

PARISH of ST MICHAEL

PASSION SUNDAY

Pastor's Column : Passion Sunday

It was the mythologist, Joseph Campbell, who used the image of the young native American Indian brave, going into battle, encapsulating that of the hero's attitude to life; the young brave's battle cry is "it is a good day to die!" Historically it is attributed to the Oglala Lakota Indian, Low Dog in 1881. Retroactively, it was ascribed to in the Battle of Little Big Horn, or "Custer's last stand," to Crazy Horse! The idea was taken up by an American/Danish hard rock-heavy metal band called White Lion in a song. "What a great day to die, And justice will be done, And the eagle will fly, When the battle has begun, And a hero will rise. He will be the one they'll all be talking about, In a thousand years or more! - "He was born a warrior, One of a kind. He will always be that, Nothing could ever change his mind. The spirit can't be broken. The heart won't ever change. They'll be no retreat, no surrender. he will not give up the land that is his!" I think the spirit of these words encapsulates a little of the spirit of the liturgy of Passion (palm) Sunday. It anticipates the action of Holy Week and something of Jesus attitude in facing his suffering and death. "it is a good day to die!" Why? Because death will not be the end but birth the new life of His Resurrection. Sometimes it is good to turn the spotlight on what is sometimes a forgotten part of the drama, the Gethsemane anguish. The key to understanding it, lies in the name. Gethsemane means an olive press. Jesus went to an olive grove to await his arrest and there we are told sweated blood and faced down chilling and mind numbing fear. In Jewish writings there is a story named "The Life of Adam and Eve". In the latter part, Adam is nearing his end and we read, "And Adam said to Eve, "Rise and go with my son, Seth to the regions of Paradise... Perhaps God will have mercy and send his Angel to the tree of his Mercy (the Tree of Life) from which flows the oil of life and will give you a little of it with which to anoint me, that I may have rest from these pains by which I am wasting away" In Jewish thinking the Tree of Life was an Olive tree whose oil had special healing powers. Just as oil is released by the crushing of olives in an olive press (Gethsemane), so the new Tree of life is the cross; Jesus is the fruit of that Olive tree, crushed in suffering. Just as blood and water flowed from Jesus side, in the sleep of death, birthing his Bride the Church, so Eve was born from the side of Adam in his sleep; so Jesus is the source of salvation and healing for the world, the crushed olive fruit and its healing oil. So in Holy Week we have the Mass of Chrism in which olive oil is blessed, becoming a living symbol and presence of the Holy Spirit in the oil of Chrism; a source of Healing, in the Oil of the Infirm and that of exorcism in the Oil of Catechumens. The word salvation, comes from the Latin greeting Salve, "May you have health!" Jesus is the healing salve, fashioned from the olive oil from the Tree of life, applied to the sin-wounds of human kind!

Any day for Him is a good day to die when one's death re-opens the gate of paradise and the flaming sword of Michael is sheathed. St Dismas, the good thief, after Jesus, is the first, among many to be welcomed home!

Fr Tony Dunn

*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.*

13th April 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 loelu

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. Isaiah 50:4-7
2. Philippians 2:6-11

PROLIFE FACTS

A petition was launched by the Care Alliance (Family First, The Salvation Army, Hospice, Euthanasia-Free NZ and 7 others). It's important that everyone who has concerns about the assisted suicide Bill signs the paper or online version, and also contact their local MPs, by 29 April. *(For more information go to n2as.nz and then 'petition' or call 0800 42 76 42).*



BLESSED IS HE WHO COMES IN THE NAME OF THE LORD



How prepared are you when Christ comes?

The Master has need of it Luke 19

Vacancy – Administration Assistant, St Mary's College

Administration assistance required - Fixed term, part time, term time only during the school day until the end of 2019 with the possibility of this contract being extended. 12 hours per week, flexible, starting 6 May Office. We need an experienced, organised, unflappable, energetic and passionate person who is experienced in Microsoft office for this role. Must have strong communication skills both written and verbal. Applicants must be able to work in NZ and a Police Vet check will be required.

