

INTERNATIONAL CHILDREN'S DAY
Prayer Cards at Church door today
This International Day of Prayer is supported by the NZ Catholic Bishops Conference and it is encouraged that we all take time to say this prayer for all of our children, and particularly our unborn, vulnerable and "at risk" children.

YOUNG ADULTS GROUP AT ST JOSEPH'S
First Friday of every month for anyone who is 18 years old and above looking for a social group to join - this Young Adults group met last Friday and the next gathering will be 5 April. Contact Parish Office 489 6486 for info.

YOUTH INTERFAITH
Michael Hail, visiting Scottish Community Worker, will do a Presentation on Youth Interfaith work on Tuesday 12 March at 7:30-9:00 pm, Jubilee Building, 545 Parnell Road, Parnell - Hobson Room.
Light refreshments following. Free of charge and all welcome. Free parking available where spaces are signed "**Jubilee Visitor Carpark**".

INDONESIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH GROUP
If you are between the ages of 15-35 you are invited to join us next Sunday 10 March at 11.30am at Long Bay Regional Park. Please contact Melinna 021 075 9244 for info.

Catholic Caring Foundation
Please take home a copy of the Caring Foundation's summer newsletter and find out how your gift is supporting families and communities in need throughout the diocese. Want to make a difference to our community? Then please consider gifting to the foundation. www.caringfoundation.org.nz

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 12 April, 2019. For more information and to download the application form, please visit our website: www.caringfoundation.org.nz

BARADENE COLLEGE OPEN EVENING on Thursday 7 March, 2019 6.30pm. We welcome all prospective parents and students to visit the College. Entry at Gate 2 to the Auditorium. Enrolments for Year 7, 2020 are presently being accepted and will close on Friday 15 March, 2019. A limited number of places in Year 9 will be available and applications close on Friday 15 March, 2019.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE
The Diocesan Conference is being held at St Joseph's, starting with Mass, celebrated by Bishop Patrick Dunn, at 10.00am on Friday, 15 March.
Father Raphael Lobo is our new Chaplain.
Cost of the conference is \$40, which includes morning tea and lunch. Speaker will be Sister Jacqui Ryan O.P. on "Women Welcoming Change". There will be a raffle.
For transport, ph. Eileen 486-2526 or Margaret 486-3695.

FIRST FUNDRAISER FOR MILFORD CHURCH WORK
SATURDAY MARKET, 16 MARCH, 11AM-3PM
AT ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHURCH GROUNDS

Books, Bric-a-Brac, Cakes, Clothes, Craft, Linen/lace, Plants, Raffles, Toys.

Donations being accepted now! Leave on table at carpark entrance of St Joseph's Church or in Milford Church porch. Collected daily. Helpers needed on the day! Leave your name at the Parish Office or in the black box at the back of the Milford Church.

Communications to Maria Derrick 021 0799074. Pray and act. We can do it!

Church Seeking Help
In order to address the problem of sex abuse and support survivors, the Church is seeking retired Police Personnel who would be willing to investigate complaints. If you are able to help, please contact Morna at the parish office 489 6486 or stjosephentakapuna@xtra.co.nz

JESUS THE GOOD SHEPHERD PRAYER GROUP

Invites you to 'The Bible series - a journey through HIStory'.

Join us as we learn and explore the Bible from Genesis to Revelation.

- Learn to read the Bible in a simple way
- Link the old and new Testaments
- Understand the full story of our salvation in Jesus.

Starting Wednesday, 13 March, from 7:30 pm to 9:15 pm. For 9 Wednesdays.

Venue - St. Vincent de Paul Church, Milford.

PARISH CENTENARY

This year we are marking the 100th birthday of St Joseph's Parish! Bishop Pat will be with us at 7pm on the Feast of St Joseph, Tuesday 19 March, to celebrate the centenary Mass. We will prepare for St Joseph's Day with a novena (9 days) of Masses, beginning next Sunday 10 March.

Fr Christopher Brady will celebrate the 18 March novena Mass - marking the 30th anniversary of his ordination as a priest!

The other Masses will be celebrated by a priest who previously served in the parish. The week-day novena Masses will be at 7pm, the Saturday novena Mass at 9am, and the Sunday Masses at the usual times. The novena will be a special time of gratitude to God for the journey of our faith community, and a time of prayer for our present needs.

