



Otari Parish St Teresa and St Thomas More

Parish Priest

Fr Ron Bennett 021 065 8997
Fr Sanele Finau
476 6131

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Parish Office

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Cardinal McKeefry School, Wilton

Tania Savage 475 3262
St Teresa's School, Karori
Mary-Angela Tombs 939 1725

Saturday Vigil:

5:30 pm (Karori), **Sunday** 8.30am (Wilton) 10.00 am (Karori)

Weekdays:

Tue 9.30am, Wed 6.30am & 9.30am, Thurs 9.30am, Fri 6.30am & 9.30am, Sat 9am

Reconciliation:

Saturday: 9.30 – 10am

27th Sunday of Ordinary Time

7th and 8th October 2017

Year A

Liturgy of the Word:

Psalm Response: 'The vineyard of the Lord is the house of Israel'

Today's Reading: Isaiah 5/ 1-7, Psalm 79/ 9-20, Philippians 4/ 6-9, Matthew 21/ 33-43

Next Sunday: Isaiah 25/ 6-10, Psalm 23, Philippians 4/12-14, 19-20, Matthew 22/ 1-14

Looking after God's Vineyard

The tenants in the Gospel story thought they were entitled to do what they were doing, that they had dominion over the vineyard. But it belonged first to the landowner who entrusted them to care for it and prepare an abundant harvest.



"This sister [our common home] now cries out to us because of the harm we have inflicted on her by our irresponsible use and abuse of the goods with which God has endowed her. We have come to see ourselves as her lords and masters, entitled to plunder her at will. The violence present in our hearts, wounded by sin, is also reflected in the symptoms of sickness evident in the soil, in the water, in the air, in all forms of life." (Laudato Si: 2)

The above quotation is taken from Pope Francis' encyclical, 'Laudato Si' - On Care for our Common Home, the first papal letter devoted to the need to protect God's creation from environmental damage such as climate change. In the encyclical, the Pope implored us to change the way we operate our politics, economies, and societies, arguing that the costs fall on people in the world's poorest communities. He called for a cultural revolution, in which we "regain the conviction that we need one another, that we have a shared responsibility for others and the world".

Laudato Si' was also extraordinary in that it was addressed to every person on the planet, rather than just the Catholic Church. The Holy Father made no secret of his intention to influence the negotiations at the Paris climate change conference which followed the encyclical's release, praying for "a positive outcome to the present discussions, so that future generations will not have to suffer the effects of our ill-advised delays." The result was an accord that launches a new era of action, committing us to preventing the loss of more homes, livelihoods, and lives to the changing climate.

Pope Francis could well have been meditating on today's gospel, as he wrote his encyclical. We need to look after what we have, or will not have it in the future. Everything is gift. We need to nurture the gifts we have been given, and preserve it for future generations.

That is the heart of Stewardship. Recognising that all is from God. We are workers (not owners of) God's vineyard. We will be asked to give an account of our labours.

Some thoughts to reflect on during the week:

What are the vineyards today that we have been asked to work in, to care for, to grow, to give back with increase to God?

Has the Lord given me a part of the vineyard? What can I do to produce fruits in that part?

Do I bear fruits for the Lord? What fruits do I bear?

Fr Ron

Stewardship reflection on today's gospel:

*"The stone the builders rejected
has become the corner
stone..."* Matthew 21/42

Jesus was the corner stone and the religious and political leaders of his day, as well as ordinary citizens rejected him. Living a stewardship lifestyle may cause you to be "rejected" by others in today's society. For example, saying grace before a meal in a restaurant may attract some strange looks from some. But to others it is sign that God is alive and well!

Stewardship Is...



Love in Action

4 Pillars of a Stewardship Parish – Hospitality, Prayer, Service, Formation of Gifts.

The Parish Council has been studying one of these at each meeting. **Hospitality** was discussed at the August meeting and here are some themes that came through:

- Greeters at each mass to SMILE and welcome people.
- Say hello to a new person at mass
- Special welcome for new parishioners (including a welcome pack)
- Have 'welcome or hello' in different languages on the first powerpoint slide
- Events after mass with a speaker, perhaps a refugee, shared lunch
- Morning tea put on after mass by different cultural groups
- Special dinner for elderly where they can dress up, dine and dance
- Games afternoon-board games, cards, puzzles for young and old
- Family groups –some are active, new ones need a leader
- Celebrate cultural diversity

Early morning Masses: 6.30am in the St Teresa's Chapel on Wednesday and Friday mornings.

Exposition and Adoration is held on the first Friday of the month in the chapel at St Teresas starting after Mass.

