



NORTH PARISH

Weekly

SUNDAY 28 APRIL / FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Nourished by The Vine

Kia ora e te whānau,

In the Gospel passage this weekend (John 15:1-8), Jesus presents us with a vivid metaphor: **He is the true vine, and we are the branches.** This imagery beautifully encapsulates the essence of our relationship with Christ and the key to our spiritual vitality.

At the heart of Jesus' message lies the importance of **abiding in Him.** He urges us to remain connected to Him, emphasising that apart from Him, we can do nothing. This profound truth reminds us that our strength, our purpose, and our ability to bear fruit all flow from our intimate union with Christ.

Abiding in Christ is more than a passive state; it's an **active,** ongoing commitment to cultivate our relationship with Him. It involves spending time in prayer, immersing ourselves in His Word, participating in the sacraments, and living out His teachings in our daily lives. **It's about surrendering ourselves to His will and allowing His life to flow through us.**

As we abide in Christ, we become channels of His grace, bearing fruit that glorifies the Father. **This fruit manifests itself in the form of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness, and self-control.** It's through our union with Christ that these virtues take root and flourish, enriching not only our own lives but also the lives of those around us.

In a world filled with distractions and challenges, the call to abide in Christ remains as relevant as ever. It's a call to centre our lives on Him, to draw our strength and sustenance from Him, and to allow His love to permeate every aspect of our being. As we heed this call, may we bear abundant fruit for His glory and the advancement of His kingdom.

The continual challenge for us is to commit ourselves anew in really abiding in Christ, the true vine. **For we know that it is in Him we find true life and fulfilment.** May our lives be a testament to His transforming power, as we bear fruit that reflects His love, grace, and truth.

In the spirit of deepening our relationship with Jesus, I invite you to participate in the upcoming **Parish Retreat Day** next Saturday, where we can collectively engage in prayer, reflection, and fellowship, nurturing our connection to the true vine. All are welcome to this **free** retreat day. More details on the next page.

Additionally, our **Men's Group will be holding a special Mass and Reconciliation** next Wednesday for their consecration to St. Joseph the Worker. A wonderful opportunity to seek the intercession and guidance of this beloved saint as we journey closer to Christ. All men are welcome to join us this Wednesday!

Mā te Atua e manaaki,

Fr Alister Castillo

MEN'S GROUP - CONSECRATION TO ST JOSEPH THE WORKER

WEDNESDAY 1 MAY - 7PM, RECONCILIATION / 7:30PM, MASS
ST GREGORY'S CHURCH, BISHOPDALE

This is a great chance for us as men of the parish to not only reset our hearts with God through the sacraments, but also pray for each other through the intercession of St Joseph. This is a Mass for all men and is being offered for all men in our parish and the wider world. Please bring a small plate for supper.

For more information Contact Andre de Roo on 0220824143.



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PARISH PRIMARY SCHOOLS
Christ the King - Ph 358 2708
Tom Wallis

St Albans Catholic - Ph 355 7538
Abraham Atherton

St Joseph's - Ph 352 8779
Aaron Richards

St Patrick's - Ph 351 5590
Nathan Burford

PARISH OFFICE HOURS:
Tuesday - Friday, 9am-2pm
The priests are available for
emergencies by phoning the presbytery
directly on **03 359 0444**

FOR ANY PRAYER REQUESTS.
TEXT 021 413 659

PLEASE NOTE:

Next Thursday's Noon Mass (May 2) will be a Requiem Mass for David Mooney RIP.

"LORD TEACH US TO PRAY" RETREAT DAY

All are invited to our "Year of Prayer" Retreat Day in preparation for the 2025 Jubilee Year 'Pilgrims of Hope'. 2024 has been designated a Year of Prayer by Pope Francis. There will be a particular focus on the Our Father, and this presents us with a great opportunity to go back to the basics of prayer. Join us as we focus on Prayer for this special day retreat. You can register online via our [website](#) or contact Judith at pastoral@christchurchnorth.org.nz.



**We will gather on Saturday 4 May,
10am - 4pm at
Lamb of God Centre, Thames Street.**



Next Sunday (5th May) during the 8am Mass we will welcome with great joy to the Catholic Community new members who have been journeying with us during this year. **Billie and Susan** will receive Baptism, Confirmation and Eucharist, while **Hilary and Robert** will receive Confirmation and Eucharist. We welcome them with great joy as they enter into full communion in the Catholic Church. We also welcome **Oscar, Louis** and **Eilidh** who will also be baptised on Sunday morning.

Please continue to pray for them as continue their journey of faith.



PENTECOST EVENTS IN THE PARISH

As we prepare to celebrate the great Feast of Pentecost, there are opportunities for us to really experience the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives through these events below.



NOVENA TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

May 10 - 18 (Finishing with Mass on Pentecost Sunday, 19 May)

We invite our parish community to be united in prayer as we pray the Novena to the Holy Spirit, asking for an outpouring and renewal in our hearts and in our parish community. Physical copies of the Novena will be made available closer to the time.

HEALING SERVICE

Wednesday 15th May 2024, 7pm at St Gregory's Church.

