



Otari Parish St Teresa and St Thomas More

Parish Priest

Fr Ron Bennett 021 065 8997

rbennett@otariparish.co.nz

Fr Sanele Finau
476 6131

Parish Office

Catherine Vernon
476 6131

Pastoral Council

Erwin Palado
476 2766

Finance Committee

Peter Dykes
476 6131

Postal Address

P.O. Box 17 011
Karori
Wellington 6012

Parish Office

8.30am–12.30pm Mon-Fri
office@otariparish.co.nz
www.otariparish.co.nz

Cardinal McKeefry School, Wilton

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

**Saturday Vigil:****Weekdays:****Reconciliation:**

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

Tue - Fri 9.30am, Sat 9am |

Saturday: 9.30 – 10am

Pentecost Sunday**May 19-20****Year B****Liturgy of the Word:**

Response: *Lord, send out your spirit, and renew the face of the earth*”

Today's Reading: Acts 2:1-11; Ephesians 4: 1-13; Mark 16: 15-30

Next Sunday: Deuteronomy 4: 32, 34-40; Romans 8: 14-17; Matthew 28:16-20

Pentecost Sunday – Birthday of the Church

“On the evening of that first day of the week, when the doors were locked, where the disciples were for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in their midst and said to them, “Peace be with you”. When he had said this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” And when he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. Whose sins you forgive are forgiven them, and whose sins you retain are retained.”

**Some points about the reading:**

John's Gospel does not mention by what means Jesus came into the room, but simply states the fact that he was present among the disciples to indicate the spiritual qualities of the resurrected body of Jesus.

The greeting that Jesus said to his disciples: *“Peace be with you”* means more than: *“May you be saved from trouble.”* It means *“May God give you every good thing.”* Peace is considered a divine gift promised in the Old Testament for the coming days of deliverance.

‘He showed them his hands and his side.’ This is the only explicit evidence from the Gospel that Jesus was nailed rather than tied to the cross.

‘He breathed on them.’ This indicates the giving of new life, just as in the Book of Genesis, God created man by breathing life into him.

One Main Point:

The resurrected Christ confers upon his disciples, hence the Church, the mission to continue his work of bringing God's salvation to all. In order to carry on the task that he had accomplished, Jesus empowered the Church with his Holy Spirit who would be the living force and guidance in propagating God's message.

Reflections:

Visualize yourself as a disciple in the Upper room, in a state of fearfulness and doubt about what had happened. How do you feel when Jesus appears to you? Visualize yourself there as a disciple, in a state of fear and doubt about what had happened.

Relive the moment when Jesus breathed his Holy Spirit on the disciples and instructed them to go out and proclaim his Good News. How do we make his love known in our world today?

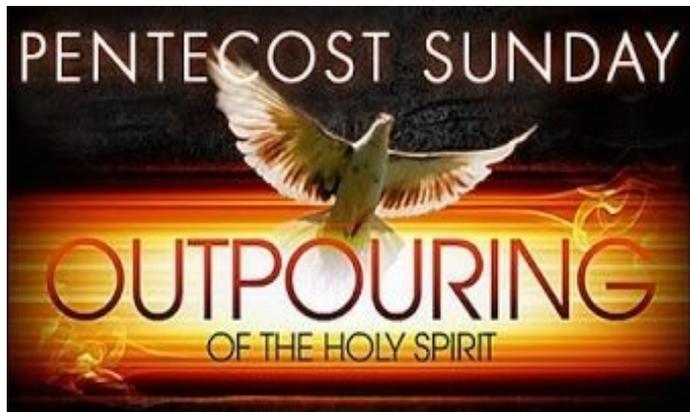
Fr Ron

St Teresa's Church:

Exposition and Adoration: Is held on the first Friday of the month in the chapel after 9.30am Mass.

Divine Mercy Devotion:

Divine Mercy Devotion is every Saturday night at 5pm.



