

PARISH of ST MICHAEL

2ND SUNDAY OF LENT

Pastor's Column : 2nd Sunday of Lent

George Mallory was an English Mountaineer, who was part of the 1924 British expedition to climb Everest. The mountain took him and his body wasn't retrieved until 75 years later; sun bleached, mummified and frozen! Speculation abounds as to whether he died going up to the summit or coming down from the summit; no doubt fuelled by a certain discomfiture that someone from the colonies should have reached the top of the world, rather than an Englishman? When asked why he wanted to climb Everest, he laconically replied; "Because it's there!" No doubt there are many reasons as to what motivates mountaineers. St Luke, in his Gospel account of the Transfiguration, is unique in identifying Jesus motivation for climbing the mountain and that was to pray! Luke gives us a window on Jesus prayer life; sure, the psalms would have been his prayer book, as it was for any pious Jew and he especially liked to pray on mountain tops, often all night long! Mountain summits have often been imagined as places where heaven and earth meet. They are sacred places. On Mt Sinai the Mosaic covenant was enacted, on Mt Sion the Davidic covenant was initiated and Mt Ararat evoked the rainbow covenant with Noah. The Christian imagination has embraced the ascent of a mountain as an archetypal image of the growing prayer-life; it was used by St Gregory of Nyssa, St John of the Cross and others. Why did Moses and Elijah appear with Jesus? Both in their own story had to hide in the cleft of a rock when God's presence passed by. Though they wished to see God, they couldn't, as it was certain death. Now they can look on the face of God, incarnate in Jesus. Theophanies occurred on mountains. A theophany is a showing forth of God. Here at the Transfiguration we discover a "showing forth" of the Trinity. The Father speaks, the Holy Spirit is manifested in the cloud, (as He did at the annunciation, covering Mary with His cloud shadow) and then there is the Son, Jesus. Peter's exclamation to build three booths, (tents or tabernacles) is a reference to the feast of Tabernacles, a joyful feast celebrating the culmination of the Exodus and arriving at the promised land. (Jews would pitch their tents outside the walls of Jerusalem, remembering their desert sojourn and journey) Just as the Jews left slavery in Egypt for the land of milk and honey beyond the Jordan to Jerusalem, so Jesus' passing, His exodus was from Jerusalem to the Mt of Golgotha and his subsequent Resurrection and Ascension. Was Peter acknowledging the presence of God and wanted to build a new ark for His presence? When Moses encountered God, his face became radiant and God-like reflecting what he had experienced. Jesus radiated light, not reflected from without, but radiating from within, because He Himself was the source of that light! Mallory climbed the mountain of Everest, because it was there! We ascend the mountain to see the face of God! As the psalmist prayed, "Of you my heart has spoken; 'Seek his face' It is your face O Lord that I seek; hide not your face!"

Father Tony Dunn

PROLIFE FACTS

On March 10th the #DefendNZ trailer and website were launched at defendnz.co.nz and DefendNZ Facebook page, providing a valuable resource for those who wish to become better informed about this issue as our nation grapples with the possibility of decriminalising euthanasia/assisted suicide. **For more pro-life info, visit www.voiceforlife.org.nz.**

The Radiance of GOD



...his clothing became white and dazzling

Luke 9:29

What was it like being in God's presence that was so apparent to the others?

To what extent is the radiance of God visible in your life today?



Reflection Day 'Weekly Meditation' – Each Thursday starting 7th February 2019 - 7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.

This weekly Christian meditation time at Mary MacKillop Chapel will offer an opportunity to gather in silence and together to enter the place of Mystery where we are drawn deeper into the Well of Love within us and grow in appreciation of the unfolding of this Love in all of Life.

Facilitator: Lead by Team **Date:** Each Thursday starting 7th February 2019 - 7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.

Mary MacKillop Chapel - 56 Selwyn Avenue Mission Bay Auckland **No Registration required.**

Lenten Prayer for Life: From Ash Wednesday to Good Friday join us in daily prayer, fasting and reparation for the cause of life. Register your prayer commitment for the campaign's four prayer intentions at fli.org.nz/lenenprayerforlife and receive a free pro-life prayer book.

If possible, please, also join the prayerful witness to life across the road from AMAC 283-289 Dominion Rd., Mt Eden on all or any of these Wednesdays March 6, 13, 20, 27 and April 3 and 10 (9am to 4pm). To sign up for an hour phone (09) 629 4361 or email life@fli.org.nz For more information see the poster in the church porch.

