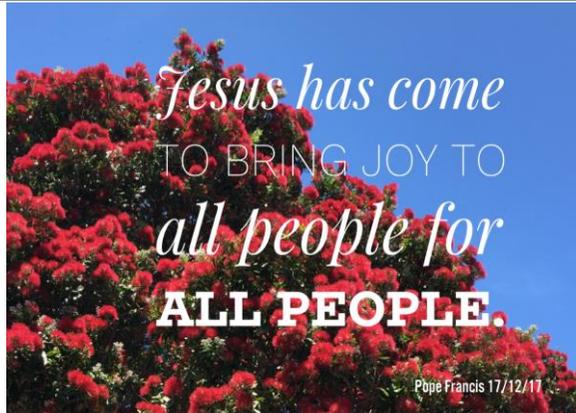


PARISH of ST MICHAEL

GAUDETE SUNDAY



Explore your Faith The New Zealand Bishops' Conference provides many opportunities for people to learn more about their faith. Two important aspects of this outreach are Good Shepherd College and The Catholic Institute of Aotearoa New Zealand (TCI). Both offer a variety of courses and qualifications.

Good Shepherd College-Te Heparā Pai is where the diocesan seminarians go for their theological formation it is an NZQA-registered tertiary provider offering papers towards level 7 awards; the Bachelor of Theology degree and the Graduate Diploma in Theology.

Details of what is offered in Semester One of 2019 can be found at <http://www.gsc.ac.nz/course-papers/2777-1/>

TCI The Catholic Institute of Aotearoa New Zealand offers courses in Religious Education, Pastoral Ministry, Scripture, Theology and Leadership. Courses are available online or in face-to-face classes. To find out more go to www.tci.ac.nz or email office@tci.ac.nz.

Parish to Parish Bed & Breakfast - since the first book was printed 15 years ago, many hosts have suffered health problems or downsized their homes. We urgently require more hosts in places all over the country. I would encourage anyone with a spare bedroom or two in their home to join us. The accommodation does not have to be 5-star - just clean, comfortable and welcoming, as well as being able to provide a light breakfast. The aim is to provide Catholic hospitality and make new friends. The hosts charge a fee of \$35 for one person, or \$30 per person for 2 or more per night. For further information contact Marie Anderson on +64-3-359 5541 or email marie.ian@xtra.co.nz.



2019 Columban Art Calendars available for sale in the Church Foyer. \$12 each. Please "post" the money in an envelope through the drop box at the front door of the Parish House or put in the Paper Box in the foyer.

Proclaim the Word – A one-day Seminar for Readers and Cantors

Five speakers will present material on various aspects of the Ministry of the Word. This is an excellent opportunity for readers, cantors and all involved with the preparation of liturgy, to deepen their knowledge and skills. We are very hopeful that parishes will encourage their readers and cantors to attend this seminar, perhaps organizing shared transport. The seminar will be held at Our Lady of the Assumption Church, Church St, Onehunga, 16th February from 10am – 3pm. Bring your own Lunch. To register, email tinac@cda.org.nz

We remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Patrick Molloy, Bill Flynn, Bob Stevenson

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

Peter Redican, Ruth Searchfield, Tony Vela, Leigh Coates, Elaine and Dennis Lunken

15th December 2018

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)

In residence: Father Stephen Berecz
sberez@gmail.com

Office Manager: Fiona Twomey

Baptism Preparation:
Pauline loelu

Religious Education:
Sr Francis Kelly (adults)
Emma Houghton (children)

Caring Co-ordinator:
Kathryn Schollum

Music Rosters: Tony Vela

Sunday Masses:

Sunday Eucharist:
8:00am, 10:00am, 8.30pm
Saturday Evening 5:00pm

Weekday Masses:

Monday Cluny Convent 7:15am
NOT DURING THE SCHOOL HOLIDAYS
(St Michael's) Monday, Tuesday,
Thursday, Saturday 8:00am
Wednesday 9:15am
Friday 12:05pm

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

After Mon, Tues, Thurs, 8am Mass
& 11am Friday

Anointing of the Sick:

First Friday of each month 11am
Exposition to follow

Reconciliation:

