

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH
+++++ **Perpetual adoration - in the chapel** +++++

MONDAY 1st October <i>St Therese of the child Jesus</i>			
4.45pm	Exposition & prayer	5.15pm Mass	St Joseph's Parish Centre
TUESDAY 2nd <i>The Holy Guardians Angels</i>			
8.30am	Exposition & prayer	9.15am Mass	St Gregory's Church
WEDNESDAY 3rd			
8.30am	Exposition	9.15am Mass	St Joseph's Parish Centre
10.00am	Prayer and Reflection Group		St Joseph's Parish Centre
THURSDAY 4th <i>St Francis of Assisi</i>			
11.30am	Rosary	Noon Mass	St Gregory's Church
FRIDAY 5th			
8.30am	Exposition & rosary	9.15am Mass	St Joseph's Parish Centre
SATURDAY 6th <i>St Bruno</i>			
8.30am	Exposition	9.15am Mass	St Joseph's Parish Centre
9.45am	Sacrament of Reconciliation		St Joseph's Presbytery
4.00pm	Legion of Mary		St Joseph's Parish Centre
5.15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation		St Gregory's Church
5.30pm	Rosary	6.00pm Mass	St Gregory's Church
SUNDAY 7th <i>27th Sunday in Ordinary Time</i>			
8.30am	Mass	10.00am Mass	5.00pm Mass
			St Gregory's Church

PRAYER HELPLINE INTENTIONS

- > In thanks and praise for God's continuous love and on-going blessings
- > For our sick and dying - for a peaceful death
- > For wisdom and clarity around a stressful situation
- > For new first time parents - and their little babies
- > For those suffering from grief of any kind

Parish Priest	Fr John Adams	352 9275
Assistant Parish Priest	Fr Thanh Tran	352 9275
Pastoral Associates	Lauren Butler	027 424 6045
	Irene Maguire	027 622 9415
Parish Secretary	Wilma Vertogen	352 9275
Family Group Coordinator	Irene Maguire	027 622 9415
School Principal	Aaron Richards	352-8779



CAUSING OTHERS TO STUMBLE

This weekend we continue to read from the gospel of Mark. Last week we heard Jesus chastise his disciples for their argument about who among them was the greatest. Jesus taught them that the greatest among them will be those who are prepared to serve the least among them. In today's gospel, John questions Jesus about an unknown exorcist who was driving out demons in Jesus' name. John's question might have been motivated by jealousy. We know that earlier in Mark's gospel, Jesus healed a boy whom the disciples had been unable to heal. John's question is further evidence that the disciples have not yet grasped the fullness of Jesus' message to them. They continue to compare themselves to others who seem to have greater healing powers. This challenges them as they would prefer exclusive access to the power of Jesus.

In these times the demon possession described in the gospels might be seen rather as a form of mental illness, but the need for healing these syndromes was as real then as it is now. Exorcism was a common practice in first-century Palestine, whilst today other forms of healing are available.

The disciples observed that the unknown exorcist invoked Jesus' name and was successful in his healing efforts. This unknown healer recognized the power of Jesus' name, yet he was not a follower of Jesus. In his reply to his disciples, Jesus acknowledges that deeds of faith can precede the words of faith. He teaches that the disciples should not be reluctant to share Jesus' healing powers with others.

Later in this gospel, Jesus is very strong in his language – we must never destroy the beginnings of faith in others. The Greek word used here for sin can be understood more literally as to be a “stumbling” or “causing scandal.” To become a ‘stumbling block’ for another person's faith is serious indeed.

Fr John Adams - Parish Priest

St Joseph's Parish Centre - 133 Main North Road ☩ St Gregory's Church - 30 Cotswold Avenue
Phone 352 9275 P O Box 5014 Email – pap.bish.rc@xtra.co.nz

Parish website www.stjosephspapanui.org.nz Diocesan website www.chch.catholic.nz
Facebook www.facebook.com/stjopap Youth Group stjoespapyg@gmail.com

*Photos may be taken during special events or activities
and shared with the parish community on facebook/stjopap*



PARISH AGM
today after 10.00am Mass
Reports are now available on our website.
Take the time today to hear
what is happening in our own parish.

