



# CATHEDRAL OF ST PATRICK & ST JOSEPH

## NEWSLETTER

TWENTY-THIRD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

6 SEPTEMBER 2020

### Pastor's Note

At the heart of our relationship with God is the knowledge that we are loved and forgiven. What we sometimes fail to appreciate is how great that forgiveness is.

Minimising our faults is a pretty basic human characteristic. Most of us start it in childhood – and we carry on. What I did wasn't really that bad, and so on. It's not's very attractive, and it also makes it all too easy to carry on to somewhere worse, because we tend not to be so good at minimising the sins of others. As a result, we tend to regard the failings of others with a much less charitable eye than our own.

Jesus was addressing this in his famous call to take a plank out of our own eye before looking for specks in others'. The parable of the man who owed 10,000 talents is giving us that same message. Neither of these passages is calling us to think of our own sins as worse than anyone else's, however. Rather they are to teach us just how profound God's mercy is.

The sum of 10,000 talents was, in Jesus's day, an insane amount. The rough equivalent today, in terms of an average day's wages, is several billion dollars. When the man says "give me time and I will repay you", he is speaking nonsense. He would never be able to pay the sum, no matter what he did, and yet he is freely forgiven. In the same way the Lord's gift of sharing in the divine life, of being as St John teaches us, "like Him for we shall see him as he really is", is far beyond our ability to pay. And yet it is freely given to us.

Free gift though it is, it also calls us to respond. Not in repayment, which is beyond our capacity, but in giving on, which each of us can do. It is why we say in the Our Father, forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us.

It is worth noting that this task isn't as simple as it looks. In contrast to 10,000 talents, 100 denarii seems very little. And it is. But in Jesus's day, one denarius was the standard day's wage for a working man. Imagine the sum of one hundred days work at the minimum wage – about four months' pay, when you include weekends. If someone owed you that much – you'd want it back to. You'd get pretty grumpy, unless you recalled how much you owed.

This teaching isn't about "not sweating the little things", but rather a reminder that even the bigger things – those things we find hardest to forgive – need to be seen in the light of what God has given, and forgiven, us. It is a real challenge in other words, but one that Our Lord makes clear we have to embrace.

*Blessings ~ Fr Chris Denham*

### Liturgy of the Word

~ **Ecclesiasticus 27:30-28:7** In refusing to forgive those who have sinned against us, we exclude ourselves from receiving God's forgiveness for our own sins.

~ **Psalm 102** The Lord is kind and merciful: slow to anger, and rich in compassion.

~ **Romans 14:7-9** The entire existence of a Christian is for Christ and for others.

~ **Gospel Matthew 18:21-35** We must be willing to extend to others the generous forgiveness God has extended to us.

**Next Week's readings: Isaiah 55:6-9; Psalm 144; Philippians 1:20-24,27; Matthew 20:1-16**

For Sunday and weekday readings see: [mobilegabriel.com](http://mobilegabriel.com) AND [www.livingtheword.org.nz](http://www.livingtheword.org.nz)

*Please pray for those who are sick, recovering from surgery or needing our prayers, especially:*

Ana Laura Robles, Ana Denise Manjarrez, Patricia Devereaux, Brian Murphy, Christopher Hughes, Alberto Olarte, Sue Bedford, PT, Graeme Owens, Joe Raymond, Ben Hunt, Ambi Joseph, Ivy Hi, AS, Fr Martin Bugler, Royston Beckham, John & Rosa Williams, Ann Sayegh, Terry Hodge, Marie Mole, Linda Mole, Fr Philip Handforth, Fr Andrei Centeno, Margaret Everett, Sepi Fe'ao, Elizabeth Beckham, Dolly P, Alana North, Steve Mascarenhas, Chris Dwyer, Maurice Robinson, Kanawhat (Pui) Cheevachit, Yaroslav Khmel, Alice Swann, Linus Broughton, Emy Calma, Sue Wynne Davis, Michael Wong, Patricia Wright, Luigi & Dawn Rocca, Kirei Tua, Maree C, Rosily Chacko, Bonifacio Sanches, Michael Swann, Gavin Alexander, Mary Bratton, Julie Nicholls, Joy Agon, Chonusi William, Eric & Rachel Smith, Francisco Billinilanz, Benny Clynes, Tom Keane, Lynn Barnett Welsh, Thilsi Vern, Neira, Bunty Hart, Christopher Browne, Barry Spooner, BC, Jon Manson, Anne Telles, Bronwyn Ryan, Nicholas James, Judy Hanna, Maria Martho, Pamela Vincent, Shane McGruddy, Michelle Bergin, J. Harrington, Rodolfo Paragas, Serena Coughy, Frank Van Nieukerk, Rosa Santos, John Kainuku, Noeline Levick, Jane Ireland, Jin Shu Qin, Jill Hopgood-Luypers, Teana Jones, Rosita Galarg, Martin Harriman, Sheila Birnie, Virgilia Velasquez, Wilfred Mansoor, Ann Gordon, Adelaida Sison, Baden McPherson, Shannon Kavanagh, John & Gloria Gillespie.

