



Our Lady of Perpetual Help

St Mary's Parish - Maungaturoto - Mangawhai - Wellsford

Saturday Vigil MAUNGATUROTO – Mass 4.00pm (1st & 3rd Saturdays)
2nd & 4th Saturdays – Liturgy of Word & Holy Communion: 4.00pm.

Sunday - MANGAWHAI: Mass 8.30am (2nd & 4th Sundays).
1st & 3rd Sundays Liturgy of Word Holy Communion: 8.30am.

WELLSFORD: Mass 10.30am every Sunday
Tues 9.00am & Fri 11.30am Eucharistic Adoration Fri 10.45-11.20am

21st Sunday Ordinary Time (b) — 25th August 2024

Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18

Psalm 34:1-2,15-22

Ephesians 5:21-32

John 6:60-69

choose today whom you will serve

In today's gospel, the phrase, '*Son of Man ascending*' has two levels of meaning, just as does the phrase, '*raised up*'. The phrases refer both to Jesus' crucifixion and to his resurrection. Following Jesus entails conditions that are not acceptable to all.

Jesus' original listeners were scandalised by his claim to be, '*the Wisdom of God – the true bread from heaven*' for the believer. Later, this inter-change was used in the light of the Last Supper, to emphasise the necessity for the Messiah to '*take flesh*', to '*suffer and die on a cross*' and '*rise*', so that God's Spirit could come down and give eternal life to the world.

Earlier, John described '*the Bread from Heaven*' as, '*real*'. This meant that this Bread belongs to the heavenly, eternal realm, as opposed to the merely natural and passing realm. If Jesus is divine revelation come down from heaven like bread, to nourish people, his purpose is to communicate to them, '*the principle of eternal life*'. Those who accept the words of Jesus, will receive, '*the Power for life-giving of the Spirit*'.

In faith, we think of the history of humankind and our own story as would-be disciples of this love of God for us, as revealed in Jesus Christ, the Word of God, made flesh. God's understanding of God's Self is the Father's eternal speaking of the Word (which is the Father's begetting of the Son). Faith is belief, first of all in God. For would-be disciples, to whom the gospel has been preached, it entails believing all that is revealed by God, simply because it is the Word of God handed down to us in Christ's community, through the tradition of the Scriptures.

"I have faith. Help my lack of faith". We can fail in the exercise of faith, if we clearly and consciously reject the tradition of God's revelation. We also fail, to some degree, if we do not frequently reflect on what God has done for us in Christ, or if we neglect opportunities for finding out more about the gospel. Finally we fail in the exercise of faith, if we are not willing to explain our belief to those who seriously enquire of us.

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"The fruits of this profound union with Jesus are marvellous: our whole being is transformed by the grace of the Holy Spirit: soul, intelligence, will, affections and even the body, because we are united in body and spirit." Pope Francis

Loaves and Fishes Foodbank

So far this year, 474 food parcels have been provided, for the needs of 825 adults and 880 children. We really appreciate the efforts of those parishioners who have helped by generously giving us something towards this.

However, the needs continue. The Kiwi Harvest truck delivers some rescued food to Warkworth weekly, and the small food items contributed by our parish and churches do help, but the foodbank still has to purchase food staples every week. There are also overheads to pay for. These bills add up and mean that the basic work of the food bank will not be sustainable long term unless we have more support.

If you find it hard to remember to bring an item for the food bank basket at the back of the church, maybe you would find it easier to contribute a couple of dollars each week automatically by bank direct credit. Such a small amount from a few people would add up to make a big difference!

If you are interested in this, please see Maureen or ring her 0273571158. Meanwhile, please remember our food bank in your prayers.

Thank you again

Men's Events

"AS IRON SHARPENS IRON..." Proverbs 27:17

There are some AWESOME Men's events ahead, where you can join other men to be encouraged and inspired in your journey with Christ....

1. A Men's Breakfast: will be held on **Saturday 28 August starting 7.30am at Holy Name Church, Warkworth.** All men are welcome for a hearty breakfast, great fellowship and an inspiring talk. We are very excited to have Simon O'Connor from Family First as our guest speaker so save the date! Please RSVP to Jerome (027) 2334380. Koha on the day, with any profit to the Holy Name Church Youth Group. We finish in time for Mass which follows at 9am for those who wish.

2. Is the Lord challenging you to draw closer to Him? If the answer is YES! then we have an amazing opportunity for you....A One-day Men's Retreat with our **Bishop Steve Lowe**, titled "**He Emptied Himself**" (Philippians 2:7), will be held on **Saturday 19 October (8am-4pm)** at St Thomas More Church, 336 Wairau Rd, Glenfield.

This day will be a special time of formation, prayer, worship, fellowship and will end with Mass celebrated by Bishop Steve. Bring a packed lunch or buy from the local shops. Suggested Koha of \$20 to cover costs. All men are welcome. Contact Greg Sullivan (021) 437747 or Russell Sobotker (022) 0345678 to register.

The Catholic Diocese of Auckland promotes for a strong and inclusive communities for missionary discipleship. Come to the **Ethnic Chaplaincies Rise Up and Shine Festival** to be held on **Saturday 21 September to Sunday 22 September** | at the Malaeola Samoan Catholic Community Centre |16 Waokauri Place, Mangere | A time of celebration with Food, Music, and Cultural Shows on Saturday 9am - 3pm, and Thanksgiving Mass in the various languages and culture on Sunday at 1pm. Be involved, Be there.

