

ST PASCHAL'S PARISH

FATHER MARCHELLINO PARK—PARISH PRIEST

THAMES PRESBYTERY

PH: 868 6169

OR 021 1131855 OR EMAIL : pih0116@gmail.com

www.ngateacatholic.org.nz

SECRETARY (FRANCES) —NGATEA

PHONE: 027 4637860

Email: stpaschalngatea@xtra.co.nz

MASS 10.30am – Sunday

Mass 11.00am—Wednesday

RECONCILIATION – During Exposition or after Mass every Sunday

SUNDAY 29TH JANUARY 2023

READINGS

FOURTH WEEK ORDINARY TIME

Zephaniah 2:3,3:12-13

Psalm 146

1Corinthians 1:26-31

Gospel Matthew 5:1-12

*'Blessed is the poor in spirit, for theirs
is the kingdom of heaven'*



MINISTERS

GREETER: Lorraine Hayward

COMMENTATOR: Robert Hicks

PROCLAIMER OF THE WORD: Simon Main

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: Ros Foster

COLLECTOR: Ross Brydon

DATA PROJECTOR: Jameena Aralar

SUNDAY 5TH FEBRUARY 2023

READINGS

FIFTH WEEK ORDINARY TIME

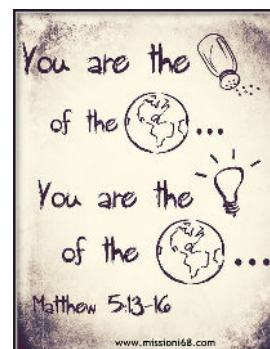
Isaiah 58:7-10

Psalm 112

1Corinthians 2:1-5

Gospel Matthew 5:13-16

'You are the light of the world.'



MINISTERS

GREETER: Eileen Leonard

COMMENTATOR: Kathy Karl

PROCLAIMER OF THE WORD: John Reynolds

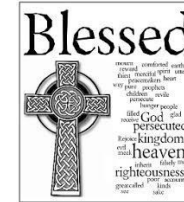
PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: F Chaplow

COLLECTOR: Trevor Finan

DATA PROJECTOR: Dot Chipman

The rendering of the Greek term used in this text as 'happy' is rather weak. A better term is 'blessed'. At the heart of the Beatitudes is Jesus' instruction to his followers to cultivate certain qualities in their lives. To be gentle, to mourn, to thirst for what is right, to be merciful, to be pure of heart and to be peacemakers are signs of the presence of the kingdom of God in our lives. To have such virtues is to be blessed. Jesus teaches that those who suffer some human lack or pain are blessed, not because poverty, pain or sorrow are good in themselves, but because they reveal to us our need for God. Those who are prosperous, comfortable or content find this much more difficult to realise and accept.

The final portion of this text speaks to the experience of the early church, which suffered persecution for the sake of faith in Jesus Christ. Christians today are also called to stand against arrogant secularism, which proclaims that humans do not need God. Even today, people suffer for their faith, but they too are assured that their reward will be great in heaven!



WELCOME BACK



NEW ROSTERS WILL BE EMAILED THIS WEEK AND A FEW WILL BE ON TABLE IN THE FOYER FOR THOSE WITHOUT EMAIL.

CONGRATULATIONS – to Father Marchellino for becoming our permanent Parish Priest from 1st February.

Catholic Women's League begins for 2023 on 3rd February with Rosary at 9.30am, Mass and then meeting. Lunch at Olympic Café afterwards.

BACK TO SCHOOL

As schools will resume shortly we offer our best wishes to our students and teachers as they prepare for a new year.

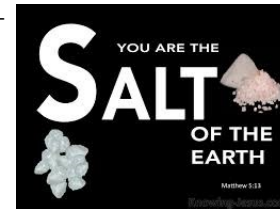
We hope exam results were positive and that all have had a good summer break and are now ready to get back to reality.

We offer special good wishes to those facing a new challenge this year – starting a new school, first day at college or first year at university.

May the year ahead be enjoyable and may the Holy Spirit fill you all with wisdom and understanding.

The 'poor' are those who are not smug and self-satisfied. Those who 'mourn' are those who grieve at the effects of sin in the world. The 'meek' are the lowly and powerless in any situation. Those who 'hunger for righteousness' are those who long for justice and peace. The 'pure of heart' are those who seek God alone. The 'peacemakers' are those who work to restore broken relationships. Those who are 'persecuted' are those who are ridiculed for their faith. Taken all together, the Beatitudes describe what a Christian should be like.

