

JUST AS THE FATHER HAS LOVED ME, I HAVE ALSO LOVED YOU! ABIDE IN MY LOVE. -Jm 15:9

9th May 2021
Sixth Sunday Of Easter
Readings: Acts 10:25-26,34-35,44-48; 1John 4:7-10; John 15:9-17

Sunday	Saturday 5pm	Sunday 8:30am	Sunday 10:30
Welcome/Intercessions 	Jesse Demello	Tevita Koloamatangi	Siatua Gabriel
Ministers of the Word 	Dana Cardoso Arnel Mantes	Angela Hodge Olita Sua	Theodora Lautua Normita Tolentino
Extra-Ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist 	Judith Prince Catherine Venu Jenna Horner Hilda Pritchard John Franks Noatoga Tupou	Shymalee Krone John Frings Fuli Vaasili Audrey Nesbit Kathy Smith	Tea Sharp Telesia Tuala Peter O'Brien Tea Venu Nathalie Tolentino Elizabeth Tugaga Gerhard Witbooi
Altar Servers 	Destin Barte Martin Thomas Emereziana Lautua	Jeevani Krone Oliver Kiutau Patelesio Kiutau	Keela Williams Liam Marnewick Aja-Lucia Vatau

 Our Vinnie's Shop has expanded and is now able to accept donations of household furniture and appliances. If you can deliver to the shop at 275A Great South Road, Papakura, this would be greatly appreciated. Should you require a collection, you can phone 2965052, Monday to Friday 10am to 3pm and Saturday 10am to 12noon to arrange for a pickup time and date.




Papakura Community Dinner is back again every Tuesday evening from 6pm. It is still hosted at the Crossroads Methodist Church Hall, Broadway. All are welcome to come and share in this wonderful weekly occasion.

Locals Supporting Locals

HARVEYS

REAL ESTATE EST. 1918

Thinking about selling?
 We can help you get your home sold or rented!
 Kelly, Darren and their family have been part of our parish and the school for over 20 years.
 We offer a full real estate service to our fellow parishioners and when successful not only do you get rewarded, so does the parish. We look forward to being of service to you.



Newsletter proudly sponsored by Harveys Papakura

Kelly & Darren Brady, Harveys Papakura
 021 635 583 | 09 298 4000 | darren@myharveys.co.nz | Southern Suburbs Realty Limited - Licensed Agent REAA 2008

Pastoral Associate: Benita Kiutau Ph 299 6056 weekdays (except Wednesdays)
Parish Office: Angie Hodge Ph 299 6056
Sacramental Programme: Parish Office
Parish Office/Library: Tuesday to Friday: 8:00 am – 3:00 pm **Parish Hall Hireage:** Parish Office Ph 299 6056
St Mary's Catholic School: Ph 298 4450 **Web Site:** www.stmaryspapakura.school.nz

Welcome to any new parishioners! Please complete the form put in blue box in foyer or drop off at the parish office, thank you.

Mr/Mrs/Ms Family Name.....First Name.....
 Address.....
 Postcode.....
 Phone..... Email.....



St Mary's Catholic Church

– A listening, praying, servant community –

52 East Street, Papakura 2110
 Parish Priest: Fr Iosefa Euese | Assistant Priest: Fr James Mulligan
 Phone 09 298 5134 | Office 09 299 6056
 Email: office@stmaryspapakura.co.nz | www.papakuracatholic.org.nz
 Facebook –search: St Mary's Parish Catholic Church Papakura

Some years ago, I went up to Warkworth to attend the funeral of an elderly relative. Right after the funeral I met a kiwi-born first cousin of my father. Maureen had gone to live in England at precisely the same time that Dad had come to live in New Zealand over 50 years before. She had come back specially to visit family. Because she is a psychologist, we both found we had a lot in common through our mutual interest in mental health. Though Dad and Maureen had known of each other's existence all their lives, they had never so much as laid eyes on each other before meeting for the first time ever. It was truly fascinating to watch. As the old saying goes, blood is thicker than water! We all are so deeply interconnected; we have no option but to love all. Be kind and do good for any one and that will be reflected. The ripples of the kind heart are the highest blessings of the Universe. Our inter-personal relationships are just like gardens. If we don't tend to them, they just won't grow.