HAPPY BIRTHDAY
Don't forget to wish Fr Thanh a "happy birthday".
It is his birthday on Monday. Congratulations!

SEASONS FOR GROWTH COURSE
Learn skills to manage change, loss and grief. A small group programme starts in Papanui Parish on Thursday 18th October at 7.00pm and Mairehau Parish on Wednesday 17th October at 10.00am. Register by 11th October.
Contact Lauren on 027 424 6045 or seasons@chch.catholic.org.nz

CONFIRMATION PROGRAMME - YEAR 8 AND OLDER
Enrolments due now with it beginning on Wednesday 17th October at 7.00pm Mass for the candidates and their parents. Presentations are on Sunday 28th October at 5.00pm Mass, followed by a shared dinner. Retreat day on Sunday 4th November beginning at 10.00am Mass. Reconciliation is Thursday 22nd November at 6.30pm. Confirmation Mass on Saturday 24th November at 6.00pm. Presentation of certificates on Sunday 2nd December at 5.00pm Mass, followed by a pizza dinner. All events are at St Gregory's Church.
For more details contact Irene on 027 622 9415 or irenemaguire100@live.com

HAVE YOU EXPERIENCED A BEREAVEMENT?
Our 'cuppa & care' support group meets again on Saturday 6th October at 9.15am Mass at St Joseph's Parish Centre, followed by cuppa, chat and prayer for our loved ones. For more details ring Lauren on 027 424 6045.

WOULD YOU LIKE TO EXPLORE BECOMING A CATHOLIC?
The process of RCIA for adults wanting to learn more about the Catholic faith and to discern becoming Catholic is beginning this Wednesday (3rd) at 7.00pm at St Joseph's Parish Centre. For details or to discuss your journey contact Fr John or Lauren on 027 424 6045 or becomeacatholic.papanui@gmail.com

GIVE A LITTLE PAGES
Take the time to look at the wonderful causes you can donate to.
Mental health, cystic fibrosis, heart, leukaemia - the list goes on.

TODAY'S READINGS
Num 11:25-29 James 5:1-6 Mk 9:38-43

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS
Gen 2:18-24 Heb 2:9-11 Mk 10:2-16

33 DAYS TO MERCIFUL LOVE RETREAT

The retreat finishes today with optional consecration. If you have been doing the retreat with the group or at home, celebrate the end together. Note venue change for this last session - 1.30pm at St Gregory's Church, followed by afternoon tea.

ST THERESE NOVENA

Visit St Therese's statue and pick up a prayer card for a novena to celebrate St Therese's feast day tomorrow. St Therese returns to the monastery this week.

OCTOBER - THE MONTH OF THE ROSARY

During October the Legion of Mary wishes to visit homes to pray the rosary. If you would like to avail yourself of this opportunity ring Rosalia on 021 255 6451.

MASS OF REMEMBRANCE

Has anyone experienced the grief and pain of conceiving, then losing a baby before or at birth? There is a Mass of Remembrance on Monday 15th October at 7.30pm at St Teresa's Parish, Riccarton. For details ring the John Paul II Centre on 351 3227.

ST THERESE ROSE PETAL EVENING

The Beatitudes Community invites you to join them at St Teresa's in Riccarton, on Friday 5th October at 7.00pm for an evening of prayer, music and a talk on "All is grace". For more details email beatitudesnz@gmail.com

GOLDEN CATHOLICS

Over 65 - a 'no cost to you' event on Wednesday, 17th October at 11.30am at St Joseph's Parish Centre. Two guest speakers, followed by lunch. If you wish to attend please ring Wilma in the parish office by 12th October.

PASTORAL SUPPORT PERSON

The Sisters of Mercy have a part-time vacancy for a person who will support the pastoral team for five days a week 5 hours per day and on call those days. If you require more information email Lynne on nursemanager@xtra.co.nz

FREE ACCOMMODATION IN TEKAPO

An opportunity has arisen for free accommodation in a Tekapo holiday home from 12th - 16th October (sleeps 6 people.) If you would like to be considered for this opportunity contact Lauren 027 424 6045 or laurenbutler76@gmail.com



PLEASE PRAY FOR . . .

- § all those who have died recently - Kevin Smith
- § and all those whose anniversaries or birthdays occur at this time.