

ST PASCHAL'S PARISH

FATHER VALERIAN D'SOUZA OFMCap

THAMES PRESBYTERY

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MASS 10.30am – Sunday

Mass 11.00am—Wednesday

RECONCILIATION – During Exposition or after Mass every Sunday

SUNDAY 15TH AUGUST 2021

READINGS

ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY

Apocalypse 11:19;12:1–6,10

Psalm 45

Corinthians 15:20–26

Gospel Luke 1:39–56

'My soul doth magnify the Lord'



MINISTERS

GREETER: E Leonard

COMMENTATOR: D Chipman

PROCLAIMER OF THE WORD: Brandon F

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: K Brydon

COLLECTOR: T Finan

DATA PROJECTOR: Bradley Fernandes

SUNDAY 22ND AUGUST 2021

READINGS

TWENTY FIRST WEEK ORDINARY TIME

Joshua 24:1–2,15–18

Psalm 34

Ephesians 5:21–32

Gospel John 6:60–69

'Lord, whom shall we go to? You have the words of everlasting life.'



MINISTERS

GREETER: M Lynch

COMMENTATOR: D Chipman

PROCLAIMER OF THE WORD: F Chaplow

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: R Hicks

COLLECTOR: S Croymans

DATA PROJECTOR: R Fernandes

THE HOPE BY WHICH WE LIVE

Having completed His mission of conquering death and freeing all from the power of death, Jesus ascended into heaven with body and soul. He was faithful and obedient to the Father so God raised Him from death. "For since death came through human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being" (1 Cor 15:21). St Paul describes Christ's resurrection as the 'first fruits' of those who have fallen asleep. Mary's Assumption is a sign of hope that we too will share in the resurrection of Christ. Mary was immaculately conceived, nevertheless, God the Father assumed her into heaven. We believe it because the Church proclaims it. Jesus too has promised saying 'I will raise you up on the last day' (Jn 6:54). The Assumption of Mary is the participation in the resurrection of her Son and anticipation of the glorious resurrection we all hope for.

Lord, may we see heaven as our final goal and come to share Mary's glory. Today the virgin Mother of God was taken up into heaven to be a sign of hope and comfort on our pilgrimage. May our soul glorify the Lord and our spirits rejoice in God our Saviour because He has promised us a share in the divine nature and the gift of eternal life.

Let us pray that just as Mary who became the carrier of God's mission; we too may become messengers of God's love and mercy.
Father Vally

Feast of Our Lady of the Assumption

This is Aotearoa New Zealand's National Patronal Feast. It is also being marked in a special way this year as a re-dedication of our country to Mary Mother of God Assumed into Heaven. Bishop Pompallier our country's first bishop, made this dedication to Mary while celebrating the first Mass at Totara Point in the Hokianga in 1838.

Website for Te Ara a Maria: Mary's Way project

A website has been created to help promote the bishops' renewal of the dedication of the country to Our Lady Assumed into Heaven. The renewal project has the title Te Ara a Maria: Mary's Way and runs for 12 months from 15 August.

Go here for the website: www.tearaamaria.nz

The website contains details of the project. It will be updated regularly to include the schedule of the nationwide hikoi of the artwork created for the project. The hikoi starts on August 18 in Invercargill.

The journey that Mary undertook would have been arduous and dangerous, travelling from Nazareth in Galilee in the north to the hills of Judea in the south. The route taken was a popular one for pilgrims travelling to the temple in Jerusalem. A young woman travelling alone would have found suitable company to assist in the journey. The song of praise from Mary in this scene is known as the Magnificat.

Thank you for your generous contribution towards covid relief for North Indian Capuchin Province of St Fidels. The total amount that we as a region and the school collected was \$2209.



God bless you all

Father Vally

For several weeks we have been following the story of Jesus' revelation of himself as the one sent from God and how his followers may draw life from him by eating his flesh and drinking his blood. In this text we find that it is not only 'the Jews' who find it difficult to accept his revelation and his teaching. Even his followers struggle with this truth. Jesus knows of their struggle but will not be drawn into offering supernatural proof of his revelation: The Son of Man ascending to Heaven! But still, some do not understand his words and cease to follow him. Jesus then turns to his closest companions and offers them a choice. They may go on or they may stay. Peter voices the response on behalf of them all. It is a wonderful affirmation of faith. *'Lord to whom shall we go? You have the words of eternal life and we believe. We know that you are the Holy One of God.'*

This choice is not based on clear understanding but on faith and on love for Jesus. The mystery of God often defies understanding but faith is the key to a share in it.



The disciples are at a crossroad; they must make a choice to stay or to go. The teaching of Jesus is a difficult one. Life in faith is not always easy. It offers challenge to accepted ways of thinking and behaving. Perhaps you too are at a crossroad? Which way will you go? This week spend some time in reflecting on your faith journey so far. What are you finding a challenge?

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT OF THE CARING FOUNDATION

A huge thank you from the Caring Foundation for your generous support of their annual appeal on Caring Sunday. Your generosity means help for families, individuals and communities.

HOUSE BLESSING
Call Father Vally
anytime on 07 868 6169



HOUSE MASS coming up.....
WHEN: Wednesday 22nd September @ 6pm
WHERE: Simon & Kate Main's house, 34 Mahuta Road South, Mangatarata
Followed by a shared dinner.



WELCOME TO SISTER TINA
There will be a shared lunch after Mass Sunday 22nd August to welcome Sister Tina back to St Paschal's.
Please join us.



CHANGE—There will be TRAINING for Readers and Ministers of the Holy Eucharist after Mass on Sunday 12th September.
This is for current and new ministers.

MINISTERS – 29th August 2021

GREETER: S Crooymans
 COMMENTATOR: F Crooymans
 PROCLAIMER OF THE WORD: R Foster
 PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: D Chipman
 COLLECTOR: A Fernandes
 DATA PROJECTOR: J Aralar

MINISTERS – 5th September 2021

GREETER: R Brydon
 COMMENTATOR: F Crooymans
 PROCLAIMER OF THE WORD: R Hicks
 PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: K Hicks
 COLLECTOR: R Brydon
 DATA PROJECTOR: D Chipman

READINGS – 29th August 2021 TWENTY SECOND WEEK ORDINARY TIME

Deuteronomy 4:1–2,6–8
 Psalm 15
 James 1:17–18,21–22,27
 Gospel Mark 7:1–8,14–15,21–23



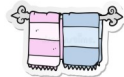
READINGS – 5th September 2021 TWENTY THIRD WEEK ORDINARY TIME

Isaiah 35:4–7
 Psalm 146
 James 2:1–5
 Gospel Mark 7:31–37



CHURCH LINEN

AUG P Hayward
 SEPT C Jordan



FLOWERS

WE 21st Aug J Clark
 WE 28th Aug K Hicks
 WE 4th Sept L Blakey



If you have an app on your mobile phone please scan the QR code here every time you come to Church.

SEPTEMBER MEETING

CWL—FRIDAY 4TH AFTER 10AM MASS



Aug 18 Anthony Crooymans
 23 Euginea Fernandes
 25 David Hurle

If you would like newsletters emailed please contact Alice Douglas on alice@imada.co.nz

We pray for all those who are in need of our prayers, are recovering from surgery or are terminally ill: Caitlin McMurtry, Fay Hayward, Maureen Smedley, Mary Speedy, Rodney Garrett, Gina Ryan, Emma Blake.

And those whose anniversaries occur during the month of August: Valerie Finan, Mike Speedy, Frank Blackmore, Velma Harris, Marlane Marshall.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord.