

Next Sunday 23rd August 2026 - 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

FIRST: ISAIAH 22:15, 19-23

PSALM: 138

SECOND: ROMANS 11: 33-36

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 16:13-20

PRAYER In charity we pray for Margaret Cullen, Cliff King & Alice Hawkins who died recently; and for Robert Browne, Richard Reynolds, Maria Bernadette Noke Suwanto Rompis & A. Lawrence whose anniversaries occur.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK Chris Abdon, Carol McBeth, Clive McDonald, Virginia Masuda, Teresa Litong, Margaretha Elizabeth Roodt, Anthony Webster, Marcia Healy, Maria Wang, Maria Jia, Jon Cruz, Francis Lionnet, Denis Trotman, Ken Sharkey, Liz Smith, Aurora Madrigal, Michael Dobbyn, Raphael Ponce, Rosemary Allardice, Mal Green, Sonia Lewis, Gerard & Jane McNaughten, Jean Ulberg, Troy Angelo Madrigal, Celia McLoughlin, Clara Jung-Hwang, Gladys Lloyd, Elizabeth Hennelly, Rima Bennett, Belinda Chamassian, Jane Barrita, Joanne LeFort, Tereume Amerika, Sev Domingo, Anicia Domingo, Hendrik Churr, Emmett Mackle & Jiro Victorio.

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Morning Tea - Hosted by Abeer George & family - in the hall after 10:30am Mass.

St Joseph's Takapuna - Bank Account
No. 02 - 0108 - 0706814 - 000

ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, 10 DOMINION ST, TAKAPUNA

- Sunday Mass Times: Saturday 5pm, Sunday 7.30am, 10.30am (live-streamed) and 6pm
- Youth Mass: 3rd Sunday at 6pm
- Weekday Masses: Monday to Friday 9.15am (live-streamed)
- Saturday Mass 9.00am (live-streamed) Reconciliation Saturday 9.30am
- Exposition and Holy Hour - every Saturday after 9am Mass

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHURCH, CNR FENWICK AVE & SHAKESPEARE RD, MILFORD Mass

- Monday to Saturday 10am, Sunday at 9am, Reconciliation Friday after the 10am Mass

NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL MASS - First Sunday of the month: 11.00am

KOREAN COMMUNITY MASS - Every Saturday at 7.30pm

ST JOHN PAUL II - HOLY CROSS ANGLICAN CHURCH - 222 Dairy Flat Highway, Albany, (access via Oteha Valley Rd. Extension) **Mass** - Sunday at 5.30pm



NEW TO ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH? - Whether you're new to our Church or have been with us for a while, we'd love to help you take your next step in belonging & building our vibrant community.

If you are not yet registered - Kindly sign up directly by scanning the QR code to the left or go to our website: <https://stjoseph.org.nz/new-parishioner/>



www.stjoseph.org.nz



10 Dominion Street Takapuna 0622



Parish Office: 09 489 6486

Presbytery: 09 489 6338



parishoffice@stjoseph.org.nz



9am to 2.30pm Monday to Friday



SAINT JOSEPHS
ST JOSEPHS CATHOLIC CHURCH TAKAPUNA

Sunday 16th August 2026 - The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary

LITURGY OF THE WORD

FIRST BOOK OF REVELATION 11.19A, 12.1-6A; 10AB

"Now have come the salvation and the power and the kingdom of our God and the authority of his Christ."

PSALM 45

Daughters of kings are among your ladies of honour; at your right hand stands the queen in gold of Ophir.

Hear, O daughter, consider and incline your ear; forget your people and your father's house.

The king will desire your beauty. Since he is your lord, bow to him; The princess is decked with golden robes; in many-coloured robes she is led to the king; behind her the virgins, her companions, follow.

With joy and gladness they are led along as they enter the palace of the king.

1ST LETTER OF ST. PAUL TO THE CORINTHIANS 15.20-26

For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

GOSPEL - LUKE 1.39-56

Surely, from now on all generations will call me blessed; for the Mighty One has done great things for me, and holy is his name.

MARY – OUR MOTHER, OUR HOPE

On Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary – a particularly significant feast for us here in Aotearoa New Zealand, where Mary is honoured as our patroness.

