

**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*

**CONFERENCE – Worshipping under Southern Skies: Weaving Together Liturgy and Life POSTPONED UNTIL 7<sup>th</sup> – 9<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER 2021.** Starting from Friday 2nd & Saturday 3rd of October we plan to offer a series of digital presentations from Conference presenters. If you have registered for the Conference or subscribed to the Conference newsletter, the link to this portal will be emailed to you. Please subscribe to the Liturgy Conference newsletter via the website <https://wuss.org.nz/> if you want to receive the link.

**MARRIED COUPLES:** Revitalise and enrich your intimacy, love and romance in your marriage. Attend the residential MARRIAGE ENCOUNTER WEEKEND – 2–4 October at Bella Rakha Retreat Centre, Oratia. BOOK NOW! As this will be the last weekend for a while. Phone 0800-362686 or Christine & David Sloan 372-3581 or Email: david.christinesloan@gmail.com



Online Session (Evening): Mary, the Mother of God – A Contemporary Understanding of Mary with Br Kieran Fenn who has a wonderful way of bringing Scripture alive. Topic on Monday, 7 September, 7-8.30pm: Mary in the Gospel of Luke.

Fee: \$25/session. Special fees for groups of more than 2 persons. ZOOM.

For more information and registration: [info@studyjoy.nz](mailto:info@studyjoy.nz)

See also: <https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/virtual-teaching-mary-mother-of-god-i-with-kieran-fenn-fms-4/>

Online Session (Retreat Day): Homecoming – A Journey of Transformation (Prodigal Son) with Eamon Butler. Saturday, 19 September, 10.30am-4pm. Fee: \$60.

For more information and registration: [info@studyjoy.nz](mailto:info@studyjoy.nz)

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/retreat-day-with-eamon-butler-the-prodigal-son/>

**A 6 day residential silent individually guided retreat.** In the dynamic of the Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola **25 October 10am - 30 October 4pm**, St Francis Retreat Centre, 50 Hillsborough Road, Auckland Cost: \$770. Apply to [chair@ignatianspirituality.nz](mailto:chair@ignatianspirituality.nz) See Noticeboard for details

**Billings Ovulation Method Natural Fertility Training Seminar 2020** Auckland Friday 2nd-Saturday 3rd October. The Billings Ovulation Method is a means of natural fertility regulation used by couples to prevent or achieve pregnancy and protect reproductive health. It is highly effective if used correctly. This seminar will be beneficial to Health professional, and those wishing to become accredited teachers of the Method. It will also be beneficial to those wishing to use the method and those involved in pre-marriage counselling. For further information: P|0800 693 378 E| [info@billingslife.org.nz](mailto:info@billingslife.org.nz) [click here to read the flyer](#)

We remember those who have recently died:  
**Peter Barriball**

We remember those whose anniversaries occur at this time:  
**Monsignor Brian Arahill, Joan Sullivan**

Please pray for those who are in need of our prayers, especially:  
**Nell Graham, Eileen Martin, Jenny Hart, Tony Vela, Michael Pender, Bronwen Hughes, Fr Justin Taylor sm, Patricia Bolton, Hazel Milligan, Elena Ambion, Movez D'Souza**

# PARISH of ST. MICHAEL

## TWENTY FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

**13th September 2020**

**Parish of St. Michael, Remuera**

6 Beatrice Road, Remuera, 1050

Phone: 09 520 1226

[office@remueracatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@remueracatholic.org.nz)

[www.remueracatholic.org.nz](http://www.remueracatholic.org.nz)

**Parish Priest:** Father Tony Dunn

[frtonydunn@gmail.com](mailto:frtonydunn@gmail.com) (021 954 292)

**In residence:** Father Stephen Berecz

[sberecz@gmail.com](mailto:sberecz@gmail.com)

**Office Manager:** Fiona Twomey

**Baptism Preparation:**

Pauline loelu

**Religious Education:**

Peter Hay-Mackenzie (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 27:30-28:7

