

## 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 – **1<sup>st</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup> Sundays at 11.00am**

Cook Islands – **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday at 11.00am**

Myanmar Community – **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 11.00am**

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

Multicultural Mass – **Every 5<sup>th</sup> Sunday at 9.30am**

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

Reconciliation – **At any time before and after Mass**

Baptism – **By appointment**

# HOLY FAMILY PARISH



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**For Emergencies, please contact:**

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## TWENTY NINTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

20<sup>th</sup> October 2024

### MISSION SUNDAY

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

Today's Scripture readings describe Christian leadership as the *sacrificial service* done for others. They also explain the *servant leadership* of Jesus and teach us that self-sacrificing, loving, humble service is the *criterion of greatness* in Christ's Kingdom.

The first reading is a Messianic prophecy taken from the *Fourth Servant Song* in the second part of the Book of the Prophet Isaiah. It tells how the promised Messiah will save mankind by *dying in atonement for our sins*. Jesus has done this out of love for us, becoming the *Suffering Servant* crucified *as an offering for sin, interceding for us and taking our punishment on Himself*. The second reading, taken from the letter to the Hebrews, tells us that, as Godman and Mediator-High Priest, Jesus has offered a fitting sacrifice to God to ransom us, liberating us from enslavement to sin. In the time of Jesus, ransom was the price paid to free someone from slavery. Sometimes the ransomer offered himself as a substitute for the slave, as Jesus did. The reading also speaks of a "*High Priest who is able to sympathize*" with us in our weakness because Jesus has been tested in every way, though sinless, and so we can "*confidently*" hope for God's mercy.

Today's Gospel explains how Jesus foretells for the third time, his suffering and death to atone for our sins and to save us. But his disciples are still dreaming of a triumphant political messiah who will reestablish the glorious Davidic kingdom. They dream of sharing their master's glory. Hearing the selfish request made by James and John for key positions in the Messianic political kingdom, Jesus challenges them, and us, to become great by serving others with sacrificial *agape* love: "*Whoever wishes to be great must be a servant.*"

- We are challenged to give our lives in loving service to others.
- We are invited to give servant leadership in our homes, parishes and communities.

## PARISH NOTICES AND UPDATES

1. **Sunday Adoration - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**  
Every Sunday at 5pm.
2. **October - Month of the Holy Rosary** – Join us in praying the Rosary throughout this month, Monday to Friday at 6.00pm in the church.
3. **Finance Committee Meeting** – Tuesday 22<sup>nd</sup> October, 6.30pm at the Presbytery
4. **All Souls Day** – Mass for the souls of our faithful departed in Purgatory at the Whenua Tapu Cemetery, Saturday 2<sup>nd</sup> November at 3.00pm
5. **Holy Family Parish website:** Click on this link to access it.  
<https://www.holyfamilyparish.nz/>
6. **Keep the Sanctity of the Church**
  - **Remember the Church is a sacred place of Prayer and Worship.**
  - Please be silent while inside the church.
  - Switch phones off or put on silent mode.
  - Do not leave any rubbish like papers, tissues or chewing gum in the church.

## NOTICE FROM TITIPOUNAMU STUDY & JOY

### The Eucharist – A meal that unites and divides.

500 years of debates between Catholics and Protestants with Dr Nicholas Thompson

Monday, 21 October 2024, 7-8.30pm (Zoom).

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2024/09/24/debate-about-the-eucharist/>

## SUNDAY READINGS – YEAR B

### 20 Oct. 29<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 1<sup>st</sup> R: Isaiah 53: 10 - 11
- Responsorial Psalm: 33
- 2<sup>nd</sup> R: Hebrews 4: 14 – 16
- Gospel: Mark 10: 35 - 45

### 21 Oct. 30<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 1<sup>st</sup> R: Jeremiah 31: 7 - 9
- Responsorial Psalm: 126
- 2<sup>nd</sup> R: Hebrews 5: 1 – 6
- Gospel: Mark 10: 46 - 52

