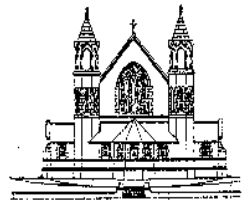




**DEVONPORT CATHOLIC  
PARISH**  
**St Francis de Sales & All Souls**  
2a Albert Road, Devonport, Auckland, 0624



**MARCH 30TH 2025 – FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**



**The Season of LENT**

**Stations of the Cross: Each Friday, 7.00pm**

**CARITAS LENT APPEAL**

**Putting Compassion Into Action.**

Lent Appeal Envelopes are available. Weekly giving is good, or you may prefer to make one single donation. Alternatively, you may donate via the website:

[www.caritas.org.nz](http://www.caritas.org.nz)

**Week Four: Bethlehem University** — In the Holy Land, Caritas' longstanding partner Bethlehem University plays a critical role in 'teaching peace' to the next generation of leaders. As the only Catholic university in the Holy Land, its mission is to provide quality higher education to young people of all backgrounds and to serve them in its role as a centre for the advancement, sharing and use of knowledge. It promotes excellence in academics and develops students as committed leaders, fostering shared values, moral principles, and dedication to peace and unconditional love.



**News from Parish  
Groups :**

**\*\* Parish Enviro Group**

We are beginning a small group who will meet now and then to discuss and put into place new initiatives in our parish community to help us become more sustainable. If you are interested in joining or would like to know more please email Sasha at [sashagillies@gmail.com](mailto:sashagillies@gmail.com) or [office@devonportcatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@devonportcatholic.org.nz) \*\*

**Parish Council** met on Tuesday 25 March.

- Please support St Leo's PTFA by coming to their morning tea after the Family Mass this weekend. We want to walk together as one family to grow the school roll and grow the parish.
- Liturgy: Divine Mercy Novena to start on Good Friday. Leaflets available at the back of the church.
- Columbarium update: the Resource Consent has been lodged and we anticipate a favourable response. The Operating Committee of 4 will be attending all Masses in St Joseph's Parish Takapuna this weekend.
- The existing crypt is no longer fit for purpose and we intend to erect a memorial to those whose ashes are there, together with those in the graveyard, alongside the Columbarium once the initial stage of construction is complete.

Today was once called *Laetare* (rejoice) Sunday. All three readings give reasons to rejoice, and the key reason is: 'Taste and see the goodness of the Lord' — the prodigal goodness of God. Which character in today's gospel story do you most identify with?

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT** *The Lord Who Welcomes Sinners*

**Joshua 5:9-12** The People of God keep the Passover on their entry into the Promised Land.

**Psalms 34: Taste and see the goodness of the Lord.**

**2Corinthians 5:17-21** God reconciled us to himself through Christ.

**Luke 15:1-3,11-32** Your brother here was dead and has come to life.

**FIFTH SUNDAY OF LENT** *6 April The Lord Who Has Wiped Out Our Past Sinfulness*

**Isaiah 43:16-21** See, I am doing a good deed, and I will give my chosen people drink.

**Psalms 126: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy.**

**Philippians 3:8-14** Reproducing the pattern of his death, I have accepted the loss of everything for Christ.

**John 8:1-11** If there is one of you who has not sinned, let them be the first to throw a stone at her.

Ministries	<u>Sat 29 March</u>	<u>Sun 30 March</u>
<b>Welcome</b>	Natalie Williams	Vimi Chandra
<b>Readers</b>	Robert Mannion	Gin Atkinson
<b>Communion</b>	Lisa Mannion Riaan Blom	Maryanne O, Kate Casey, Monica Duot
Ministries	<u>Sat 5 April</u>	<u>Sun 6 April</u>
<b>Welcome</b>	Sarah Menzies	Greg Shanahan
<b>Readers</b>	Damian Wallace Riaan Blom	Sarah Sparks John Knight
<b>Communion</b>	Kevin Isidro Kasey Isidro	Adrienne R, Iain Gillies, Flo Sapa' au

**Prayer during the Week**

**Mondays:** Rosary at 6 pm in the Church,  
Meditative Prayer 6.30 pm in Meeting Room  
**Wednesdays:** Scripture Group 7pm in Meeting Room  
**Fridays:** Stations of the Cross 7pm

**Reminder: Playgroup — Every Tuesday for pre-schoolers and carers. 9.15-10.15. Parish Hall.**

Please pray for those who have recently died, and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

**Mar 31:** Duncan Henderson 1996 William Richardson 1999

**Apr 01:** Evelyn West 1956 Anne Dunne 2003

**Apr 02:** D. Playford 1889,

**Apr 03:** Lilly Simmonds 1958, Raymond Cameron 1979, Alexander (Alec) Bell 1984, David Sands 2014, Shirley Swan 2022

**Apr 04:** Elizabeth Lott 1918, Geraldine Coleman 1993, Robert Priddy 2016

**Apr 05:** Winifred Waters 1950, Mary Hayde 2008

**Apr 06:** Mary Lee-Richards 1999, Nunzio Arabito 1999, Val Wheldale 2012

**Vocations to the priesthood**

In Oceania and Europe, the number of priests is in decline, whereas in Africa and Latin America it is increasing. Please keep vocations to the priesthood and religious life in your prayers during this Holy Year.

