

Liturgy of the Word ~ 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

First Reading (Is 22:19-23) Here we read about one man being dismissed from high office, and the keys of authority are passed to another.

The New Testament applies this text to Jesus.

Second Reading (Rom 11:33-36) This is a hymn of praise to the wisdom of God, which is far too deep for us to fathom.

Gospel (Mt 16:13-20) This contains Peter's declaration of faith in Jesus, and Jesus' promise to make him the rock on which he will build his church.

Next week's readings: Jer 20:7-9, Rom 12:1-2, Mt 16:21-27.

For Sunday / weekday readings see: mobilegabriel.com

Marist School Mt Albert - Placements Available

We are now welcoming new enrolments for 2026 and 2027 across all year levels.

If you have a child due to start school or are looking for a 2027 placement, we encourage you to submit your enrolment application as soon as possible.

Enrolment forms are available from the school office or can be downloaded online via our website - <https://marist.school.nz/enrolments/>

Secure your child's place in our caring Catholic learning community today!

For any questions or queries, please contact Denise Sampson at admin@marist.school.nz

St Mary's College Auckland Past Pupils

High Afternoon Tea for Scholarship Fund, \$60. 2pm Sunday 20 September 2026. To register please contact Pat 021 622 044 or (09) 846 0230

Ministries to Young People

An Evening with St Pier Giorgio Frassati | Wednesday 9th September 6:30pm-8:30pm at St Michael's Catholic Church Remuera

Join us for an evening exploring the life, faith, and witness of St Pier Giorgio Frassati, one of the Church's inspiring young saints. The evening will feature a talk by guest speaker Fr Dominic Murphy OP, Prior Provincial for the Dominican Friars of Australasia.

This is a free event. All are welcome. Register here:

<https://events.humanitix.com/evening-with-frassati>

Email: samuelb@cda.org.nz for any queries

Resources for families from the Auckland Diocese

Open this newsletter in the St Benedict's website or app and follow the links...

Kids Korner: [Click here](#) Parent Ponderings: [Click here](#)

Welcome to St Benedict's

Keep up to date with parish news and download the "St Benedict's Auckland" App from the App store on your mobile device.

Like and follow "St Benedict's Church, Auckland" on Facebook for regular updates and links to the newsletters.

St Benedicts has the following options

for planned giving and donations to our Parish:

- Collection at Sunday Mass • Automatic bank payment
- St Benedicts App • Tap and Go

Our bank account number is 02 0108 0706611 000 "St Benedicts Parish"

If you need assistance or require more information, please contact the parish office on 09 379 0624

- Reconciliation Rite I is available every week before Mass on Saturday evenings from 5pm-5.45pm.

- Eucharistic Adoration every first Friday of the month at St Benedicts from 11am-12pm (followed by mass at 12.10pm).

- Please check the notice boards in the foyer for upcoming events.

- When visiting St Benedicts please DO NOT park illegally or block cars in. Please see over page for parish weekly schedule and free parking details.

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

Phil Bawden, David Master, Eva Mitchell, Dave Harrop.

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

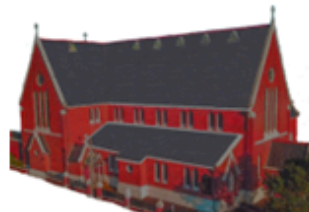
Fr Colgan, Amber Stewart, John Hogan, Ivka Managh, Henry Reid, Muriel Prendergast, Cheeli Madhuri, Mary Patchett, Ralph de Berry, Alfred Stowers, Joan Watt, Alfred Healey, Patricia Jones, Clement Edwards, Patrick Lennane, Maurice Beadle, Kevin Dowling, John Gallagher, Maurice Boland, Julia King, Maurice Kearin, Catherine Long, Henry McCoy, Mary Kearin, Herbert Keenan, Peggy Bell-Booth.

