

The Pastor's Pen

Dear Parishioners,

Greetings from hot and humid Vietnam! I am writing to you from home. It's been so nice to catch up with mom and family after three years of Covid closure.

The liturgy gives us this Sunday's feast of the 'Most Holy Trinity' as a wrap up of the whole festival season, since Christmas, since Ash Wednesday, and specially since Easter and Pentecost. Next week we get 'back to normal', to what is called 'ordinary time' and pick up on the gospel of Luke – until the end of November.

I think some people at least get a bit of a surprise when they run into this feast. Why have it? Haven't we had all the main things already? It sounds very abstract, almost a mathematical paradox (it is one!). Does it even take away a bit from the point of Jesus and the Spirit? The usual answer to these questions is that 'the Trinity' is THE CENTRAL DOGMA of Christian faith, and this feast could even be looked at as THE GREATEST FEAST of the church year. The whole point of Christian life is then worship of Father, Son and Spirit as a Trinity of persons, one God.

It is hard to preach on this, and harder still to teach a course on it...The most important thing is how we understand the unity and love of the Trinity and live it. The life of the Trinity should be the model of any community living.

St Anthony's Feast

Happy Feast to St Anthony's community! Congratulations to St Anthony's parish on their celebration of the parish feast of St Anthony of Padua. A big thank you to the parish council and those who generously organised and prepared for the feast. May through the intercession of St Anthony, God's abundant grace and blessing be granted to our parish community always.

St Anthony, pray for us!

Fr Anthony Tran CSsR



SACRAMENT OF PENANCE

Book an appointment with any of the priests after Mass or use phone numbers listed below.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Contact Fr Anthony Tran OR Fr Rivan Narang. Private Baptism until the month of October.

MARRIAGES

Require at least **SIX months' notice**
Contact Fr Anthony Tran OR Fr Rivan Narang.
Booking St. Anthony OR St. Therese Church for Wedding ☎ 275 5401

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMS

RCIA/RCIC Contact Hila Tuli 02102233342

Mangere Catholic Parishes Pastoral Team

Parish Priest: Anthony Tran, C.Ss.R. ☎ 0226543680
Assistant Priest : Nathanael Rivandi Narang, C.Ss.R. ☎ 02108154804
Presbytery ☎ 275 3559 Parishes' Office: Parishes' Secretary ☎ 275 5401



The Mangere Catholic

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Diocese of Auckland

Bulletin of the Parishes of

St. Anthony St. Thérèse
20 Kirkbride Road 10 Wickman Way

Mangere Bridge Mangere East

www.mangerebridgecatholic.org.nz www.mangereeastcatholic.org.nz

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PO Box 59027 • Mangere Bridge • Auckland 2022 • office@mangerecatholic.org.nz

Presbytery • 20 Kirkbride Road • Mangere Bridge • ☎ 2753559

St Anthony Family Support Trust 0272533537 & 09 2750357

SCHOOLS IN THE PARISHES

St Mary MacKillop Primary Years 1-8 • McNaughton Avenue ☎ 257 1435 ☎ 257 1436
St Joseph's Catholic School Years 0-8 125 Church Street Onehunga ☎ 6368102
De La Salle College • Years 7-13 • Gray Avenue ☎ 276 4319 ☎ 276 7992

THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE

MONDAY [PSALTER 3] 13th June.	FRIDAY 17th June
<p><u>St. Anthony of Padua, priest D. (m)</u> 1Kings 21:1-16 Psalm 5 Matthew 5:38-42 St. Anthony Mass 9am.</p>	<p><u>11th Week of Ordinary Time C.</u> 2Kings 11: 1-4,9-18,20 Psalm 132 Matthew 6: 19-23 St. Anthony Mass 9am.</p>
TUESDAY 14th June.	SATURDAY 18th June
<p><u>11th Week of Ordinary Time C.</u> 1Kings 21: 17-29 Psalm 51 Matthew 5:43-48 St. Therese Mass 9am.</p>	<p><u>11th Week of Ordinary Time C.</u> 2 Chronicles 24: 17-25 Psalm 89 Matthew 6: 24-34 St. Therese Mass 9am.</p>
WEDNESDAY 15th June.	Sunday 19th June
<p><u>11th Week of Ordinary Time C.</u> 2Kings 2:1,6-14 Psalm 31 Matthew 6:1-6,16-18 St. Anthony Mass 9am.</p>	<p><u>The Body and Blood of Christ. (s)</u> Genesis 14: 18-20: Psalm 110: 1 Corin- thians 11: 23-26: Like 9:11-17</p>
THURSDAY 16th June.	<u>Weekend Masses 17th & 18th June.</u>
<p><u>11th Week of Ordinary Time C</u> Ecclus. 48: 1-14 Psalm 97 Matthew 6: 7-15 St. Therese Mass 9am.</p>	<p><u>St Anthony : Mass Saturday 5pm and Sunday 9am.</u></p>
	<p><u>St Therese: Mass 8am, 10am & 6pm. Fourth Sunday Samoan Mass 12pm.</u></p>

**CHURCH AND GROUNDS
CLEANING IN BOTH PARISHES.**

St. Anthony's.