Please complete the non-teaching staff application form on website www.stmaryak.school.nz & send with CV & cover letter to pa@stmaryak.school.nz

Stabat Mater – Choral Reflections for Good Friday

The Cathedral of St Patrick and St Joseph continues their Holy Week tradition of offering a concert of choral music that reflects the nature of Good Friday. The Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph's Vocal Ensemble present a selection of beautiful, reflective pieces for Good Friday, including Robert White's haunting setting of the Lamentations and Estonian composer Arvo Pärt's Beatitudes.

Friday 19 April, 7.30 pm FREE ENTRY. Retiring donations welcome.

Validated parking available at the Wilson car parks, Hobson St (\$4) & Durham Lane (\$2).
<https://www.facebook.com/events/421605225321118/> See Church Noticeboard in Foyer

Stations of the Cross - Our Lady Star of the Sea Howick Good Friday 9.00am - All welcome.

Divine Mercy - Sunday 28th April 7:00pm St John Vianney Parish, 317 Hillsborough Road, Hillsborough.
There will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Blessing of Images, Praise & Worship, Benediction, Holy Mass followed by Veneration of St Faustina's relic. Bring your Divine Mercy images & artefacts to be blessed. Jesus told St Faustina "My Heart rejoices on this Feast Day". All Welcome.

New Zealand Catholic Medical Association DATE SAVER: Inaugural Meeting

Saturday: 25 May 2019 10am - 3pm at St Michael's School Hall, 6 Beatrice Road, Remuera - Cost \$25 per person.

Will include Blessing and Holy Mass from Bishop Patrick Dunn and provide an opportunity for doctors and others involved in healthcare to find pastoral care, support, encouragement and faith development.

We wish to extend an invitation to doctors, nurses, midwives, physiotherapist, counsellors, social workers, chaplains, pharmacists, dentists, health administrators, lawyers and anyone who works in allied roles.

Registration is required for catering purposes by 20 May 2019.

Event details: newzealandcatholicmedical.co.nz/event Contact email: info@newzealandcatholicmedical.co.nz

MARRIED COUPLES: Revitalise and enrich your intimacy, love and romance in your marriage. Attend the *non-residential* MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND - 25-26 May at St Francis Retreat Centre, Mt Roskill. **BOOK NOW!** - Phone 0800-362686 or Christine & David Sloan 372-3581 or Email: david.christinesloan@gmail.com



We remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time:
Gloria Bodota Fausto, Dante Quinico

Please pray for those who are in need of our prayers, especially:
Tony Vela, Ruth Searchfield, Elaine Lunken

Holy Week: 18th - 21st April 2019 : Roster

MINISTERS OF HOLY COMMUNION:

* Please sign up for Communion Minister at Holy Week masses in the church foyer *

PROCLAIMERS OF THE WORD:

Good Friday	Kathryn Schollum, Paula Middleton
Passion	Viki Cullen, John Shaw, Francis Morais
Easter Vigil	Frances Hay-MacKenzie, Paula Middleton, Peter Hay-MacKenzie, Michael Pender (PoF)
Easter Sunday 8am	Bernard Kendall, Kerry McKewen (PoF)
10am	Kathryn Schollum, Louise Gordon, Sue d'Young (PoF)

COLLECTORS:

Easter Sunday 8am	Mike Molloy
10am	Fitzmaurice Family

* Please sign up for Collecting at Holy Week masses in the church foyer *

COUNTERS:

Eva Shorayi

LAPTOP OPERATORS:

* Please sign up for LPO at Holy Week masses in the church foyer *

ALTAR SERVERS:

Easter Vigil 8pm	Destiny & Hans Jayamanne, Esmenia D'Souza
Sunday 10am	Caleb Price, Aaron D'Souza, Zander Cabiling

SANCTUARY CARE: Cecilia Ruiz-Acosta

CHILDREN'S LITURGY: School Holidays

MUSICIANS/CANTORS:

Sunday 8am	Neil Moraes
Sunday 10am	Matthew Harris, Antonia Brightwell

Readings

Good Friday

1. Isaiah 52:13-53:12
2. Hebrews 4:14-16, 5:7-9
Passion John 18:1-19:42

Easter Vigil

1. Genesis 1:1-2:2
2. Genesis 22:1-18
3. Exodus 14:15-15:1
4. Isaiah 54:5-14
5. Isaiah 55:1-11
6. Baruch 3:9-15, 32-4:4
7. Ezekiel 36:16-28