Reflection Day 'Lenten Taize Prayer' – Friday 29th March 2019 - 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 29th March 2019 - 7.00 p.m. to 8.00 p.m.

Mary MacKillop Centre - 56 Selwyn Avenue Mission Bay Auckland Registrations to Auckland.MMKCentre@sosi.org.au

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

- **LENTEN SERIES: Journey of the Cross** Fridays during Lent, 7-8.30pm. \$10 each session. This series will provide an opportunity to reflect on the cross through music, Scripture, reflection, prayer and times of silence. These are all stand-alone events & complimentary events. You are welcome to come to one, two, or them all. **22 March** - Br Roger of Taize: Man of Forgiveness & Reconciliation with ANNE WARREN chf (Repeated on Wed 27 Mar, 10.30am-12.30pm. \$15)
- **Dreamwork 202 Workshops: A Series of Skill-Development Groups** (3hrs each) with Margaret Bowater. Friday mornings 9.30am-12.30pm. (22 March, 31 May, 19 July, 20 Sep, 22 Nov) \$40 per session, or \$150 for any 4 sessions.
- **RETREAT WEEKEND When the Well Seems Dry** with Joy Cowley & Fr John O'Connor. Sat 23 & Sun 24 Mar, 9.30am-4pm. \$195 incl. lunch, tea & coffee.

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

Praying for Holy Soles

A holy picture will be handed out as you leave mass. Attached is a prayer for the conversion of sinners. You may wish to use this prayer during Lent as a form of almsgiving.

Choral Mass for St Patrick & St Joseph Monday 18 March 7.30 pm at the Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph, 43 Wyndham Street. With the Cathedral Vocal Ensemble.

Validated parking available at the Wilson Car Parks on Hobson Street (\$4) and Durham Lane (\$2). Bring your ticket to validate in the Cathedral. See noticeboard in church foyer.

We remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Bridget Kirk

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

Tony Vela, Ruth Searchfield, Elaine Lunken

16th March 2019

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

sberecz@gmail.com

Office Manager: Fiona Twomey

Baptism Preparation:

Pauline loelo

Religious Education:

Sr Francis Kelly (adults)

Emma Houghton (children)

Caring Co-ordinator:

Kathryn Schollum

Music Rosters: Louise Porter

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. Genesis 15:5-12, 17-18

2. Phillipians 3:17-4:1

Third Sunday of Lent: 23rd & 24th March 2019 : Roster

MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION:

Saturday Vigil 5.00pm C. Mendoza, T. Parsons, P. Pinto, J. Rooney, M. Rooney
Sunday 8.00am J. Penney, A. Shaw, E. Shoray, C. Stirrat, T. Wong
Sunday 10.00am R. Katigbak, S. Kingston, C. Leung, H. Leung, K. McKay, R. Murray, N. Platt, P. Porteous

PROCLAIMERS OF THE WORD:

Saturday 5.00pm Kate McKay, Gay Barton (PoF)
Sunday 8.00am Philip King, Eileen Piper-Robinson (PoF)
Sunday 10.00am Michael Pender, Margaret-Mary Farrell (PoF)

COLLECTORS:

Saturday 5.00pm John Rooney
Sunday 8.00am Mike Molloy
Sunday 10.00am Gray Family

COUNTERS:

Parish Office

LAPTOP OPERATORS:

Saturday 5.00pm Movez D'Souza
Sunday 8.00am Kerry McKewen
Sunday 10.00am Yelena Cordtz

ALTAR SERVERS:

Saturday 5.00pm: Francine Morais, Ben Morais, Hiranya Fernando
Sunday 10.00am: Denzel Devaraj, Jonathan Luxford, Dre Canapi

SANCTUARY CARE: Thomas & Polly Yuen

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: Lynette Herrero Torres & Meg Crisostomo

MUSICIANS/CANTORS:

Saturday 5.00pm Robert Loretz
Sunday 8.00am Maria Bullock
Sunday 10.00am Neil Moraes, Anna Dolan & Cameron Downey

Readings 23/24 March

1. Exodus 3:1-8, 13-15
2. 1Cor. 10:1-6,10-12

NOTICES

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.

Stations of the Cross – 6:00pm
Fridays of Lent (8th, 15th, 22nd*, 29th March and 5th, 12th April)
**22nd March 6:30pm*

Confession / Reconciliation. Will be available on Sundays in Lent 9 – 9:30am.

St Michael's Scripture Study Group We will meet again **Sunday 17th March** at **4.30pm** in the meeting room beneath the church. Topic – gospel readings for the next two Sundays. Everyone who has attended the meetings so far has commented on what enjoyable gatherings these are. All welcome.