Friday 11:25am & Saturday 8:30am
or by appointment

READINGS THIS SUNDAY

1. Zephaniah 3:14-18
2. Philippians 4:4-7

Pastor's Column : Gaudete Sunday

Have you ever imagined what John the Baptist may have looked like? How would someone present who had a rigorist diet, locusts and wild honey, who lived out in the wilderness in blistering heat, who was part of a very dramatic prophetic tradition? How would I respond to a "truth" speaker? What would my reaction be to one who warned us to look at our behaviour, to what we chose to do? How would I feel about being challenged that I am responsible for my choices and the consequences that follow those choices? This Sunday is called Gaudete Sunday, a day of rejoicing! Advent is a penitential season, that is why purple is the colour of this time! We rejoice because Jesus coming is very near and we rejoice because we can be forgiven our sins. What are the underlying attitudes that incline me to make sinful choices; it is suggested there are nine of them: Anger- is an emotion or energy that moves us that we feel in response to something or someone we see as a threat in some way. It, like all emotions are meant to be felt and expressed (at least internally to ourselves). This energy can be abused or misused, when I become violent in action or word or a lack of forgiveness. Pride - my existence and everything I have is a gift from God. Pride believes it is all mine and I have a right to it. Ingratitude is a symptom of a proud heart. Deceit- lying undermines truthfulness and simplicity. It destroys trust and its fruit is loneliness. Jesus reminds us, "Satan is the father of lies!" Envy- is felt sadness at the goodness or success of others. It desires to pull others down, so as to build itself up. Greed - we are limited finite creatures who have a capacity for the infinite, "God" There is a God-shaped hole inside of each of us. Greed tries to fill that hole with finite things. The more you pour in, the bigger the hole gets. Stealing is one of its dark faces. Fear- a fear-filled heart struggles to believe in the basic goodness of God and creation. Fear lurks behind every sin in one way or other. One great fear, is the fear of doing the right thing because others may reject me. Courage is acting in spite of fear. Gluttony - is a lack of self control regarding food and drink. It is the root of addiction where I have lost control of my behaviour in some area of my life. Drunkenness, drug use, over eating are all fruits of this sin. Lust- when I lust, I am turning myself or another into an object for pleasure, instead of treating them as a person made in God's image. Sexuality is the power to share self with others. I share self by giving in a receiving kind of way, if I am a man and I can share self by receiving in a giving kind of way, if a woman. Our sexual feelings and emotions are good in themselves and are to be felt as such. God's intent is that sex be open and receptive to the gift of new life. I misuse this gift when I intentionally use this power in a self-centred way; masturbation, sex outside of marriage, contraceptive sex in marriage, sex with members of the same sex, using pornography. Laziness- this stems from a belief that because I don't really matter, others don't matter and what I do doesn't matter much either, it is a kind of self-hate and not accepting the gifts of God. The psalmist sings: "to you all flesh will come with its burden of sin, too heavy for us our offences, but you wipe them away!" The joy of sin forgiven is a key understanding of this Sunday in Advent, a Sunday of joy! Why not avail oneself of meeting Christ in the Sacrament of Reconciliation and experience that joy?

Father Tony Dunn

4th Sunday of Advent: 22nd & 23rd December 2018 : Roster

MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION:

Saturday Vigil 5.00pm J. Rooney, M. Rooney, N. Aguirre, C. Agustin, S. Alexandra
Sunday 8.00am J. Hill, L. Lyons, M. Mahoney, F. McKewen, A. Nicol
Sunday 10.00am R. Katigbak, S. Kingston, M. Leong, C Leung, H. Leung, K. McKay,
R. Murray, N. Platt



Please volunteer for ministries for Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Mass. Sign-up sheet in Church Porch

PROCLAIMERS OF THE WORD:

Saturday 5.00pm Fiona Twomey, Philomena Pinto (PoF)
Sunday 8.00am Kerry McKewen, Philip King (PoF)
Sunday 10.00am Louise Gordon, Jane Gordon (PoF)

Readings 22/23 December

1. Micah 5:1-4
2. Hebrews 10:5-10

COLLECTORS:

Saturday 5.00pm John Rooney
Sunday 8.00am Tom Piggan, Yvonne MacMillan
Sunday 10.00am Fitzmaurice Family

COUNTERS:

Helen & Tony Turner

LAPTOP OPERATORS:

Saturday 5.00pm John Trenwith
Sunday 8.00am Bernard Kendall
Sunday 10.00am Yelena Cordtz

ALTAR SERVERS:

Saturday 5.00pm: Juliene Salivio, Sydelle Kumar, Esmenia D'Souza
Sunday 10.00am: Denzel Devaraj, Caleb Price, Keira Croad, Micayla-Jane Elika

SANCTUARY CARE: John & Joy Salivio

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: School Year has finished

MUSICIANS/CANTORS:

Saturday 5.00pm Robert Loretz Choir
Sunday 8.00am Edmond Wong
Sunday 10.00am Matthew Harris, Carole Kenealy

NOTICES

Rite II Reconciliation

Monday 17th December 7.30pm All Welcome.

