

HOLY FAMILY PARISH MASSES and other Liturgical Celebrations:

Daily morning Masses: **9.00am Monday to Saturday**

Saturday Vigil Mass: **6.00pm**

Sunday Masses: **8.30am - St. John of the Cross**

9.30am - Holy Family

Community Masses:

Samoan Community – **1st and 3rd Sundays at 11.00am**

Cook Islands – **2nd Sunday at 11.00am**

Myanmar Community – **4th Sunday at 11.00am**

Tokelau – **4th Sunday, 11am at St. John of the Cross**

Multicultural Mass – **Every 5th Sunday at 9.30am**

Sunday Adoration – **Every Sunday at 5.00pm**

Reconciliation – **8.00am – 8.45am Monday – Saturday**

Baptism – **By appointment**

HOLY FAMILY PARISH



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Office Hours: Wed. to Fri. 9.00am – 1.00pm

For Emergencies, please contact:

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Fr. Nicholas Phone Myint (Assistant Priest): 021 090-62933

EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR C

2 MARCH, 2025

Dear Parishioners: Kia orana, Greetings, Talofa lava, Malo ni, Mingalaba, Mauri, Ola, Namaste, Malo Lelei & Nibula.

PARISH NOTICES AND UPDATES

- Sunday Adoration - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**
Every Sunday at 5.00pm.
- Parish Pastoral Council Meeting:** Tuesday 4th March at 6pm at the Presbytery.
- Ash Wednesday 5th March:**
Morning Mass at 9.00am and Evening Mass at 6.30pm
- Stations of the Cross in English.** Every Friday from 7th March, 6.30pm during the Season of Lent.
- Lights on For You:** Starts Wednesday 12th March 6pm – 7pm.
An opportunity for Confession on every Wednesday during Lent.
- Archdiocesan Pastoral Council:** Will visit our parish on Friday 14 March. Cup of tea at 5.45pm at the foyer. Stations of the Cross to be followed by Interaction with Archdiocesan Parish Council and our Parishioners.
- Children's Ministry:** Every Sunday at 9.00am
- Altar Servers Session:** Every Sunday afternoon.



We do not sing or recite the Alleluia and the Gloria, nor do we have flowers during the Lenten Season.

PARISH VISION STATEMENT

The Holy Family is committed to the person of Jesus in his teaching. Therefore, we are called to live justly, to love tenderly and to walk humbly with our God (Micah 6:8) so that we might become effective witnesses of the Gospel.

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We will dedicate ourselves to live and spread the Good News of Jesus Christ by words and actions. In following Jesus, Mary and Joseph in their love for each other, the example of their family life, we will come to true holiness. We will strive to imitate the Holy Family by:

- Being a loving, welcoming and forgiving community, fully alive in the spirit of Holy Family.
- Teaching our children, the Gospel way of life and encouraging them always to share fully in the life of our Parish.
- Celebrating the Eucharist as a joyful remembrance of our Lord's sacrifice for us.
- Being a community of prayer that reaches out and open to other faith communities.
- Being an "Oasis" of hope, love and mercy to God's children.
- Being witnesses to the Gospel of Jesus, strengthened by our cultural diversity.

SUNDAY READINGS – YEAR C

2 Mar. 8th SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME

- 1st R: Ecclesiasticus 27: 4-7
- Responsorial Psalm: 92
- 2nd R: 1 Corinthians 15: 54 - 58.
- Gospel Luke 6: 39 - 45

9 Mar. FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

- 1st R: Deuteronomy 26: 4-10
- Responsorial Psalm: 91
- 2nd R: Romans 10: 8 - 13.
- Gospel Luke 4: 1 - 13

Scripture lessons – 8th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Central theme: Jesus draws our attention to practical points of Christian living and challenges us to use our words as he used his in his preaching and healing ministry — to heal, to restore, and to bring back life, joy, and hope. Today’s readings also instruct us to share our Christian life, love, and spiritual health by our words, and to avoid gossiping about and passing rash, thoughtless, pain-inflicting judgments on others, thus damaging their good reputation and causing them irreparable harm.