Baptism Preparation Course There are two courses being facilitated for families to prepare for baptism. The first course will start 31st March and the second course will start 2nd June. Sessions will be held in the presbytery after 10am mass on Sunday (**Course One Dates:** 31st March, 7th and 14th April. **Course Two Dates:** 2nd, 9th and 16th June). Attendance at all 3 sessions is necessary. If you would like to enrol, please contact the parish office office@remueracatholic.org.nz or phone 520-1226 with your preference of course.

2019 Columban Calendars are still available in the office if you missed out. \$12.

Good Friday Liturgy 10am at St Michael's

We would like children / families who would like to participate in this liturgy please.
Email Fiona at the Parish Office in the first instance office@remueracatholic.org.nz

St Michael's Rosary Group meets weekly on Tuesday at 7:30-8:30pm in the Parish House. All welcome.
Contact Anne Cotton on 520 5335 or 021 644 692 or acotton@maxnet.co.nz

St Michael's are starting a **pro-life rosary** at 8pm before the Sunday 8.30pm mass. All welcome.

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

Safeguarding The Catholic Church's National Office of Professional Standards (NOPS) has a new website <https://safeguarding.catholic.org.nz/> It contains information on reporting abuse, safeguarding and related policies.

Having difficulties to trust God? Come to join a 33-day do-it-yourself retreat starting on **26 March** to learn how to trust God with childlike and simple faith, and to consecrate yourself with many others all over the world to the Divine Mercy on 28 April, the Divine Mercy Sunday at the celebration at Herne Bay Our Lady of Perpetual Help Church. For details, please contact 02041026838.

Baradene College Alumnae A.G.M.

The President, Melanie Watson and committee invite all Alumnae to the 2019 AGM. **Where:** BARADENE "The Parlour"
Date: Monday 8th April 2019 **Time:** 6.30pm

"Upcoming legislation intends to allow **ABORTION UP TO BIRTH** - If you're willing to come against this please email: tonybrebner@hotmail.com for full information and 'Open Letter' to all MPs."

St Paul's College, Catholic Boy's College, Ponsonby

WANTED: Unused woodwind and Brass music instruments. (no strings)

St Paul's College, has established an "everyone can play a musical instrument" opportunity for all boys.

We need unused Brass or woodwind instruments lying in attics or garages for use by our young men.

Make poverty (of the mind) history. For details contact the College office. Phone: (09) 376 1287

Email: stpauls@stpaulscollege.co.nz. Payment in eternity. K. F. Fouhy (Headmaster)

Living Simply during Lent

In response to Pope Francis' urgent call to care for "Our Common Home" you may wish to take the Laudato Si' pledge by praying with and for creation, living more simply and advocating to protect our common home. See <http://livelaudatosi.org> and <https://livelightly.nz/take-action>.

Canterbury University Press and the University Bookshop are delighted to invite you to the launch of

Living Among the Northland Māori: Diary of Father Antoine Garin, 1844–1846

Translated and edited by Peter Tremewan and Giselle Larcombe

2.00pm, Sunday 14th April 2019. University Bookshop, University Drive, Ilam. Free parking on campus on weekends.

All welcome, RSVP to universitypress@canterbury.ac.nz

Situations Vacant – Parish Secretary

Our Lady of the Sacred Heart Parish in Epsom is currently seeking a highly capable and motivated Parish Secretary for 25 – 30 hours per week, Monday to Friday.

They are seeking a talented person able to ensure the effective and efficient day to day running of our busy Parish office and to support the Parish Priest.

This is a varied role and responsibilities include: Reception; Secretarial services; Office management; Accounts; Parish database management.

For more details and to view the position description, please visit the Diocesan Website, www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz, under Administration and Staff Vacancies. Applications close 29th March 2019.

Come enjoy the New Zealand Premiere of the Documentary Film "THE HIDDEN REBELLION"

at The Parish Hall of the Immaculate Conception, Ellerslie **7pm SATURDAY 30th March 2019.**

The Hidden Rebellion uncovers the other side of the French Revolution: its persecution of the faith and the glorious stand of a Catholic people in France: the Vendéens.

Historians from four nations show how atheistic persecution started then and spread around the world, how this was followed by the resistance or the going underground of Christians in many countries.

Free admission but Koha (donations) accepted. Running time approximately 75 minutes. PG13.

Do join us and invite your family and friends. God bless. See Noticeboard in Church Foyer.