

PARISH of ST. MICHAEL

FIFTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

Pastor's Column : 5th Sunday Ordinary Time 2020

Some of you may recall the Cerebos salt containers with the image of a little boy chasing a chicken, trying to sprinkle salt on its tail. Folk lore believed that salt had some magical properties that prevented birds from flying, if their tail feathers were salted. Others of a more practical bent of mind deduced that if you got close enough to a bird to sprinkle salt on its tail feathers, then you were close enough to catch it. Cerebos is the Americanisation of Kerberos, the three headed hound that guarded the gates of Hades- presumably to stop people leaving, rather than entering; not sure of the connection between the salt company and the hound - unless the American's believed that the hounds were fed on KFC - guaranteed to fill anyone's needed quota of salt. Apart from its flavour enhancing properties and its necessity for our personal biochemistry, salt and humanity has had an ancient association. Salt was of great value in Jesus time, Romans even used it as payment for its soldiers and so the word, salary, from the Latin word for salt -"sal." Salt of course brings out the flavour of food and for that reason alone it was of great value. Jesus use of the image of salt, descriptive of his disciples, is primarily a symbol of many layers. As with all Jesus parables, there is an unexpected twist, which points to the deeper meaning hidden in the story. Food can lose its savour, salt of course can't; whether it is pure or contaminated it will still retain its saltiness. Therein lies the twist and the meaning. Jesus is not thinking of "salt" in its literal sense, but figurative. Jesus is expecting his Jewish hearers to put the text in context so it doesn't become a pretext! God had promised Aaron and his descendents the priesthood, together with its dues, a covenant of salt (Numbers18:19) - implying an eternal, unbreakable covenant and one entirely for the benefit of its bearers. The prophet Nathan assured David in God's name that the kingship would never depart from the his house (2 Samuel 7:16). This was later referred to as having been forged with a covenant of salt in 2 Chronicles 13:5. So the permanence of saltiness, its impossibility of losing its savour and also its power to preserve is the nature of God's covenant and it is the nature of living as a disciple of Jesus; it can't be self-contradictory. The common literary technique of parallelism is used here. The same thing, said again in a different way, for explanation and emphasis. Salt is salt, as light is light. Actio sequitur esse, is a principle of Thomistic philosophy; Actions flow from being. If it acts like a duck, quacks like a duck, waddles like a duck - then it is probably a duck. If a person manifests the fruits of the Spirit, as delineated by Paul in his letter to the Galatians 5:22, (love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, trustfulness, gentleness and self-control) then they are probably a disciple of Jesus! We may not be up to chasing chickens, however we all put salt on our food or switch on a light. Perhaps every time we do this we can ask this question of ourselves; am I being the salt of the earth and the light for the world?

Fr Tony Dunn

8th February 2020

Parish of St. Michael, Remuera

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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: 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,

Wednesday, Thursday, Friday 7am

Thursday 7am and 9:15am (School Mass)

Saturday 8am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

After Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri

7am Mass

Anointing of the Sick:

First Friday of each month 11am

Reconciliation / Confession:

Half hour before Mass on Saturday 5pm,

Sunday 8am, 10am, 8.30pm

Saturday 8:30am or by appointment

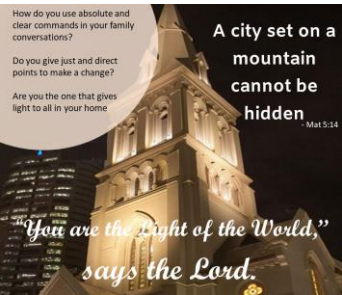
READINGS THIS SUNDAY

1. Isaiah 58:7-10

2. 1Corinthians 2:1-5

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.



Please put \$4 in the papers box in the Church Porch please.

Old magazines at home or in the office? Please consider dropping them to the presbytery for school retreats.

Lift up Their Voices Formation Day in the music ministry. 15 February 2020, Our Lady of the Assumption Parish, 97 Galway St Onehunga, 9.15 – 3.15. A day for liturgy committees, choir members, cantors and musicians. There is no cost, donations appreciated. Please register at liturgycentre@cda.org.nz and remember to bring your own lunch. See Church Noticeboard

NAU MAI, HAERE MAI Nga Whaea Atawhai O Aotearoa - Sisters of Mercy invite young women aged between 18 and 40 to a Come and See Day to discover more about our Mercy Life. Saturday 7th of March 2020, 10am to 3.30pm, Holy Cross Parish Hall, Papatoetoe. RSVP for catering & for more info contact: vocations@mercy.org.nz or Sr Fatima-02108429440, Sr Linda-0212630439.

Ignatian Spirituality for Women. An 8-day silent, individually guided retreat, given by Adriana Janus, Nicola McCarthy and Joy Cowley. 20-29 March 2020 at the Magnificat Retreat Centre, Featherston. Cost: \$675, includes accommodation for 9 nights, all meals and daily spiritual direction. For further information and registration please contact Joy Cowley, joycowley@xtra.co.nz.

See Poster on Church Noticeboard

St Peter's College Open Day Tuesday 25 February 2020 9.30am or 1pm.

See Poster on Church Noticeboard

Sacred Heart College Open Day – Wednesday 4 March 2020

Enrolment for Years 7 and 9 in 2021 is now open and will close Friday, 27 March 2020.

The Endeavour Scholarships are open to Catholic, Maori and Pasifika boys who are currently in Year 6 or Year 8 at their present school, for Year 7 or 9 intake in 2021.

For further information please contact Nicola Thomas, Enrolments and Scholarships Officer on (09) 529 3660 x 714 or email: enrolments@sacredheart.school.nz Website www.sacredheart.school.nz See Poster on Church Noticeboard

Baradene College – Open Evening will be held on Thursday 5 March, 2020 – 6.30pm. We welcome all prospective parents and students to visit the College. Entry at Gate 2 to the Auditorium.

Enrolments for Year 7, 2021 are presently being accepted and will close on Friday 13 March, 2020 at 3.00pm. A limited number of places in Year 9 will be available and applications will close on Friday 13 March, 2020 at 3.00pm.

St Mary's College Open Day - Thursday 5 March 2019 at 2.30pm & 6.30pm.

See Poster on Church Noticeboard

The Most Reverend Patrick Dunn DD Bishop of Auckland has pleasure in inviting you to the Episcopal Ordination of his auxiliary The Most Reverend Michael Gielen DD at the Vodafone Events Centre 770 Great South Road, Wiri Manukau 2104. Enter through Gates 2 and 3 | parking available for cars and buses on Saturday 7 March 2020 at 11.00am Diocesan Celebration ~ all welcome. See Poster on Church Noticeboard

Position Vacant Part-time Office Assistant

St Benedict's Parish, Newton/Eden Terrace is looking for an assistant in the Parish Office for 15 hours per week. Can be some flexibility of days/hours. We are seeking a well organised person with knowledge of Microsoft word, excel and publisher.

Position involves general office duties, preparation of rosters, hymn sheets, newsletters etc. Please send application and CV to catherine@stbenedictsaukland.org.nz or phone Catherine on 09 379 0624.

Training course for Volunteer Chaplaincy Assistants at Auckland Hospital. If you are interested, please contact Robert Burley, Chaplaincy Assistant Training administrator on email aucklandhospitalchaplancy@gmail.com (See Noticeboard)

We remember those who have recently died:

Mary Hayes

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

Nell Graham, Eileen Martin, Judy Ganley, Jenny Hart, Paul Heaney, Tony Vela, Francine Morais, Betty Fitzmaurice, Brother Richard Dunleavy, Luningning Gerobin Sarmiento, Bronwen Hughes, Fr Justin Taylor sm, Betty Flynn

