

PARISH of ST. MICHAEL

SIXTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

Pastor's Column : 6th Sunday Ordinary Time 2020

Most would be familiar with the original movie, the Lion King, and Simba's song, "I Just Can't Wait To Be King!" The lyrics echo in the heart of every adolescent, whether they are 14 going on 15, or 39 going on 40! - "No one say do this, no one say be there, no one say - stop that, no one say see here!" No one likes to be told what to do - whether you're two, twenty-two, forty-two or seventy-two! The modern and modernist mind-set is, as Simba's song suggests, not I want to be king, rather I want to be God. The gospel, the sermon on the Mount challenges that pretentious coup! Jesus on his own authority, God himself, reminds us that we are creatures and that He has made us for happiness, not on our terms but on His! We are challenged to conform our feelings to the truth of objective reality, rather than the procrustean enterprise of trying to make truth conform to our feelings. The sermon on the mount is a road map, or rather, google map, indicating the way to go. The double bind we find ourselves in, is that the Creator has also given us not only the gift of existence, but also the gift of freedom; the freedom to choose our own destiny, eternally. We can choose happiness on His terms or eternal misery on our own terms - eternal misery meaning the awful realisation that I have chosen a lonely, limited, finite good forever and at the same time wilfully rejecting being caught up in a Trinitarian community of infinite goodness, beauty and truth, of infinite life and love. Something of our reflexive negative reactivity to Jesus clear sign posting of the road to happiness, lies in a misunderstanding of our emotional selves. Guided by St Thomas Aquinas we can understand that all our emotions, those energies that move us are in themselves good. They are part of our God given humanity, in which He shared. They are meant to be, at least initially, felt and received, then expressed in some way, if only, first, internally to ourselves. What they want and need is guidance by our intellect, our thinking enlightened by faith. We then chose to act or not to act on that reflection. We all need to learn to respond reflectively, rather than react reflexively. What theologians called Original sin reminds us that this process is damaged goods. The emotions or passions, are no longer under perfect control of our thinking and willing. Being aware of this truth is one of the keys to understanding of the ego's quest to usurp God. The second important point is that no emotion is designed to control another. It was often imagined that fear or courage could be seconded to control unruly angry or sexual feelings. This is a doomed enterprise, often resulting in the person acting out additively the very things they, with the best intentions, were trying to restrain. Reframing the Gospel reading mandates as "you may" rather than "you must" can be helpful in leading us to that freedom of heart and felt joy that comes from choosing what is true, good and beautiful and experiencing the happiness God has intended for us, even now, on this temporary sojourn and pilgrimage of life.

Fr Tony Dunn

15th February 2020

Parish of St. Michael, Remuera

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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,

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. Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20

2. 1Corinthians 2:6-10



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

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.

St Peter's College Open Day Tuesday 25 February 2020 9.30am or 1pm. *See Poster on Church Noticeboard*

Sacred Heart College Open Day is being held on **Wednesday 4 March 2020**. The Principals Welcome address is at 1pm, with tours of the College at 11.45am and 1.30pm. (no need to register)

Enrolments for 2021 **close on Friday 27 March**.

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*

Bishop Patrick Dunn encourages all the People of the Catholic Diocese of Auckland to attend the Episcopal Ordination of Bishop-elect Michael Gielen on **Saturday 7 March** at 11.00am (not 11.30am). Venue is the Vodafone Events Centre, 770 Great South Road, Wiri, Entrance through Gates 2 and 3. All are welcome, all are welcome, all are welcome to this event.

St Patrick's Day High Tea at the Cathedral - Celebrating 179 Years of the Cathedral (1841 – 2020). Join Bishop Patrick at the St Patrick's Day to a High Tea in Liston Hall. 1pm **Tuesday 17th March**. Tickets are \$35 and are available for sale at The Square Gift Store, St Patrick's Square, 43 Wyndham Street - cash preferred. Tickets are strictly limited so be in quick so you aren't disappointed. *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 aucklandhospitalchaplaincy@gmail.com (*See Noticeboard*)

Caring Foundation Annual Grants - The foundation is now receiving grant applications from social service agencies and charities throughout the Auckland diocese who work to support and strengthen families and communities. Applications close on 10th of April, 2020. For more information and to download the application form, please visit our website: www.caringfoundation.org.nz.

Find out how your gift to the Catholic Caring Foundation is supporting families and communities in need throughout our diocese, by reading our latest newsletter. Make a difference to our community by gifting to the foundation.