## PARISH COLLECTIONS FOR SUNDAY, 13 October 2024

Parish - \$1,972.30

Building Fund - \$514.70

*Generosity consists not the sum given, but the manner in which it is bestowed.*

*May God bless you always.*

## 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.

## Mission Sunday 2024

**"Go and Invite Everyone to the Banquet" (Mt 22:9).**

The theme for Mission Sunday is "Go and invite everyone to the banquet" In his letter for Mission Sunday, Pope Francis says "While the world sets before us the various "banquets" of consumerism, selfish comfort, the accumulation of wealth and individualism, the Gospel calls everyone to the divine banquet, marked by joy, sharing, justice and fraternity in communion with God and with others."

## THE TAPESTRY

by Sr. Anne Phibbs

"Never be afraid to trust an unknown future to a known God".

"Worry does not empty tomorrow of its sorrow. It empties today of its strength."

"God values us, not for our strength or our brains, but simply because He has made us."

These quotes are from an amazing Christian woman named Corrie ten Boom. She was a member of the Dutch Reformed Church which protested against the Nazi persecution of the Jews. When the Nazis invaded the Netherlands Corrie, her sister Betsie and her father, Casper, began hiding Jews in the family home. It is estimated that they helped 800 Jewish people escape from the Netherlands.

They were betrayed and Corrie, Betsie and Casper were arrested. Their father died 9 days after being arrested and Corrie and Betsie were sent to the notorious Ravensbruck concentration camp where they were forced to work hard, given little to eat and abused. Betsie's life was one of selfless love and forgiveness amid cruel persecution and she died in Ravensbruck. Her last words were "God will give us the love to forgive our enemies." Her last words to Corrie were "You must tell people what we have learned here. We must tell them that there is no pit so deep that God is not deeper still. They will listen to us, Corrie, because we have been here."

Shortly after Betsie's death a clerical error freed Corrie just before the women in her age group were sent to the gas chambers to die. Inspired by Betsie, Corrie set about travelling the world to spread the Good News of God's love for us. One of her favourite ways of doing this was to hold up a cloth with a jumble of dark and light threads that were haphazard and knotted. She would explain that the cloth showed what we see in our lives. It looks jumbled and often the dark seasons we endure make no sense. She would then turn the cloth around revealing a beautifully embroidered crown which showed our lives as God sees them. She would then point out that the dark threads, representing the dark periods of our lives are necessary.

Corrie frequently quoted this poem - Life is But a Weaving- by Grant Tuller

*My life is but a weaving between my God and me.*

*I cannot choose the colours. He weaveth steadily.*

*Oft times He weaveth sorrow, and I in foolish pride*

*Forget He sees the upper and I the underside.*

*Not 'til the loom is silent and the shuttles cease to fly*

*Will God unroll the canvas and reveal the reason why.*

*The dark threads are as needful in the weaver's skillful hand*

*As the threads of gold and silver in the pattern He has planned.*

*He knows, He loves, He cares; nothing this truth can dim.*

*He gives the very best to those who leave the choice to Him.*

Betsie's ability to forgive even as someone was harming her, and her last words, inspired Corrie to preach forgiveness and reconciliation. She travelled to 60 countries, even going to Germany where she felt the hunger for forgiveness was greatest. Her own forgiveness was tested when a former SS Guard from Ravensbruck, who had been particularly cruel to Betsie, approached her asking for forgiveness and holding out his hand. She remembered Betsie's suffering and felt she could not shake his hand but she prayed "Lord Jesus, forgive me and help me to forgive him". Still she couldn't do it so she prayed "Jesus, I cannot forgive him. Give me your forgiveness." When she did take his hand she felt a love for him that almost overwhelmed her. She later wrote of the incident "And so I discovered that it is not on our forgiveness any more than our goodness that the world's healing hinges, but on His. When He tells us to love our enemies, He gives along with the command, the love itself."

"Although the threads of my life have often seemed knotted, I know, by faith, that on the other side of the embroidery there is a crown." Corrie Ten Boom