

Maria Assumpta Parish Bulletin

MARIA ASSUMPTA CATHOLIC CHURCH
198 Beach Haven Road, Auckland 0626
www.beachhavencatholic.org.nz

SUNDAY MASS: 8am, 10am - Red Level—max 52
RECONCILIATION: Saturday 10am-12pm - CLOSED
WEEKDAY MASS: 9am - Tuesday to Saturday - CLOSED

MARRIAGE PREPARATION:
Contact Parish priest
BAPTISM PREPARATION: Contact Parish priest

Parish Priest: Fr Aleki Piula
Email: alekipiula@yahoo.co.nz
Presbytery Phone: 483 7919

Parish Secretary: Marc Theron
Email: secretary@mariaassumpta.org.nz
Parish Office: 09-483-5919

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mon (working from home), Thurs, Friday 9am-1pm

5th Sunday of LENT
03 April 2022

First Reading: Isaiah 43:16-21
Psalm: 126
Second Reading: Philippians 3:8-14
Gospel: John 8:1-11

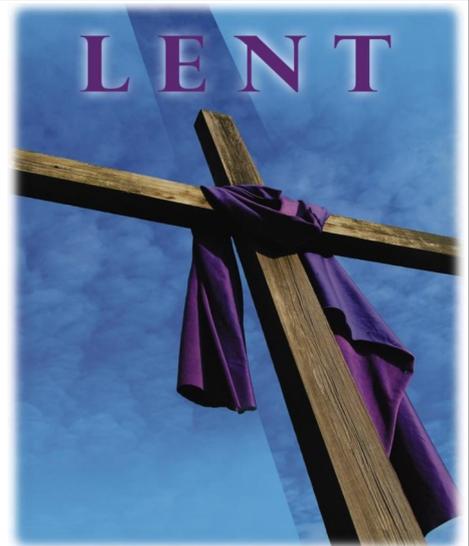
Reflection by Fr Aleki Piula

Let the person without sin be the first to throw a stone.

In today's Gospel we hear again the immortal words of Jesus in relation to the woman caught in adultery: 'Let the one who is without sin cast the first stone'. Even though we are sinners ourselves, we may have cast the stone of judgement at others. As we call to mind our sins, we might be remembering especially the harsh and unfair judgements we sometimes pass on others. What the reading reminds us that God's readiness to forgive sin, always giving the sinner a second chance, bind up broken lives, and restore people to His friendship. What all the readings challenge us to show mercy in our lives especially to those surround us and to live as a forgiving people in actively seeking God's forgiveness with God and others. Our God is a merciful God with steadfast love and what the readings remind us that we should not be self-righteous and condemn the lives of others when God is calling them for conversion.

In the first reading prophet Isaiah assures the Jews exiled in Babylon that there will be a new Exodus. This message of hope should inspire us. And all of this will happen because God is faithful to his people. 'I am doing a new thing and I will give drink to my people'. The song of the New Exodus. The People of God are exhorted to look to the past as assurance of the future. What God did in the Exodus will be done again when He frees His People from exile. It reminds us of the merciful God who forgives the sins of His chosen people and leads them back from the land of exile Babylon. It also reminds us too, that we are forgiven, and we are saved from our own sinfulness.

Psalm 126 is about the deliverance from bondage, it sings, 'The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy'. Deliverance from slavery in Egypt and later from forced exile in Babylon, were the two strongest supporting pillars of Jewish memory.



*Welcome - Malo e lelei - Bula Vinaka - Talofa lava - Mabuhay - Bienvenue
Nei hou ma - Anneunghaseyo - Ayu Bowan - Willkommen - Welkom
Haere mai! Nau mai! Whakatau mai!*

Their God was a God who saves, and this reading Isaiah celebrates the end of the Babylonian bondage. 'No need to recall the past. See I am doing, a new deed'. And in the fullness of time, the promised one came, and his name is Jesus, meaning one who saves.

In the second reading saint Paul has willingly sacrificed everything for the privilege of knowing Christ. He hasn't yet arrived but is still running the race of salvation. Paul presents himself as a forgiven sinner who has been completely transformed by his faith in Christ, so his life is an example of the Gospel exhortation. For Paul, he looks on everything else as rubbish in comparison with knowing Christ. The liberation, which Jesus was to win for all people, is anticipated in the story of one woman in our Gospel today: saved from death by stoning and encouraged to sin no more. For Paul, 'what marvels the Lord worked for us! indeed we were glad'. Paul wants to share in His sufferings and even in His death so that he may share Christ's Resurrection.

