

PARISH of ST. MICHAEL

TWENTY-SECOND SUNDAY ORDINARY

Pastor's Column : 22nd Sunday 2019

Humility is a lovely word. It has its roots in the latin word; humus, meaning earth, or earthy. The book of Genesis tells of our creation; being shaped from the clay of the earth. It is good to remind ourselves of this truth, especially when tempted to hubris or pride. At the beginning of Lent, the Liturgy reminds us of this starkly, when we present ourselves for "ash-ing". "Remember man that you are dust and unto dust you shall return!" Today's Gospel is what is called in Hebrew a Mishal. It is both a parable and an instruction. Jesus talks both to the guests and then to the host. He compares the Kingdom of God to a wedding feast. We are not to presume to take, "protokilias" the first seat, asserting our status above others, but the lowest seat, being humble. He then speaks to his host regarding who to invite; shocking to the ears of his hearers that we are to invite not those who can repay us here on earth, but those who have no way of repaying! As He says elsewhere; give without any hope of return. The best commentators on the Gospel are the saints who en-flesh the Word. I don't know if a chain smoking, whiskey drinking Marist priest can fall into that exulted category, however his life embodied that very attractive quality of humility. Mourning the death of a few relatives and friends in June of 1943, Fr Berne Ryan was seriously pondering leaving the Marist Novitiate to join the army. He was turning this over in his mind, as he turned the soil in the rose garden at the Novitiate at Highden. There, with his hands in the clay, the thought came to him; "You are where you are meant to be!" His embodiment of Mary's spirit lead him eventually to be Superior General in Rome and from there to mission to those he considered the most disenfranchised people he had discovered, the Koorey Aborigines of Queensland. "You are where you are meant to be!" With an elfin grin he tells of two incidences, trying to live out Fr Colin's, the Marist founder's advice; "We have to submit ourselves to the people. We have to try and understand why they are having difficulties and problems and be very sensitive to the way we support them." Well, he said, the time I marched with the Aborigines who were opposing bail for the man suspected of murdering three of their youth at Bowerville. A lady came up to me and asked did I really believe in their cause, and if so, to carry this placard. I took it and only later realised it read; "White man's justice f...s up aboriginal life!" Or the time a community asked me to celebrate Mass. I went there and no one came; I returned next week and still no one; I returned and one old lady came. This indicates the difficulty they have in sharing with one another, if they are not on 'talking terms'! When asked if he had any special Marist message? "We have to try and hang on to the fact that it is God and Mary's work and plug on in faith. We need to look for creative ways of getting the young ones out of the mess and to attract people to be part of Mary's ministry with us!" Any other comment, he was asked? "Well after 70 years of profession, it has just been amazing!" Mary the lowly maiden of Nazareth gave flesh to the Word. So did, I think, in his own way, or rather her own way, Fr Berne Ryan sm. St Irenaeus of Lyon, where the Marist project began, wrote, "It is not you that shape God, it is God that shapes you. If then you are the work of God, await the hand of the artist who does all things in due season. Offer him your heart soft and tractable and keep the form in which the artist has fashioned you. Let your clay be moist, lest you grow hard and lose the imprint of his fingers!" Humility from humus- the clay of the earth!

Fr Tony Dunn

31st August 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

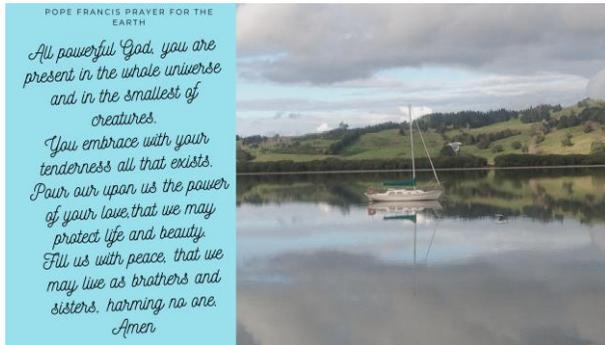
or by appointment

READINGS THIS SUNDAY

1. *Ecclesiasticus* 3:17-20, 28-29

2. *Hebrews* 12:18-19, 22-24

Pope Francis encourages us to participate in the "Season of Creation" through prayer and action: Pope Francis has established 1 September as the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation for Catholics, encouraging the Catholic community to pray for our common home. It is also the beginning of the "Season of Creation", an ecumenical season dedicated to prayer for the protection of creation and the promotion of sustainable lifestyles. It runs until 4 October, the feast of St Francis of Assisi.



