



Maria Assumpta Parish Bulletin

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

SUNDAY MASS: 8am, 10am
RECONCILIATION: Saturday 10am-12pm
WEEKDAY MASS: 9am - Tuesday to Saturday

MARRIAGE PREPARATION:
Contact Parish priest
BAPTISM PREPARATION: Contact Office

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 Easter
15 May 2022

First Reading: Acts 14:21-27
Psalm 145
Second Reading: Revelation 21:1-5
Gospel: John 13:31-35

Reflection by Fr Aleki Piula



I give you a new commandment: love one another as I have loved you

Today's readings are about renewal and new things like the new Jerusalem, a new Heaven and a new earth, and a new commandment. The three readings of today's liturgy have one theme in common: suffering is temporal, and the glory is eternal. Paul and Barnabas put new heart into the disciples with the message that we must experience many hardships before we enter the kingdom of God. Then the writer of the Apocalypse, after all the persecutions and tribulations of earlier chapters, describes his vision of the new Jerusalem, where God lives among people. In the extract from John's gospel, immediately after Judas had gone out, as the passion was about to commence, Jesus spoke of his glorification. He speaks of going away but he leaves a new commandment: 'Love one another; just as I have loved you, you also must love one another'. In our today's Gospel we hear Jesus said: 'Love one another as I have loved you'. Of all the commandments Christ gave us this is the most important. It includes all the others. The only failure in the life of a Christian is the failure to love. Let us think about the people whom we find difficult to take into our hearts and ask the Lord to help us to be more loving towards them.

In the first reading from the Acts of the Apostles, they assembled the church and gave an account of all that God had done with them. Paul and Barnabas retrace their steps, encouraging the little communities of Christians they had founded. This reading tells us about the conclusion of the first missionary journey of Paul and Barnabas, they are encouraging these little communities which they founded and prepared them for the persecutions which would inevitably come. By their presence, they are proclaiming the great works of God in the past and in the present.

Psalm 145 sings, 'I will bless your name for ever, O God my King'. This psalm is about the community of Love. In the responsorial psalm we can find some of the qualities of Christian love. The Lord is kind and full of compassion. The grace of the Lord's presence in the apostolic community was manifest in their pooling of resources and care for the poor. Slow to anger and abounding in love. Christian love will outlast any persecution and outlive all suffering 'Yours is an everlasting kingdom; your rule lasts from age to age.



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

In the second reading from the book of Revelation is taken from the final part of Apocalypse, this opens with the vision of a new world and the new order of things inaugurated by Christ. This reading describes how God renews His Church, the New Jerusalem, by being present in her members, in their communities and in their liturgical celebrations, 'See I am making all things new'. The New Covenant is accomplished in a community, 'they shall be his people, and he will be their God'. The New Jerusalem is a vision of the renewed and final relationship between man and God, a relationship that has been prepared in the life of Israel and the Church'.

In today's Gospel during the Last Supper Jesus gives his apostles a new commandment, to love one another as he has loved them. In the scene of the Last Supper, Judas had departed and Jesus alone with his own. Jesus is going forward to the cross. By so doing, he is giving glory to God, who in turn will give glory to him. The apostles can't follow him yet. In the meantime, they are to live by a 'new commandment', the commandment of love. It is new only in the sense that it sets a new standard, 'as I have loved you'. The world will know that they are his disciples by their fidelity to this commandment. So, today's gospel gives us the secret of Christian renewal as the faithful practice of Jesus' new commandment: 'Love one another as I have loved you' (John 13:35).

Here Jesus adds up a new element to the Old Testament command of love by teaching us that the true test of discipleship is to love other people in the same way that he has loved us, with sacrificial, selfless, self-giving, unconditional agape love. The meaning of the renewal of Christian life is a radical change of vision and a reordering of our priorities in life. And a renewal brings us to embrace new attitudes, new values and new standards of relating to God, to other people and indeed, to our whole environment. In John's theology, the new life of heaven begins in community of love on earth.



Sacramental Programme

I was pleased to see four children at the meeting last Sunday. The classes are now up and running and I am hopeful that we will see all of the group who began the class last year wanting to complete the preparation for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion. I am happy to welcome any new children. It is easy to enrol – you can do this on the parish website or turn up and I will give you a form to fill in.

We meet every Sunday between the Masses starting at 9.15 am

Please let your family and friends who might not see this newsletter know.

Please register your interest online here:

<https://beachhavencatholic.org.nz/sacraments-of-initiation-program/>



As Cardinal Newman put it: 'Grace in this life is glory in exile and glory is grace at home'. The only mark that Jesus gives to his disciples make them different when they practice of love. 'I give you a new commandment: love one another. As I have loved you, so you also should love one another. This is how all will know that you are my disciples if you have love for one another' (John 13:34-35). So, the heart of all this and what holds all things together is the commandment of love: Love of God and love of neighbour; love as Jesus loved us. Without love, all things fall apart. Hence, their practice of love led the Apostles and the disciples to the rapid spread of Christianity. Have a blessed Sunday.