Thank you to all volunteers for looking after the Church grounds and to the Samoan Community for looking after the Church cleaning this weekend. Tongan families' turn on Saturday 18th of June.

St. Therese

CHURCH CLEANING.

Thank you to the Legion of Mary for looking after the church cleaning this week.

CHURCH GROUNDS.

Thank you to the Tongan community for looking after the Church grounds this weekend. Cook Islands community's turn on Saturday the 18th of June.

Social Justice.

Retreat – 9am-4pm Sat 18 June with Fr Merv Duffy on the Gospel of Luke. St Francis Retreat Centre 20 Hillsborough Rd. \$20 (including lunch). A few places still available. Please contact: Peter Garrick peterg@cda.org.nz phone 022 1300 730.

PREFERENCE FORMS.

Preference for enrolment form for school, all enquiries are directly to the priests. Please contact Fr Anthony Tran OR Fr Rivan Narang for an appointment or for further explanation. Priest's contact numbers on page 4 of the bulletin.

RAT TESTS

Free RAT tests or Covid-19 packs are available for families with children who have tested positive at the parishes office.

LEGION OF MARY CENTENARY PROGRAMME.

Saturday 18th of June 8:15am to 4:30pm. More information on display in the foyer. Upcoming event Recollection Saturday 25th June, Theme: Immaculate Heart of Mary. Time: 9am to 3:30pm. Venue: St. Anne's Parish Hall, 26 Russell Road, Manurewa.

SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM.

Due to the COVID19 pandemic regulations at orange traffic light and to prevent the spreading of the virus during winter. Private baptism continues in both parishes until the month of October. Please book an appointment to see one of the priests' by using their numbers on page 4 of the bulletin.

FUNERAL ENQUIRIES IN BOTH PARISHES.

Planning a funeral service for a loved one.

1. Contact the parish priest. [priest's number on page 4 of the bulletin.]
2. Booking of the Church. Contact the parish office.
3. Slideshow for display and livestreaming. If using a professional company for livestreaming, please contact the parish office.
4. Parish office 09 2755401 leave a message. OR

email: office@mangerecatholic.org.nz. Health and safety in the parishes is paramount and caring for Church properties is important.

Thank you for your understanding and co operation.

Volunteers Catechists Children's Sacramental Programs

As you know we have had a couple of very hard years with Covid and many of our sacramental programs in some way may have suffered. Our children are still very much in need for all you do for them in preparing them for their first sacraments. We wish to cordially invite you to a **½ day retreat on Saturday 9th of July 2022 from 9am to 12:30pm** In our time we will look at resources, share some morning tea together, have a small talk and you will have the opportunity to be prayed with for a refresh of the Holy spirit. Please register with Deacon Steve on stphenf@cda.org.nz or call on 021439407

12th June, 2022. Trinity Sunday.

TODAY'S READINGS Proverbs 8: 22-31: Psalm 8: Romans 5:1-5: John 16:12-15

God's dance of love for all.

When studying subjects dedicated to The Most Holy Trinity during my seminary formation, I was introduced to the concept of perichoresis. This Greek word suggests: a cyclical movement or an interweaving of figures. Perhaps the simplest and most beautiful way of translating this Greek word is: 'dancing around'.

The early church understood perichoresis as a 'dance of love' and said: that's what the Trinity is like! The Trinity is a dynamic relationship of love, harmony and oneness in which there is mutual giving and receiving.

Sr Barbara Reid, OP says, "The point of this dance of love, however, is not the enjoyment of the divine dancers only. The dance is an open circle that invites all onto the dance floor, drawing them right into the midst of the energetic flow of divine delight. If some hesitate, preferring to sit on the sidelines, the Three-in-One circle back again and again, extending the invitation over and over to each and to all, changing the pace and the rhythm, so that even the clumsiest of us can learn the steps in the dance of divine love."

It would be much simpler if this dance of love was solely about the divine dancers and their relationship of mutual giving and receiving. But God's (the Trinity's) love is lavishly given, overflowing abundantly into creation. It would have also been simpler if God created the world and then 'walked away'. But God desired to draw creation into the dance of love (relationship). So, God sent the Son into the world to redeem and liberate us to live anew. God also sent the Spirit to sanctify us even if we continue to turn away from God's invitation into this relationship of love.

Similarly, life would be much simpler for us if we remained within safe and comfortable circles; to relate only with family, friends, and those of like mind. But being created in God's (the Trinity's) image and likeness of abundant 'pouring out', we too are to step out of the familiar and 'pour out' our lives for others in oneness, despite the differences and complexities of relationships.

Living fraternally as sisters and brothers within the life and communion of the Trinity, calls us to a greater awareness of others and a willingness to always remain outward looking towards them; ready to accept whatever the cost of participating in the outreaching, generous and unselfish love of God. There's no room for self-interest, selfishness, stinginess or an inward-looking mentality.

The Solemnity of the Most Holy Trinity helps us to encounter God as a loving community and it is yearning for love and for community that are the deepest desires of every human heart. Today we celebrate the mystery and closeness of God, who invites us into a dynamic and life-giving 'dance of love'; a dance that reaches out to include and embrace everyone in the human community.

David J Hore CSsR
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