The Assumption reminds us that Mary's journey did not end at the foot of the Cross. Her faithful yes to God carried her through joy and sorrow, uncertainty and suffering, and ultimately into the fullness of life with God. In Mary, we are given a glimpse of the hope that awaits all who place their trust in God.

This is a hope that is very much part of our story as the Church in Aotearoa New Zealand. Bishop Steve Lowe, reflecting on our country's Catholic beginnings, has spoken of the Church as continuing a journey of faith – a journey that has been carried forward by generations before us.

As we celebrate Mary today, perhaps we can ask ourselves: **What does it mean for me to say "yes" to God in my own life?** Where am I being called to trust Him more deeply? And how can I become a source of hope and encouragement to those around me?

Mary shows us that faith is not about having all the answers. It is about trusting God enough to take the next step. As we honour Our Lady Assumed into Heaven, may she continue to watch over Aotearoa New Zealand and guide our families, our parish community and our nation closer to her Son, Jesus.

CONTINUED OVER...

REFLECTION CONTINUED...

Our Lady of the Assumption, pray for us.

"As pilgrims of hope, we are called to be bearers of this hope, shining God's light in the world and inspiring others to trust in His promises."

- **Bishop Steve Lowe**, reflecting during the New Zealand bishops' pilgrimage, 2025. Image right: Guido Reni – *The Assumption of the Virgin Mary*



NOTICES FROM THE DIOCESE

- ◆ **THE BEGINNING EXPERIENCE** - A weekend away to help those suffering the heartache of Separation, Divorce, or Widowhood on **21-23 August 2026**. We are non-profit organisation that provides support for the grieving single again, & offers an opportunity to turn the pain of loss into an experience of positive growth. The cost for 2 nights' accommodation, meals, materials & follow up event is \$350. Contact Karena evenings on 021802352. www.beginningexperience.org.nz
- ◆ **MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE** - Getting married in early 2027? Don't leave your marriage preparation too late! Our final Marriage Preparation Courses for 2026 are filling quickly. If you're planning to marry in the first part of 2027, we encourage you to register ASAP to secure your place. Courses are offered at **St Michael's Parish, Remuera** on Saturdays from **26 September** (9.00am – 1.00pm) and at **St Luke's Parish, Flat Bush** on Saturdays from **10 October** (10.00am – 4.30pm). Visit: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/our-courses/>
- ◆ **JOB OPENINGS** - Various job openings on the Diocese website: Visit [Staff Vacancies - Catholic Diocese of Auckland](#) for more details.
- ◆ **KIDS KORNER AND PARENT PONDERINGS** - **CELEBRATING THE ASSUMPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY**. <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2026/08/CELEBRATING-THE-TWENTIETH-SUNDAY-in-OT.pdf>



MEN'S BREAKFAST & TALK: UNDERSTANDING FATHERHOOD, A CATHOLIC PERSPECTIVE - The Knights of the Southern Cross Auckland warmly invite all men to a special breakfast & talk on Saturday, 19 September 2026 (8.00 am to 11.30 am), at Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College, Ponsonby. Join us for a presentation by Dr Robert Loretz, Lecturer in Philosophy at Te Kupenga, on "Understanding Fatherhood: A Catholic Perspective," followed by Adoration & Benediction. Breakfast fee: \$20. Register via the QR code or email knightsauckland@gmail.com for more details.

VAILANKANNI NOVENA CELEBRATIONS FROM 30 AUGUST TO 8 SEPTEMBER AT 6PM - Join us as we say the Rosary Novena followed by Holy Mass daily at 6.00pm. On Saturdays & Sundays we begin at 5.30pm. The Novenas will be held at the back where the old Parish Hall used to be at 2134 Great North Road, Avondale. Come pray & place your petitions at the feet of our Blessed Mother who will intercede on your behalf to her Son Jesus. For more information please contact Cynthia, Paul, or Helen D'souza on 08.helen@live.com

NEW TO ST. JOSEPH'S? WE'D LOVE TO MEET YOU! Have you recently joined our parish community? We warmly invite you to our New Parishioners Lunch – a wonderful opportunity to meet Monsignor David and members of our parish team, in a relaxed and friendly setting. Whether you've just moved to the area or have been attending Mass for a little while, we'd love to officially welcome you to the St. Joseph's family. Date: Sunday, 23 August 2026; Time: 12:30pm; Venue: St. Joseph's Parish Hall, Takapuna. Please RSVP by Friday, 14 August 2026 to Donna-Mari at parishoffice@stjoseph.org.nz for catering purposes.