ROSTER	Fifth Sunday of Ordinary Time 8th & 9th February 2020		Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time 15th & 16th February 2020	
	Ministers of Holy Communion			
Sat 5pm	Philomena Pinto (G), John Rooney (P), Nelson Aguirre, Ant Martin, John Salivio	Nelson Aguirre (G), Issa Ilo-Cabiling (P), Cristina Mendoza, Shenali Fernando, Rolinda D'Souza		
Sun 8am	Camila Martinez (G), Silvio Duarte (P), Lianne Lyons, Johanna Esguerra, Jane Penney	Lianne Lyons (G), Michael Franklin (P), Judy Aldridge, Josephine Hazel-Esguerra, August Nicol		
Sun 10am	Sara-Jane Kingston (G), Kate McKay (P), Hester Leung, Julie-Ann Eggermont, JR Ambrosio	Phil Porteous (G), Christopher Leung (P), Rob Fonseca-Ensor, Terisa Cordtz, Maricel D'Souza		
Proclaimers of the Word				
	1. Isaiah 58:7-10	2. 1Corinthians 2:1-5	1. Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20	2. 1Corinthians 2:6-10
Sat 5pm	Francis Morais, Sr Alice Hardiman (PoF)	Gay Barton, TBC (PoF)		
Sun 8am	Peter Hay-MacKenzie, Frances Hay-MacKenzie (PoF)	Clare Wade, Simon Glass (PoF)		
Sun 10am	Emma Houghton, Cara Fonseca-Ensor (PoF)	Sue d'Young, Margaret-Mary Farrell (PoF)		
Collectors				
Sat 5pm	John Rooney	Stan Pinto		
Sun 8am	Mike Molloy	Jim McGillivray, Eva Shoray		
Sun 10am	Denise Valerio	Fitzmaurice Family		
	Counters: Helen & Tony Turner	Counters: Parish Office		
Laptop Operators				
Sat 5pm	India Twomey	Movez D'Souza		
Sun 8am	Anne Cotton	Bernard Kendall		
Sun 10am	Benedict Baylis	Marie Olvido		
Altar Servers				
Sat 5pm	Francine Morais, Ben Morais, Sophia Canale	Santiago Aguirre, Esmenia D'Souza, Sydelle Kumar		
Sun 10am	Liam Houghton, Eva Houghton, Jonathan Luxford, Micayla-Jane Erika	Emily Choi, Stella Valerio, Aaron D'Souza		
Sanctuary Care				
	Sali Pearson & Cathy Ferguson	Eric Balderas & Meg Crisostomo		
Children's Liturgy				
Sun 10am	TBC	TBC		
Musicians / Cantors				
Sat 5pm	Neil Moraes, Cassy Wooler	Neil Moraes, Ben & Felicity Piper, Michka Kang, Cameron Downey		
Sun 8am	Maria Bullock	Annemarie Kerridge		
Sun 10am	Matthew Harris, Antonia Brightwell	Tim Gasson, Steve Hughes and Meileen Huang		

NOTICES

St. Michael's New Weekday Mass Times – Please refer to the front page of the newsletter, Church Porch and Website

Parish Meeting - 4pm Sunday 23 February

Don't forget to mark your calendar for this event. See the poster in the church porch.

Cardinal John Dew will speak about the issues facing the Church in New Zealand. This will be followed by a question and answer session.

The meeting will end with a social hour. No charge. All adult parishioners are welcome and encouraged to attend.

Lenten Programme - enrolments now open

Full information about the programme - *Sent by Christ* - can be found in the church porch, on the parish website or at the parish office.

This will be the most important faith education activity for our parish in 2020. Please make sure you set aside the time to take part. There is a wide choice of dates and times, and at least one option to suit just about everyone.

Helpers needed for Sacristy Ministry

Fr. Tony would like to hear from parishioners who would join the group of ministers who assist the celebrant at Sunday Mass. Duties involve preparing the hosts, wine, linen and lectionary for the altar before Mass and putting away after Mass. (The role does not include acting as an altar server or as a Minister of Communion).

