

Hibiscus Coast Parish

St John the Evangelist Church - 180 Centreway Rd, Orewa
St Francis by the Sea Church - 8 Motutapu Ave, Manly

GOOD SHEPHERD SUNDAY / VOCATION SUNDAY - 21 APRIL 2024

This Sunday: Acts 4:8-12 : Psalm 118 : 1John 3:1-2 : John 10:11-18

Next Sunday: Acts 9:26-31 : Psalm 22 : 1John 3:18-24 : John 15:1-8

In today's gospel, John 10: 11-18, we hear about the shepherds in Israel. In the time when Jesus lived in Israel, there were many shepherds of small flocks, sometimes the owners of the sheep, sometimes hired men. Jesus told the parable of the good shepherd because people could relate to this well. If the shepherd was the owner of the sheep, he would call them by name, take them to the best green grass, lead them to fresh water, defend them when there was danger and if needed, was willing to lay down his life for his sheep. But the hired man would run at the first sign of danger. We can also easily relate to this story - Jesus is our shepherd, we follow him, we trust Him, recognise his voice and believe that we are safe in His Hands. He gave up His life for us. In verse 10 of this chapter, Jesus says that he is not like the thief who comes to kill and steal in the night, but that: **"I have come in order that you may have life, life in abundance"**.

It is the sentence in this whole chapter that seems to me to be the most significant one. Jesus revealed why He had come. He brought to us the possibilities of life in abundance.

His gift to us. The magnitude of this gift is almost too hard to grasp. When we give a gift to a friend, all we look for is that our friend will be delighted to receive it, unpack it, use it and enjoy the gift. We are not looking for anything in return; it is pure gift with no strings attached.

Jesus gave to us all this gift of life in abundance, free of charge. Is living in abundance a possibility? Abundance in this context does not mean possessions, wealth or luxury. It is the quality of living, making the absolute most of every day, developing relationships with people that enrich our lives and using the qualities and gifts God has given to us at every opportunity. Make a contribution to creating a better world. Look forward to being with Him forever.

Our challenge after reading the parable of the Good Shepherd? Let us be good news, instead of just reading about it, and live with great abundance. Jesus gave us the greatest gift possible, we can show our appreciation by living abundantly. We are blessed indeed.

Helen Reinen, Parishioner

This week in the parish

Sun 21	2.00pm	Secular Franciscans' Meeting, St John's
Mon 22	7.15pm	Bible Study Group on Zoom
	7.30pm	Meditation Group, St Francis
Tues 23	10.15am	Parish Ladies Coffee Group, Hall
Wed 24	5.30pm	Meditation on Zoom, 7.00pm
Thur 25	9.30am	Mass on Anzac Day, St John's

Good Shepherd Sunday



Support for our Seminarians:

Bishop Steve invites us to extend our support to our seven Auckland seminarians discerning their priestly vocations at Holy Cross Seminary.

The journey toward priesthood begins with a response to a divine call. Once these young men step into the seminary, they face the rigorous demands of study, self-reflection, and unwavering dedication to their faith. It is through God's grace and the support of the faithful that our seminarians can persevere and successfully complete their formation.

Your contribution in support of our seminarians is one of the best ways to positively influence the future of the Church here in Auckland.

There will be a second collection today, 27/28 April.

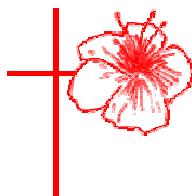
Please consider making a donation to support our future priests. You may also donate online at www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/donate

Our parish Mission: Karere Ngangakau o Te Rongo Pai. To be active messengers of the Gospel through Our Faith, Love and Service. Whakapono, Aroha, Awhina.

Parish Priest: Fr Raphael Lobo
loboraphael@gmail.com / 021 114 6879
(Priests' day off is Monday)

Retired Priest: Fr Peter Gray

Stella Maris School: www.stellamaris.school.nz
Principal : Catherine Cyprian - principal@stellamaris.school.nz



Parish Office & Presbytery: 180 Centreway Road, Orewa
Tel : 426 5599 (Office hours 9am-3pm, Monday to Friday)

Email: hbcparish@xtra.co.nz / Website: www.hbcparish.org.nz
FB page: Hibiscus Coast Catholic Parish

Theresa Fouché (Secretary/Administration) - 426 5599 Ext. 1
Ann McConachy (Collections Administrator) - 426 5599

We pray for those who are unwell in the community or recovering from surgery including Michael Taylor, Ian Tucker and Nigel Lloyd. We pray for the recently deceased, including Colleen Tarr, Margaret McKinney and Patricia Russell-Green. We pray too for those whose anniversaries occur around this time including Joseph & Joanna McCrory.

