

Prayers for the Sick

Each week a Mass will be offered for the sick, including those mentioned below. If you would like a name added to the list, please email details to the office.

Please pray for the sick and retired Priests of St John Vianney and Little Sisters of the Poor, Bishop Patrick Dunn, Tracey & Max Stacey, Peter Sugden, Mary Nevin, Louis & Lucie Morello, Michaela Schmidt, Louana Schmidt, Sinili Chan Ting, Mele Moataane, Fa'avai Vasau, Lucky Savelio, Vivien, Michael Wong, Stephanie Vilich, Maria Fatima Tunai, Kathleen & Doreen Follas, Patrick & John Meleisea, Barbara Stacey, Colleen Wright, Shaye Stowers-Tualega, Patricia Jelas, Adrien Lunai, Lesley Moore, Katrina Cole, Patea Niupopo, Sam Kenny, John Gavin, Diane Young, Nick Nestorivsky, Pauline Senn, Matilda Low, Paull Grasby, Lisa Finucane, Phyllis Petricevich, Anne Riseborough, Allie Blucher, Chris Speight, Garth Stewart, Anna Tan, Chris & John Sinisa, Livesa, Sr Mary, Eddie Eyre, Michael Donegan, Ethan, Marie Nicholas, Stanley Tallon, Genevieve Low, Carlos dela Torres

We also pray for those whose anniversaries of death occur at this time. Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord.

Coming up in the Parish...

- * The **Agape Community**, every Wednesday 6:30-7:30pm at Sacred Heart Hall, fellowship and pizza at the Ponsonby Food Court to follow.
- * Friday Nights—**Upper Room**, organised by Young Adults from 6.30-8.30pm. All young adults welcome!

Spotlight on the Saints

St Catherine of Siena was born in 1347, the 25th child born to her mother although half of her siblings did not survive childhood. Catherine was a twin, but her sister did not survive infancy.

Catherine did not enter a convent, but joined the **Third Order of St Dominic**, which allowed her to be part of a religious society while living at home. She developed a habit of giving things away and constantly gave away her family's food and possessions to people in need, never asking their permission.

She travelled and called for the reform of the Church, for people to confess and love God totally. She also became involved in politics, and worked to keep the Italian city states loyal to the Pope; and was instrumental in restoring the Papacy to Rome.

St Catherine's feast day is 29 April and she is the **patroness against fire, illness, miscarriages and people ridiculed for their faith.**



Need more Scripture in your life?

Laudate app—A free Catholic app that has daily readings and reflections, Liturgy of the Hours, prayers, the Rosary, chaplets and so much more!

Ascension app—Ever wanted to read the whole Bible or the Catechism? Listen along to Fr Mike Schmitz as he reads and reflects in 365 episodes (each).

Foodforfaith.org.nz with Fr John O'Connor, lively podcasts and Lectio Divina.

Today's Theme:

Through the grace of baptism, we became the branches of which Christ is the vine. May we be one with him as we make our prayers to God our Father for all the needs of our Church and the world.

Feast Days and Memorials this Week

29 April—St Catherine of Siena, virgin, doctor
2 May—St Athanasius, bishop, doctor
3 May—Sts Philip and James, apostles



April is the month dedicated to the Blessed Sacrament. *"I am the living bread which has come down from heaven. Anyone who eats this bread will live for ever; and the bread that I shall give us my flesh, for the life of the world."* - John 6:51

What you can do: Spend some time in Adoration before the Blessed Sacrament.

Bishop's Appeal 2024: Supporting Auckland Seminarians

Please support our seminarians as they follow Christ the Good Shepherd in their priestly vocations www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/donate. Thanks to all who have already supported the appeal. Please continue to pray for our seminarians and vocations to the priesthood.

Thinking About The Priesthood?

Come and meet with seminarians and priests, and explore your vocation in a warm and welcoming atmosphere. This is a great opportunity to connect, share experiences, and support one another on your journey of faith. **Sat, 4 May at noon at St Mary's Church, Mount Albert.** Visit www.aucklandvocations.org.nz for more details.

Homestays for Pre-Seminary Students

The Diocese has a few students from Vietnam discerning vocations to the priesthood. They are learning English with a view to entering our seminary at the start of 2025. They need homestay hosts for the next 8-10 months. The Diocese will cover the full cost of their board. If you can offer them a supportive home with a room of their own and would like to find out more, please email alisonm@cda.org.nz or phone 09 360 3003.

Relics Tour

From **26 April to 5 May** there is a unique and historic opportunity to welcome the relics of saints from both the Eastern and Western Catholic Churches. This promises to be a spiritually enriching experience. www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/calendar/.

