



SACRED HEART CATHOLIC PARISH

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Sunday 31 March 2024 – Easter Sunday

Readings: Acts 10:34,37-43; Psalm 118; Colossians 3:1-4; John 20:1-9

The Pastor's Pen

Dear Parishioners,

Greetings and welcome to the Palm Sunday of the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ. On this day the Church recalls the entrance of Christ into Jerusalem to accomplish his Paschal Mystery.

Christ's returning to his home town marks the beginning of our Holy Week and returning to our faith and roots. He is a humble servant, who obeys even unto death on the cross and God raises him to be the perfect sacrifice. Although his nature is Divine he never claims his equality with God. He takes a form of a slave for our sake.

Wednesday 27th of this month is our Parish Reconciliation day. It is simply the great opportunity for us to purify ourselves from our iniquities and get ready for the Easter Triduum. So, come let us reconcile, forgive and pray for one another.

Holy Thursday of the Lord's Last Supper with his disciples. Jesus offers the Church three important things. Firstly, he institutes the Sacrament of the Holy Eucharist. He transforms the bread and wine to be his own Body and Blood. And gives them to his disciples to consume and say to them: "Every time you do this, do it in my memory." Secondly, Jesus as a high priest of God, in the order of Melchizedek of old, gives the gift of priesthood to the Church, to be leaders and shepherds to care for his flock. Lastly, he washes the feet of his disciples and says to them: "I have given you an example. If I then, the Lord and Master, have washed your feet, you should wash each other's feet." On this same night we adore the Blessed Sacrament.

Good Friday, is the Second Day of the Triduum, and we continue with the Passion of our Lord. The Stations of the Cross at 2pm, followed by our veneration of Jesus' holy cross. Jesus dies on the cross at 3pm. We disperse in silence and reflect on how our Lord died.

Holy Saturday, is not part of the Easter Triduum, but a Solemn Beginning of the Vigil or Lucernarium. It is a night that the Church calls on its members to come together to watch and pray. On this night, we normally bless the flames of fire, which inflames our hearts with heavenly desires. We light the Paschal Candle from this same fire and say: "Christ be our Light; Thanks be to God." With pure minds and hearts, we honour Christ as our unending splendour of light, and renew our Baptismal Promises. We also bless the Holy Waters for the Sacrament of Baptism and continue to watch and pray for the Good News and Joy of the Resurrection.

Easter Sunday, is the third day of the Easter Triduum. The Good News and the joy of the Resurrection. We honour and celebrate Christ as our Risen Lord. He is victorious and the last enemy that he defeats is death. The Good News proclaimed by the women as first apostles to the apostles, is the "JOY" for the whole world, the joy of the "Resurrection." The linens and the empty tomb are enough testimonies of his rising to new life. So, sing, "Alleluia for he is risen, he is risen indeed, Alleluia."

Words of gratitude and sincere thanks to all of you who have worked hard to organize, prepare, involve and be part of our Holy Week preparation and celebration. We have done it, not as an individual but as a team. Keep up, keeping up with the good spirit. Let us continue to imitate and follow the footsteps of our Risen Lord, who leads us with excellent examples. He encourages us to serve, not to be served. May he help us to bring the Good News to those we meet. Be kind and have a safe and enjoyable Holy Week. "Happy Easter" to you all.

Fr. Simone Ah Lo sm.

The Parish Rosary Intention for April Is for: Pope Francis, Bishops, Priests and all Religious

MASS TIMES for the week of 2nd to the 7th April 2024

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| Tuesday | 2 nd April: | Church Open for Prayer |
| Wednesday | 3 rd April: Mass | 5,30pm |
| Thursday | 4 th April: Mass | 5.30pm |
| Friday | 5 th April: | 10.00am Holy Hour, Reconciliation, Benediction |
| | Mass | 11.am |
| Saturday | 6 th April: Mass | 5.30pm Ruawai |
| Sunday | 7 th April: Mass | 9.30am |

[Good Friday 29 March Collection for Holy Places](#) - This collection goes towards the upkeep of the Holy Places in Christendom

MINISTERS FOR NEXT WEEKEND 6th and 7th of April

PROCLAIMERS OF THE WORD

Saturday: 5.30pm - L Fluhler, E Perreau

Sunday: 9.30am - M Marinkovich, T Neems

MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION

Sunday: 9.30am – R Green

GIFTS and COLLECTION BASKET

Sunday: 9.30am – McMillan Family

MORNING TEA - Come over for a cuppa and get to know your fellow parishioners. All welcome

Sunday: – B & B Battye

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK AND DYING

Recent Deaths: Daniel Hansen

Death Anniversary: Pa Henare Tate, Mabel

Rahui

Sick: Manolita Peralta, Liz Dennis, Ray Balcombe, Marie Hopkinson, Jean O'Neill



Easter Triduum:

The three days that begin on Holy Thursday with the Mass of the Lord's Supper, celebrates the paschal event, and that newness of life which flows from the crucified, buried and risen Christ

Holy Thursday 28th March: Mass 7.00pm Mass of the Lord's Supper and washing of the Feet. After Holy Communion Our Lord is transferred to the Altar of Repose for quiet reflection time and will conclude with night prayers at 10.00pm

Good Friday 29th March – 2.00pm Stations of the Cross followed by Veneration of the Cross The celebration of the passion and death of the Lord

Holy Saturday 30th March – 7.30pm in preparation for Easter Sunday The night vigil is arranged in four parts – service of light - liturgy of the word – liturgy of baptism – liturgy of the eucharist.

Easter Sunday 31st March Mass 9.30am Dargaville – All Parish Mass

Alleluia! This Mass is our **Alleluia**; our song of praise to the risen Christ who is our life and whose triumph over death we proclaim to all the world.

Tuesday 9th April 7.00pm to 8.30pm - People from the Auckland Diocese will be running a workshop here in our Parish on **-The Call to be a Synodal Church - Exploring the practice of Synodality. HOW can we be A Synodal Church in Mission.** Please come and support this workshop.

Divine Mercy Feast Sunday 7th April 5:30pm at St Benedict's Parish,

1 St Benedict's Street, Eden Terrace. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Blessing of Images, Benediction, Holy Mass, Veneration of St Faustina's relic. **You are warmly invited to attend this Feast Day Celebration. Bring your Divine Mercy images & artefacts to be blessed.** Jesus told St Faustina "My Heart rejoices on this Feast Day". Free Parking at Wilson carpark & street parking is also free on Sunday.