Ever wanted to know something about the Holy Land? Let us be ecumenical (unite in our various Christian faith) by joining in with our friends of the Armenian Church to an interesting online ZOOM lecture about the Church of the Holy Sepulchre in Jerusalem | Wednesday 28 August 2024 at 9:00pm. Prof Roberta Ervine, from New York, will give us a virtual tour/talk of the Church and it is free to register. Email Deacon Nishan on nishanbasmajian@gmail.com for the ZOOM link.

Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College is holding Lecture 6 in the series, A Taste of Theology. Rev Dr Merv Duffy will talk about “Christian identity, life and mission in *Lumen Gentium*, the Dogmatic Constitution on the Church. This will be on Tuesday, 03 September 2024 from 5:30-6:30pm on Zoom. For a fee of \$60 you get access to all 9 courses in this lecture series and join the remaining live sessions. Go to www.tekupenga.ac.nz/tasteoftheology to register.


The Churches of Auckland Celebrate Christian Unity. Join us at this annual Prayer Service 5:00 PM Sunday 25th August 2024 at St Elias Melkite Catholic Church, 5 Mt. Lebanon Crescent, The Gardens Manurewa. Light Refreshments provided.

Special Mass for Loss of a Child A Mass will be offered for those who have experienced loss of a child. The Catholic Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist help facilitate healing through fully knowing God’s love and mercy. St Michael’s Catholic Church, Beatrice Ave, Remuera Saturday 7th September 5.00pm Reconciliation & Adoration from 4.30pm. For more information contact: Brenda Brightwell on behalf of St Michael’s Parish, 027 6415615

Hearts Aflame Catholic Summer School:

Hearts Aflame Catholic Summer School is back again this summer with ten days of world-class lectures, uplifting prayer and authentic community!

Hearts Aflame is a life-changing experience for young adults aged 18 to 35 who want to know more about their faith, have an authentic encounter with Christ and meet other Catholic young adults from all over New Zealand. Join us this year at Nga Tawa Diocesan School, Marton, from January 3rd-12th 2025! Registrations opened July 14th at 2pm: we sell out fast so be in quick! Visit heartsaflame.org.nz to register or find out more.

<u>Wellsford Roster</u>		
Sunday 25 August		
<i>Min/s of Word</i>	Mike Harris, Gay Pride	
<i>Intercessions</i>	Gay	
<i>Minister of Eucharist</i>	Uraura Unaia	
<i>Morning Tea</i>	Lynette & Mike	
<i>Church Cleaning</i>	Monica	
<i>Leader</i>	Monica or Marie	

Prayer intentions for the week

For political leaders

We pray that political leaders be at the service of their own people, working for integral human development and for the common good, especially caring for the poor and those who have lost their jobs.

Prayers for our Sick:

Petronella ter Veer, Matteo Gray, Tina Mehary, Sheita Mehary, Pamela Downes, Petronella Brom, Lorna Bocoock, Geraldine Choromanski, Judy Perry, Veronica Grigg, Maureen Rissman, Roselle & Owen McGrane, Richard Henry, Bob Walters, Teresa McCarthy, Tom Ryan, Jayden Wilson, Kathy Brockliss (Hokianga), Emelia Brockliss (Mexico) Lee McCarthy,

Trevor Brljevich, Tony Ruiterman, Bill Lewis, Beverly Simons, Adolph Layec

Dallas Colville, Alec Colville, Lucille Jenneker, Wilma Jansen, Gerard McCurran, Iris Barrow, Lagi Sands, Tim Emberson, Caroline Milner, Theresa Graham.....

Prayers for the Dead:

For our beloved dead whose anniversaries occur around this time including: *Ester Karl (25th), Doreen Lambert (26th), Dorothy Schimanski (26th), Yvonne Brjlevich (30th), Jean Ganley (31st), Ann Jackson (31st).*

Readings: 21st Week Ordinary Time

Monday 26 August

2Thessalonians 1:1-5,11-12 Ps.96
Matthew 23:13-22

Tuesday 27 August St Monica

2Thessalonians 2:1-3,13-17 Ps.96
Matthew 23:23-26

Wednesday 28 August St Augustine

2Thessalonians 3:6-10,16-18 Ps.128
Matthew 23:27-32

Thursday 29 August The Passion of St John the Baptist

Jeremiah 1:17-19 Ps.71
Mark 6:17-29

Friday 30 August

1Corinthians 1:17-25 Ps.33
Matthew 25:1-13

Saturday 31 August

1Corinthians 1:26-31 Ps.33
Matthew 25:14-30

Sunday 1 September 22 Sunday Ordinary

Time Day of Prayer for Care of Creation

1. Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-8 Ps.15

2. James 1:17-18,21-22,27

Gospel: Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

St Mary's Parish

Mangawhai - Maungaturoto – Wellsford

Pastoral Council Chairperson: John Brockliss ph: 027 543 0856

Parish Co-ordinator: Bob Schimanski ph: 09 423 8550 Priest Administrator: Fr. Bill Fletcher
ph: 027 950 3885 Newsletter Editor: Marie Rambaud ph: 09 423 8907 / 021 054 4772 email:
rambaud.family@xtra.co.nz

Parish Web address: wellsfordcatholic.org.nz

BNZ account 02-0108-0707411-00

Reconciliations:

Wellsford: Sat. 8.30 – 8.55am Maungaturoto: Sat. 3.30 – 3.55pm.

Mangawhai: Sun: 8.00 – 8.25am