Let's Talk About Mary

As May is traditionally the month of Mary, we invite you to join Sr Sian on **Wed, 8 May at 7.30pm** at Poynton Room, Pompallier Diocesan Centre or on Zoom for an opportunity to explore Mary, missionary disciple. Please register pastoraloffice@cda.org.nz



Marriage Educators

The Marriage and Family Life Ministry at the Diocese is seeking married couples of 5 years or more who would like to train as Marriage Educators to prepare engaged couples for marriage in the church. This is a very rewarding and significant role in the church. Enquiries Gerry on 021 02247442 or gerrys@cda.org.nz



Welcome to Mass please take the opportunity to introduce yourself or say hello to someone before or after Mass.

May, The Month of Mary



To continue our now annual tradition of doing a little extra to honour Our Blessed Mother during the month of May, we invite you to bring your favourite image of her to any of our Masses next weekend, 4/5 May and place them around her statue for others to enjoy. Children are most welcome to create drawings or paintings and bring them too.

Special devotions in the parish during May:

- The **Rosary** will be prayed 30 minutes before ALL parish Masses in honour of the Blessed Virgin Mary.
- **Morning Prayer** at 6am at OLPH, Herne Bay on Monday, Wednesday and Friday
- **Bring a rose:** You're invited to bring a rose each Sunday and place it at our Lady's shrine before Mass
- **Marian Movie Screening, Tuesday 14 May:** Details to follow
- **Pentecost novena** (10-18 May): Details to follow

Special Mother Mary days in May are:

- 13 May: Our Lady of Fatima
- 20 May: Mary Mother of the Church
- 24 May: Our Lady, Help of Christians
- 31 May: The Visitation of the Blessed Virgin Mary

Parish Pastoral Council Meeting, Sun, 5 May after 10.30am Mass

Your parish pastoral council will be meeting in the hall after 10.30am Mass next Sunday, 5 May. If you'd like to contribute or just listen in, we welcome you to join us. There will be complementary tea, coffee and snacks.

Do You Feel Called To Serve?



We will be commissioning any **new Ministers of the Word and Ministers of the Eucharist** on Pentecost Sunday (19 May). If you feel called by the Holy Spirit to serve in one of these ministries, please let Fr Rory know or email the parish office.

Tax Receipts for 2023/2024 Available

Thank you to everyone who has generously donated financially to the parish. Your contribution goes towards the maintenance of our beautiful churches and we are grateful for your continuous support. Your tax receipt has either been emailed to you or is at the church foyer for you to collect.

Alpha 2024—Starting Tuesday, 3 September

We are excited to share that our next Alpha course will commence on **Tuesday, 3 September** in the Parish Centre. Alpha is an 10-week course that creates a space where people can meet for a conversation about life, faith and Jesus. Alpha is for everyone no matter where they are in their faith journey, so come on your own or bring a few friends. Pop the date in your diary and start thinking of who you could invite to join us!



How You Can Help...

- * **Take** any clothing or household items to charity shops, please do not leave them in the church, outside the office or outside CSS. You can contact Vinnies Auckland Centre at 0800 680 090.
- * **Be involved** in a Ministry in the parish, see Fr Rory or May
- * **Donate** non-perishable food items to the **food box** in the foyer

Parish Finances

Last week's Gifting: **\$1471**

Planned Giving: Thank you for your generous support. If you wish to donate by internet banking, the parish account is:

Ponsonby HB Parish
02-0108-0707673-000

Please indicate your name on the 'payee' section and email the office with your details so we can issue a tax receipt. Thank you.

Parish Education Fund: If you require financial assistance in paying for school fees, please reach out to Fr Rory. For making a donation towards the education fund, please use the bank details above and reference 'Education' along with your name.

Kindly remember the parish of Ponsonby Herne Bay in your Will.

The Sacrament of Baptism

If you require the Sacrament of Baptism for yourself or a family member please contact Fr Rory: priest@phbcatholic.org.nz or 021 0394 980.

Catholic School Preference Forms

Dear Parents, if you wish for me to sign a Preference Form for Catholic schools, *please leave the form and your contact number* either in the letterbox at Sacred Heart 16 Vermont Street, or the "leave and collect" board at 84 Kelmarna Ave. - Fr Rory



Holy Cross Seminary

Please pray for vocations, for those in discernment and for this year's seminarians, teachers and support staff. www.holycross.org.nz

MARIST Herne Bay



Marist Catholic School, Herne Bay

Encouraging the pursuit & celebration of excellence.
Come and visit us; we are a values driven central city Integrated Catholic Primary School. We strive for academic excellence in our warm and friendly environment with plenty of green open space.

We are an un-zoned local school serving our surrounding areas. However, many children travel to join us. We have families that have been with us for generations.