The parish office will be unattended from 24 April to 30 April (inclusive) as Theresa will be on leave. Please hold any administration queries until she returns. Fr Raphael will be contactable on 021 114 6879. **Note**, there will be no newsletter handed out at the Masses on 27/28 April. If you have any important notices to be read out, please hand these to the Mass Coordinator. An abridged newsletter will be available on the parish website.



Children's Liturgy: The St. John's children's liturgy team is looking for new leaders/teachers to join the team to teach the junior or senior liturgy group on Sundays during the 10.30am Mass. If you feel called to this ministry and are committed to teaching our parish children by explaining the gospel and helping in their faith formation, we would like to hear from you. Please email your details to us at stjohnschildren.liturgy@gmail.com and we will contact you.

Donation envelopes:

Parish giving envelopes for those who donate via the envelope system are in the foyer for collection.

The annual tax receipts were mailed out on Friday 19 April.

Those who donate by automatic payment or direct deposit will receive their 'special collection' envelopes with their tax receipt.

Should you have any queries relating to tax receipts please email Ann at ann.mcconachy@hibiscuscoastparish.org.nz



Morning Tea

on Friday 26 April at 10am in the hall, for our daily Mass attendees to get to know each other. Everyone warmly welcome.

Invitation - Let it Be - video presentation:

You are invited to join us for session two of this series on Our Lady, on Wednesday 1 May, 7.15 pm in St John's Hall. All you ever wanted to know about Mary the Mother of God, Jesus and the Church. Come and get to know your mother Mary too. Visit many Marian shrines in this fascinating and in depth study from world class Catholic speakers. All welcome. Enq: Brian & Barbara 027 483 7180.

Change in the Friday Mass Schedule:

In future Fr Raphael will celebrate Mass at St Francis Church on Fridays at 9.30am. The Mass on Fridays at St John's Church will be replaced with a Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion, led by our team of trained Liturgy of the Word leaders.



Pentecost Sunday - 18/19 May

- The St. John's Children's Liturgy Team is looking for children/youth aged 5 yrs - 18 yrs to read a prayer in another language, besides English, on Pentecost Sunday during the 10.30am Mass. If you can speak a second language and are keen to read a prayer, please email your details to: stjohnschildren.liturgy@gmail.com
- We are also looking for 5 people to read a prayer in a second language at the 5.30pm Mass. To volunteer please add your name to the list in the foyer.

The English prayer will be provided and will need to be translated.

The Parish Ladies Coffee Group

meet for a cuppa and social time in St John's hall on Tuesday 23 April at 10.15am. All ladies are welcome. If you are new to the parish do come along and meet new friends. \$3.00 entry donation.

Jesus the Good Shepherd prayer Group

invites young adults (18 to 30 years) to CALL OF DUTY - A Life in the Spirit Seminar for Young Adults. Join us for an unforgettable experience where you'll rekindle your faith, connect with like-minded seekers, and uncover the unique role you play in God's extraordinary plan. The one-day event includes talks from great speakers, worship, Mass, rejuvenating conversations, and good food. To be held on Sat 27 April, 8.30am-4.30pm, at St Joseph's Church Hall, 10 Dominion Street, Takapuna. Register for FREE at bit.ly/-callofduty

Food collection for Love Soup:

Donations of tinned foods and other non-perishable food items are delivered to Love Soup who pack and distribute parcels to over 100 families locally. Donations may be placed in the containers in the church foyer.

Sunday Mass Times:	St John's, Orewa - Saturday Vigil - 5.30pm Sunday - 10.30am St Francis, Manly - Sunday - 8.30am
Liturgy of the Word & Holy Communion:	St John's, Orewa - Mondays and Fridays - 9.30am St Francis, Manly - Mon, Tues, Wed, Thurs, Sat - 9.30am
Morning Mass Times:	St John's, Orewa - Tues, Wed, Thurs, Sat - 9.30am St Francis, Manly - Fridays - 9.30am
Reconciliation:	St John's, Orewa - Saturdays after 9.30am Mass and on request
Eucharistic Adoration:	St John's, Orewa - Tuesday and Wednesday, 10am-12pm St Francis, Manly - Friday, 10am-11am