It is important in understanding this text that we place it alongside the Beatitudes, where the virtues to be cultivated by followers of Jesus were outlined, but the danger with that approach alone is that faith can become contented peacefulness and somewhat inward looking. To avoid this risk, Matthew follows the Beatitudes with this text, which teaches disciples about the tasks of Christians in the world. They have been given the gifts; they are the 'salt of the earth'. But it is not enough that they see their blessedness and rest there. They may become 'tasteless' and good only to be 'trampled underfoot'. Instead, the disciples are urged to place their light high on a hill and let it shine for all to see. They are witnesses to God's living presence, not just for the nation of Israel but for all the world. In seeing the way that Christians live and act, their 'good works', others will be drawn to God through their active witness to faith. Others will come to praise to God in heaven. This is an amazing responsibility and Jesus acknowledges that some salt may lose its taste and some lights may be hidden. The challenge for Christians, new and old, is not to take the gift of faith for granted and let it become tasteless; not to keep the light confined to private moments but to allow others to see the different faith makers so that they can know the presence and power of God.



WAITANGI DAY – 6TH FEBRUARY

Waitangi Day is recognised as New Zealand's national day, but the long-standing tensions associated with it are always likely to surface in one form or another. The date is an important marker in the country's history. Recognition of the significance of the Treaty of Waitangi as the nation's founding document will continue to encourage leaders, communities and individuals to mark the day in new ways.



PLEASE RETAIN THIS NEWSLETTER FOR THREE WEEKS AS I WILL BE AWAY WHEN THE NEXT NEWSLETTER IS DUE.

Pastoral Council meeting

Thursday 16th February @ 7.30pm

Wednesday Masses start again

from 8th February but NOT on the first Wednesday of the month.

Did you know?

In the ancient world, salt was absolutely essential. It was used not simply to season food or to add to its taste, but as a preservative, enabling food to be stored and kept. At the time of Jesus, the main source of oil for lamps was the olive. A saucer-shaped lamp held the oil, and a wick, made of flax or a similar material, burned from a small opening on the rim. Such lamps were often placed in a niche in the walls of rooms.

MINISTERS – 12th February 2023

GREETER: Ross Brydon
 COMMENTATOR: Stephen Crooymans
 PROCLAIMER OF THE WORD: Laurel Blakey
 PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: Kay Brydon
 COLLECTOR: Ross Brydon
 DATA PROJECTOR: Frances Crooymans

MINISTERS – 19th February 2023

GREETER: Kay Brydon
 COMMENTATOR: Frances Crooymans
 PROCLAIMER OF THE WORD: Dot Chipman
 PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: Alice Douglas
 COLLECTOR: Stephen Crooymans
 DATA PROJECTOR: Jameena Aralar

READINGS – 12th February 2023**Sixth Week of Ordinary Time**

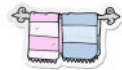
Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20
 Psalm 119A
 1 Corinthians 2:6-10
 Gospel Matthew 5:17-37

**READINGS – 19th February 2023****Seventh Week of Ordinary Time**

Leviticus 19:1-2,17-18
 Psalm 103
 1 Corinthians 3:16-23
 Gospel Matthew 5:38-48

**CHURCH LINEN**

JANUARY F Crooymans
 FEBRUARY P Hayward



Feb	1	Elizabeth Schouten
	2	Sister Tina
	3	Paul Wallace
		Stephen Crooymans
	11	John Reynolds
	14	Alice Douglas
	15	Ricky Clark
	16	Catherine Dela Rosa
		Father Marcellino
	17	Luke Clark

FLOWERS

WE Feb 4th D Chipman
 WE Feb 11th J Clark
 WE Feb 18th L Blakey
 WE Feb 25th Lent—no flowers



We pray for all those who are in need of our prayers: Fay Hayward, Mary Speedy, Robert Hicks.

And those whose anniversaries occur during the month of February: Eileen Hicks, Bishop Gerry, Maggie Tawhiti, Piet Ligthart, Frank Leonard, Terry Leonard, Mary Unternahrer.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord.

WELCOME TO NEW PARISHIONERS AND VISITORS
 Please join us in the Parish Hall for a cup of tea after Mass.