Vodafone email addresses:

Please let us know if you are changing your email address after the Vodafone cancellation of their addresses.

Eucharistic Ministers Reflection and Training Day:

For all our ministers of the Eucharist and those interested in this ministry. 2pm on 29 Oct. St Teresas

Visiting and preference forms

Fr Ron is visiting the parish by alphabetical list of streets. He is at present on the M streets.

However, if you wish to have a visit from a priest immediately, please contact the parish office 476 6131 or Fr Ron 021 065 8997.

If you need a preference form for catholic school or college admittances, please call Fr Ron directly.

Divine Mercy Devotion

Join us for Divine Mercy Devotion in the Chapel at St Teresas at 5.00pm every Saturday night .



Grace Anointing Retreat at St Teresas:
Thank you to all who participated in the Retreat last week
Over 200 attended the morning sessions, and approx 500 plus the evening sessions.

CWL AGM Wed 18th October 7.30pm Church Foyer followed by farewell party for Anne Joyce. Current Committee prepared to re-stand. Subscriptions due. All Welcome.



For the sixth successive year, the Justice, Peace and Development Group of Otari Catholic Parish organised a fundraising movie.

This year, the movie Another Mother's Son screened to a full house at the Penthouse Theatre - raising **\$2,660**. The total raised over the six years is an impressive \$17,500.

We truly appreciate the strong and sustained commitment to helping refugees shown by this Parish, and we thank everyone for their support.

In addition, the Trustees wish to thank the many sponsors who generously donated vouchers and products for the raffles and spot prizes, including a beautiful hand woven cushion made by Niche Textile Studio (www.nichetextilestudio.co.nz), The Interislander (\$100 travel voucher), Penthouse Theatre (movie tickets), New World Karori, Gipps St Deli, Gipps St Butchery, One Fat Bird (Marsden Village), Beauté of Kelburn, Streaks Ahead (Northland), Marsden Books, Marsden Village Café, The Cellar Room (Karori), Fab Hair Salon (Khandallah), Crofton Downs Pharmacy and Melissa Jane Flower Studio (Ngaiu).

Not only was the movie's theme very appropriate, but its closing quote even more so – "life is not measured by the years that you live, but by the deeds that you do" (Helen Steiner Rice).

Parish Youth Liturgy Group

When: Every Thursday 6.00pm until 7.30pm.

(Starts October 19th)

Where: St Thomas More Church Lounge.

Who: Aimed at 9 year olds to 13 year olds (post Sacramental Programme)

What: O.M.G group (Otari meets the Gospel). The youth group will be a fun, social evening with activities and games and a focus on the Gospel story. We will share food, play some team building games and have a spiritual focus around the message of the Gospel. The group will be led initially led by Pat Gee and other volunteers who have an interest in Youth Ministry.





October is the month of Mary:

Mary mother of God, and our mother too, plays a paramount role in the Church. We pray to her and reflect on how she was the mother of Jesus. Mary was close to Jesus during his life. She shared in his joys and sufferings, provided for his needs and accompanied him in his travels all the way to

the foot of the Cross.

Mary's faith never wavered. She accepted lovingly everything God asked of her and she is our greatest role model. Mary is the best person to understand our needs and is a powerful advocate with God on our behalf.

Archbishop Redwood said, 'Since you are called to be compassionate to every form of human suffering, your title must be Daughters of Our Lady of Compassion'. Suzanne Aubert lived this spirit and her Directory says, 'It is at the foot of the Cross of Jesus Christ, with Mary his mother the Sisters will stand and enter in the suffering of Jesus and Mary, and so be able to be compassionate to the sufferings of all people.' She says, 'Mary has a mother's heart for all of us'. May we have the inner freedom to move into a future following in the footsteps of Mary the Mother of God.

By Sr Josephine Gorman, a Sister of Compassion at Island Bay, Wellington.



DOVE NOTICE for all women.

Please come and celebrate with us our 25th anniversary of Dove Women's Fellowship Wellington at our meeting to be held on Saturday 21st October 2017 at 1.15pm. Connolly Hall, Guildford Terrace.

We begin our new Current of Grace season with guest speaker Sandra Kinney. For further information contact Shura Price on 04 3899938

Non-Residential Guided Retreat:

"Companions on the Journey", November 13-17th, 9.30am-4.00pm each day. \$200. Places available. Pa Maria Marist Spirituality Centre, 78 Hobson Street, Thorndon. For further information and/or to register please contact Fr Brian Cummings SM: phone (04) 212 4691 or 021 703 580 or email bgcummings@xtra.co.nz

The Sisters of St. Peter Claver are holding a MULTI-CULTURAL MISSION CONCERT " on Sunday 15 October 2017 at 2pm to 4pm at St. Patrick's Parish Hall, 15 - 19 Rongotai Road, Kilbirnie. Admission \$5. Enquiries : Sisters of St. Peter Claver, Ph 383 8401. We will be most grateful for your support to help the Missionaries and the people they serve. Be assured of our prayers for all your parishioners.