Easter Sunday

1. Acts 10:34, 37-43
2. Colossians 3:1-4

NOTICES

Holy Week at St Michael's 2019

Palm Sunday (14 April) Blessing of Palms at all Masses
Saturday 5.00pm | Sunday 8.00am | 10.00am | 8.30pm

Monday (15 April) (**St Patrick's Cathedral**) Chrism Mass 7.30pm Blessing of the Holy Oils

Tuesday (16 April) Mass 8.00am

Wednesday (17 April) Mass 9.15am

Holy Thursday (18 April) 7.30pm Mass of the Lord's Supper
Watching and praying at the Garden Altar to conclude with Night Prayer 9.45pm

Good Friday (19 April) 10.00am Way of the Cross
3.00pm Good Friday Memorial of the Lord's Passion with Holy Communion
(Confessions after 3.00pm service)

7.00pm Prayer around the Cross (with other Churches at St Michael's Church)

Holy Saturday (20 April) 9.30am Reconciliation (Confessions)
8.00pm Vigil and First Mass of Easter

Easter Sunday (21 April) Masses 8.00am, 10.00am, 8.30pm



The **St Michael Alleluia Choir** is celebrating 10 years of service in our parish.

The choir was formed & started their service at Easter in 2009. Congratulations and thank you for you do for our parish.

St Michael's Catholic School - Enrollments for 2020 are filling up fast. Please if you have a child turning five next year get your enrollment in to us ASAP. To download an Application For Enrolment go to <https://www.smcs.school.nz/> Parent Information / Enrolment Information. If you would like to have a tour of our school email secretary@smcs.school.nz or Phone: 5200933.

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

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, please contact Carole Kenealy on 524 8422 or 021 152 1724 or Anne Cotton on 520 5335 or 021 644 692.

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

Lenten Programme

Thanks to all who took part in the four weekly sessions, which ended in the past week. The Religious Education Committee hopes the discussions have proved to be relevant and valuable.

The closer consideration and discussion of the Gospels and the letters from Pope Francis might encourage you to look further into scripture study. An obvious way is to join the parish scripture group, which meets fortnightly on Sunday afternoons in the parish centre.

A second, very practical way is to get involved in the parish's Caring & Support Committee: see notice below.

St Michael's Scripture Study Group We will meet again **Sunday 14th April** 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.

St Michael's Caring & Support Committee - Volunteers sought

Committed and enthusiastic parishioners are invited to apply to become members of the committee as it sets up its programme to provide help to those in need in the community.

Parishioners helped by the programme will be:

- the poor and disadvantaged
- those who need practical assistance to ease their lives; this will include transport to Mass, visiting the sick and elderly, taking Holy Communion to the housebound, and similar works of mercy and comfort.

The committee will identify the needs, plan and coordinate the help, recruit other parishioners to help them provide what is needed. They will work closely with the parish priest and parishioners already providing care, and also with the Catholic Caring Foundation, St Vincent de Paul and other organisations.

Successful applicants will be parishioners with energy and excellent organisational skills who want to serve the community and make a difference.

Applications in writing with details of relevant experience and qualifications to the parish office office@remueracatholic.org.nz by **23 April 2019** please.

Tonight! Palm Sunday Candlelight Vigil for the Unborn. Sunday 14 April @ 7pm. Come join caring people from all over Auckland in an annual peaceful prayer vigil outside AMAC where more than 1000 babies lose their lives to abortion every year. We mourn their lives and pray for healing for all those impacted by the tragedy of abortion and for the conversion of clinic workers. 283 Dominion Road, Mt Eden (meet on opposite side of the road). For more info contact Family Life International 629 4361 or visit fli.org.nz. See Noticeboard for Poster

END OF LIFE CHOICE BILL – PLEASE SIGN PETITION TODAY!

The Euthanasia bill sponsored by MP David Seymour is about to get its Second Reading and Vote in parliament. The Bill is dangerous and does not contain effective safeguards. Check out the dangers of this Bill by visiting www.carealliance.org.nz or www.defendnz.co.nz

Some MPs are saying they will vote according to what their people tell them. We need every one of you who is of, or near, voting age to let your MP know your opposition to this Bill by signing a petition.

There will be an opportunity to do this at Masses in the parish on the weekend of 13-14 April.

If you have any questions, please contact the Parish Office office@remueracatholic.org.nz