In today's Gospel, Jesus is placed in a dilemma. if he follows the law of Moses and condemns the adulterous woman to be stoned, he violates Roman law. If, on the other hand, he frees the woman, he is unfaithful to the law of Moses. There are several similar stories in the gospels. Jesus invites any sinless man to begin the punishment of the sinner. The story illustrates the difference between the judgment of men and the judgment of Christ who brings forgiveness and understanding. The mercy of God appeared to men in Jesus. What the Christian receives from him demands a renunciation of reliance on his own merits and a constant conversion to judge other men as God judges them. Jesus forces the accusers to assess their own souls and to

leave, so he grants justice to the accusers and mercy to the sinful woman. For us we bear witness to the justice of God by confessing our sinfulness and we bear witness to God's mercy by accepting the forgiveness of our sins and promising to forgive those who have offended us.

As we approach this new week let us become a forgiving people ready to reconcile. Do not judgmental about others but let us learn to acknowledge our sins and ask God's forgiveness extends out to our brothers and sisters. Let us remind ourselves that we do not have the right to judge others and we should show mercy and compassion to those who sin because we ourselves are sinners we need God's forgiveness. Saint Paul is right, ' But if we judged ourselves, we would not come under judgment' (1 Corinthians 11:31).



NZCatholic
The National Catholic magazine
March 27, April 3, 2022 • No. 102

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The modern issue of diminished attentiveness 8

New to Seminary
Three in first year - pg 5

to view the latest digital issue

<https://bit.ly/3J0OfXe>



Golden Jubilee
Labour Weekend.
22-24 October, 2022.
The Maria Assumpta golden jubilee committee is keen to see any interesting photos of prominent parishioners, events and activities (B&W, or colour) for a parish history. Please contact Pat McCarthy, at patsuzie@slingshot.co.nz or on (09) 480-4463.

God Bless, Fr Aleki

Columban Calendars
for sale - \$12
Daily Mass Calendar
for sale - \$5

Please email the office to Order

Announcements :

- Holy week programme is on our website homepage and Mass Times Tabs.
- **06 April** - Special Liturgy Committee mtg this Wed at 7pm
- **Stations of the Cross** - every Friday during Lent, at 7 pm
- Traffic Light will be reviewed by the Government on 4 April and we will have more news then so NOTHING CHANGES for this Mass.
- We will update you all once we have the Governments decision on Monday.
- **Wear a MASK** - as cases grow higher please wear your mask.
- Everyone over the age of 12 will need to have the 'My Vaccine Pass' .
- At Mass face masks will be required, there will be no singing, communion will be in the hand only.

IF YOU SEE COVID-19 MISINFORMATION

- 1 DON'T ENGAGE**
If you reply, share, or quote misinformation, you help to spread it.
- 2 BLOCK THEM**
If someone you don't know is sharing misinformation, block them.
- 3 MESSAGE PRIVATELY**
If someone you know is sharing misinformation, message them privately and ask them not to.
- 4 REPORT**
Report misinformation to platforms or group admins asking them to remove that content.
- 5 INSTEAD, SPREAD OFFICIAL ADVICE**
Drown out fake news by sharing official scientific advice, as well as posts promoting good causes in tough times.



Our New Parish Database

THANK YOU to the first 50 Families who have already registered, fantastic.

This will assist us in sending out accurate communication once we have a complete idea of our actual parish numbers and especially our young tamariki.

Registration link is below:
<https://bit.ly/3GfSsBX>



No Internet Access? Please come into the office so we can assist you in completing this registration online.

Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College

- Programmes and Courses 2022:
- NZ Certificate in Christian Studies;
- NZ Diploma in Christian Studies;
- Bachelor of Theology Degree;
- Graduate Diploma in Theology;
- Continuing Education Courses
- www.ctc.ac.nz Email: office@ctc.ac.nz



Caritas Lenten Reflection Programme

Week 5: HAFOTI Women's Cooperative in Timor-Leste: Preparing for a Brighter Future

E te Atua o te whakaaroha, God of mercy, sometimes we have hearts of stone. We pray that you soften our hearts and help us not to judge others' frailties. E te Ariki. Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.

Programme is online on our Website:
<https://bit.ly/36UoxCJ>



Daily Reflections during Lent
Sign up for daily reflections for Lent at
www.foodforfaith.org.nz



TITIPOUNAMU Study & Joy

Online Sessions: Women in the Scriptures & Mythology
Part 1: Women of the Old Testament— Kieran Fenn fms. Wednesday, 20 April, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM. Koha/Donation.
Part 2: Women in the Sistine Chapel with Dr Christopher Longhurst. Friday, 29 April, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM. Koha/Donation <https://bit.ly/3lBecc3>

Info - registration: info@studyjoy.nz
Muffin Talk Radio Programme recordings and video clips on religion, interfaith and community available at
<https://bit.ly/3APE4gF>



Good Friday Special Collection

A special collection for the Holy Land is taken up on Good Friday. The money collected in New Zealand is used for the upkeep of the Wedding Church in Cana of Galilee and for university scholarships for young Catholics. Christians in the Holy Land are suffering financially because of Covid, as their economy depends on tourism.



