew Warren's Father)

THIS SUNDAY AUGUST 21ST: At the 9.30am Mass the parish will be given an update on Parish Finances

FAITH JOURNEY CAFE WITH A CUPPA:

These sessions will be held on the 2nd and 3rd Sundays of each month
Are you interested in learning more about the Catholic Church?
Perhaps you've been thinking of becoming a member of the **Sacred Heart Parish**
Or perhaps you are just curious about what Catholics believe.
Or want to know more about your Catholic Faith
Please join us for tea/coffee on **This Sunday 21st August**
after the 9.30am Mass from 11.am to 12noon
THE MASS
We'll meet in the **Mary McKillop Centre**. All are welcome.

SUNDAY 28TH AUGUST: The 9.30am Mass on this Sunday will be led by our Tongan Community.

Kids Korner: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/TWENTY-FIRST-SUNDAY-in-OT.pdf>
Parent Ponderings: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2022/08/It-Will-All-Come-Out-in-the-Wash.pdf>

Mission Map: 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. The diocese will provide lunch. During this time, we will explore what we consider the hallmarks are of a welcoming, vibrant faith community, hear from David Wells about missionary discipleship, explore the different resources available, and reflect on what we can do together. We hope that it will be a warm, welcoming, time together where we can learn from each other, be encouraged and nourished. 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/>

Saturday 27 August

Whangarei Church Hall

RSVP 22 August **Monday last day to book in**

Maori Pastoral Care Collection Sunday 28th August: This money is used to fund initiatives, schools, and projects of the Auckland Diocesan Maori Community.

Caritas Social Justice Week 4 - 10 September: *Whakakāhoretia te kaikiri. Kotahi anō tātou i roto i te Karaiti*
SAY NO TO RACISM. WE ARE ONE IN CHRIST

CENSUS 2023 – JOB ROLES (Nationwide)

(Whakaharatau Tatauranga 2023 - Puta noa i te motu)

The link for Census 2023 jobs is www.persolkelly.co.nz/censusjobs



NATIONAL March for Life. You're invited to love them both by attending the sixth annual NATIONAL March for Life in Wellington on Saturday 3 December. Join people of goodwill from all over NZ in a celebration of life which also *peacefully* protests the practice and legality of abortion. Gather at Civic Square from 1pm for family-friendly entertainment, sausage sizzle and pro-life stalls. March to Parliament Grounds begins at 2pm. Concludes at 4pm. Learn more about this important event at a critical moment in NZ's history: www.marchforlife.nz

Mass for Life. You're invited to pray for babies, mums, dads and families at a Mass for Life on Friday 2 December, 7pm at St Mary of the Angels, 17 Boulcott Street, Wellington. Cardinal John Dew will be the principal celebrant. Eucharistic Adoration will follow for one hour after Mass to pray in readiness for the National March for Life. For more information please visit fli.org.nz/prolifeevents or phone Clare 021 231 7954.