The Compassion Soup Kitchen needs your support:

October 13th - 14 Hours Homeless - everybody deserves a Home. Sleep out to raise awareness and funds to create positive change for Wellingtonians experiencing homelessness. Join Sister Lusiana, staff and volunteers at the Compassion Soup Kitchen participating in this event. [Go to www.14hourshomeless.org.nz/event/Wellington](http://www.14hourshomeless.org.nz/event/Wellington)



TOOLS WANTED: Catholic Social Services is working with a young man from a refugee background now living in the Eastern Suburbs who has just obtained a job as a builder, but needs to supply his own tools. We would be grateful if anyone is in a position to donate tools. There is a list of the required tools at <http://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/archdiocesan-offices/css/support-for-refugee-resettlement/> or please contact Elizabeth Burns at Catholic Social Services 04-385-8642 or e.burns@wn-catholicsocialservices.org.nz

Karori Branch Red Cross / Ripeka Whero Aotearo

meets monthly on the 3rd Thursday at Karori Community Centre from 10.00am. Can you spare 2 hours each month to be part of this International Relief Organisation? The Branch joins in with local disaster preparedness, offers First Aid training, and assistance is given to International Programmes as requested. If interested in joining this world renowned organisation please telephone Ethne on 04 476 9439

Christian Meditation Retreat: Essential Teaching Weekend 27 -29 October at Home of Compassion, Island Bay with Fr Peter Murphy.

This weekend explores the history of meditation in the Christian tradition and help you arrive at a deeper insight into what the experience of this practice means to you personally and to see ways in which this experience can be shared with others. Cost \$290 but assistance can be provided.

To find out more, email nandlpolaschek@gmail.com

Readings for the Week



Monday: Jonah 1/1 - 2/1, 11; Luke 10/ 25-37
Tuesday: Jonah 3/ 1-10; Luke 10/ 38-42
Wednesday: Jonah 4/ 1-11; Luke 11/ 1-4
Thursday: Malachi 3/ 13-20; Luke 11/ 5-13
Friday: Joel 1/ 13-15, 2/ 1-2; Luke 11/ 15-26
Saturday: Joel 4/ 12-21; Luke 11/ 27-28
Sunday: 27th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Isaiah 25/ 6-10, Psalm 23, Philippians 4/12-14, 19-20, Matthew 22/ 1-14.



Please pray for those who have died recently

And for those whose anniversaries occur around this time

**Fr Bernie Hehir
Henry (Ginna) Englert**



SYNOD Recommendations:

There are 13 Synod recommendations that have been made to Cardinal John. We will publish one each week until the end of the year.

Go, you are sent to.....

Recommendation One - The peripheries of society

The Archdiocese revisits its Vision and Mission Statements in the light of the teaching of Pope Francis.

The Archdiocese supports parishes and schools in creating an “infrastructure of pastoral care” for the disadvantaged among their own people and those in the local area.

Justice and service bodies in the Archdiocese work together to foster parish service and justice activities, including advocacy on issues related to poverty and disadvantage.

The “Preferential Option for the Peripheries” is a factor in all Archdiocesan, parish and school pastoral planning and decision-making, including a focus on rural areas and communities outside the cities.

The people of the Archdiocese collectively deepen their understanding of the nature of “the peripheries” – where, what, who and why.

The Archdiocese, its parishes and schools undertake an analysis of their structures and processes to identify marginalisation and barriers to participation.

There is a commitment in all areas of the Archdiocese to work together on a method for identifying and addressing the “needs at the peripheries”, which starts with listening to those on the peripheries.

In responding to needs at the peripheries priority is given to:

- formation in the Social Teaching of the Church
- development of skills and mentoring for effective and safe involvement with the peripheries
- providing practical and spiritual support for people reaching out to the peripheries
- drawing on and sharing the experience of those already engaged at the peripheries.

The Archdiocese engages with existing bodies (such as St Vincent de Paul Society) to determine how best to support and promote greater parish involvement in their work

Individual and collective cooperation with other Churches and community organisations on addressing the needs of those on the peripheries is encouraged, including migrants and refugees

Parishes are encouraged to develop a project approach to service and justice needs.