Quotes for Pentecost:

The Pentecost of the Upper room of Jerusalem is a beginning, a beginning that endures. *Pope Francis.*

We have the right, the duty, and the Joy, to say that Pentecost goes on. *Pope John Paul II*

When you strip it of everything else, Pentecost stands for power and life. That's what came into the church when the Holy Spirit came down on the day of Pentecost. *David Wilkerson*

Bethlehem was God with us, Calvary was God for us, and Pentecost is God in us. *Robert Baer*

Without Pentecost the Christ-event - the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus - remains imprisoned in history as something to remember, think about and reflect on. The Spirit of Jesus comes to dwell within us, so that we can become living Christs here and now. *Henri Nouwen*

Pentecost is a celebration of God... a celebration of God's power... a celebration of God's desire to empower us and to dwell within us. *Mark Hart*

The Church needs a perennial Pentecost. She needs fire in her heart, words on her lips, prophecy in her outlook. *Pope Paul IV.*

Stewardship thoughts for Pentecost Sunday.

"There are different kinds of spiritual gifts but the same Spirit; there are different forms of service but the same Lord; there are different workings but the same God who produces all of them in everyone." 1 Corinthians 12: 4-6.

All of us are blessed, regardless of our own individual circumstances; God has given each of us many gifts. How we use those gifts is our gift back to God. For God's plan to work, each must do what we are called to do and guess what – we are not all called to do the same thing!

Cardinal McKeefry School Mass:

Monday 21st, 11.30 at St Thomas More Church:

To celebrate:

The New Zealand Roman Missal and Lectionary for the celebration of the newly decreed Obligatory Memorial of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Mother of the Church.



Goodbye and Good Luck

St Thomas More Community said farewell and thank you to Mary-Anne and Gerhard Peetz. They have contributed so much to the Parish over many years. They have sold their house in Wilton and will be moving to Otaki after Pentecost.

You will be missed. We wish you well in your new home. Lucky Otaki Parish!

Family Friendly Liturgies with Michael Mangan:

Sunday 20th May at 1.45pm-4.00pm at St Theresa's Church, Plimmerton.
St Peter and Paul Church, 60 knights Road, 5 June to 17 July. 7.30pm to 9pm.

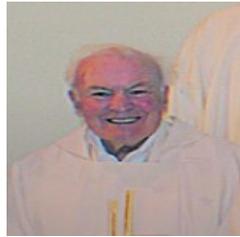
Please register by Tuesday, 29th May. For enquiries and registration, email Sandra.

lousanray@yahoo.co.nz phone 564 9020 (evenings).



RIP Father Brian Austin:

Father Brian Austin died peacefully in Wellington hospital on the evening of Ascension Sunday 13 May. Father Brian was appointed Parish Priest for St Vincent de Paul Parish which included St Thomas More Church from 1997-2005. He arrived at a difficult time when the Capuchin order were being moved to Kilbirnie and the difficult decision to close St Vincent de Paul Church (The Rigi) had been made. Father Brian handled these challenges tactfully and with sensitivity. It can't be easy for any priest to have to deconsecrate a Church. During his 8 years as Parish Priest with determination and excellent organizational skills he had the lounge addition to St Thomas More Church built and the refurbishment of the 'Brothers House' beside Cardinal McKeefry School into a Presbytery where he lived, and also a flat for Parish income. He regularly visited the students at Cardinal McKeefry and was available to celebrate school and class masses and liturgies. His concern for falling congregation numbers led him to arrange and promote "Renew" "Alpha" and "Catholics returning home." He also introduced the 'Launch Out' programme which inspired Mary-Anne Peetz to respond to the call to do the training, give up nursing and become a Lay Pastoral Leader. The Parish has much to thank Fr Brian for in the years he was with us.



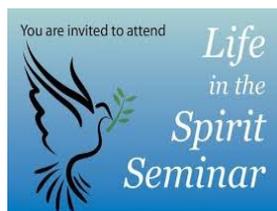
Life in the Spirit Seminar 2018:

'I invite all Christians everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ'
Pope Francis.

Topics covered:

- God's Love
- Salvation: The New Life
- Receiving God's gift
- Baptism in the Spirit
- Growth
- Transformation

St Peter and Paul Church, 60 Knights Road, 5 June to 17 July. 7.30pm to 9pm.
Please register by Tuesday, 29th May. For enquiries and registration, email Sandra.
lousanray@yahoo.co.nz phone 564 9020 (evenings).



Holy Hour:

You are invited to a Holy Hour on **Tuesday 22 May** beginning at 7.30 pm in the Cathedral chapel to pray for vocations to priesthood and consecrated life.

