

PRAYER INTENTIONS BOX

We invite you to take advantage of the drop box in the foyer for your Prayer Intentions.

These will be prayed for on that day or the day following by one of our Prayer Groups.

Paper is provided. You can place your written intentions in the labelled drop box in the church foyer at any time.

We encourage you to make the most of this opportunity.

The Religious Education Committee

PARISH HOLY HOUR

St Michael's next Holy Hour with
Adoration, Benediction & communal prayer
is on
Friday 22 March at 7.00pm.

*"Seek the Lord & His strength;
seek His presence continually"*

Psalm 105:4"



PARISH of ST MICHAEL

FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT 2024

17th March 2024

Parish of St Michael, Remuera
6 Beatrice Road, Remuera, 1050
Phone: 09 520 1226
office@remueracatholic.org.nz
www.remueracatholic.org.nz

Parish Priest: Father Tony Dunn
frtonydunn@gmail.com (021 954 292)

Parish Office
Fiona Twomey / Fran Carne

Baptism Preparation:
Pauline loelu

RCIA:
Peter Hay-MacKenzie

Sacramental Programme:
Pauline loelu

Music Co-ordinator:
James loelu

Safeguarding Co-ordinator:
Fiona Twomey

REMUERA Parish
Eucharist:
Sunday 8am, 10am, 5pm

Weekday Mass:
Mon,Tues,Wed,Thurs,Fri 7am & 12noon
Sat 8am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:
After Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri
7am Mass and 4th Friday from 7-8pm

Anointing of the Sick:
11.30am First Friday of the Month

Reconciliation / Confession:
Saturday 8:30am, Sunday 4.30pm
or by appointment

PARNELL Parish
Saturday 9am, 5pm (Vigil)
Sunday 7am, 9.30am

READINGS THIS SUNDAY
1. *Jeremiah 31:31-34*
2. *Hebrews 5:7-9*

Pastor's Column : 5th Sunday of Lent

W. Sommerset Maughan retells beautifully the old story of the Merchant of Bagdad. There was a merchant in Bagdad who sent his servant to market to buy provisions and in a little while the servant came back, white and trembling, and said, "Master, just now, when I was in the market place I was jostled by a stranger in the crowd and when I turned, I saw it was Death that jostled me! The Grim Reaper looked at me and made a threatening gesture. Now, lend me your horse, and I will ride away from this city and avoid my fate. I will go to far-off Samarra and there Death will not find me." The merchant lent him his horse and the servant mounted it, and he dug his spurs in its flanks and rode as fast as the horse could gallop to Samarra. Curious, the merchant went down to the market place and he saw Death standing in the crowd and so went up to him and said, "Why did you make a threatening gesture to my servant when you saw him this morning?" Death replied, "That was not a threatening gesture but a start of surprise. I was astonished to see him in Bagdad, for I had an appointment with him tonight in Samarra!"

As the story suggests, timing is pivotal. Timing is pivotal in John's Gospel too. Jesus talks about his hour, either, not yet, or yet to come. Here, in this important reflection, it has arrived.

It has arrived, because in the OT there were many prophecies, eg Isaiah, Zechariah and Micah, that one of the signs of the time of Salvation, will be the conversion of the Gentiles and their coming to worship the one true God.

The Greeks asking to see Jesus, is seen by him as a fulfilment of the prophecies and a sign that his hour has come. Jesus then talks of his passion and death as the ultimate act of praise and glory to God his Father. Jesus then refers to himself as a grain of wheat that needs to be buried and die, in order to bear fruit.

This has clear Eucharistic connotations. One fruit of Jesus death and Resurrection is the Eucharist. The blood flowing from his pierced heart underscores this reality. This fruit becomes the life of the world, as he says elsewhere; "unless you eat my flesh and drink my blood you cannot have life in you".

The hating of one's life that Jesus speaks of, is a colourful Middle-Eastern way of speaking, meaning, making a preferential choice for Him, over and above anything else. When Jesus talks of laying down his life and a casting out of the Prince of this world, he is referring to a real exorcism. John in his Gospel doesn't relate exorcism stories. He sees Jesus sacrifice on the cross, as the ultimate cosmic exorcism and re-establishing of the reign of God on earth.

