



# SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PARISH

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## Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September 2022 – Twenty Fourth Week In Ordinary Time

Readings: Exodus 32:7-11,13-14, Psalm 51, 1 Timothy 1:12-17, Luke 15:1-32

### The Pastor's Pen

Dear People of God.

Kia ora koutou katoa.

The readings this Sunday draws all our attention to the Mercy of God. He is our loving Father, who never counts our deeds against us but awaits with open arms to welcome us, if we, somehow come to our senses and return to Him. As Moses spoke with God on top of Mount Sinai, the people below busied themselves in making and worshipping a golden calf. This was a pagan symbol of strength and fertility. The Lord was outraged by this and would have destroyed the idolaters had not Moses intervened.

Moses reminded the Lord of His investment in his people. The Lord had performed many wonders on their behalf and had also promised their patriarchs a blessing on their descendants. The Lord honoured Moses' plea on behalf of the Israelites and stayed His avenging hand.

Mercy is one of the most endearing things about God. Divine justice is tempered with divine mercy, said Saint Paul. Because of God's mercy, Saul had been changed from blasphemer to believer. Did it not show God's patience and resolve to save sinners that He had revealed Himself to the greatest sinner of all, Paul? To the Lord God be honour and glory forever.

The story of the prodigal son perhaps illustrates the mercy of God most eloquently. This young lad, inheritance in hand, left home for a fling in far-off places. Soon penniless, hungry and lonely, this prodigal came to his senses and headed for home.

When the father saw his son returning home, he welcomed him with open arms. He cut short the boy's confession and gave order for a big celebration. Great was the rejoicing in that household. The son who was dead had come back to life. He was lost and now was found.

Many a sinner since that day has been moved to come to his senses and return home. The welcome mat is always out at God's house. We need only to return and God will overwhelm us with His love and tender mercies. Let us pray for all those who have gone away from Christian faith, that they may realise the value of their lost faith and come back to the Father's home. May we always desire of wholeheartedly returning to the love and mercy of our Lord. Enjoy your weekend and safe week ahead.

Blessings

Fr. Simone Ah Lo sm.

### The Parish Rosary Intention for September is for: All Fathers

#### **MASS TIMES** for the week of **13<sup>th</sup> to the 18<sup>th</sup> September 2022**

Tuesday	13 <sup>th</sup>	September:	Church open for prayer
Wednesday	14 <sup>th</sup>	September: Mass	5.30pm
Thursday	15 <sup>th</sup>	September: Mass	5.30pm
Friday	16 <sup>th</sup>	September: Holy Hour	10.am followed by Mass at 11am - Reconciliation is available at this time
Saturday	17 <sup>th</sup>	September: Mass	5.30pm <b>At Ruawai</b>
Sunday	18 <sup>th</sup>	September: Mass	9.30am

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#### **MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND 17<sup>th</sup> and 18<sup>th</sup> SEPTEMBER**

##### **PROCLAIMERS OF THE WORD**

Saturday: 5.30pm – B Balcombe, L Fluhler

Sunday: 9.30am – R Hanipale, T Neems

##### **MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Sunday: 9.30am – E Perreau

##### **GIFTS**

Sunday: 9.30am – K and M Mahe

## PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND DYING

**Recent Deaths:** Flora Hackett

**Death Anniversary:** Marica Marinkovich and Matthew Gilmour

**Sick:** Reginald Warren (Andrew Warren's Father)

## FAITH JOURNEY CAFE WITH A CUPPA:

These sessions will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> 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 **This Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> September**

**after the 9.30am Mass from 11.am to 12noon**

**PARTS OF THE MASS**

We'll meet in the **Mary McKillop Centre**. All are welcome.

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**Kids Korner:** <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/TWENTY-FOURTH-SUNDAY-of-OT.pdf>

**Parent Ponderings:** <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/God-Jesus-and-Me-1.pdf>

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Some headlines for this issue: Three ordained deacons for the Dunedin diocese; Papal Knighthood for Christchurch parishioner Geoff Bailey; Hamilton priests celebrate their anniversaries. Please support your local Catholic paper.

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## **World Youth Day 2023 15<sup>th</sup> July to 6<sup>th</sup> August 2023**

The Auckland Diocese is planning on taking 50 young people to World Youth Day 2023 in Lisbon, Portugal. Our pilgrimage will be an incredible 24-day journey through France and Portugal. Interested in being part of it? Email

[samuelb@cda.org.nz](mailto:samuelb@cda.org.nz).

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**The Season of Creation is celebrated worldwide in the month of September ending with the Feast of Saint Francis of Assisi on 4<sup>th</sup> October.** During this time the global Christian family will participate in initiatives of **prayer, sustainability, and advocacy to care for our common home**. This year the theme for Season of Creation is **"Listen to the Voice of Creation"** and the image is the **"Burning Bush"**. It symbolises **God's presence** with us (as spoken of in Ex: 1-12). It is a reminder of all the fires burning around the world because of global warming and a reminder to take positive action as stewards/kaitiaki.

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NZ Catholics are being urged to support the under-funded hospice and palliative care services by donating, volunteering in hospice shops and asking their members of Parliament and the Government to make palliative care a priority. Bishop of Auckland Steve Lowe, Secretary of the NZCBC, says hospices provide a free service to 20,000 palliative care patients and their whānau each year, but have to fundraise almost half the \$176 million cost. Bishop Steve says: "When the public was asked at the 2020 election to support the euthanasia legislation – dubbed the End of Life Choice law – they were led to believe palliative care would be a priority choice. Instead, hospice funding has been virtually capped at a time of high inflation"

Full details online here: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/support-palliative-care/>

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On the August 20, the Diocesan Pastoral Council met with Bishop Steve. The newsletter reporting on this meeting can be downloaded from the diocesan website <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2022/09/DPCAUGUST2022.pdf>

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## **TAUTOKO**

Below is the link to the September update from Te Rōpū Tautoko, the group coordinating Catholic engagement with the Royal Commission into Abuse in Care. This month's update is a look at the upcoming hearing to take place in October, a review of the August Hearing - *Institutional responses of State agencies to abuse in care*, an update from the Government, and the beginning of Tautoko's work to hand the mission over to the wider Church.

[Tautoko Update: September 2022 \(mailchi.mp\)](#)