2. Romans 14:7-9

**Pastor's Column : 24th Sunday 2020 in Ordinary Time**

It can be very difficult, in our time, to estimate monetary values, especially with a lolly-scramble Government surfing a tsunami of debt. In today's parable a reasonable guesstimate of the value of a talent, a gold coin, was 6000 denarii. One denarius was the value of a day's work. So 10,000 talents was an inconceivable amount of money. In work time it would take 160,000 years to pay off the debt. As most of Jesus parables/riddles show, herein lies a paradox. The servant is owed only 100 denarii by his fellow servant. There is no comparable monetary comparison. The king forgives the impossibly unforgivable debt. The forgiven servant though, is merciless in pursuit of what he is owed. In first century Palestine most prisoners were incarcerated for issues of non-debt repayment. Other crimes were dealt with summarily and severely. Given our forever-court-system, we once again learn that the only thing you learn from history is that no one learns anything from history. The parabolic paradox underscores Jesus response to Peter who was generously maximising his bid for forgiveness to 7X. Jesus ups the ante, not 7X but 70X7! Peter, in using the 7X figure, may have been thinking of Cain, in Genesis 4, who when complaining of God's punishment for his fratricide is told, " whoever kills Cain will suffer a sevenfold vengeance!" In response to Peter, Jesus may have had in mind the prophet Daniel, who in Dan 9 had counted 70 years as the length of God's punishment on the Israelites for their transgressions. Whatever the OT allusions, Jesus is basically saying that forgiveness is forever and never max's out. The bottom line of the parable is a quid pro quo. Forgive and you will be forgiven. Don't forgive and you will not be forgiven. The offence given by man to God, when sinning, can only be forgiven by God. The debt of sin is between a finite creature and an infinite Creator. This is highlighted in the parable's 10,000 talents of gold to 100 denarii. Only God, whose mercy is infinite, can cross that bridge of debt. A little life experience teaches the difficulty, if not impossibility of forgiveness. Ultimately forgiveness is a gift of grace. We can tap into that grace by interceding for those who have offended us. We may still feel, anger, disappointment etc. We may remember the offence. It is not a question of feeling, but the intent to will the truest and best for the offender. Intercessory prayer carries us across that rainbow-bridge, leading us to the pot of gold of serenity of heart and joy, which as Pope Francis teaches, is the fruit of showing mercy.

Fr Tony Dunn

# NOTICES

## Parish Annual Meeting - Sunday 11 October

In the school hall, after the 10.00am Mass. Please diary the date.

**NZ Catholic Magazine** - the latest version of NZ Catholic is being made available free of charge. Click the link to the free issue [NZ Catholic Magazine](#) or see the home page of our website.

**Becoming Catholic Programme** There is an enquiry meeting for adults interested in learning more about the Catholic faith. If you would like to learn more about the St. Michael's 'Becoming Catholic' programme, you are invited to an enquiry evening on **Thursday 24 September to be held at the parish house from 7.30-9.00pm**. This marks the commencement of the 'journey to Easter 2021' for people interested in joining the church. For more information, email [office@remueracatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@remueracatholic.org.nz) or refer to our website [Becoming Catholic Programme](#)

**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 8th, 15th, 22nd November. Attendance at all 3 sessions is necessary. Please contact the parish office [office@remueracatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@remueracatholic.org.nz) or phone 520-1226 to register. This will go ahead depending on Government Covid-19 guidelines at the time.

**2021 Columban Art Calendar** is available from the Parish Office during office hours. \$12 cash only.

**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](mailto: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, 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](mailto:carole.kenealy@gmail.com)

**Fundraiser Concert for St Gianna's Home for Mothers and Babies - Sunday 27 September 2020 at 2pm**  
**St. Michael's** is hosting a fundraiser concert featuring bass-baritone James loelu (and others) to raise funds for the recently opened St Gianna's Home based in Auckland. The Home's official opening and blessing was performed by Auxiliary Bishop Michael Gielen on Friday 19 June. Further details of the concert to be held at St. Michael's Church in September will follow. Please **save the date** for this wonderful and worthy event.