God Bless, Fr Aleki

Announcements :

- Thank you to Emma for all those wonderful Mother's Day gifts.
- PLEASE use the SIDE DOOR while we are waiting to fix the cross.
- We will have AGM at 19th third Sunday of June, and the form will be given out today if you want to be part of the PPC member you most welcome to join.
- Preparation of the first holy communion and confirmation will start soon, more details to follow.
- **Wear a MASK** - as cases stay high please wear your mask.



Golden Jubilee

*Labour Weekend.
22-24 October, 2022.*

Maria Assumpta Parish in Beach Haven, Auckland is celebrating its Golden Jubilee over Labour Weekend. Register your interest and get updated details from patlythe@gmail.com / Ph 09.4839903 or text 0273441663. We'd love to hear from you.



PLEASE Register with us

THANK YOU to the first 51 Families who have already registered, fantastic.

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.



This is a time when the Domestic Church is so important. Visit the Family Life Page on our website where we have put together a number of resources for all.

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



Online Sessions—1:30 pm:

Join us on Zoom every Sunday at 1:30 pm

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

Meeting ID: 889 2372 7693

Passcode: 701471



The second part of the synodal process was to respond to the question

What steps does the Spirit invite us to take to grow in our "journeying together"?

In other words what could be improved?

Responses concerning our parish, included:

Open communication is essential. Information must be shared. All should be informed about what is happening. The sick should be cared for, and not just ignored by keeping quiet about them, so that the whole community knows whom to pray for. All should be informed about the Sacramental programmes, so people prepare well for them, and participants can be prayed for, and welcomed into the community. Sharing is important, and hence the PPC needs to connect with the people.

Baptisms and weddings must be announced in Mass, so people can know and pray for them. Our willingness to come, care and pray is led by the Holy Spirit.

When a Parish Priest changes, the views of the next Priest also change.

We should have Bible study along with the knowledge of Theology, and we must know and realise the connection.

The Gospel with the reflection is a must for us as a community/ Parish.

And drawing on our own experience in this parish the following is recommended:

- That significant education be given to all sectors of the Catholic Community, in terms of the requirements to recognise and practice a 'BI-CULTURAL' way of operating within our faith communities; and developing and valuing these practices and opening up to also becoming a vital and active MULTICULTURAL Catholic Community.
- That the Church in New Zealand's priestly leadership show courage to address the 'consigning of women and other marginalised groups' to full participation in the true and full decision making; and the leadership of all levels of this Community of Faith.

(There will be further reports in subsequent bulletins.)



PARISH AGM will be held on SUNDAY 19 JUNE at 11.30am in the Parish Hall.

The Parish Pastoral Council will report on the last 12 months and we will all look forward to the next 12 months and discuss how we want to develop our parish. The PPC members are elected at the AGM. Please think about whether you could serve as a member or if there is someone you would like to nominate. Nomination forms are at the back of church. If you want to know more about the PPC please speak to me or one of the other members of the PPC – Ana Tusani, Anthony Davids, David Sharkey, Emma Ah Kuoi, Florinda Azavedo, Ifo Ah Kuoi, Liz Anthony. Bill Kilgallon (PPC Chair)



The Maria Assumta conference of St Vincent de Paul thanks parishioners for your ongoing support. Tinned foods (especially vegetables), baking goods and bathroom products are in short supply at the moment. If you need support, or a food parcel, please contact Charles (022 0242 753). Food donations can be left in the basket at the back of the church before Mass on Sundays or you can contact one of us below and we will arrange to collect them from you.

Please consider becoming a member of our conference. We really need more people to assist with food parcels and bread deliveries as well as coming to help out at our Vinnies Charity shops. The shops 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).



Next Week Ministries	8:00am Mass	10:00am Mass
Welcome/Notices	Beate Matthies	Sesalina Setu
Ministers Of The Word	Therese Corpuz Pat Lythe	Suzie McCarthy Anthony Davids
Ministers of Communion	Maria Wilcox	Mathilde Mujawarariya
Prayers Of The Faithful	Anne/Ray Anderson	Johanna Cogle
Computer	Charles Grinter	Christiana Setu
Musicians	Filomena Filipo	Ausage Fa'aoso Setu
Counters	Team B	Anastasia Tusani Liz Antony

Next Week READINGS

22 May 2022

First Reading:
Acts 15:1-2,22-29

Psalms: 67

Second Reading:
Apocalypse 21:10-14,22-29

Gospel:
John 14:23-29

SPECIAL MASSES

Filipino Mass: 1st Sunday of month - 4 pm

Samoan Mass: 2nd Sunday of month - 11:45 am - Restart - To be advised

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

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

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

Maori Mass: 5th Sunday of month - 10 am

Note: Singing Practice: Saturdays after morning Mass.

Monday: 9.00 am Liturgy of the Word

DEVOTIONS

Adoration of the Blessed Eucharist: To be advised

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. To be advised

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://
beachhavencatho-
lic.org.nz/parishioner-
registration/](https://beachhavencatholic.org.nz/parishioner-registration/)



CDA Connect

Are you wanting to know what is hap-
pening in the
diocese? CDA
Connect is a monthly
newsletter concern-
ing happenings in the
diocese.



HALL HIRE

All bookings can be made **ONLINE**

Should be made ONLINE at:

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

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

NON Parishioners: Hall Hire: \$350 Bond.

(Hall hire is for all time Hall is used - decorating included)



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