*We remember those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur at this time . . .*

Ramon Preeda, Elizabeth Hales, Msgr Pat Ward, Myra Crawford, Maurice Churton, Barbara Bato, Dermot O'Leary, Fr Des Moosman, Ethel Marshall, Mary Herbert, Patricia Yambao, Reynaldo Yambao, Justyn Bianzon, Lenny Hidalgo, Ruby Holland, Maria Boles, Carmel Jefferies, Brian Raju, Don Crawford, Aisla Duffy, Joann Swartz, Aisling Cooke, Juanita Banzon, Esther Gill, Jean Mullan, Kath Allen, Brendan Schollum, Dianne Molloy, Ivan Main, George Fisher, Michael O'Reilly, Wayne Hotton, Lani Sinawari, Eng Hoc Ong, Apolinario Castano, Sheila Bamford, Kees van Hassel, Ira Divinagracia, Dorothy James, Ray Buisson, Moira Bryant, Cathy Sheehan, Julie Keesling, Dorothy Jones, Bruce Sherlock, Joe Paraiso, Emma Gill, Marie Early, Mark Gleeson . . . *Eternal rest grant to them.*

## LEVEL 2 AT THE CATHEDRAL

With Auckland remaining in Level 2.5 and limiting of numbers to 10, means the Cathedral will remain closed.

**Reconciliation will be by appointment only**—please email Fr Tony [tony@stpatericks.org.nz](mailto:tony@stpatericks.org.nz) or phone the office 3030 4509 to arrange a time. We ask that those coming to Reconciliation wear a face mask or some form of facial covering.

**Sunday Mass on TV**—Sunday Mass continues to be broadcast at 2 pm on Shine TV channel 25 or Sky channel 201. This week's Mass comes Our Lady of the Sacred heart Parish in Epsom celebrated by Fr Rob O'Brien.

### **Breaking Open the Gospel**

The provision of a daily reflection on the Gospel continues. Visit website [www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/) and YouTube channel [www.youtube.com/channel/UCb7o1XYfQet-mOW1mJSzfow?view\\_as=subscriber](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCb7o1XYfQet-mOW1mJSzfow?view_as=subscriber).

**The Cathedral Office**—is open Monday to Friday 9 am to 1 pm with restricted access. Please call ahead if you are wanting to come up to the office 09 303 4509 or email [info@stpatericks.org.nz](mailto:info@stpatericks.org.nz).

**The Church at Home**—This is a time when the Domestic Church is so important. Why not visit the our own Family Life Page on our website where Anita has put together a number of resources for all. Go to <https://www.stpatericks.org.nz/family-life-our-domestic-churches/>.

**RCIA Programme for Adults**—This is for adults exploring the Catholic faith. Classes begin in September.

For further information regarding all Programmes at the Cathedral, contact [anita@stpatericks.org.nz](mailto:anita@stpatericks.org.nz).

**Cathedral Spotify Page**—our Acting Director of Music Nicholas Forbes creates a weekly Spotify Music list for each of our Sunday Masses. You can listen for free at <https://open.spotify.com/playlist/6615v4SRG1G1sh3HF1KRdf?si=crCYtikfSUKDNvqSXWwOJw>  
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### **Pregnancy Help Inc has a vacancy for Auckland Branch**

**Coordinator**—The ideal candidate will be trained in counselling, be IT literate, have good management skills, be willing to commit to achieving great outcomes for vulnerable pregnant women and women in troubled pregnancies. Email your CV to Kheng Tan [kdsdtan@gmail.com](mailto:kdsdtan@gmail.com).