**Monte Cecilia Housing Trust** Can you help? Once again we appeal to your generosity as we need beds, mattresses and blankets for our homeless families. Lately we have housed many families from Monte Cecilia Housing Trust and they have moved out and have no beds. If you are able to help, please call Elaine Lolesio Phone 275 6661 or 0277770632 or email [elaine@montececilia.org.nz](mailto:elaine@montececilia.org.nz) for collection. We appreciate your support.

**Pregnancy Help**, a charity serving vulnerable pregnant women and women facing unplanned pregnancies, is looking to lease inexpensive office space, 80 -100m2 in the suburbs within a 10 km radius of the city centre. Please contact Kheng or Dori on 09 373 2599 or [auckland@pregnancyhelp.org.nz](mailto:auckland@pregnancyhelp.org.nz).

**Job opportunity** Pregnancy Help Inc has a vacancy for Auckland Branch Coordinator. The ideal candidate will be trained in counselling, be IT literate, have good management skills, be willing to commit to achieving great outcomes for vulnerable pregnant women and women in troubled pregnancies. Email your CV to Kheng Tan, Honorary Treasurer [kdsdtan@gmail.com](mailto:kdsdtan@gmail.com)

**Liturgy, Prayer, Pastoral Care and Pandemics** a free lecture (online) by Sr Prof Julia Upton Provost Emerita and retired Distinguished Professor in the Department of Theology and Religious Studies at St. John's University NY. October 7<sup>th</sup> registrations through flyer [click here](#)

**Family Liturgy of the Word** for this coming weekend – 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time – [click here](#)

Other formats and a more formal edition are available  
<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/liturgy/resources/ritual-prayers/>

### Support to visitors to NZ on temporary visas

NZ Red Cross is working with the DIA to provide support to visitors to NZ on temporary visas, (i.e. not citizens or Permanent Resident visa-holders) who are experiencing financial hardship due to being stranded in NZ due to COVID 19. Members of your community may know of people in this difficult position, and it would be great if we could let people know about the support available. [Click here to view the flier](#)

**The Season of Creation** is marked throughout the Christian world from 1 September to 4 October (Feast of St. Francis of Assisi). The Season celebrates the joy of creation as well as encouraging awareness-raising initiatives to protect the natural environment. A number of resources can be accessed through the diocesan website: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/season-of-creation/> and <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/justice-peace/environment-sustainability-committee/>.

### Be informed about the End of Life Choice Act Referendum:

- The End of Life Choice Act is not an option of 'last resort'. It will not just apply to the 'exceptionally difficult cases'. It does not require that a person first make use of available treatments or counselling, nor that they first receive palliative care. A person does not need to be in physical pain.

- If euthanasia becomes legal in NZ, people will access it because they think they lack other choices. Even though quality palliative care is effective, there is no corresponding legal right to access palliative care. Under current law, people can already say 'no' to treatments and can receive whatever level of pain relief they need. These days, no-one need die in pain.

**The EOLC Act is badly drafted and seriously flawed. Whatever one's views about the idea of euthanasia, it is not 'compassion' to vote for a dangerous law.**

See [www.riskylaw.nz](http://www.riskylaw.nz) or [www.votesafe.nz](http://www.votesafe.nz) or [www.carealliance.org.nz](http://www.carealliance.org.nz) or [www.nathaniel.org.nz](http://www.nathaniel.org.nz)

*Authorised by John Kleinsman, 15 Guildford Terrace, Thorndon, Wellington*

### URGENT PLEA for Help to Deliver Anti-Euthanasia Flyers in the REMUERA & MT EDEN areas

We need more support please in this effort by our parish to inform the voting public of the dangers of the End of Life Choice Act. We need more people who can deliver flyers to letterboxes between 12-20 September in the Remuera and Mt Eden areas.

If you or any members of your family are able to help, please call the Parish Office or email [office@remueracatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@remueracatholic.org.nz) as soon as possible so a plan can be made for the numbers taking part.