Eternal rest grant to them O Lord

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

SATURDAY 6 PM
SUNDAY 9.30AM

FREE PARKING AVAILABLE



WEEKDAY MASS TIMES

Wednesday - Friday: Mass 12.10pm

ETHNIC MASS TIMES

Filipino: Every Sunday at 11.30am

Tongan: 3rd Sunday of the month at 1.30pm

Indonesian: 4th Sunday of the month at 1.30pm

SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

Saturday 5.00pm - 5.45pm

Weekdays at the Cathedral
11.30am - 12.10pm

ALSO AT ST BENEDICT'S PARISH

First Friday of the month

Sacred Heart of Jesus
Rosary at 6.40pm, Novena at 7pm
Mass at 7.30pm-8.30pm

Third Friday of the month

Holy Child Jesus, Senor Santo Niño
Rosary at 6.40pm, Novena at 7pm
Mass at 7.30pm-8.30pm

Every Wednesday

Mother of Perpetual Help
Rosary at 6.15pm, Novena at 6.45pm
Mass at 7.15pm

BAPTISMS & MARRIAGES

Contact the Parish Office

Phone: (09) 379 0624

Email: office@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz

ST BENEDICT'S PARISH OFFICE

Monday to Thursday 10am—4pm

Friday 9.30am—2.30pm

Contact Details: Phone (09) 379 0624

Email: office@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz

Website: www.stbenedictsauckland.org.nz

St Benedict's Parish Priest

Father Gilbert Ramos

frgilbert@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz

Parish Office Staff

Catherine van Veen

catherine@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz

Miranda Wagg

miranda@stbenedictsauckland.org.nz

CATHOLIC STUDENT CHAPLAIN

Email: thechaplains@cda.org.nz

ST VINCENT DE PAUL & FOODBANK

Ph 815 6122

PARKING AT ST BENEDICT'S CHURCH

Free parking is available from **Saturday 9am** to **Sunday 7pm** in the Wilson carpark on corner of St Benedict's & Alex Evans Street.

Please note: A few parks are marked reserved for tenant parking and are 24 hour tow away. These parks are allocated to nearby residents not the Church

21st Sunday in Ordinary Time ~ 23 August 2026

There is a decisive turning point in the Matthew's Gospel this week. Jesus brings his disciples to the region of Caesarea Philippi and asks them a profound question: "Who do people say the Son of Man is?" The title "Son of Man" is a mysterious one that Jesus frequently uses for himself. It recalls the heavenly figure in the Book of Daniel and points to Jesus' unique identity and mission. Although many people recognize Jesus as a prophet or a holy man, they do not yet grasp the fullness of who he is.

Jesus then asks the disciples directly, "But who do you say that I am?" It is Peter who responds on behalf of the Twelve: "You are the Christ, the Son of the living God." This confession is the supreme moment of revelation in Matthew's Gospel. Peter's insight is not the result of human wisdom but a gift from the Father. Through divine revelation, Peter recognizes Jesus as the long-awaited Messiah and the Son of God.

As a result of this confession, Jesus gives Peter a new title: "You are Peter, and on this rock I will build my Church." The image of the rock denotes stability, strength, and authority. Peter is hailed as the Rock, the one upon whom Christ will found his Church. Yet Peter's role is always rooted in Christ, who remains the ultimate foundation of the Church's life and mission.

Jesus further promises that "the gates of Hades shall not prevail against it." This is not simply a promise of endurance against earthly opposition. It is a reference to the salvific death and resurrection of Christ. Through his victory over sin and death, Christ establishes a Church that will never be overcome by the powers of evil.

Finally, Jesus entrusts Peter with "the keys of the kingdom of heaven." This symbolizes delegated authority. Peter receives the responsibility to teach, to make decisions about what is binding and loosing, and even to include in or exclude from the community. Yet this authority is never independent. Peter's ministry must always stem from the teaching of Jesus, the one and only foundation upon whom the Church is built. In every age, the Church is called to echo Peter's confession and proclaim Jesus as the Christ, the Son of the living God.

Fr Stephen Berecz