By likening his relationship with his disciples to that of a vine and its branches, Jesus is enabling them to grow through their own inter-personal relationship with him. Because their culture was so rooted within the rhythms of nature through agriculture the imagery that Jesus used would have spoken deeply to their lived experience of eking out a living from a hostile desert environment. Here, Jesus is drawing on the biblical tradition of ancient Israel to indicate that he has come to refashion his own people, to reconnect them with their God who will be the vinedresser and restorer of an environment that has been allowed to decay through sinful neglect. For the disciples, the gift of Jesus' friendship was the sign of the Father's glory made visible, through the virtue of interdependence. As the true vine, Jesus wished to be connected with them in a way that would defy the limitations of death, time and distance. Without him, they could do nothing. With him, they would change the world.

We need only reflect on our own collective experience of COVID over the past year to realise the importance of our own inter-connectedness! In a world where so many have become disconnected and isolated in the wake of COVID, real community relationships have increasingly given way to virtual communities online that are no real substitute for meaningful face to face human encounters. Thus we are in real danger of becoming like the barren branches that Jesus describes as useless, that wither to the point of burn-out. Authentic relationships of love require real self-sacrifice. How are we being called to really connect at this time? Can we dare to allow Jesus' word to prune us for the sake of our personal growth, to cut away withering human self-centredness and rugged individualism? As a Christian community we are called to be every bit as inclusive in our relationships with each other as Barnabas was of Paul in Acts, to live in what Pope Francis calls a "reconciled diversity" as we fulfil our obligations to each other as members of a community whilst respecting each other's dignity and giftedness as unique individuals. From God's perspective even the smallest acts of kindness can literally spell the difference eternal life and a hell of our own making. Despite the ever-present tension between the ideals of the Gospel and the messiness of the human condition our consciences can never accuse us as long as our love is more than just mere talk! As the friendship of God made flesh, the Risen Jesus wants to graft us onto his vine in such a way that will empower us to bear the fruits of unconditional Christian love. As branches of the true vine, we are already connected to every other person around us to grow beyond our self-imposed boundaries, to abide with each other in unity. Disconnected from Jesus we can do absolutely nothing. Connected with Jesus, we too can change the world...

*How might it feel to be part of the vine?
 Not just to see the vineyard from afar
 Or even pluck the clusters, press the wine,
 But to be grafted in, to feel the stir
 Of inward sap that rises from our root,
 Himself deep planted in the ground of Love,
 To feel a leaf unfold a tender shoot,
 As tendrils curled unfurl, as branches give
 A little to the swelling of the grape,
 In gradual perfection, round and full,
 To bear within oneself the joy and hope
 Of Gods good vintage till its ripe and whole.
 What might it mean to bide and to abide
 In such rich love as makes the poor heart glad?
 (Malcolm Guite, I am the Vine; a sonnet, 2016)*

Mass Times
Saturday: Vigil 5.00pm
Sunday: 8.30am 10.30am
Filipino Mass 1st Sunday 12.30pm
Samoaan Mass 2nd Sunday 12.00pm
Baptisms 3rd Sunday 12noon

Clevedon Community 8.30am
 1st Sunday of month
 Clevedon District Centre
(Postponed until further notice)

RECONCILIATION 9 - 10am Saturdays
Weekday Mass:
Monday to Friday 9.00am
First Fridays of month 10.00am
Saturdays 8.30am

Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament
 Fridays 9.30am - 12.00 noon
 (10am—12noon First Friday of month)

Fifth Sunday Of Easter

Liturgy of the Word
(Year B)

Acts 9:26-31;
1John 3:18/24;
John 15:1-8



Welcome to St Mary's Parish

Children's Liturgy: 10.30 Sunday (Term time/not run on Public Holiday weekends) for children aged 4-8 years.
Holy Rosary: 8.30am weekdays
Stations of the Cross: 5pm Fridays. Michael 298 9295
The statue of Our Lady is available for families, add your name to the list in the foyer or ph Jean 296 5486
Legion of Mary: Tuesdays 5pm, hall committee room. Celerina 298 4080
Medjugorje prayer meetings: Mondays, @ 2/1 Clark Rd, Joseph 298 2297
Meditation Groups: Tuesdays 9.40am Fr Ryder Rm. (St Anne's Manurewa every Monday 5-6pm in the Chapel.)
Music for Mass: Choir practice Wednesdays 7pm, come along or contact Judith ph 268 1884, newcomers welcome.
Knitting group: each 2nd & 4th Tuesday: 1- 3 pm Ryder Rm. Jenny 297 7292
St Vincent de Paul Foodbank Office: Tuesday/Thursday 10-12noon ph 299 6056
St Vincent de Paul Shop: 10-3pm weekdays, 10-12noon Saturdays; 275 Great South Rd, 296 5052
The Knights Of The Southern Cross - John Curtin 021 995 302 Or Richard Powell



