CATHOLIC CATHEDRAL PARISH
KO TE KARAITI KEI TE PŪ
Christ in the Centre
ŌTAUTAHI - CHRISTCHURCH

20th August 2023
20th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Discover "Catholicism4Catholics"

Your Path to Deeper Understanding

As we continue our journey of faith, our beliefs are like a treasure chest that never runs out of new things to discover. We know that there's always more to learn about our faith, and right now is the perfect time to dig even deeper.

Unveiling the "Why" Behind Our Beliefs: Join us for "Catholicism4Catholics," where we uncover why we believe what we do. It doesn't matter if you're new to Catholicism or have followed it for years – this series lets you understand the heart of our faith. Learn more, share effectively, and feel comfortable asking questions. It's a place to grow together.

Why Gather to Learn: The act of coming together to learn is a blessing in itself. As Jesus promised, where two or three gather in His name, His presence abounds. In this endeavour to uncover the treasures of our faith, His guidance is assured. Learning together binds us as a community and strengthens our bond, fostering mutual understanding and growth.

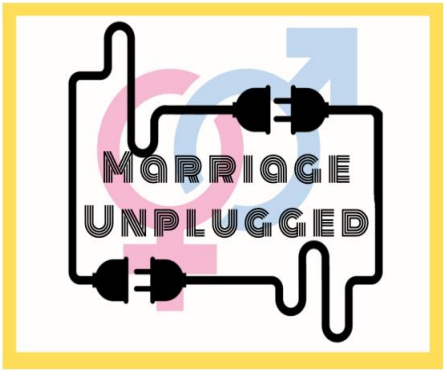
Engaging Sessions with Fr. Vincent Barboza: Commencing every Tuesday from 22nd August at 7pm in the Assisi Lounge, this series will be led by the insightful Fr. Vincent Barboza. Prepare for engaging and enlightening discussions that promise to enrich your perspective on Catholic beliefs and practices.

Exploring Crucial Topics: Our inaugural series will explore into crucial topics that shape our faith:
Why do Catholics baptize infants? - 22nd August
Does the Bible teach "Sola-Scriptura" (Scripture-alone)? – 29th August
Does praying to Saints compromise the uniqueness of Jesus? – 5th September
Do Catholics worship statues? – 12th September
Does the sacrifice of the Mass compromise the sacrifice of Christ? – 19th September
Did Jesus establish His Church on Peter, the rock? – 26th September

An Empowering Journey Awaits: Mark your calendars and prioritise this empowering journey toward a profound Catholic experience. Whether you're a newcomer or a lifelong member, the series holds immeasurable value. Be part of the collective wisdom as we explore, question, and grow in our faith together.

Father Vincent Barboza
Assistant Priest

Marriage Unplugged Happy marital relationships don't just happen. They take work! Spend some time investing in your marriage relationship, looking at the ways you relate, how you differ from each other and gather some helpful tips to help you get the most out of your friendship. Facilitators are Jennifer and Tim Goulding, who have run marriage workshops across NZ and Australia. 9:30am-3:30pm on Saturday 16th September at the Lamb of God Centre, 21 Thames St. Morning tea, lunch and afternoon tea provided. Let us know if you have dietary requirements we need to be aware of. Cost $50. To register, contact Kirsten Challies via email.



PARISH INFORMATION

Parish website
www.catholiccathedralchch.org.nz

SUNDAY MASS TIMES
Saturday Vigil 5:30pm
Sunday 8:00am, 9:30am,11:00am
4:30pm and 6:00pm
Te Rangimarie Centre
11:00am (Miha Māori)

WEEKDAY MASSES
Monday to Saturday
and Public Holidays
9:15am
Tuesday to Friday
7:30am 12.05pm

RECONCILIATION
Tuesday to Friday 11:30am
Saturday 9:45am

PRESBYTERY
03 377 5610

BISHOP OF CHRISTCHURCH
Bishop Michael Gielen

CATHEDRAL ADMINISTRATOR
Fr Simon Eccleton
frsimon@cathedralparish.nz

ASSISTANT PRIESTS
Fr Vincent Barboza
frvincent@cathedralparish.nz
Fr Monty Bamford
frmonty@cathedralparish.nz

PARISH OFFICE
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Office Hours: Monday – Closed
Tues to Fri: 8:30am – 12:30pm

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Readings for the Day
Isaiah 56: 1, 6-7; Romans 11: 13-15, 29-32
Gospel: Matthew 15: 21-28
Psalm Response
O God, let all the nations praise you!

