

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

Baptism – **By appointment**

HOLY FAMILY PARISH



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THIRTY THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

17th November 2024

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

The readings invite us to focus our attention on the threefold coming of Jesus:

1) His first coming according to the flesh, as Redeemer. 2) His second coming, either at our death, or at the end of time and the world, which will bring our salvation to completion. 3) His coming into our lives each time we step forward in genuine Christian living of loving God living in others by sharing our blessings with them and serving them with agape love.

The first reading, taken from the prophet Daniel (167 BC), was originally given to comfort and give hope to the Jewish people persecuted by a cruel pagan Greek king, Antiochus Epiphanes. It also advises us to live wisely and justly in the present time, instead of worrying about the unknown future. Through the Psalm Response for today's Responsorial Psalm (Ps 16), the Holy Spirit has us sing our Faith affirmation, "*You are my inheritance, O Lord!*" In today's second reading, the author of the Letter to the Hebrews challenges us to look to the future with hope and serenity because Jesus, having secured the forgiveness of our sins and our sanctification through the sacrifice on the cross, sits forever at God's right hand as the one Mediator between man and God.

Today's Gospel, taken from Mark (AD 69), offered hope to early Christians persecuted by the Roman Emperor Nero, by reminding them of Jesus' words about His glorious return to earth with great power and glory as Judge to gather and reward the elect. Daniel and Mark continue to remind us that God will ensure that the righteous will survive the ordeal and will find a place with Him. Through the parable of the fig tree, Jesus warns us all to read the "*signs of the time,*" reminding us that we must be ever prepared to give an account of our lives to Jesus when He comes in glory as our Judge, because we cannot know "*either the day or the hour*" of His *Second Coming*.

Let us recognize the "second coming" of Jesus in our daily lives through everyday occurrences, always remembering that Jesus comes without warning. But let us not get frightened at the thought of Christ's *Second Coming*, because Jesus is with us every day, abiding with the Father and the Holy Spirit in our hearts, dwelling in our Church in the Holy Eucharist, teaching us in the Holy Bible, and unifying us with Him and each other in our worshipping communities. We will be able to welcome Jesus in His *Second Coming* as long as we faithfully do the will of God by daily serving our brothers and sisters, recognizing Christ's presence in them, and by being reconciled with God and with our brothers and sisters every day.

PARISH NOTICES AND UPDATES

1. **Sunday Adoration - Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament**
Every Sunday at 5.00pm.
2. **Month of November – dedicated to the Holy Souls.**
Write the names of deceased relatives and friends and place in the box provided. We will pray from them during our morning Masses.
3. **Altar Servers Meeting** – Sunday 17th November; at 4.00pm
4. **Daily Holy Rosary** - at 8.00am and followed by the Divine Mercy Chaplet.

Archdiocese Notices:

Meditation in the Christian Tradition:

Monday 7.00 pm – 8.00 pm

Thursday 11.00 am – 12.00 pm

Venue: The Chapel of Our Lady of Compassion, 2 Rhine Street, Island Bay.

Join our ancient form of contemplative prayer, deeply anchored in the teachings of the ancient Christian traditions of the Desert Fathers and Mothers. All are welcome.

SUNDAY READINGS – YEAR B

17 Nov. 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time

- 1st R: Daniel 12: 1 - 3
- Responsorial Psalm: 16
- 2nd R: Hebrews 10: 11 – 14
- Gospel: Mark 13: 24 - 32

24 Nov. CHRIST THE KING

- 1st R: Daniel 7: 13 - 14
- Responsorial Psalm: 93
- 2nd R: Revelations 1: 5 – 8
- Gospel John 18: 33 - 37

PARISH COLLECTIONS FOR SUNDAY, 10th November 2024

Parish - \$2,319.70

Building Fund - \$520.80

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.

Pray for the Dead

We are reminded to remember the Souls of all our deceased parishioners and relatives in our prayers. May their souls and the souls of the faithful departed rest in peace. *Amen*

EMPATHY

I recently read the book "To Kill a Mocking Bird" and was impressed again by the main character, Atticus Finch, working to instil a moral code in his children. In chapter 3 he tells his daughter Scout, "You never really understand a person until you consider things from his point of view - until you climb into his skin and walk around in it."

Later in the book Atticus tells his son, Jem, "See if you can stand in Bob Ewell's shoes a minute. I destroyed his last shred of credibility at that trial, if he had any to begin with ... So if spitting in my face and threatening me saved Mayella Ewell one extra beating, that's something I'll gladly take." There are echoes of the Golden Rule in these quotes "Do unto others as you would have others do unto you." To walk in someone else's shoes is to make an effort to grasp their point of view and to have empathy with them.

Through Atticus' guidance the children eventually learn that they should respect individuals regardless of their race or position in society and that they should try to see things from the other person's point of view. The moral teaching of Atticus helps to develop moral responsibility in the life of his children. Atticus is a great model for fathers as he encourages his children to embrace compassion and strive for a more just society.

In the book Atticus Finch's courage and compassion are unwavering in the face of extreme adversity and pressure from society, teaching us that true strength lies in standing up for what is right. Even when it is unpopular or difficult, we must do what is right. He reminds us to embrace empathy and understanding. Through compassion we can break down barriers and can build a more just world. "I wanted you to see what real courage is, instead of getting the idea that courage is a man with a gun in his hand. It's when you know you're licked before you begin but you begin anyway and you see it through no matter what."

The Cherokee Indians had a proverb about not judging someone until you had walked a mile in their moccasins and St Paul in his letter to the Romans reminds us to "rejoice with those who rejoice; mourn with those who mourn. Live in harmony with one another. Don't be proud." Let us ask God to help us see things from someone else's perspective and to walk in their shoes with empathy. Dearest Lord, teach me to be generous, teach me to serve you as you deserve to be served; To give and not to count the cost, to fight and not to heed the wounds; To toil and not to seek for rest; to labour and not to ask for any reward Save that of knowing that I do your will. *St Ignatious of Loyola.*

By Sr. Anne Phibbs