Jesus then takes the vision of an end time, when all the Gentiles will come to the Temple and Jerusalem. He identifies and replaces Jerusalem and its Temple with his own body, specifically his body crucified. It is the cross that will draw all people, including the Gentiles, as well as Jews, to Himself.

So when the Greeks said to Philip and Andrew, "we want to see Jesus" Jesus response is indeed himself, but himself crucified. That is why the cross is such a central and defining symbol in our Catholic Tradition.

Fr Tony Dunn

IT'S YOUR FUNERAL! The parish can help you plan your funeral liturgy. A friendly, experienced and confidential service is promised. Those interested should contact the parish office for a copy of the parish's planning checklist.

TRANSPORT TO MASS Do you or someone you know need a lift to Mass on a Sunday? Please notify the parish office with name, contact number and address for pickup and return.

Fifth Sunday of Lent 2024 [Kids Korner](#) [Parent Ponderings](#)



14 February to 24 March Help save lives this Lent by prayer, fasting, and public witness to the sanctity of all human life from the first moment of existence at conception. Find out how to get involved here: www.fli.org.nz/40daysforlife Or contact Simon – 021 400 729 or simon@fli.org.nz

YOUTH KICK-OFF EVENT on SATURDAY 23 March at 6:30pm at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish Hall, 19 Banff Ave. Epsom, Auckland, with food, games and more. All youth in years 7-10 are welcome. This is a great way to have fun, catch up with old friends and make new ones as well as to grow in faith, guided by great leaders who live what they believe! Register at <https://epsomcatholic.org.nz/youth/>

EPSOM PARISH YOUTH GROUP After a very long INTERMISSION we will be returning to **The Lido on Monday 8 April at 7.30pm**. Our first movie will be **CABRINI- Arriving in New York City in 1889, Italian immigrant Francesca Cabrini is greeted by disease, crime and impoverished children. She soon sets off on a daring mission to convince the mayor to secure housing and health care for society's most vulnerable. With broken English and poor health, Cabrini uses her entrepreneurial mind to build an empire of hope unlike anything the world has ever seen. Tickets \$20.** Proceeds from this event will go to Epsom Parish's Youth Group ministry. For details/to secure your tickets, please contact Margaret Wong. Mob:0211174505 E: m.wong@slingshot.co.nz

UPCOMING RETREATS & EVENTS at ST FRANCIS RETREAT CENTRE: www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz Ph: 09 625 6651
Time Out Days-For those who seek a day retreat - 9:30am-2:30pm (\$30 incl lunch) | Thu 21 Mar | Tue 16 Apr | Wed 15 May
Homecoming - A Lenten retreat reflecting on Rembrandt's painting and Henri Nouwen's book "The Return of the Prodigal Son" | Fri 22 Mar 7pm- Sun 24 Mar 4:30pm | Standard \$330

DIVINE MERCY FEAST at ST BENEDICT'S PARISH Sunday 7 April at 5:30pm. 1 St Benedict's Street, Eden Terrace. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Blessing of Images, Benediction, Holy Mass, Veneration of St Faustina's relic. Bring your Divine Mercy images & artefacts to be blessed. Free Parking at Wilson carpark & street parking is also free on Sunday.



FULFILLED: THE PROMISE OF THE CHRISTIAN LIFE looks deeply at the 'ache' of human longing and opens the eyes of our hearts to the hope of infinite bliss in Christ. Dates: Sat 13 and Sun 14 April, 8am -6pm, Mission Bay, Auckland. All adults 20+ are welcome. For more information and to register please visit: theologyofthebody.nz

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

We remember those who have recently died:

Carl Flaszynski, Fr Aloysius Deeney OCD (Carmelite)

We remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Marianne Kassler, Bernard Twomey

Please pray for those who are in need of our prayers, especially:

Peter Kelly, Elizabeth Kidd, Carrie Canapi, Marsha Tan, Annie Chang, Margaret Robins, Marc Espinoza, Isabel Morais, Phil Bawden, Francis Morais, Eugenie Laracy, Jan Flaszynski, Jan Benedict Ilo, Elisa Sipin, Rosalina Salivio, Teresa Gao, Mary O'Sullivan, Russell Watt, Hendrika Woods and Joshua Woods, Merle Fenwick, Monty Leach, Father Justin Taylor, Stephen Berecz, Sean Lee, Dr Tony Hardy, Beverley Thomas, Peter Connolly, Graeme Matthews, Ernie Cavanagh