This Holy Hour will include prayers, Scripture, times of silence, singing and conclude with Benediction followed by supper. All are welcome.

St Bernadette's in Naenae:

Are fundraising for a new quality organ or keyboard for their church. Their first fundraising activity is a shoe sale to be held in June and they would appreciate:

New or barely used, quality shoes of all shapes and sizes including children's shoes for their BIG shoe sale. As well as raising the funds to purchase a new organ or keyboard this is a community service project to provide quality shoes at a huge discount to those who cannot afford to buy good shoes at full retail prices.

If you can help please call Monica on 567 8267 or email her at devinesofwaterloo@gmail.com. Shoes can also be dropped off in a specially marked box in the foyer of St Peter and Paul's church whenever it is open. Thank you in advance for your support!

Sacred Heart Cathedral School Mini Gala

Sunday, 27 May 2018

11: 30am to 1:30pm

Sacred Heart Cathedral School
Guildford Tce, Thorndon



Books and games for sale, a tombola, money tree raffle, a silent auction featuring wonderful prizes, an array of tasty baking, freshly brewed coffee, games for a children and sausage sizzle!

St Mary's College Open Day

Guildford Terrace, Wellington

All Welcome

Thursday 14 June 2018

9am or 11.30am

We'd love to see you there!

Readings for the Week



Scripture Readings for the week: 21-27

Monday: Acts 1: 15-15, 20-26; John 15: 9-17

Tuesday: Acts 20:17-27; John 17:1-11

Wednesday: Acts 20: 28-38; John 17: 11-19

Thursday: Acts 22:30, 23: 6-11; John 17: 20-2

Friday: Acts 25: 13-21; John 21: 15-19;

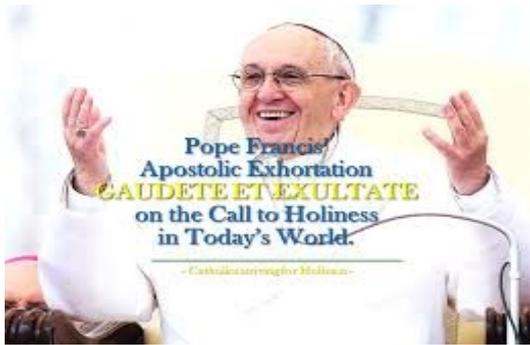
Saturday: Acts 28: 16-20, 30-31; John 21: 20-25

Sunday: Acts 1: 1-11; Ephesians 4: 1-13;

Mark 16: 15-30



Please pray for Father Brian Austin who has died recently and for those whose anniversaries occurs around this time.



Pope Francis recently released his latest apostolic exhortation today: *Gaude et Exultate: on the Call to Holiness in Today's World.*

Here are some inspiring quotes from the Holy Father:

1. "The Lord asks everything of us, and in return he offers us true life, the happiness for which we were created. He wants us to be saints and not to settle for a bland and mediocre existence." §1
2. "Every saint is a message which the Holy Spirit takes from the riches of Jesus Christ and gives to his people." §21
3. "We need 'to acknowledge jubilantly that our life is essentially a gift, and recognize that our freedom is a grace. This is not easy today, in a world that thinks it can keep something for itself, the fruits of its own creativity or freedom'." §5
4. "There is a hierarchy of virtues that bids us seek what is essential. The primacy belongs to the theological virtues [faith, hope, charity], which have God as their object and motive. At the centre is charity." §60
5. "We must never forget that when the New Testament tells us that we will have to endure suffering for the Gospel's sake, it speaks precisely of persecution." §92
6. "Those who really wish to give glory to God by their lives, who truly long to grow in holiness, are called to be single-minded and tenacious in their practice of the works of mercy." §107
7. "Humility can only take root in the heart through humiliations. Without them, there is no humility or holiness. If you are unable to suffer and offer up a few humiliations, you are not humble and you are not on the path to holiness." §118
8. "The Christian life is a constant battle. We need strength and courage to withstand the temptations of the devil and to proclaim the Gospel. This battle is sweet, for it allows us to rejoice each time the Lord triumphs in our lives." §158
9. "When, in God's presence, we examine our life's journey, no areas can be off limits." §175
10. "Mary our Mother does not need a flood of words. She does not need us to tell her what is happening in our lives. All we need do is whisper, time and time again: "Hail Mary..." §176