### **Conference 2020 Postponed—Worshipping under Southern Skies: Weaving Together Liturgy and Life**

POSTPONED UNTIL 7th - 9th OCTOBER 2021. For those who have paid their registration they will get a full refund. The organisers will get in touch with you regarding the process.

**DIGITAL SERIES** - Friday 2nd & Saturday 3rd of October there will be a series of DIGITAL PRESENTATIONS FROM THE CONFERENCE presenters. If you have registered for the Conference or subscribed to the Conference newsletter, the link to this portal will be emailed to you. Please subscribe to the Liturgy Conference newsletter via the website <https://wuss.org.nz/> if you want to receive the link.

**NZ Catholic** - the latest edition is available for free at: <https://indd.adobe.com/view/3d006405-1cb7-4d8a-9bf7-b0c140727602>

## **Be informed about the End of Life**

### **Choice Act Referendum:**

- The End of Life Choice Act provides access to an assisted death for those with less than 6 months to live. Yet any prognosis, especially as long as 6 months, is a guess. Overseas research shows that the choice of euthanasia is not driven by pain but by a range of personal reasons, including the fear of being a burden to their families or society.
- The End of Life Choice Act has no mandatory stand-down or cooling off period (as in other countries) - under the End of Life Choice Act, a person could be dead less than 4 days after diagnosis, and be under no obligation to inform their families or carers of their decision. The process does not even require the presence of an independent witness.

The EOLC Act is badly drafted and seriously flawed. Whatever one's views about the idea of euthanasia, it is not 'compassion' to vote for a dangerous law.

See [www.riskylaw.nz](http://www.riskylaw.nz) or [www.votesafe.nz](http://www.votesafe.nz) or [www.carealliance.org.nz](http://www.carealliance.org.nz) or [www.nathaniel.org.nz](http://www.nathaniel.org.nz)

Authorised by John Kleinsman, 15 Guildford Terrace, Thorndon, Wellington

### **"Season of Creation" - 1 September to 4 October**

It is a time to renew our relationship with our Creator and all creation through repenting, repairing, and rejoicing together.

During the Season of Creation, we join our sisters and brothers in the ecumenical family in prayer and action for our common home. As Pope Francis reminds us:

*Saint Francis, faithful to Scripture, invites us to see nature as a magnificent book in which God speaks to us and grants us a glimpse of his infinite beauty and goodness. Laudato Si' #12*

#### **Pope Francis' Prayer for the Earth:**

*All-powerful God, you are present in the whole universe and in the smallest of your creatures.*

*You embrace with your tenderness all that exists.*

*Pour out upon us the power of your love, that we may protect life and beauty.*

*Fill us with peace, that we may live as brothers and sisters, harming no one. Amen.*

**St Vincent de Paul Needs Help**—Our friends at St Vincent de Paul still need donations to continue their work in the Auckland community. You can donate by visiting their Give A Little Page at <https://givealittle.co.nz/org/vinniesauckland>.

### **Enrolment at Good Shepherd School, Balmoral**

Families from our Cathedral Parish considering Good Shepherd School in Telford Avenue, Balmoral, as a possible Catholic primary school option for their children for 2021 and beyond, are encouraged to contact the school office for enrolment forms as soon as possible. Please phone 620 4962 for further information or download the enrolment forms at [www.goodshepherd.school.nz](http://www.goodshepherd.school.nz). School visits welcome.

**Liturgy, Prayer, Pastoral Care and Pandemics**—is a free online Zoom lecture by Sr Prof Julia Upton Provost Emerita and retired Distinguished Professor in the Department of Theology and Religious Studies at St. John's University NY. Monday October 12 10-11.30am (AEDT).

Register by 7 October at [www.acu.edu.au/LectureUpton](http://www.acu.edu.au/LectureUpton). Contact for more information the ACU Centre for Liturgy [centreforliturgy@acu.edu.au](mailto:centreforliturgy@acu.edu.au).

## **Living cashless? The Cathedral is on Pushpay!**

A 10 second giving app. Go to your app store to download the Pushpay app, register, in the search button put St Patrick's Cathedral, Auckland, click and give!

Tax receipts are issued as soon as possible after 31 March each year.