**Please Note: Fr Neil will be away Monday 31/3 till Tuesday 8/4. There will be Liturgies of the Word with Holy Communion during this time. If you need a priest urgently, please phone Takapuna Parish 489 6338.**

### **From the Diocese**

**Liturgy** is a quarterly magazine, curated to support liturgical life in parishes, schools, and faith communities.

Liturgy is available online and for free: [liturgycentreCDA Publisher Publications - Issuu](http://liturgycentreCDA.Publisher.Publications-Issuu)

For queries or previous issues, please contact [liturgycentre@cda.org.nz](mailto:liturgycentre@cda.org.nz) (+64) 9 360 3061

### **Join us for the 17th Annual Good Friday Stations of the Cross Procession through Auckland CBD!**

Each year, hundreds of people from across Auckland come together in a powerful public witness of faith. Gather at 9:00 AM at Albert Park Rotunda. Procession concludes at 11:00 AM at St Patrick's Cathedral. 18<sup>th</sup> of April 2025

### **Divine Mercy Conference May 23-25 2025 Auckland - Fr Chris Alar - Keynote Speaker.**

Divine Mercy NZ is excited to be bringing back to New Zealand Fr Chris Alar MIC from the US plus several other international speakers.

Registrations are essential.  
[www.divinemercyconference2025.co.nz](http://www.divinemercyconference2025.co.nz)  
Pat Barrett 03 359 2087  
[info@divinemercy.co.nz](mailto:info@divinemercy.co.nz)

**Retreat for Women:** 'Prayer and the Interior Life' **Friday 9th May 6pm to Sunday 11th May 3pm 2025** - with time for Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, Personal Prayer and Spiritual Direction. All women are welcome. Early bird registration and details from [www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz](http://www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz)

**Family Mass followed by Morning Tea and Games for the children at St Leo's! - Sunday, 30 March. Please come along.**

**Last chance this weekend to order Hot Cross Buns for delivery 10 April. Pick up a flyer from the back of the Church and support the PTFA.**



**Sponsorship: could you consider sponsoring a child to attend St Leo's by paying their attendance dues—\$133 a term or \$532 for the year? Please contact the school office 445 9339 if you can help.**

God Bless, Vimi Chandra, Principal.

***Sacramental programme 2025***  
***Preparation for Reconciliation***  
***continues for the next two***  
***Sundays, with First Reconciliation***  
***taking place at 7 pm on Sunday***  
***April 13, in conjunction with the***  
***parish.***  
***There are 16 young people***  
***participating in the programme***  
***this year, aged 7-16 years.***  
***Please pray for candidates, sponsors***  
***and parents.***

## Feast Days in the Fourth Week of Lent

- **Wed 2 April: St Francis of Paola, hermit.** Born 1416, at Paola in Calabria, Francis lived as a hermit. Attracted many followers by his piety & holiness. Founded a congregation of hermits which became the Order of Minims. Died 1507 at Tours, France.
- **Fri 4 April: St Isidore, bishop & doctor of the Church.** Born Seville in 560, appointed Bishop there in 601. Isidore convoked various synods, notably the 4th Council of Toledo, 633, for the good governance of the Church in Spain. He wrote a great deal and was very concerned for the education of young people, founding a school which was much ahead of its time. Died in 636.
- **Sat 5 April: St Vincent Ferrer, priest.** Born at Valencia, Spain, in 1350. Joined Dominicans at 17 and taught & preached until he was 40. Then he traveled extensively, mainly in France, preaching and exhorting people in the faith.

### **Chrism Mass — St Patrick's Cathedral, Tuesday 15<sup>th</sup> April 7.30pm**

Each year in Holy week all the priests of the diocese gather with the bishop to renew their commitment to priestly service. And it is here that the sacred oils are blessed and consecrated. These oils are used in parishes for the sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and Anointing of the Sick.

**Members of our parish attend this Mass to collect the oils to be used in our parish.**

If you would like to volunteer for this 'mission', please let us know.

**Address: 2A Albert Road, Devonport, Auckland, 0624**

**Tel: +64 (09) 445-0078**

**Email: [office@devonportcatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@devonportcatholic.org.nz)**

**Website: [www.devonportcatholic.org.nz](http://www.devonportcatholic.org.nz)**

**Facebook: [St Francis de Sales & All Souls](#)**

**Parish Priest: Rev Fr Neil Darragh**

[neil@devonportcatholic.org.nz](mailto:neil@devonportcatholic.org.nz)

**Pastoral Assistant: Stephen Bell**

**Parish Secretary: Kathleen Petrie**

**Parish Bank Account: BNZ 02-0108- 0706881-000**

(If making a donation for a specific purpose, please note that as reference e.g. PPFC projects)

**St Leo's Catholic School: (09) 445-9339 [www.stleos.school.nz](http://www.stleos.school.nz)**

**St Leo's Catholic School Principal: Vimi Chandra**

**Proprietor's Reps: Julia Strickett, Anna Rumble**

**Parish Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9:00am to 12 noon  
closed Wednesdays**

**Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion next weekend**

Sat : 5.30pm, Sun: 9.30am

**Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion this coming week**

Wednesday and Friday 12 noon

**Sacrament of Reconciliation: not available Sat 5 April.**

## **Ministry Reminders**

**Flowers till Easter:**

Sue Story

**Church Cleaning**

12/4 Christopher Drake

**Counters**

30/3 Christina Kersey &  
Gabriel Sagripanti

6/4 Kate Kearins & John  
Knight

**Hospitality**

30/3 St Leo's PTFA/Hall

6/4 Annie & Chris

**Altar Servers**

30/3 Joseph Wolfkamp,  
Bella Albrecht, Grace  
Rumble

6/4 May Upton, Grace  
Rumble

**Children's Liturgy Leaders**

30/3 Family Mass, No  
Children's Liturgy

6/4 Catherine & Alice  
Gillies.