

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

Opening Ourselves to God's Will

They tell of a man in a small town who tried to give some money back to the Department of Social Security, but could not. At age 65 the man retired from his work as a farm labourer and moved into town. His retirement house was extremely modest, sparsely furnished, and simply kept. Most could not manage on his meagre minimum payment.

At the end of the first month of collecting the social security payment, this humble man went to the bank with some cash and told the teller he wanted to return some money because the government had given him more than he needed. With that request he blew everybody in the bank away. They explained to him that he couldn't do that, that the government could give out social security payments, but that there was no set-up program for taking any of it back. There was no category for people who wanted to give any of their social security back to the government.

To receive graciously from another is as much as a gift as giving. We can learn from Mary in this regard. When did we last say yes when God asked something difficult of us?

Did the annunciation to Mary take place in the space of a few minutes, as the Gospel suggests? Or could we think of it as having taken place over the course of many months – even a couple of years? Unlike our busy world, which wants instant results, there is no rush with God; the one chosen is like a flower that opens up to the sun slowly, gently, without any kind of fanfare.

This is the time of year when the noisy world cries out: "Only four more days to go! ... Only three more days to go!" But Mary, the perfect Advent model, gently says: "Seek a little silence, be still, ponder in your heart." And if we do, we shall not be taken by surprise: we shall be ready to receive him who is our friend, our brother, our long-awaited saviour, the revelation of God's great secret.

Go with joy! We are ready to welcome God's Most Precious One. Go with joy! We are prepared to welcome the Prince of Peace. Go with joy! We understand that from darkness, light will shine forth. Above all, go with love! We realise that God's love in Christ, is for us, and for all humankind. Amen.

ST THERESE PARISH



Parish Priest
Father Arui Arokiam OFM
 Presbytery: 4/7 Frost Rd
 Parish: 463 Mt Albert Rd
 Phone: 620-9689
 Mobile 022-096-3493

Office Hours
 Tuesday- Friday
 11.00 am – 3.00 pm

Parish e-mail address
 St3kgs@xtra.co.nz

St Therese School
 Principal: Susan McDonald
 463 Mt Albert Road
 Phone : 09 620 9441
School Website:
www.sainttherese.school.nz

Parish Secretary
 Glynis Nazareth
Parish website address
www.threekingscatholic.org.nz



FOURTH SUNDAY IN AD VENT – YEAR B 24th DECEMBER 2017

MASS: Saturday 5.00pm
 Sunday 9.30am
 Monday to Friday 7.00am & Fridays 7.30 pm
 Saturday 8.00am

The Holy Rosary

Is prayed before Mass Daily

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 9-9.30am

1st Friday Mass – 5TH Jan. 2018 / **Tamil Mass** 14th Jan 5.00 pm
Samoan Mass **Fijian Mass**

Day	Ministers of the Word	Ministers of the Eucharist	Altar Servers	Cleaners
Saturday 23rd Dec 2017 5:00p.m.	Anita Caselino Kenneth Mascarenhas	Ferdanind Pinto Lydia Quadros Margaret Koay Michelle Carvalho Selma Pinto		Samoan Community
Sunday 24th Dec. 2017 9.30am	Samoan Community	Cheryl Moan Luc Marie Xavier Branga Blanche D'Dunha Bro Micheal Goh		

Rosters for Next Week

Saturday 30th Dec 2017 5:00p .m.	Agnes Fap'oi Melissa Castelino	Alisi Otufangavalu Rosalie Su'a Margaret Koay Frances Fap'oi Malia Falemaka	Anstan Dalia Meela Radelle Adele	Indian Community
Sunday 31st Dec. 2017 9.30am	Indian Community	Agnes Schaaf Monica Austin Toilolo Otufangavalu Bro Micheal Goh Luc Marie	Emmanuela Paje Gloria Greta Nivelei	

Please Recite after Holy Communion

Priestly/Religious Vocations

Father, in your plan for our salvation you provide shepherds for your people. Fill your Church with the spirit of courage and love. Raise up worthy ministers for your altars and ardent but gentle servants of the gospel

Liturgy of the Word- Sunday 24th Dec. 2017

First Reading: 2Samuel 7:1-5,8-12,14,16

Psalm:89 p 95

Second Reading: Romans 16:25-27

Gospel Luke 1:57-66

Liturgy of the Word- Sunday 31st Dec. 2017

First Reading: Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6, 12-14

Psalm: 128 p.139

Second Reading: Colossians 3:12-21

Gospel: Luke 2:22-40

Sunday Offerings for 17th Dec. 2017

1st Collection: \$ 437.56

2nd Collection: \$ 875.13,

Thank You for your generosity

Prayers For The Sick

Jesus the Healer, we commend to your gentle hands those who are sick:

Michael Brady, Virginia Faye Perelini, Regina Lee, Gloria Cruz, Monique Simon, Emily Matthews, Ali Ahmed, Ana Hiliate, Mafi Lelea, Rosemary Cannon, Jenny Toh, Leo Ziglani, Peter McConnel, Anamalia Vakameilalo, Fatima Rodrigues, Vyga Sanu, Tuala Akeli, Tafu Tuala, Anna Maria Coelho, Irene Makanga, Elena Roman, Siosianna Tuli, Po'e Heather, Neil Almeida, Philomena Stevens, Fili Otufangavalu, Telesia Folaumahina, Babs (Bridgette) Lyons, & Shirley Mathews..