We are hosting a Healing Service with Fr John Rea sm (From Wellington)
John Rea, a Marist priest, has the gift of healing. John Rea has been praying with people in this way since 1974. John Rea says God is the healer.
<https://www.sm.org.nz/about/missionary-parishes/john-rea/>



COMBINED PARISH PENTECOST MASSES

St Andrew's Centenary College Chapel for Pentecost Weekend.

Saturday 18 May - 5:30pm / Sunday 19 May - 10am

All are welcome to join us as one parish community to celebrate the Feast of the Holy Spirit. Morning tea and fellowship will follow the 10am Mass.

N.B. There will be no other Vigil or Sunday Masses celebrated in the parish this weekend.

PENTECOST ECUMENICAL PRAYER SERVICE

Sunday 19 May - 7pm, North City Church (95a Sawyers Arms Road, Papanui)

All are welcome as we come together as Christians to celebrate the power of the Holy Spirit. *More details to follow.*



Our vision for the Catholic Parish of Christ the Redeemer is of a missionary parish bringing people to come to know Jesus Christ personally, helping them grow as disciples, and going out to others with the Gospel message.

GIFTS OF THE HOLY SPIRIT

A series of talks on "Receiving and Using the Gifts of the Holy Spirit" on Thursdays 6, 13 and 20 June - 7pm at St Joseph's Pastoral Centre. The aim of this series of talks is to give people a knowledge and practical experience in praying and using the Gifts of the Holy Spirit. For more information please contact Judith 027 261 5655 or email pastoral@christchurchnorth.org.nz



THINKING ABOUT A VOCATION TO THE PRIESTHOOD OR RELIGIOUS LIFE?

The Good Shepherd knows his sheep and lays down his life for them. Are you being called to Shepherd others as a Priest or Religious? Hearing that divine call", Pope Francis writes, is the "surest way for us to fulfil our deepest desire for happiness". Contact the Vocations Director, Fr Tien Cao on petercaochitien@yahoo.com or the Vocations Coordinator, Matt O'Connell on 366-9869 or moconnell@cdoc.nz if you want to talk more information or to talk about a possible vocation.

INFERTILITY PRAYER SUPPORT GROUP

We meet once a month on the second Monday of the month at 7:30pm. **The next meeting is Monday, 3 May.** Join us in the meeting room beside St Teresa's Church Hall - 8 Puriri St, Riccarton. (There will be a sign on the door before each meeting to help you find the entrance.)

CATHOLIC HEALTH PROFESSIONALS

Calling all Catholic Health Professionals to come meet some of the Catholic hospital chaplains, come have a cup of tea or coffee and a biscuit or two and a chinwag with the chaplains and other health professionals from around Christchurch. Bring along any questions you have for the chaplains and meet other like minded people working in the health industry.

Saturday 4th May, St Joseph's Pastoral Centre, 2-4pm
To RSVP or for any questions email christchurchcma@gmail.com

OPEN DAY AT WESLEYCARE

WesleyCare is hosting an Open Day on **Sunday 5 May at 2.30pm.** Come along to meet the WesleyCare Manager Donna Coxshall for afternoon tea, take a tour around our modern 108-room home. This is a wonderful opportunity to experience WesleyCare's warm and caring atmosphere first-hand and to find out from Donna and other senior staff members the details that will empower you to reach an informed decision about issues such as care options and quality of care. Please RSVP [online](#) or contact Glenda at glendam@mmsi.org.nz or 375-1464.



INTRODUCING OUR TWO NEW YOUTH GROUP LEADERS!

Kia Ora, My name is **Madalyn Papesch**, and I am excited to be joining the team as a Youth Leader at Christchurch North Parish. Having attended and helping to run prior Youth Group activities in previous years, I am very passionate and motivated to engage and empower our youth with their faith and life journeys!! Outside of this I enjoy playing guitar, gardening and making memories with my hubby and baby, you may even see them around at the Youth Masses. Looking forward to meeting you all. God bless.



Hello, my name is **Eunseong Kim**, and I'm 20 years old. I'm currently a second-year university student. I am involved in many areas within the Christchurch Catholic Diocese. I altar serve at the Sunday 11 am Mass at St. Mary's Pro-Cathedral. My vision for the Youth Group is to grow the community and teach with Love, Faith, Respect & Hope. I will work to support and strengthen the Catholic faith among the youth. Parents, bring your children to the youth group. I cannot emphasize enough how important catechising the youth is. I guarantee it will be worth it for your children. I'd like to finish off with a quote by St. John Bosco: "Religion alone can initiate and achieve a true education."



GIRLS YOUTH GROUP SOCIALS

If you are a **Year 9-13 girl** and are keen for some fun, join us fortnightly after school on Thursdays. We get up to lots of fun activities and opportunities to grow in friendship and faith - such as cupcake decorating competitions, sport, water games, guest speakers, outings, talks and discussions about faith, and so much more! Any questions, contact Hannah.
When: 9 May, 23 May, 20 June, 4 July
Time: 3:30pm - 5pm
Where: St Joseph's Pastoral Centre

CHRIST THE REDEEMER PARISH FAMILY CLUB

We welcome parishioners, with their families and friends to participate in these family activities that will be held each Friday.