THE LIFE album release on prison tour

Prison Chaplaincy Services invites you to NICKY MORAN Gospel musician NZ Prison Tour

THE LIFE Album release - 10 ex-prisoners' original redemption songs. **Friday 20 September 7.30pm**

St. Michael's School Hall, 6 Beatrice Rd, REMUERA (off street parking available)

A concert for Prison Chaplaincy volunteers and supporters. Multi instrumental live looping. Inspirational original songs.

Free entry. CDs for sale. Supper & optional Koha. www.nickymoran.com <https://youtu.be/5c1ydkQEofW>

The first educators of faith are parents / whānau. <https://www.faihtjourney.co.nz/> is a wonderful depository of family-friendly material for the domestic Church. It comes from the Bishops' Conference *National Centre for Religious Studies*. New materials are continually being uploaded. Explore!

Marian Early Childhood Centre is an apostolate of the Catholic Diocese of Auckland located in Panmure beside St. Patrick's Church. We cater to children from 2 to 5 years of age. Our times have been extended. **The Centre now operates Monday to Friday from 7:30 am to 5:30 pm.**

The Centre has been in operation since 1999 and was created for and has been faithfully serving the young children in the Catholic parishes of the Eastern Deanery. We are a Catholic Early Childhood Centre and we follow the Catholic Early Childhood Religious Education Curriculum Statement. Our programme is guided by the Catholic Liturgical Calendar and focuses on catholic values and virtues. See Noticeboard in Church Foyer.

8 September is the Annual Appeal at the Cathedral

The Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph is the spiritual 'home' to all Catholics in the Diocese - a treasury of our Catholic heritage and history in Auckland and New Zealand. The Cathedral strives to serve all peoples and be a 'House of God, Icon of Christ, Place of Prayer and Oasis of Peace' in Auckland's busy city centre.

Maintaining the Cathedral in pristine condition requires ongoing care, attention and considerable funding. Each year, close to \$100,000 needs to be found to keep up with the long-term maintenance of the church, over and above the day-to-day maintenance costs.

Donations can be by direct credit to St Patrick's Cathedral Heritage Foundation BNZ 02-0100-0233290-05 with contact details emailed to frances@stpatricks.org.nz for a tax receipt.

We remember those who have recently died:

Bernadette Gyan Want, Fr. John O'Neill SM, Rose Field

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

Neill Graham, Eileen Martin, Judy Ganley, Jenny Hart, Paul Heaney, Tony Vela

ROSTER	22nd Sunday Ordinary Time 31st August & 1st September 2019	23rd Sunday Ordinary Time 7th & 8th September 2019
	Ministers of Holy Communion	
Sat 5pm	Issa Ilo-Cabiling (G), Cristina Mendoza (P), Philomena Pinto, John Salivio, Nelson Aguirre	John Rooney (G), Moira Rooney (P), Nelson Aguirre, Francisco Byun, Shenali Fernando
Sun 8am	Andrew Patel (G), Teresa Wong (P), Jane Penney, Ann Shaw, Tina Fitness	Michael Franklin (G), Frances Hay-MacKenzie (P), August Nicol, Lianne Lyons, Eva Shorayi
Sun 10am	Julie-Ann Eggermont (G), Jonathan Spencer (P), Reuben Katigbak, Maricel D'Souza, Sara-Jayne Kingstons	Elizabeth Taumoepeau (G), Terisa Cordtz (P), JR Ambrosio, Phil Porteous, Anthony Segedin
Proclaimers of the Word		
	1. Ecclesiasticus 3:17-20, 28-29 2. Hebrews 12:18-19, 22-24	1. Wisdom 3:13-18 2. Philemon 9-10, 12-17
Sat 5pm	Viki Cullen, Fiona Twomey (PoF)	Francis Morais, Gay Barton (PoF)
Sun 8am	Eileen Piper-Robinson, Russell Watt (PoF)	John Shaw, Kerry McKewen (PoF)
Sun 10am	Emma Houghton, Kathryn Schollum (PoF)	Michael Pender, Louise Gordon (PoF)
Collectors		
Sat 5pm	Ant Martin	John Rooney
Sun 8am	Tom Maloney, Ernie Cavanagh	Mike Molloy
Sun 10am	Maria Flordeliza, Alex Houghton	Denise Valerio
	Counters: Eva Shorayi	Counters: Helen & Tony Turner
Laptop Operators		
Sat 5pm	Winston Teo	John Salivio
Sun 8am	Mike Molloy	Marie Olvido
Sun 10am	Yelena Cordtz	Jennifer Frost
Altar Servers		
Sat 5pm	Esmenia D'Souza, Hiranya Fernando, Santiago Aguirre	Destiny Jayamanne, Hans Jayamanne, Sophia Canale
Sun 10am	Liam Houghton, Eva Houghton, Jonathan Luxford	Patrick Tighe-Umbers, Simon Tighe-Umbers, Dre Canapi
Sanctuary Care		
	Eric Balderas, Meg Crisostomo	Thomas & Polly Yeung
Children's Liturgy		
Sun 10am	Susan Woolley	Marija Batistich
Musicians / Cantors		
Sat 5pm	Annemarie Kerridge, Louise Porter	Meileen Huang, Anna Dolan
Sun 8am	TBC	Matthew Harris
Sun 10am	Matthew Harris, Cameron Downey	Alleluia Choir