Scripture lessons: The first reading, taken from the Book of Sirach, teaches us that what is inside us is revealed through our conversation – as the grain and husks are separated in a farmer’s sieve, as the quality of the shaped clay is revealed in the potter’s fire, and as the size and quality of a tree’s fruit reveal the care it has received from the planter. Sirach’s teaching serves as an excellent preview for today’s Gospel, which reminds us, when we’re feeling judgmental, to think before we speak because what comes out of our mouth reveals our heart. The Responsorial Psalm (Ps 92) advises us to spend our time praising and thanking God for all His blessings. In the second reading St. Paul advises the Corinthian Christians *“to be firm, steadfast, always fully devoted to the work of the Lord, knowing that in the Lord your labour is not in vain,”* instead of wasting time on useless and sinful conversations, which bring punishment instead of the victory of resurrection and eternal reward. In today’s Gospel passage, taken from the *Sermon on the Plain* given in Luke’s Gospel, Jesus condemns our careless, malicious and rash judgments about the behaviour, feelings, motives, or actions of others by using the funny examples of one blind man leading another blind man and one man with a log stuck in his eye, trying to remove a tiny speck from another’s eye. Jesus does not mean that we should not correct immoral behaviour and sexual misbehaviour or stop admonishing children and students as parents and teachers, or, worse, should promote moral relativism. In both Matthew and Luke, the statements that follow the prohibition on judging indicate that it is an elaboration of the Golden Rule—the idea that we should treat others the way that we, ourselves, want to be treated. When Jesus says, *“Judge not, lest ye be judged,”* he means: *“Don’t judge or God will judge you in your “particular” or “Last” judgment,”* whichever comes first.

COMMUNITY:

The Redwood or sequoia, is the most massive tree on earth. Think of the girth of our own giant, Tane Mahuta and add another 17 or so metres to the height. Like the kauri it grows to a great age, up to 3000 years. Yet its roots are very shallow. The obvious question is “How is it not blown over in high winds?” The answer is a great example of community. Each tree sends out its roots in a circular pattern and these roots inter-twine with the roots of the neighbouring trees. Above ground the branches also inter-twine so that, by firmly connecting to each other, each tree is well-supported. The Irish have a lovely saying which embodies this: *“It is in the shelter of each other that the people live.”*

As our beloved Pope Francis hovers on the threshold between life and death we tend to look back at his achievements and in particular the many messages of hope, love and encouragement that he has given us. He is passionate in his message that community is really important in our lives as followers of Jesus. In his wonderful encyclical to us *Laudato Si’* he said *“We must regain the conviction that we need one another, that we have a shared responsibility for others and the world, and that being good and decent are worth it.”* #229

“Everything is related, and we human beings are united as brothers and sisters on a wonderful pilgrimage, woven together by the love God has for each of his creatures and which also unites us in fond affection with brother sun, sister moon, brother river and mother earth.” #22

More recently Pope Francis has spoken to us about happiness saying *“To be happy is to find strength in forgiveness, hope in battles, security in the state of fear, love in discord. It is not only to enjoy the smile, but also to reflect on the sadness. It is not only to celebrate the successes but to learn lessons from the failures.”*

Some of this is shown in the film *TINĀ* which is currently showing at the Pauatahanui Lighthouse Theatre. It is a heartwarming film which I highly recommend. It will make you both laugh and cry as it shows the power of choral music to foster a deeper understanding of one another.

God of love and peace, source of life, we remember that all things are connected. Plant in us a deep conviction of our interconnectedness. May our decisions and actions reflect love and respect for all people and creatures that we share our common home with.

Guide us as we weave bonds of belonging in simple ways, in our daily life. Amen.

By Sr Anne Phibbs

PARISH COLLECTIONS FOR SUNDAY, 23RD FEBRUARY 2025

Parish – \$1,921.50
Building Fund – \$574.10

Thank you and may God reward you for your generosity!