Time: 6.00pm - 8.00pm Venue: St Joseph's Primary School Hall, Vagues Road, Papanui Come and join us.
For more information please contact Fr Edwin



Please send all bulletin messages and noticeboard posters to bulletin@christchurchnorth.org.nz Deadline - 9am Wednesday Morning and are at the discretion of the Priests and Administration Team.

MASS TIMES

SATURDAY VIGIL MASS

4:30 pm - St Gregory's Church
6pm - St Gregory's Church

SUNDAY MASSES

8 am - St Gregory's Church
9 am - St Bede's Chapel
10 am - St Gregory's Church
11 am - St Bede's Chapel
5 pm - St Bede's Chapel

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday - Friday

7 am & 9:15 am (No 7am Mass on Public Holidays)

Tuesday & Thursday

Noon - St Gregory's Church

Saturday

9:15 am (Reconciliation follows)

*Please note: a Funeral Mass may replace a Weekday Mass *

WEEKLY SCHOOL MASSES

(During Term Time)

Mondays

9am - St Patrick's School Hall

Wednesdays

1:05pm - St Bede's Chapel

Fridays

9am - St Albans Catholic Chapel
Check the bulletin for the times of the other schools

RECONCILIATION

Saturdays

9.45 am - 10.45 am
St Gregory's Church
[or by appointment]

ROSARY

St Gregory's Church

Mon-Sat: After the 9.15am Mass

Wednesday: 2 pm

Thursday: 11:30 am

Saturday: 5.40 pm

BAPTISMS are held on the fourth weekend of each month. For more information view the Sacrament page on our website.

CHURCH PHYSICAL ADDRESSES

St Gregory's - 26 Cotswold Ave
St Bede's Chapel - 210 Main North Road (entry off Momorangi Crescent)

PREFERENCE TO ATTEND A CATHOLIC PRIMARY OR SECONDARY SCHOOL

Please see the link below, this will direct you to all information relating to obtaining preference for your child to attend a Catholic primary or secondary school. Please note that the **next preference signing will be Friday, 3 May between 3-4pm at our parish office.**

<https://www.christchurchnorth.org.nz/schools-enrolment>

UPCOMING SCHOOL MASSES THIS WEEK

Parishioners are welcome at all of the School Masses below.

Mon 29 April, 9am - St Patrick's Mass, School Hall (Jeffreys Road)

Tue 30 April, 9am - Christ the King Mass, CTK Pastoral Centre (Greers Road)

Wed 1 May, 1:05pm - St Bede's Mass, St Bede's Chapel (Main North Road)

Fri 3 May, 9am - St Albans Mass, St Albans Catholic Chapel (Entrance off Somme Street)



Book of Memories

27 Apr: Mary O'Malley, Maude O'Connor, John Morton, Rayma Fitchett, Dorothy Cujry, Vlatko Ivos, Clare McGuire.

28 Apr: Alice Wilson, Catharine Heffernan, Adrianus Paaymans, Ivy Stevens.

29 Apr: Theodorus Verzeilberg, Margaret Frawley, Denis Shannahan, Evelyn Lawley, James Lagan.

30 Apr: Iris Fowke, Norman Dellow, Marie Johnsen, Cheryl Vuillermin Moon, June Riley, Basil Hempseed, Matthew Fitzgibbon, Rosalina de Koning, Nadalene Huriwai.

1 May: Muriel Wakefield, Margaret Jory, Gregory Curtain, Veronica Kavanagh, William (Bill) Willcox, Monica Devine.

2 May: Valda Walsh, Sienna Law, Danila Cadwaladar, Clifford Edwards, Francis (Frank) Devonport, Gary Lennon.

3 May: Michael O'Connell, June Stewart, Murray Bunting, Maria Hopman.

Please pray for the following intentions

Those who have recently died: Michael Hughes, Jerry Kuipers, Lesley Walker, Beverley McLorinan, Mary Arscott, Jim Costelloe, Diane Milne, Pamela Arthur, Margaret Frost, Kevin Lawrie, Gerard Stocks, Judith Joseph, Kath Crosbie, Una McGregor, David Murphy, Chris Caddick, David Mooney.

Mass Intentions: Margaret Collins (Ann.), Gerald Rooney (Ann.), Maeve Collins (Ann.)

Those who are sick: Marie Walker, Judy Gilmore, Michael Hegarty, Gerard Clark, Helen Grofski.

Those who need our prayers: Hearty Ashwell.

If you know someone who needs our prayers please let Melonie know in the parish office.

Please note that names submitted will remain on the list for a month. At the end of this time they will be removed. If you would like them to remain on for longer please let us know.

Please pray for those who need our prayers and those who have nobody for pray for them.

This week's Feasts and Memorials

MON 29	TUES 30	WED 1	THU 2	FRI 3	SAT 4
St Catherine of Sienna	St Pius V	St Joseph the Worker	St Athanasius	Sts Philip and James	-