Volunteers will be asked to take their turn at the Sunday Mass they usually attend. This is an important ministry providing a valuable service. It is well within the capability of the majority of adult parishioners, male or female.

Holy Communion Outreach

Parishioners who are unable through age, illness or other good reason to get to Mass are welcome to ask for a minister of Holy Communion to visit them.

Those wishing to get the benefit of this ministry, for themselves or someone else, are invited to contact Fiona Twomey at the parish office.

Safeguarding Training

Two dates are available for St. Michael's (to be held at the Presbytery) for people serving in ministries who have not yet received training, or are newly recruited to a ministry. The two date options are **Tuesday 18 February at 1pm** and **Thursday 20 February at 10am**. Two hour session. Please register your attendance with the Parish Office.

Pastoral Council News

The business of the Council meeting on 4 February included: to congratulate Bishop-elect Michael Gielen on his appointment; planning for the Lenten Programme; approving a proposal to provide Caring services to parishioners; planning for Holy Week and Easter liturgies; a progress report on updating the parish register; preparations for the parish meeting on 23 February and the address by Cardinal Dew.

Altar Servers Training For those who have received their First Holy Communion already ...

The next Altar Servers Training will be on **Sunday 23rd February 2020 (11am to 12.30pm)** at St. Michael's Catholic Church. Please register interest to Issa on [021 179 3801](tel:0211793801) or issa_ilo@yahoo.com.

St. Michael's School Family Fun Day - Sunday 1st March 2020, 11am to 2pm

Join us after 10am Mass for a fun filled family day with food, drinks and entertainment. Activities include a cake stall, tombola, sausage sizzle, coffee cart, mobile farmyard and pony rides, bouncy castle & more! All welcome.

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

Coronavirus & Liturgy - The Chalice will not be offered at mass, nor will there be shaking of hands. Please refer to the Church Noticeboard for a message from the National Liturgy Office dated 30 January 2020.

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 acotton888@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.

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

St Valentine's Day Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral. Celebration of Marriage and Family. **Friday 14 February 2020** at 7.30pm (Wilson parking \$4.00 validate ticket at Cathedral). All welcome: Engaged, Married, Singles, Families, Children.

Email Gerry at gerrys@cda.org.nz, ph 360-3025

See Poster on Church Noticeboard

40 Days for Life: Be a sign of hope this Lent and help save lives! **February 26 to April 5** – Mon to Sat – 7am to 7pm. Please protect mothers and babies through prayer, fasting, and vigil outside the local abortion centre in Mt Eden. Vigil works on a rotating roster of one-hour slots with two to three people needed to cover each hour. A positive, peaceful and fruitful witness to the precious gift of life. You may be her last sign of hope and her first sign of mercy. To find out more & sign up for your prayer hour please visit fli.org.nz/40daysforlife, contact Michelle 0275261199 or michelle@fli.org.nz

March for Life - a family-friendly, life affirming awareness march to show our love for vulnerable, unborn babies, their mothers, and the wider impacted whanau. At 1pm on **Saturday 29 February**, gather at Freyberg Square, Auckland CBD. 2pm march to Aotea Square along Queen Street, 2:45pm speeches at Aotea Square. See Noticeboard

DRCNZ – Teens Seminar in Auckland

Divine Retreat Centre New Zealand (DRCNZ) an Apostolate of the Roman Catholic Bishop of Auckland is organizing a Teens Seminar Jonah and the Whale on **29 February 2020** from 10am to 2pm at St John Vianney Church Hall, 317 Hillsborough Road, Hillsborough, Auckland 1042. Parents are requested to kindly send their teenage children to participate in this celebration! Bring your family and friends with you. No registration fee. Contact: Arthy M:022 319 3621 Email: drcnz@hotmail.com Website: <http://www.drcnz.org>