HUMANITY OF UNBORN CHILD

Upcoming legislation intends to allow **ABORTION UP TO BIRTH** - If you're willing to come against this please email: tonybrenner@hotmail.com for full information and 'Open Letter' to all MPs

FAMILY LIFE INTERNATIONAL LENTEN PRAYER

This Lent join us in prayer, fasting and reparation, especially for the 36 pre-born babies who lose their lives through abortion every day of the year in New Zealand. Contact fli.org.nz/lentenprayerforlife

ST PIO OF PIETRELCINA PRAYER GROUP

Meeting this Thursday 7 March in the Flanagan Lounge. Ph. Ron Hunter 489.1008 or Ronhunter@xtra.co.nz

We invite parishioners to join our group in prayer, to continue the work of St Padre Pio. More information on St Padre Pio available at Parish Office.

Getting Married—Catholic Diocese of Auckland Pre-Marriage Education Programme

2019 Dates for First Session Only

Venue: St Columba Centre, 40 Vermont St., Ponsonby. Time: 7.05pm to 8.30pm

Bookings: www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz

Sandra Armstrong 09 360 3008

Gerry Smith 09 360 3025

Email: marriageandfamily@cda.org.nz

Leaflets at Church doors or Parish Office.

ASH WEDNESDAY 6 MARCH

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH

MASS 9.15AM 7.00PM

SCHOOL LITURGY 1.40PM (IN CHURCH)

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHURCH, MILFORD

MASS 10AM

ST JOHN PAUL II

Holy Cross Anglican Church, Albany

ECUMENICAL LITURGY 7.15PM

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

FIRST SUNDAY GOLD COIN COLLECTION

AFTER MASS AT ALL CHURCH DOORS TODAY!

EDUCATION IN FAITH (EIF)

Continues at 8.30am on the 1st and 3rd Sundays of the month in the School Admin. Block. We welcome all children. Enquiries contact Parish Office 489 6486.

PROJECTIONISTS NEEDED AT MASSES

If you can help please contact Randall Ramos at the Parish Office 489 6486 or email randall_0420@yahoo.co.nz

ST DAVID'S DAY CONCERT TODAY

The Auckland Welsh Choir will again be celebrating St David's Day with a concert at St Joseph's Church at 2pm. All proceeds will benefit "A Girl Called Hope". Tickets \$20 per person or \$15 each for 2 or more. You can't miss a bargain like this! Bookings please Ph. Yvonne Munro 489 9426.

OPEN DAY - ST PAUL'S COLLEGE,

183 Richmond Road, Ponsonby

Thursday 7th March 2019.

Sessions - **9.30am & 1.45pm**

Assembly in the College Chapel, followed by tour. Enrolments for Years 7, 8 and 9.

Wanted: Unused Woodwind and Brass music instruments (no strings) which are no longer needed.

Please contact College office—(09) 376 1287.

Email: stpauls@stpaulscollege.co.nz

WANT TO PRACTICE YOUR ENGLISH?

Join us for coffee and chat in the Lounge at St George's Presbyterian Church, 2 The Terrace, Takapuna every Wednesday 10.15—11.30am. Cost: gold coin donation.

Next Sunday - 10 March - 1st Sunday of Lent

PRAYER

IN CHARITY WE PRAY FOR Marina Patiño who died recently and Tania Dalton and Abraham Jaehan Bae whose anniversaries occur

PRAYER FOR THE SICK

Angel Andales, Clara Jung-Ja Hwang, Paige Donovan-Smith, Gladys Lloyd, Emma Washer, Elizabeth Hennelly, Gloria Alcock, Maisie Cate, John McLoughlin, Michael Maiquez, Esme Commissaris, Janina Collett, Rima Bennett & Belinda Chamassian

FIRST: DEUTERONOMY 26:4-10
PSALM: 91
SECOND: ROMANS 10:8-13
GOSPEL: LUKE 4:1-13

A SPIRITUAL JOURNEY TO IRELAND, SCOTLAND AND ENGLAND
 25 Days—Departing: Sunday 23 June 2019
 Flying Cathay Pacific Airways
 With Monsignor David Tonks
 Small group, specially designed itinerary
 For full itinerary and other details contact:
 Laura (09) 921 5106 laura@skytrain.co.nz

Divine Retreat Centre New Zealand - Lenten Retreat in Auckland

8 March 7-9pm, St Mary's Church, Kitenui Ave, Mt Albert
 9 March 1.30 -7pm, St Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Avondale
 10 March 1.30 - 9pm St John Vianney Church, Hillsborough
 Contact: Arthy 022 319 3621, Cynthia: 021 064 2157
 email: drcnz@hotmail.com Website: http://www.drcnz.org

House Share Flating wanted: Contact Ralph (from Northcote Parish) 022 369 7137. Willing to pay \$200 per week.

ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH

Mons. David Tonks davidtonks@cda.org.nz
Fr Christopher Brady 027 5805805
Fr Anthony Trenwith ajtrenwith@gmail.com
Edwin Macmac sjpastoralworker@gmail.com
Parish Office: 489 6486, 486 6767
Parish Office hours: Monday - Friday 9am -1pm
St Vincent de Paul Church, Milford— Confession & Exposition after Mass on Friday

Presbytery Phone: 489 6338
Presbytery & Office address:
 10 Dominion Street, Takapuna, 0622
Email: stjosephTakapuna@xtra.co.nz
Website www.takapunacatholic.org.nz

ST. JOSEPH'S TAKAPUNA

Mass - Sunday 7.30am, 10 am, 7 pm - Mon, Tues, Wed, Fri, 9.15am, Thurs. 12.15pm, Saturday 9am, 3rd Sunday at 7pm -Youth Mass
Sacrament of Penance - Saturday 9.30am and 5pm
Exposition and Holy Hour - Every Saturday after 9am Mass
Korean Community Mass - every Saturday at 7.30pm
Filipino Community Mass - every 4th Sunday at 4.00pm
Lady Allum Home - 3rd Tuesday of month at 11am

ST. LUKE'S BELMONT

Mass - Sunday 10.30am
Sacrament of Penance—1st Sunday of the month before Mass

ST. VINCENT'S MILFORD

Mass - Sunday 9am, Monday to Saturday 10am
Sacrament of Penance and Exposition - after Mass on Friday

NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL MASS - First Sunday of month: 11.00am

ST JOHN PAUL II—Holy Cross Anglican Church, 222 Dairy Flat Highway, Albany, (access via Oteha Valley Rd. Extension) **Mass** - Sunday at 5.15pm



3 March 2019

8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

International Children's Day

LITURGY OF THE WORD

SIRACH 27:4-7

PSALM 92

*It is good to give thanks to the Lord,
 To make music to your name, O Most High,*

My eyes looked in triumph on my foes;

My ears heard gladly of their fall.

*The Just will flourish like the palm tree
 and grow like a Lebanon cedar.*

Planted in the house of the Lord

They will flourish in the courts of our God,

Still bearing fruit when they are old,

Still full of sap, still green.

1 CORINTHIANS 15:54-58

LUKE 6:39-45

POPE FRANCIS WRITES TO US FOR LENT, WHICH BEGINS THIS COMING WEDNESDAY

1. The redemption of creation

During Lent, we undertake a journey of conversion to prepare for the celebration of Christ's passion, death and resurrection. When we live as children of God, redeemed, led by the Holy Spirit and capable of obeying God's law, we also benefit creation by cooperating in its redemption.

2. The destructive power of sin

When we fail to live as children of God, we often behave in a destructive way towards our neighbours and other creatures – and ourselves as well – since we begin to think we can use them as we will. We exceed

those limits imposed by our human condition and nature itself. We can think "I want it all and I want it now!" and "Too much is never enough". Sin, which from its first appearance has disrupted our communion with God, with others and with creation itself. Sin leads us to consider ourselves the god of creation, and to use it, not for the purpose willed by the Creator but for our own interests, to the detriment of other creatures.

Once God's law, the law of love, is forsaken, then the law of the strong over the weak takes over, as do greed and unbridled pursuit of comfort, lack of concern for the good of others and even of oneself. This leads to the exploitation of creation, both persons and the environment.

3. The healing power of repentance and forgiveness

The path to Easter demands that we renew our faces and hearts as Christians through repentance, conversion and forgiveness. This renewal is aided by fasting, prayer and almsgiving.

Fasting, that is, turning away from the temptation to "devour" everything to satisfy our voracity and being ready to suffer for love, which can fill the emptiness of our hearts. **Prayer**, which teaches us to abandon idolatry and the self-sufficiency of our ego, and to acknowledge our need of the Lord and his mercy. **Almsgiving**, whereby we escape from the insanity of hoarding everything for ourselves in the illusory belief that we can secure a future that does not belong to us. And thus to rediscover the joy of God's plan for creation and for each of us, which is to love God, our brothers and sisters, and the entire world, and to find in this love our true happiness.

May our Lent this year be a journey of bringing the hope of Christ to creation, so that it may be "set free from its bondage to decay and obtain the glorious liberty of the children of God" (Rom 8:21). Let us not allow this season of grace to pass in vain! Let us ask God to help us set out on a path of true conversion. Let us leave behind our selfishness and self-absorption, and turn to Jesus. Let us stand beside our brothers and sisters in need, sharing our spiritual and material goods with them. In this way, by concretely welcoming Christ's victory over sin and death into our lives, we will also radiate its transforming power to all of creation.