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*

St. Michael's Scripture Study Group. We will meet again **Sunday 1 September 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.

Winter Seminar : Wednesday 11 September **THE ACTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT** led by Justin Taylor SM

"What is the power of the Spirit that was given to Peter and Paul and the early Church?"

7.30pm in the Parish Centre. More information in the church porch and on the website www.remuercatholic.org.nz

Becoming Catholic Programme Do you know anyone interested in learning more about the Catholic faith? Tell them about the St. Michael's 'Becoming Catholic' programme, and invite them to an Enquiry Evening to be held in the parish house on **Thursday 26 September at 7.30pm**. For further information ring Sr Francis Kelly Ph. 520 0445.

Dear parishioners, In Aotearoa at this time we are facing a huge challenge with the discussions on the Euthanasia bill before parliament and now submissions on the Abortion (till nine months) Act. Some of us are overwhelmed by both pieces of legislation and we at St. Michael's recognise this. Come and join us in a pro-life rosary. The times are Tuesday Rosary Group 7.30pm, Saturday 7.30am and stay for 8.00am mass or 8.00pm on Sunday before the 8.30pm mass. If these times don't suit, start a new group and check with Fiona in the office. The more prayer we can muster the better.

Abortion Law Reform Bill was given its First Reading on 8 August: The proposed Bill:

*liberalises late-term abortion. *has no safeguards to prevent sex-selective abortions. *allows under 16's to access abortion on-demand. *has no safeguards to ensure women aren't being coerced. *has no cooling off period and pre-abortion counselling is not a requirement. *has no safeguards to prevent abortions on the grounds of disability. *does not require that abortions be provided by a doctor. *violates the right to freedom of conscience of medical professionals. *provides for 'Safe Areas' where freedom of expression would be curtailed.

Further details www.voiceforlife.org.nz. **Submission Guides** are available in the Church Foyer - please take one home.

Submissions close on 19 September. Emailed submissions are not accepted. Post or send via the Parliamentary website: https://www.parliament.nz/en/pb/sc/make-a-submission/document/52SCAL_SCF_BILL_89814/abortion-legislation-bill



Baptism Preparation Course The next course being facilitated for families to prepare for baptism is beginning in November. Sessions will be held in the presbytery after 10am mass on Sunday 3, 10 and 17 November. Attendance at all 3 sessions is necessary. Please contact the parish office office@remuercatholic.org.nz or phone 520-1226 to register. This is the last course for 2019.

Laptop Operators wanted

We are looking for people to join our Laptop Operators Ministry for the Parish for all Masses.

Full training is provided and we can roster you on to your preferred Mass time.

This role is ideal for young people (intermediate school age and older) who want to help the Parish in this valuable way.

If you have any interest or know of anyone that you think would be perfect to help us, can you please email Fiona, our Parish Secretary on office@remuercatholic.org.nz. We will be running a training session in the coming weeks.

St. Michael's Parish accept donations of non-perishable food and household items which are distributed by **Monte Cecilia** to those families in need. If you would like to donate such items, a large basket is located in the Church Foyer. www.montececilia.org.nz We work in conjunction with St. Michael's Catholic School. Thank you for your support.

St. Michael's meet for a **pro-life rosary** at 8pm before the Sunday 8:30pm mass. All welcome.

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

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.

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

Cyber-Attacks! What Can We Do?

As you will know, we have had a number of "phising" (pronounced 'fishing') attacks on priests' email of late. Bruce Thom, Senior Advisor at Codeblue, the Auckland Diocesan IT provider, has given some tips and explanation as to what is happening. This information has been posted on the Noticeboard in the Church Foyer.

Reflection Day "TAIZE" – Friday 13 September 2019 - 7.00pm to 8.00pm

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

Venue: Mary MacKillop Chapel, 56 Selwyn Avenue, Mission Bay, Auckland

Light supper served at conclusion.

Registrations to: Auckland.MMKCentre@sosj.org.au