**Fifth Sunday of Lent
17th March 2024**

**Palm Sunday
24th March 2024**

Ministers of Holy Communion

Sun 8am	Canice Lobo(P), Deepak Patel(G)	Christine Alejo(P), Frances Hay-MacKenzie(G)
Sun 10am	Terisa Cordtz(P), Rob Fonseca-Ensor, Issa Ilo-Cabiling, Carlina Santhara(G)	Stephenie Wong(P), Jeremy Anthony, Christopher Setiobudi, Anthony Segedin(G)
Sun 5pm	John Curtin(P), Rhodora Faigao, Brenda Brightwell(G)	Brenda Brightwell(P), Claire Stirrat, Robert Sheehan(G)

Proclaimers of the Word

	1. Jeremiah 31:31-34	2. Hebrews 5:7-9	1. Isaiah 50:4-7	2. Philippians 2:6-11
Sun 8am	Eileen Robinson-Piper, Clare Wade (PoF)		Claire Stewart, Peter Hay-MacKenzie (PoF)	
Sun 10am	Emma Houghton, Lucy Clements (PoF)		John Trenwith, Cara Fonseca-Ensor (PoF)	
Sun 5pm	Simon Guinness, Dax Britto (PoF)		John Curtin, Stephanie Sheehan (PoF)	

Collectors

Sun 8am	Tom Piggan & Yvonne McMillan	Paul Chen
Sun 10am	Mike Molloy	Cordtz Family

Laptop Operators

Sun 8am	Rosie Hazel	Mike Molloy
Sun 10am	Francis Wong	Ezra Balderas
Sun 5pm	Abigail Faigao	James Faigao

Altar Servers

Sun 8am	Cyrus & Cheryl Jesudas, Andrew Strevens	Hans Jayamanne, Miguel Chu, Michaela Chu
Sun 10am	Samuel Wong, Rebecca Houghton, Maria Petrus	Aidan Cruz, Ellery Balderas, Sebastian Lucas Yan
Sun 5pm	Kyla & James Faigao, Ellery Balderas	Kyla & Raine Faigao, Josiah Loming

Children's Liturgy

Sun 10am	No Children's Liturgy this Sunday	To be confirmed
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Musicians / Cantors

Sun 8am	Matthew Harris, Magna	James loelu
Sun 10am	Steve Hughes, Meileen Huang, Tim Gasson	Alleluia Choir
Sun 5pm	Nathaniel Hood, Dax Britto	Neil Moraes, Antonia Brightwell

Until further notice, we are introducing the Sign of the Cross and Response to the Prayer of the Faithful in Te Reo Maori, see the words to the right.	Sign of the Cross (Te Reo)	Response to the Prayer of the Faithful in Te Reo O Lord, Listen to us E te Ariki, Whakarongo mai ra ki a matou
	Ki te Ingoa, o te Matua, o te Tamaite, o te Wairua Tapu. Amen	

St Michael's Mission

We the Eucharistic community of St Michael's parish, by the gifts of the Holy Spirit, are called to witness to the living Jesus

Remuera parishioners are welcome to attend Mass at Parnell

Saturday 9am, 5pm (Vigil) | Sunday 7am, 9.30am

In the season of Lent, there are to be no flowers placed in the church. Thank you

EASTER SUNDAY SAUSAGE SIZZLE AND EASTER EGG HUNT following 10am celebration mass. Please have your children decorate a hard-boiled egg with their name on it, please place them in the basket on the table in our church foyer before Easter Sunday Mass. Fun family games on The Kings Lawn with an Easter Egg Hunt and Sausage Sizzle.



EASTER TREATS FOR MONTE CECILIA

Easter is coming and we need to ensure all the children of the Monte Cecilia Community will receive some yummy Easter treats. We are collecting chocolate / marshmallow Eggs / confectionary for the MCT from this week. Please bring them along to the Church and place them in the basket for collection or if easier in the School or Parish Office. Easter books and toys are also very welcome. The contributions will be cleared regularly. Should you have any queries re Easter donations, please contact Louise Porter 021 748 834.