Prayers for the Deceased

Please remember in your prayers our deceased parishioners, family and friends especially:

Robert Coutinho, Gladys Lopez, Philomena Pinto, Bradley, Betty Drinnan, Wenceslaus Anthony, Jacob Saldanha, Peter R. Drinnan, Ngaire, Wim Bolscher, Finau Schaaf, Betty Coutinho, OlaDevit, Lila Vaiaoga, Rev. Msgr. Lui Tevaga, Carmeline D'cruz, Diego Coelho, Percy Nazareth, Mele Toloa, Felix Giborees, Rosy Vaz, Jerome Aranha,

Eternal rest grant unto their souls O Lord, let perpetual light shine upon them, may they rest in peace. Amen.

St Therese Parish News

Programme: Christmas and New Year

Sunday 24th Dec. 17 Regular Mass
9:30 a.m. Samoan Community

Sunday 24th Dec. 17 Christmas Eve Mass
10:00 p.m. Carols followed by Mass (Combined Choir led by Samoans)

Monday 25th Dec. 17 Christmas Day
9:30 a.m. Tongan Community

Sunday 31st Dec. 17 Feast of Holy Family
9:30 a.m. Indian Community

Sunday 31st Dec. 17 New Year's Eve
10:00p.m. Samoan Community

Monday 1st Jan 18 New Year's Day
9:30 a.m. Parish Youth

Mass Timings

Please note from 26th December 2017 to 6th January 2018, weekday Masses will be at 8:00am
From 8th January 2018 onwards weekday Masses will be held at 7:00am

Meetings

Fundraising Committee Meeting 8th Feb.2018 at 7:15 p.m.
Parish Council Meeting 4th Feb, 2017 after 9:30 am Mass
Liturgy Committee meeting 07th Feb 2018 at 7.15 pm

No Newsletter in Jan 2018

There will be no parish newsletter in Jan 2018. The next newsletter will be printed on 3rd February 2018

Columban Calendar

2018 Columban calendars are on sale for \$12/-
2018 Daily Mass Calendars for \$4/- each
Mass & Psalm Book with Vinyl cover \$9/- each
Please buy them from Frances Faapoi

St John Paul II Auckland Rosary

Every Saturday at 12.00 noon a 20 decade rosary is prayed in our church

Mass for the Sick & Elderly

28th JAN 2018 at 12.00 noon. A special Mass is held every 4th Sunday of the month for the Sick and Elderly. The mass is at 12.00 noon. Anointing of the sick is held during the mass

Divine Mercy Devotion

There will be no Divine Mercy Devotion till Easter. Only First Friday mass will be celebrated at 7.00 pm. Mass on other Friday evenings will resume during Lent and will be held after Stations of the Cross.

New hope with Faith Fellowship

It is an informal gathering, a confidential sharing platform for the people who are hurt by the grief of separation, divorce and widowhood.

The gathering is held on every FIRST and THIRD SUNDAY of the month in the Presbytery from 4 to 6 pm. Contact Dr Reesa on Mobile 0211612994 or Father Arul

St. Vincent de Paul

For assistance/Make donations, please contact Rosemary Giborees on 027 2833140.
Special Thanks to all who are offering donation in the form of food and money on a regular basis.

Auckland Catholic Diocese News

Mercy Spirituality Centre

1. Pondering St John's Gospel
 2. Five weekly presentations with FR STUART SELLAR, first session Thurs 22 Feb 7-9pm. \$15 (\$60 all 5 sessions)
 3. Introduction to Dreamwork 101 with MARGARET BOWATER Fri 23/Sat 24 Feb. \$130
 4. The Healing Power of Singing with TRIO A DUE at St Mary's Historic Chapel, Sat 24 Feb. \$60 (\$110 for 2 pers)
- Bookings essential. Our office reopens on 15 Jan 2018. We wish you many blessings for Christmas and a Happy New Year!

104 The Drive, Epsom. Ph. 638 6238 or info@mercyspiritualitycentre.org.nz or www.mercyspiritualitycentre.org.nz

Living the bread of justice with Suzanne Aubert:

A Day of Retreat, Reflection & Refreshment for all who journey for justice and peace.
Led by Sr Sue Cosgrove of the Sisters of Compassion.

Saturday 24 February 2018 9am-4pm Mary McKillop Centre 30 Holgate Rd Mission Bay.
Lunch supplied. Small koha towards costs.
Contact Peter Garrick peterg@cda.org.nz or ph 022 1300 730 to register

NZ CATHOLIC

Dec. 24 – Jan. 27

1. Parishes to get euthanasia bill letter from bishops.
2. NZ abuse inquiry likely to include churches.
3. 'Our Father' translation not on ICEL agenda yet.
4. Clergy appointments in four NZ dioceses



We take this opportunity to wish all our Parishioners a Very Blessed Christmas and may the birth of our dear Baby Jesus bring joy and Goodwill to all

St Therese School News

Enrolments now being taken for 2018.

We are a Year 1 – 8 school.

If you have a child due to start school, you are moving into the area, or your child is due to go to intermediate school we have spaces available. Please contact the school on 09 620 9441 to make an appointment or visit the website: www.sainttherese.school.nz.

Important dates:

Please join us for our end of Year Christmas Production on Monday 11 December @ 6pm in the Parish Hall

School finishes on Thursday 14 December @ 3pm.
School restarts on Thursday 1 Feb 2018 @ 10.30am
Please contact the school if you would like to visit us or require any further information