

The following deaths and Anniversaries are about this time

- 11 Louis Peters (uncle of Carmel & Ross Jennings)
Ngaire Dellow (mother of Ross Jennings)
- 12 Margaret Ann Hancock
- 13 Raymond Johnson
- 14 Ella Veronica McGuire
Rosaleen Langton (mother of Clare Williams)
- 17 Carville Munro (uncle of Carmel & Ross Jennings)
- 27 Paddy Devoy
- 29 Felix Mina
- 2 Patrick Joseph Hill (brother of Kath Dunn)
- 3 Edward McCormick
- 4 Dean James Beals
- 5 Thoman McKiernan

May God Grant them Eternal Rest

This Week in Liturgy & Saints of the week, Sunday, cycle B, Ordinary Time

Sunday, 11th of Feb:- Our Lady of Lourdes

Monday, 12th of Feb:- Sts. Saturninus and companions, Martyrs of Abitina in Africa

Tuesday, 13th of Feb :- B. Jordan of Saxony, Dominican

Wednesday, 14th of Feb :- Ash Wednesday, Sts. Cyril, monk & Methodius, Bishop Patrons of Europe

Thursday, 15th of Feb:- Sts. Faustinus and Jovita, Martyrs, St. Onesimus, Disciple of St. Paul

Friday, 16th of Feb:- St. Juliana, virgin & Martyr of Nicomedia, Campania

Saturday 17th of Feb :- The Seven Founders of the Order of Servites, religious

The Walter Francis Darby Trust Scholarship for Medical Students If you are a fourth- or fifth-year medical student in 2024, are an active Catholic and normally reside within the Auckland Diocese you may be eligible for the Walter Francis Darby Trust Scholarship. For more information email scholarships@cda.org.nz

Catholic Diocese of Hamilton PASTORAL SERVICES MANAGER Vacancy. Pastoral Assistant to the Bishop, Leadership of the pastoral team, Diocesan Pastoral Planning. To receive a job description and application form, please email: jobs@cdh.org.nz **Applications close on Monday 19th February 2024.**

Welcome to St. Andrew's Catholic Church

Sunday, 11th February, 2024
6th Sunday of Ordinary Time Cycle B



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Priest Administrator

Fr. Andrew Matthew

Mass Times:

Saturday Vigil, 5:00 pm
Wed & Fri, 11:00 am

Reconciliation:

Saturday: 4:00 to 4:45 pm or
by appointment

Anointing of the sick:

First Friday, during Mass at
11:00 am

Mass at Pokeno: 18th Feb

(Venue): St Mary on the Hill
Anglican Church, at 5pm.

Introduction:

Restored to Health

When Jesus cured the leper it enabled him to be restored to his family and friends as well as to health. By being renewed with the body and blood of Christ at this Mass we are strengthened and united to the family that is God's church.

Readings from Sacred Scripture:

First Reading:- *Leviticus 13:1-2,44-46*

The Law regarding leprosy is given to Moses and Aaron.

Responsorial Psalm:- *Psalm 31:1-2.5.11*

R/- I turn to you, Lord, in time of trouble, and you fill me with the joy of salvation.

Second Reading:- *1 Corinthians 10:31—11:1*

Paul urges the Corinthians to imitate him as he imitates Christ.

Gospel Acclamation:- *Luke 7:16*

Alleluia, Alleluia!

A great prophet has appeared among us; God has visited his people.

Alleluia!

Gospel Reading:- *Mark 1:40-45*

Jesus cures a person with leprosy, who reports his cure to everyone.

Christianity is about giving! A basket is at the back of the church to receive donations for local families in need. Please give generously. Clothing, food, etc.



Year of Prayer Pope Francis has dedicated 2024 as a Year of Prayer in preparation for the Jubilee Year of 2025. Resources are available on the diocesan website <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/year-of-prayer/> and will be updated regularly particularly as resources become available through the Dicastery for Evangelization.

Welcome

We extend a warm welcome to new members and visitors to St Andrew's Parish. Please write your contact details in the "New Parishioners' Book" in the church porch.

Scripture note :-

In today's Gospel, we continue to hear Mark report the miraculous healings that Jesus performed in Galilee. The Gospel begins with Jesus healing a man with leprosy. Leprosy is a disfiguring, infectious skin disease that has been surrounded by many social and religious taboos throughout history. In 1873, the cause of leprosy, also known as Hansen's disease, was identified. We now know that leprosy is caused by a bacterial infection. Although it is infectious, modern medical studies have shown that transmission is more difficult than previously thought. Since the 1940s, medical treatments have been available, and the patient no longer needs to be isolated once long-term treatment has begun.