Address: 82 Kelmarna Avenue, Herne Bay, Auckland 1011
Phone: 09 376 7173
or email Sarah Gleeson principal@maristschool.co.nz

Website: maristhernebay.school.nz

Sunday 28 April 2024

Readings at Mass

First reading

Acts 9:26-31

When Saul got to Jerusalem he tried to join the disciples, but they were all afraid of him: they could not believe he was really a disciple. Barnabas, however, took charge of him, introduced him to the apostles, and explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul and spoken to him on his journey, and how he had preached boldly at Damascus in the name of Jesus. Saul now started to go round with them in Jerusalem, preaching fearlessly in the name of the Lord. But after he had spoken to the Hellenists, and argued with them, they became determined to kill him. When the brothers knew, they took him to Caesarea, and sent him off from there to Tarsus.

The churches throughout Judaea, Galilee and Samaria were now left in peace, building themselves up, living in the fear of the Lord, and filled with the consolation of the Holy Spirit.

Responsorial Psalm Psalm 21(22):26-28,30-32 I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

My vows I will pay before those who fear him. The poor shall eat and shall have their fill. They shall praise the Lord, those who seek him. May their hearts live for ever and ever!

I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

All the earth shall remember and return to the Lord, all families of the nations worship before him; They shall worship him, all the mighty of the earth; before him shall bow all who go down to the dust.

I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

And my soul shall live for him, my children serve him. They shall tell of the Lord to generations yet to come, declare his faithfulness to peoples yet unborn: 'These things the Lord has done.'

I will praise you, Lord, in the assembly of your people.

Second reading

1 John 3:18-24

My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active; only by this can we be certain that we are children of the truth and be able to quieten our conscience in his presence, whatever accusations it may raise against us, because God is greater than our conscience and he

knows everything.

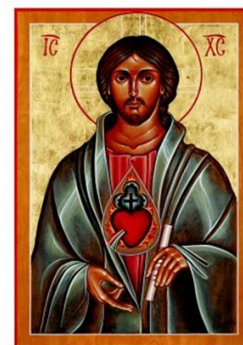
My dear people, if we cannot be condemned by our own conscience, we need not be afraid in God's presence, and whatever we ask him, we shall receive, because we keep his commandments and live the kind of life that he wants. His commandments are these: that we believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and that we love one another as he told us to. Whoever keeps his commandments lives in God and God lives in him. We know that he lives in us by the Spirit that he has given us.

Gospel John 15:1-8

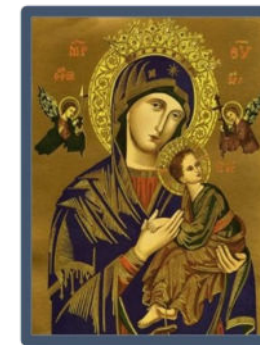
Jesus said to his disciples: 'I am the true vine, and my Father is the vinedresser. Every branch in me that bears no fruit he cuts away, and every branch that does bear fruit he prunes to make it bear even more. You are pruned already, by means of the word that I have spoken to you. Make your home in me, as I make mine in you. As a branch cannot bear fruit all by itself, but must remain part of the vine, neither can you unless you remain in me. I am the vine, you are the branches. Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty; for cut off from me you can do nothing. Anyone who does not remain in me is like a branch that has been thrown away – he withers; these branches are collected and thrown on the fire, and they are burnt. If you remain in me and my words remain in you, you may ask what you will and you shall get it. It is to the glory of my Father that you should bear much fruit, and then you will be my disciples.'

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PONSONBY HERNE BAY PARISH



5th Sunday of Easter 28 April 2024



PONSONBY HERNE BAY PARISH MASS TIMETABLE

Sacred Heart Church: 16 Vermont St, Ponsonby Our Lady of Perpetual Help: 84 Kelmarna Ave, Herne Bay

Table with columns: DAY, TIME, CHURCH, DEVOTIONS. Lists mass times and church locations for each day of the week.

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Table with columns: DAY, TIME, CHURCH. Lists reconciliation times and church locations.

ANOINTING OF THE SICK AND ELDERLY

Table with columns: DAY, TIME, CHURCH. Lists anointing times and church locations.

DIVINE MERCY

Sunday—Friday 3.00pm Perpetual Help Herne Bay

Table with columns: Church Name, Time, Word, POF, Gifts, EMOE, Servers. Lists details for Sacred Heart, Our Lady of Perpetual Help, and Sacred Heart.

Next Sunday: 4/5 Word: Virginia, Catherine POF: Bridget Gifts: Jury family EMOE: Karen, Eddie, Michael Servers: Ranen, Finn, Sabrielle

Cleaning: SH 27/4 Tongan Community 4/5 Sifagrace & family OLPH 27/4 Barbie & Rhea 4/5 Salome & team

Parish Priest: Fr Rory Morrissey Mobile: 021 0394 980 Email: priest@phbcatholic.org.nz Office: 09 376-4303 (Staffed 9am-12pm, Mon/Wed/Fri) Website: www.phbcatholic.org.nz Facebook: ponsonbyhernebayparish Auckland Parish Administrator May Rozells Email: admin@phbcatholic.org.nz Going into hospital? Call 358 0825 ext 4000 and ask for a visit from a priest