Online Sessions—1pm:

Join us on Zoom every Sunday at 1pm

<https://bit.ly/35OZ7Gb>

Meeting ID: 889 2372 7693

Passcode: 701471



The Maria Assumpta conference of St Vincent de Paul thanks parishioners for your ongoing support. We are continuing to provide support contactlessly during red level and our foodbank always needs donations. Breakfast foods, tinned foods (especially spaghetti and vegetables), and spreads etc. for school lunches are in short supply at the moment. If you need support, or a food parcel, please contact either Chris (020 4139 5170) or Charles (022 0242 753).

Please consider coming to help out at our Vinnies Charity shops. We need lots of volunteers and helpers – even for an hour or two once a week would be wonderful. Our oldest volunteer is 87 and our youngest is 14! If you can, please join our friendly team at either Beach Haven or Glenfield. Volunteering can be so rewarding! Contact Janet on 022-356-3811 or Janetlee.vinnies@gmail.com

Clothing and household items can be donated at the Ellice Road or Beach Haven shops during shop hours. If you wish to assist us more, or if you know of someone needing assistance, please contact either Chris (020 4139 5170), Charles (022 0242 753), or the Beach Haven shop (482 3017).



The Labour Exchange

WE'RE HIRING

TEXT: 027 224 9675

**LOOKING FOR WORK?
WE HAVE JOBS ALL OVER
AUCKLAND
NO EXPERIENCE REQUIRED
TRAINING AVAILABLE**

www.labourexchange.co.nz

Next Week Ministries	8:00am Mass	10:00am Mass
Palm Sunday Narrator	Charles Grinter	Johanna Cogle
Welcome/Notices	Beate Matthies	Stephen Chmiel
Ministers Of The Word	Florinda Azavedo Therese Corpz	Suzie McCarthy Anthony Davids
Ministers of Communion	n/a	n/a
Prayers Of The Faithful	Anne Mutu	Ifo Ah Kuoi
Computer	Chris Simpson	Andrew Gongora
Musicians	n/a	n/a
Counters	Team D	Chris Simpson Joh Cogle

Next Week READINGS

10 April 2022

First Reading:
Isaiah 50:4-7

Psalm: 22

Second Reading:
Philippians 2:6-11

Gospel:
Luke 22:14-23:56

SPECIAL MASSES

Filipino Mass: 1st Sunday of month - 4 pm - Cancelled for now

Samoan Mass: 2nd Sunday of month - 11:45 am - Cancelled for now

Tongan Mass: 3rd Sunday of the month - 1 pm - Cancelled for now

Multicultural Mass: 4th Sunday of every other month.- 10 am - Cancelled for now

Youth Mass: 4th Sunday of every other month. - 10 am - Cancelled for now

Maori Mass: 5th Sunday of month - 10 am

Note: Singing Practice: Saturdays after morning Mass. We will advise when this will resume again.

DEVOTIONS

Adoration of the Blessed Eucharist: Cancelled during Red Level.

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Youth Group: To be advised

NSSCC Fono: 4th Sunday of the month, 11.30am – 3.00pm -To be advised

Enua Ola Group - Zumba : Every Tuesday, 6pm in hall. Cancelled for now

Multicultural group meeting: To be advised

Finance Committee meeting: 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm.

Liturgy Committee meeting: 2nd Wednesday of the month, 7:00 pm.

Parish Pastoral Council meeting: 3rd Thursday of the month 7.00pm.

NEWSLETTER:

Do you want the Newsletter via email ?

PLEASE register with the church online here:

<https://beachhavencatholic.org.nz/parishioner-registration/>



CDA Connect

Are you wanting to know what is happening in the diocese? CDA Connect is a monthly newsletter concerning happenings in the diocese.



HALL HIRE - Not available during Red Level Omicron

All bookings can be made **ONLINE**

Should be made ONLINE at:

<https://beachhavencatholic.org.nz/venue-hall-hire-2/>

Hall Hire fee: \$150 Bond and \$30.00 per hour.



CHURCH MAINTENANCE

Please inform the parish office of any damages that need repairing on parish premises.

If you can assist with maintenance please contact, David Sharkey -

Ph:021 294-0292 or email: david.sharkey003@gmail.com

NOTICES FOR PARISH BULLETIN

These should be received by Thursday every week. Notices are approved by the Parish Priest and will be placed if there is room.

Email the wording to: secretary@mariaassumpta.org.nz