We remember those who have recently died:

Mary Dunn, John Mahoney, Betty Flynn, Fr Graeme Alexander

We remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Michael Dang Khai Hung, Catherine Cooney

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

Nell Graham, Eileen Martin, Jenny Hart, Paul Heaney, Tony Vela, Francine Morais, Betty Fitzmaurice, Luninging Gerobin Sarmiento, Bronwen Hughes, Fr Justin Taylor sm, Mons Des McCarthy

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.*

ROSTER	Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time 15th & 16th February 2020	Seventh Sunday of Ordinary Time 22nd & 23rd February 2020
	Ministers of Holy Communion	
Sat 5pm	Nelson Aguirre (G), Issa Ilo-Cabiling (P), Cristina Mendoza, Shenali Fernando, Rolinda D'Souza	Cristina Mendoza (G), Francisco Byun (P), Ant Martin, John Rooney
Sun 8am	Lianne Lyons (G), Michael Franklin (P), Judy Aldridge, Josephine Hazel-Esguerra, August Nicol	Fay McKewen (G), Eva Shorayi (P), Tina Fitness, Ann Shaw, Andrew Patel
Sun 10am	Phil Porteous (G), Christopher Leung (P), Rob Fonseca-Ensor, Terisa Cordtz, Maricel D'Souza	Claire Stirrat (G), Jonathan Spencer (P), Sara-Jane Kingston, Deepak Albert, Shobha Johnson
Proclaimers of the Word		
	1. Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20	2. 1Corinthians 2:6-10
Sat 5pm	Gay Barton, Francis Morais (PoF)	Paul Reid, Shenali Fernando (PoF)
Sun 8am	Clare Wade, Simon Glass (PoF)	Bernard Kendall, John Shaw (PoF)
Sun 10am	Sue d'Young, Margaret-Mary Farrell (PoF)	Michael Pender, Ron Seeto (PoF)
Collectors		
Sat 5pm	Stan Pinto	Birgita Muller
Sun 8am	Jim McGillivray, Eva Shorayi	Tom Piggin, Yvonne MacMillan
Sun 10am	Fitzmaurice Family	Alex Houghton
	Counters: Parish Office	Counters: Eva Shorayi
Laptop Operators		
Sat 5pm	Movez D'Souza	Surajith Fernando
Sun 8am	Bernard Kendall	Kerry McKewen
Sun 10am	Marie Olvido	Jennifer Frost
Altar Servers		
Sat 5pm	Santiago Aguirre, Esmeria D'Souza, Sydelle Kumar	Destiny Jayamanne, Hans Jayamanne, Hiranya Fernando
Sun 10am	Emily Choi, Stella Valerio, Aaron D'Souza	William Harris, Keira Croad, Gian Pollaruste
Sanctuary Care		
	Eric Balderas & Meg Crisostomo	Thomas & Polly Yeung
Children's Liturgy		
Sun 10am	Susan Woolley and Rafaela Palileo	Lynette Herrero Torres and Ana Hech-Lu
Musicians / Cantors		
Sat 5pm	Neil Moraes, Ben & Felicity Piper, Michka Kang, Cameron Downey	Neil Moraes, Robert Loretz
Sun 8am	Annemarie Kerridge	Maria Bullock
Sun 10am	Tim Gasson, Steve Hughes and Meileen Huang	Edmond Wong, Carole Kenealy

NOTICES

St Michael's Scripture Study Group We will meet again **Sunday 16 February 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.

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.

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.

PARKING on Sunday 1st March for 10am Mass: Please note that there will be no parking beside or behind the church for those attending 10am Mass due to space requirements for the Family Fun Day. Parishioners attending 8am Mass are welcome to park as normal but are kindly asked to move their cars as soon as they can after Mass has finished.

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

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 fii.org.nz/40daysforlife, contact Michelle 0275261199 or michelle@fii.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

See Poster on Church Noticeboard

DRCNZ invites teenagers (Age: 13-19) to the Teens Seminar "Jonah And The Whale", on **Saturday 29th February 2020** at St John Vianney Church Hall, 317 Hillsborough Road, Hillsborough from 10am to 2pm. Teens will learn to submit to God in their everyday life, and to face life's challenges as an opportunity to witness God's love. Free entry and lunch provided. To register and for inquiries contact Arty 022 319 3621. Website: <http://www.drcnz.org>

Holy Land pilgrimage: A few places are still available for a 21-day pilgrimage to the Holy Land to be led by Pat and Suzie McCarthy from **April 24 to May 14, 2020**. The itinerary includes all major holy places in Jerusalem, Bethlehem, Nazareth and around the Sea of Galilee, plus Mount Carmel, Acre and the Dead Sea. Cost around \$8500. Contact Pat at patsuzie@slingshot.co.nz or on 480-4463.