We pray for those who have died
And those whose anniversaries occur at this time including: Lionel O'Reilly, Theresa O'Reilly, Kathryn Grieve, Hendrica Kroef, Collin Selman, John Glen, Edward Neal & Wilna Lautua
We pray for those who are sick including: Elizabeth Nau, Howard Leaf, Alipati Afoa, Marna Starbuck, Elizabeth Schubert and Ben Hamilton
Helen Green would like to thank all for their powerful prayers, she knows they have brought her back to health.

Tax Receipts
The tax receipts and giving envelopes are in the foyer of the church to be collected by all concerned. They will be there for a month, then must be collected from the parish office.

Ryder Room Chairs
Could whoever has "borrowed" the chairs from the Ryder Room please return them as soon as possible as we are starting to run short of seating. If you know anything about the whereabouts of the chairs, please let the office know.

Volunteers:
 We are looking for a group of people who can be of support at parish events:
 Parking wardens, First aiders and Ushers,
 Please contact Benita on 2996056 or email her on: pastoral@stmaryspapakura.co.nz

Money Counters Needed
Volunteers are needed to count our collections after each weekend Mass.

Missing Albs
If anyone know anything about the missing alter server albs, please contact the office on 2996056.

Faasilasilaga:
 O le a faia le Semina mo Samoa
 Uma i le Palisi i le Aso 15/5/2021.
 Amata, 9.30am. i le 12.30pm.
 Ta'ita'i lava Afioga Patele Iosefa.
 Talifonu tatou faatasi ai lea Aso.
 Faafetai, Toi S. L. Venu. (Tel: 021 154 0274)

PARISH SITE DEVELOPMENT
"Building A Vibrant Faith Community"
Online Donations:
Acc. 02-0100-0120982-10
REF: Build Fund
 Include your pledge number or contact parish office for receipt.

Parish Building Project Fundraising Team Contact Details
 Can you help make our dream for a better church a reality? Contact one of us to arrange a time to meet to discuss your options. There will be an option that will work for you. We can also explain how up to 33% of your donation can be claimed back from IRD.

David Tennent – dandjct@gmail.com
 09 268 1884 or 027 489 4404
Vince O'Loughlin – loch.ness@xtra.co.nz
 09 291 9194 or 021 379 845

School Preference Forms: Please note that Fr James is available to sign School Preference Forms on **Thursday afternoons ONLY** from 4pm to 6pm in the Parish Office. Many thanks for your co-operation.

Parish Baptisms: Please note that we will now have monthly group baptismal preparation courses in the **Ryder Room** on the **last Thursday of the month** at 7pm. The first session begins on Thursday 29th April. Please contact Fr James to register and for further details on 2985134.

From **June** onwards, baptisms will be celebrated on the **THIRD SUNDAY** of the month after the 10:30 Mass. Please contact Fr James to book your appointments on 2985134.

Before This Meal: For what we are about to receive.....

I am the vine, you are the branches. John 15:5

Connecting with one another is difficult these days. Lord. There is so much going on in everyone's life. Help us to use this little time together to remember that we are important to one another and that life is about togetherness.



Amen

St Vincent De Paul Foodbank

WANTED WANTED WANTED

Packers to prepare food parcels for our clients. We operate on Tuesdays and Thursdays 10am to 12noon. You will be rostered twice a month on the day of your choice.

For further information please contact:
 Bev Pointon 021 111 9538 or
 Bryan Wannell 027 243 6216

Thank you everyone for your generous donations of Breakfast foods, Rice, Pasta, & Sugar. We have also been blessed with nearly 300 packets containing 95gram Blueberry Puddings.

Our needs now to fill our pantry for the winter coming on are: Tins Creamed Corn, Baked Beans, Chopped tomatoes in Juice, Tins of Tuna, Maggi Packets of instant soup.



Thank You for your continued assistance.