In Jesus' time, however, religious and social taboos dictated the behavior of those with leprosy and other skin diseases. The Law of Moses provided for the examination of skin diseases by the priests, and if leprosy was identified, the person was declared unclean. People with leprosy lived in isolation from the community. They were instructed to rip their clothes and to announce their presence with loud cries when moving in the community. If the sores of leprosy healed, the Law of Moses provided a purification rite that permitted the person to return to the community.

In today's Gospel, the man with leprosy took the initiative, approaching Jesus and asking for healing. In doing so, the leper violated the religious customs of the day by approaching a person who was clean. His request to Jesus can be interpreted as a courageous and daring act. The confidence of the leper in Jesus' ability to heal him is evident in the words of his request. But his words can also be read as a challenge to Jesus, asking just how far Jesus was willing to extend himself in order to heal someone. While healing the man, Jesus touched him, which also violated established social norms. This is an important sign of the depth of Jesus' compassion for the man and an important statement about Jesus' interpretation of the Law of Moses.

Although Jesus touched the leper, he did not break completely with the Law of Moses. He instructed the man not to tell anyone about the cure and told him to present himself to the priests as prescribed by the Law of Moses. The first instruction sounds nearly impossible to honor. Certainly, the man would want to share the good news of his healing, and his quick improvement would require an explanation. The second instruction honors the Law of Moses.

Mark's Gospel tells us that after this healing, it became difficult for Jesus to travel freely. There are several possible explanations for this. There might have been concern about the repercussions of Jesus' breach of social and religious norms. In touching the man with leprosy, Jesus made himself unclean. Mark's narrative, however, leads to the conclusion that Jesus' movement was hampered by his popularity. Despite his instructions, the cured man spread the word about Jesus' healing power. Even when Jesus was in deserted places, people sought him out in search of his healing.



To read about diocesan events and start filling your 2024 diary with opportunities for faith development, fun and diocesan life download the latest edition of CDA connect <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/CDA-CONNECT-Christmas23.pdf> - the link can also be found on the front page of the diocesan website.

Scripture Readings for Sunday, 18th February, First Sunday of Lent, B.

Commentator and prayers: *Desiree Arnott*
Theme:- Your Ways, Lord, are Faithfulness and Love

First Reading:- *Genesis 9:8-15 (Hector Camacho)*

God establishes a covenant with Noah, giving a rainbow as its sign.

Responsorial Psalm:- *Psalm 25:4-5,6-7,8-9*
R/- Your ways, O Lord, are love and truth to those who keep your covenant.

Second Reading:- *1 Peter 3:18-22 (Regina Camacho)*

In our baptism, we are saved through Christ's death and Resurrection.

Gospel Acclamation:- *Matthew 4:4*
Alleluia, Alleluia!

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory! No one lives on bread alone, but on every word that comes from the mouth of God. Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ, king of endless glory!

Alleluia!

Gospel Reading:- *Mark 1:12-15*

Jesus is tempted in the desert by Satan.

One-Liner

"Nothing is really lost until you rediscover it."

-Bobby Jose Nilathezuthu

"First your parents, they give you your life, but then they try to give you their life."

-Chuck Palahniuk

Please email items for the newsletter or Memorial book to nimmibaksu@gmail.com or text to **0274308557** – Nimmi Abraham

The Lent Season 2024-

Dear Parishioners, as we enter the solemn season of Lent, please be more forgiving and spend more time each day in prayer.

The three traditional pillars of Lent are prayer, fasting and almsgiving. Through the three pillars of Lent, let us journey to develop a closer relationship with God.

Pray the Mass on Sundays: Shine TV 2pm Free-to-air channel 25 or Sky 201

Find out what has been happening around the diocese:
<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/services/cda-connect/>

The Liturgy Centre has a number of resources for parishes including ceremonial binders and resources for the Sunday readings explore <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/liturgy-prayer/liturgy/>

Please keep in your prayers all our parishioners who are unwell and please let Father Andrew Matthew know of any who may need assistance.

WORLD MARRIAGE DAY Tuesday 13 February is World Marriage Day. In his 2023 apostolic exhortation *Amoris Laetitia*, Pope Francis says: "Marriage based on an exclusive and definitive love becomes an icon of the relationship between God and his people and vice versa. God's way of loving becomes the measure of human love"

Congratulations & ka pai Fr Michael Pui, who has been appointed National Director of MissionNZ, the local face of the Pontifical Mission Societies, perhaps best known for overseeing the World Missions Sunday collection each October. Fr Michael has most recently been the Parish Priest of Good Shepherd Hurunui in North Canterbury. He will remain based in the Diocese of Christchurch. Details: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/missionnz/>