WANTED : VOLUNTEERS We have a plan to smarten up the parish centre (crypt). The first step will be a cleaning working bee on a Saturday during the school holidays (13 to 20 April). All equipment and materials will be supplied. Work will be supervised by an experienced person. If you want to help, please complete the form in the porch and leave it in the drop box. You will be contacted about the start date. Thank you.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY We are urgently seeking more parent helpers for Children's Liturgy at the 10am mass. We currently do not have sufficient volunteers for a session to be held every week for your children. Please consider volunteering for this important ministry that enables our children the opportunity to grow in faith together. Thank you in advance. Please contact Venus Itoh: venus_amelei@yahoo.com Mob: 027 545 3363

ST MICHAEL'S FOODBANK Thank you for your generous donations to the Monte Cecilia Housing Trust. Did you know they support two and a half thousand individuals of which 1700 are children? The need is great, and we want these families to have as much support as we can give them. Please place all non-perishable foodstuffs, personal and laundry items in the donation basket in the church porch at the front entrance of the church. They will be greatly appreciated. Thank you. Any special donations or inquiries contact Louise 021 748 834.



HOME VISITS Do you know of a parishioner who would welcome a visit by one of our ministers? Perhaps a family member or close friend who is currently unable to get to Mass for health, age or disability reasons? Someone who would love to resume the regular reception of Holy Communion? If so, please give their contact details to Fr. Tony or to Fiona in the parish office.

ST MICHAEL'S ROSARY GROUP meets weekly on **Tuesday from 12.30-1pm** (after 12noon Mass) in front of the statue of Our Lady to pray the Rosary and the Divine Mercy chaplet. All welcome. Contact Vimla Costelloe 027 579 9499 or Anne Cotton 021 644 692.

ST MICHAEL'S CHARISMATIC PRAYER GROUP – All welcome Wednesdays at 7pm St Michael's Church Crypt. Sr Alice Hardiman smsm 021 1435 475 or Annabella Hosking 022 622 6685.

LEGION of MARY meets weekly on Sundays from 9-10am in the Parish House. All welcome to attend. Contact Carole Kenealy on 524 8422 or 021 152 1724 or carole.kenealy@gmail.com

THE LEGION of MARY has a **Pilgrim statue of Our Lady of Fatima** for circulation to Parish homes. If you wish to welcome Our Lady into your home, contact Carole Kenealy on 524 8422 or 021 152 1724 or Anne Cotton on 520 5335 or 021 644 692.

CELEBRATING OUR PARISHIONERS Let us celebrate the achievement and significant events of our parishioners. Please email the parish office office@remueracatholic.org.nz

STATIONS OF THE CROSS Come and spend time reflecting and visiting the Stations of the Cross at St Michael's. 6pm on Fridays during Lent. Everyone is welcome. Come and spend some time with us on Friday evenings with Jesus.

CONCERT with FR CHRIS SKINNER SM Mary MacKillop Chapel, Sunday 7 April at 2pm, Suggested koha \$10.

Explaining parts of the Mass, an excerpt from YOUCAT (Youth Catechism of the Catholic Church)

What is the right way to honour the Lord present in the bread and wine?

Because God is truly present in the consecrated species of bread and wine, we must preserve the sacred gifts with the greatest reverence and worship our Lord and Redeemer in the Most Blessed Sacrament.

If there are consecrated hosts left over after the celebration of Holy → **EUCCHARIST**, they are kept in sacred vessels in the tabernacle. Since the Most Blessed Sacrament is present in them, the → **TABERNACLE** is one of the most venerable places in every church. We genuflect before any tabernacle. Certainly, anyone who is really following Christ will recognise him in the poorest of the poor and serve him in them. But he will also find time to spend in adoration before the tabernacle and offer his love to our Eucharistic Lord.

EUCCHARIST - Eucharist was at first the name for the prayer of thanksgiving that preceded the transformation of the bread and wine into Christ's Body and Blood in the liturgy of the early Church. Later the term was applied to the whole celebration of the Mass.

TABERNACLE – In a way reminiscent of the Old Testament Ark of the Covenant, the tabernacle developed in the Catholic Church as a prominent, richly ornamented place for preserving the Most Blessed Sacrament (Christ in the form of bread).