

St Columba's Parish Newsletter

30 April 2023

Fourth Sunday of Easter

Year A

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Reflections on the Readings of the Day

Acts 2:14. 36-41 1 Peter 2:20-25 John 10: 1-10

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY: World Day of Prayer for Vocations

Today's Gospel describes Jesus as the Good Shepherd who sacrifices his life to protect his flock, the Church. The sheep that follow him will be given eternal life and never be lost. Good Shepherd Sunday reminds us that we too are called for a Vocation within the Church. Whether that is priesthood or religious, marriage or single life - God has a particular calling for all of us.

2023 SEMINARY APPEAL

Today **Sunday 30 April** is the annual Day of Prayer for Vocations and the Bishop's Seminary Appeal. *A special collection will be taken up after Communion today for the annual seminary appeal to support the formation of our future priests.*

If you are on Planned Giving, please use your numbered Special Envelopes for this collection.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Sunday 8 am and 10 am

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated every Saturday morning at 9:30 am.

ROSARY PRAYER

The rosary will be prayed straight after the 8 am and 10 am Sunday Masses in the church next to the Icon of Our Lady of Perpetual Succour.

SACRAMENTS OF INITIATION

Next **Sunday 7 May** at 10 am Mass, the Parish will celebrate the Sacraments of Initiation - Baptism, Confirmation and First Holy Communion. Please keep our catechumens in your prayers: Corban Ellis, Isabella Huriwaka, Max McKenna and Jhoan Sanchez Perea.

EFTPOS / TAP N GO / INTERNET BANKING

We now have **Eftpos** in the Parish, also a **Tap n Go** donation system in the foyer of the church which allows donations of **\$7.00**. For those who may wish to make a contribution via **Internet Banking**:

Parish Bank Acct: 020342 0050016 03

Ref: PLGVNG

Thank you to all who support the Parish financially.

SUNDAY MASSES & INTENTIONS			
Sunday	8.00 am	Parishioners	
	10.00 am		
WEEKDAY MASSES			
Monday	9.00 am	Communion Service	
Tuesday	<i>St Athanasius</i>	9.00 am	Roslyn Clark RIP
Wednesday	<i>Sts Philip & James</i>	9.00 am	School Welcome Mass
Thursday		9.00 am	Shayne Intention
Friday		9.00 am	Forgotten Souls
Saturday		9.00 am	

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: Fifth Sunday of Easter

1st Reading: Acts 6:1-7 (10 am Mass only: Acts 2:14, 36-41)

2nd Reading: 1 Peter 2:4-9

Gospel: John 14:1-12

Diocesan Snippets

Seminary Appeal Sunday 30 April: Stepping Out in Faith

Prayers and donations do make a difference! Giving by any of the following ways is greatly appreciated:

- through the Diocesan website at www.cdh.org.nz (appeal information & secured donation page),
- through a one-off or recurring automatic internet banking payment on the account of RC Bishop of Hamilton 02 0342 0050008 003 (code : SA2023 | reference : your donor number if known),
- or by calling our friendly Seminary Appeal Team at the Chanel Centre on 07 856 6989.

Pope Francis' Message for Vocations Sunday 2023

<https://www.vatican.va/content/francesco/en/messages/vocations/documents/20230430-messaggio-60-gm-vocazioni.html>

A Prayer for Vocations by St John Paul II:

Lord Jesus, as once you called the first disciples, continue to let resound today Your sweet invitation: "Come and follow me."

Grant to men and women in our day the grace and trust to respond to Your voice.

Enkindle in our communities a missionary zeal.

Send, Lord, workers into Your fields to feed and guide Your flock as Good Shepherds in imitation of You.

Mary, Mother of the Church help us to say "Yes" to the Lord who calls each one of us to play our part in His plan of salvation. *Amen.*

Vocations Week

This week you can check in at <https://www.facebook.com/catholicdioceseofhamilton> to read about people in our diocese and the Vocation they answered as part of God's plan for them.

The first article follows recently ordained Fr Adam Kirkeby, currently assistant Priest at the Parish of St Thomas Aquinas, Tauranga.

Week 1 : <https://www.sunlive.co.nz/.../316566-a-quandary...>

Week 2 : <https://www.sunlive.co.nz/.../317016-the-day-god-gave...>

Dove Catholic Fellowship for Women

Monday 1st May, 7 - 9pm. Topic: *Experience the flame of love through Mary's mantle*

Cathedral of the Blessed Virgin Mary, 494 Grey Street, Hamilton East.

For more information please contact Megan on 021 750 586 or nzdove.hamilton@gmail.com

2023 Weekend Retreats at Tyburn, Ngakuru September 22-24, Tyburn: October 20-22, Tyburn: November 24-26, Tyburn

Weekday Retreats November 27- December 1, Tyburn

Visit cdh.org.nz/retreats for more information and to register.

2023 Guided Retreats at Cluny Retreat Centre, Tauranga

Weekday Retreats: [May 21-26, Cluny](#)

Our Priestly Role As Men - A One Day Conference For All Men

Saturday 13 May, 9.00 – 3.30 p.m Church of the Holy Angels, Matamata

Speakers: Fr Prakash Somu and Dr Kevin Kannan

Lunch provided/cost: koha Enrolments: dave.colquhoun@xtra.co.nz Ph 027 884 8408

Synodal Response Document The Federation of Catholic Bishops Conferences of Oceania recently approved the final version of the Federation's response to *Enlarge the Space of Your Tent*, the Working Document for the Continental Stage of the Synod of Bishops for a Synodal Church. A PDF copy of the response can be found [here](#)

Tour To The Holy Land April 9-20 2024

Fr Chris Friel from Timaru will lead a 12-day tour to Israel and Jordan, beginning in Amman on April 9 and concluding in Jerusalem on April 20th 2024. For full itinerary and details please contact Peter Fleming at Pilgrimage Tours in Auckland at: www.thetravelwarehouse.co.nz Ph. 0800 356728.