The Giving Tree

Thank you to the Parish and School Community all for your generous donations. These will make Christmas brighter for needy families within the Monte Cecilia Community.

The Giving Tree is in front of the Statue of the Sacred Heart. You are invited to take a card and buy or make a Christmas Gift and deliver it back to the parish office or pop it under the tree. THE CLOSING DATE FOR GIFTS is **Sunday 16th December**, so that the deliveries can be made before Christmas, but any time before would be helpful.



Tony Vela Presentation and Mass – Sunday 23rd December 8am

Papal Benemerenti Medal

In recognition of his long service to Music in the Liturgy at St Michael's Parish. All welcome. Morning tea to follow in the crypt.

St Michael's Rosary Group will be on a break from Tuesday 18th Dec 2018 till Tuesday 8th Jan 2019.

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

Christmas Mass Times at St Michael's Parish

Monday 24 December- CHRISTMAS EVE

- 8am
- Vigil Family Mass 5.00pm
- Midnight Mass (Carols 11.00pm followed by the mass)

Tuesday 25 December- CHRISTMAS DAY

- 8am, 10am and 8.30pm

** Please volunteer for ministries for Christmas Eve & Christmas Day Mass. Sign-up sheet in Church Porch**



St Michael's Mission Statement
We the parishioners of St Michael's as a
Eucharistic family seek to live and share our faith
in Christ by the power of the Holy Spirit.

Reflection Day 'Taize' – Friday 14th December 2018 - 7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.

A meditative, candlelit service which will include singing of chants, listening to the Word of God, intercessory prayer and ample time for a quiet prayer in an atmosphere of silence and peace.

Facilitator: Jill McLoughlin rsj

Date: Friday 14th December 2018 - 7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.

Venue: Mary MacKillop Centre - 56 Selwyn Avenue Mission Bay Auckland

Light supper served at conclusion. Registrations to Auckland.MMKCentre@sosi.org.au

Christmas Concert St Pius X Catholic Parish

Sunday 16th December 2018 at 6pm – 9pm @ 101 Castledine Crescent, Glen Innes.

Music, entertainment and much more. Food and refreshments will be provided during the night. Come along with your families and friends and join in on the Christmas vibe. (See Poster on noticeboard)

Mercy Spirituality Centre 104 The Drive, Epsom. Ph. 638 6238 www.mercyspiritualitycentre.org.nz

- **RETREAT DAY: Rediscovering Wholeness of Life in Christ: How gratitude opens the way** with SARAH COOPER. Sat 16 Feb, 9.30am-3.30pm. \$65 incl. lunch.
- **MUSIC WORKSHOP: Psalms and Gratitude** with Fr CHRIS SKINNER sm. Sat 23 Feb, 10am-1pm. \$30 incl. Morning tea. St Columba Centre.
- **DREAMWORK 101: Introduction to Dreamwork** with MARGARET BOWATER. Fri 23 Feb, 6-9pm & Sat 23 Feb, 9.30am-4pm. \$130.

See website for details. Bookings essential, email: info@mercyspiritualitycentre.org.nz to register.

Family Advent The Faith Formation team of the Auckland Diocese hosts a number of resources around Advent <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/re/family-faith/learn-together/advent/> for those families who wish to prepare for the Christmas season and are looking for ideas.

Hear the Cry of the Poor and of the Earth. A day of retreat and reflection on hearing the 'cry of the poor and of the earth' through the lives of St. Mary MacKillop who urged us to 'seek the poorest' and ecologist Julian Tenison Woods. Led by Lyndall Brown rsj and Jill McLoughlin rsj 9am-4pm **Saturday 23 February 2019** Mary MacKillop Centre 30 Holgate Rd Kohimarama. Cost: \$15 including lunch. Numbers limited. Please register with Peter Garrick peterg@cda.org.nz ph 022 1300 730 to secure your place.

This is the last St Michael's bulletin for 2018. There will be a break throughout January and publication resumes in February 2019.