ST MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL, PAKAKURA
 54 Clark Road
 We love being an active part of our parish community. Your children are our children. Your family is our family.
Together We Learn, We Pray, We serve
 Me Whakakotahi, Kia Maarama, Kia Pono, Ki Te Karakia
ENROL NOW! PLACES ARE FILLING UP FAST!
 Visits welcome. Contact our school office on 09 298 4450 or visit our new website. www.stmaryspapakura.school.nz
 Follow us on Facebook too!
St Mary's, Papakura School Hall is available for hire to clubs, businesses and for private events. This is a large, pristine venue with kitchen, toilet and parking facilities. Please call our school office on 09 2984450 for more information.

Holy Trinity Catholic Primary School
 Learn Love Serve
 Ka Ako Ka Aroha Ka Manaaki
 137 Airfield Road, Takanini
 1. School website: www.holytrinity.school.nz
 2. School email: office@holytrinity.school.nz
 Enquiries and school visits welcome
 Phone school office (09) 296 9039

Saint Gianna's Home for Mothers and Babies
 Gianna's Choice Pregnancy Options and Support are pleased to announce the opening of our new Saint Gianna's Home for Mothers and Babies. The Home officially opens on May 12th 2021 in Pukekohe, and will serve pregnant and new mothers in need of accommodation, life-care and parenting skills. Bishop Michael Gielen will officiate at the opening ceremony. Please RSVP to 0800 367 5433 (the address will be given only to confirmed attendees).

Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy
Online Sessions (Evening): The Resurrection of Jesus Christ with Br Kieran Fenn.
 Monday 03, 10, 17, 24 May, 7-8.30pm. Fee: \$25/session. ZOOM.

All sessions are connected but also stand alone.
<https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/the-resurrection-of-jesus-christ-with-br-kieran-fenn-5/>

Onsite Event: Ancient rock-hewn churches in Ethiopia. A presentation by Nic Birt in St Mark's Coptic Orthodox church, Birkdale. Saturday, 29 May, 7-9pm. Free. (only if Auckland is in Level 1).
<https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/exploring-ancient-rock-hewn-churches-in-ethiopia-2/>

For more information and registration: info@studyjoy.nz

New to the Parish

Welcome

Contact form P.T.O and foyer (blue box) or Parish Office

Week Apr 3rd - 8th	Monday Sts Phillip & James Apostles	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Psalm	19A	145	122	96	57	100
Reading	1 Corinthians 15:1-8	Acts 14:19-28	Acts 15:1-6	Acts 15:7-21	Acts 15:22-31	Acts 16:1-10
Gospel	John 14:6,9	John 14:27-31	John 15:1-8	John 15:9-11	John 15:9-17	John 16:23-28

Bequests: Have you remembered St Mary's in your Will.

St Mary's Youth Group
 'You are the Church of today'
 "Everyone is welcome to the smyfs family"
 When: 7pm- 8:30pm
 Where: Church hall
 Who: Ages 10 and over
 Term one dates:
 09/04/2021
 16/04/2021
 Parent contact: Tracey Luamanu
 Phone Number: 027 388 1556
 Youth leader contact: Tahnee TePuia-Afoa
 Phone number: 021 084 4848

Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass on Friday 7th May 7:00pm
St Mary's Church, 20 Kitenui Ave, Mt Albert.
 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Mercy Sung, Benediction, Mass, followed by general blessing of St Faustina's relic.
All Welcome



Some headlines:
 Deacon ordained in Auckland. Catholic agencies state priorities for the Budget. Papal knighthood for former diocese general manager. PTSD – when memories won't go away.

PROLIFE FACTS

In 2016, abortion "exclusion zones", also known as "Safe Access Zones" were enacted in the State of Victoria, meaning that pro-life people could not gather to pray outside abortion facilities or offer support to pregnant women. In October of that year, Kathy Clubb, a member of the pro-life group *Helpers of God's Precious Infants*, was arrested for approaching a couple who were about to enter an abortion facility and was charged with "communicating about abortion in a manner that is likely to cause distress." Her brief interaction with the couple led to a three-and-a-half year legal battle, which went all the way to the High Court of Australia. The case challenged the law at the constitutional level, but she was ultimately unsuccessful and given a \$5000 fine. The judge had been intending to hand down a sentence of a year in prison but took into account that Kathy has a child. Kathy points out that over the years many women have asked her group, "Why was no one there to help me when I went for my abortion?" Kathy regrets that they are no longer able to help mothers in this way.



For more information on pro-life issues, visit www.righttolife.org.nz.