Alpha – Sausage Sizzle. Please join the Alpha team for a sausage sizzle outside the hall on **Sunday 16th August after 10:30am Mass**. Morning tea with Abeer George and family will still be served. **To Register for Alpha** use QR code or link at <https://bit.ly/alphataka> or contact: Dcn Steve stephenf@kidzcan.co.nz 021439407 or Engelbert engelbert.dsouza@yahoo.com 0210 2346853 – **No Charge**

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE - Next meeting Tuesday, 18 August, 10.30 am, in the room near the school office. Usual shared lunch etc. For info, Phone Margaret 486 3695.



BEGIN A JOURNEY OF FAITH - The Order of Christian Initiation for unbaptised children aged 8 – 15 years, is beginning soon. This special programme helps children grow in faith and prepare to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and First Holy Communion. Enrolments are now open for the 2026/2027 Children's OCIA programme, which begins on **Sunday, 13 September 2026**. Scan the QR code or click the link below to enrol: [Order of Christian Initiation of Adults & Children – Fill in form](#). More details on the noticeboards & our website: <https://stjoseph.org.nz/rcia/>



COME AND CELEBRATE THE 81ST INDONESIA'S INDEPENDENCE DAY CELEBRATION ON SATURDAY, 29 AUGUST 2026, FROM 9:00 AM TO 2:00 PM AT MT ALBERT WAR MEMORIAL HALL. Join us for Auckland's biggest Indonesian community event in New Zealand! Bring your family & friends to enjoy delicious traditional Indonesian food, colourful cultural performances, & fun traditional games. All welcome! Organised by Indonesian Catholic Community - Auckland (KKIA) kkia.auckland@gmail.com



ST JOSEPH'S BAPTISM PROGRAMME - Looking to get your child baptised? You need to enroll in our baptism programme online here: <https://forms.office.com/r/3z2wkqKYfD> or scan the QR code to the left. Baptisms dates available for 2026: **Sat. 26th September; Sat. 31st October, Sat. 28th November, Sat. 19th December 2026**. Email Edwin pastoral@stjoseph.org.nz.

DE PAUL HOUSE ANNUAL FUNDRAISER - Join us for an evening of connection and fun with our loyal team of supporters & friends. Fantastic prizes – raffles, silent & live auctions. Friday 21 August 6.30pm. Rosmini Auditorium. Tickets \$110 per person. Email admin@depaulhouse.org.nz.



HOPE FOR THE WORLD - International Conference on Life, Faith & Family - 25 - 27 September 2026. In Christ we can restore a culture where every life is protected from conception to natural death. Join us in Auckland to hear inspiring local & international speakers. Find out more & register here: <https://fli.org.nz/prolifeconference2026/> Enquiries to Simon Archer: 021 400 729 | simon@fli.org.nz Register **before Thursday 20 August** to enter draw to win a beautiful statue of the Holy Family.

ONE DAY RETREAT FOR YOUNG WOMEN - Hosted by Little sisters of the poor at 9 Tweed Street, Ponsonby Road for young women aged 15-30 years on Saturday 29th August 2026 from 9:00am - 4:00pm. Contact Sr. Elena on 021 505 322.



PARISH RETREAT - 17TH - 19TH AUGUST 2026 - JOHN PRIDMORE PARISH MISSION – ST JOSEPH'S, TAKAPUNA. Join internationally renowned Catholic evangelist John Pridmore for a three-night parish mission from **Monday 17th (God's mercy), Tuesday 18th (God's forgiveness) & Wednesday 19th (God's healing) August 2026**, beginning at 7:00 pm each evening. Once caught in London's criminal underworld, John's life was transformed by an encounter with Christ. Through powerful testimony, prayer & message of hope, he invites people of all ages to discover God's mercy & love. All are welcome. Admission is free. **Please join us for a light dinner on Wednesday 19th August 2026 at 6:00pm in the hall.**