Mass offered for Wilhemia Cortes, Annie Menezes, Theresa Gabbites, Tony Hyland, Lauren Hemens, Daniel Morbey (recent); Niall Quinn, Maria Kilkelly, Sheryl and Anthony Crawford, John Kinder (anniversary), Thanksgiving (2); Special intentions (5) Timoteo Cortes.

Parish Prayer Intentions

1. That we all may open our hearts to God Amazing Grace, forgiveness, and healing.
2. For provision of musicians for our 4:30pm Mass
3. For those who are undergoing cancer treatment.

No Reconciliation or 12:05pm Mass Tuesday 22nd August - Priests will be at Clergy Formation Day.

SVDP Cathedral Parish Conference 56 people were assisted this week. The pantry needs the following items: tinned tomatoes, pasta, tea bags, instant coffee, canned soup, and toilet paper. Thank you for your continued support.

Volunteer Counters Needed Do you have some spare time on Monday mornings? We require some new volunteers to join our Sunday Collection counting teams. Counting takes place on a Monday morning and you are part of a team of 4. Your team counts about once a month. Attention to detail and being good with numbers are good skills to have for this essential role. Contact Kirsten Tester on ktester@cathedralparish.nz or 595 1053.

Foreign Currency Are you going overseas soon? The parish office has a build-up of foreign currency received through the Sunday Collection. If you can help out by buying some of what we have for the country you are going to get in touch with Kirsten on ktester@cathedral-parish.nz

Draw Near Every Tuesday of the school term at 5:30-6:30pm you are welcome to join in a time of prayer together, followed by discussion of faith over soup and buns. It's a wonderful opportunity to get to know other people of faith, to grow a sense of belonging and to talk about what matters most. It's a relaxed, warm environment to bring a friend, including non-churchgoers.

Growing & Changing is a Christian Sexuality and Relationship workshop providing information and values-based education on human sexuality appropriate for 8 to 10 year olds. A session for Year 5 & 6 students will be on Thursday 24th August at 5:30pm. For more information and how to register contact Clare cbell@cathedralparish.nz. A programme for Year 7 & 8 will be held on 17th October.

Youth Group for Year 7 to 9 Sunday 27th August 5:30pm in the Assisi Lounge. All welcome.

Baptism Catch Up Programme Do you have a child (4 to 8 years old) who would like to receive Baptism? We are running a Baptism Catch Up programme in September where we will prepare for this special sacrament. Please register via the QR code by the end of August. Email Cathie at churdle@cathedralparish.nz if you have any questions. At least one parent needs to be Catholic.

SCAN ME

Amazing Grace!

We have all heard the hymn *Amazing Grace* many times, probably to the point where we don't think about the words that are sung. It tells the story of a man who bought and sold slaves, but after being shipwrecked called out for God's mercy. He found his way to shore and gave his life to God as he experienced God's amazing grace and mercy.

Today I don't think we will have any slave traders in our mist and not many of us will be shipped wreaked, but all of us are slave to something or have things in our lives that block us from knowing the sweetness of God's mercy.

We are all human, God gifted us will free will so we all make mistakes and all need God.

In my life I can remember very vividly hating someone so strongly for how they had treated me. For me it had been the other person's sin and I was the victim. I remember once attending reconciliation and telling the priest the story of the person I hated. Just sitting before Jesus and bringing this to the light I felt my burden lift. Hate is the absence of God, and I had invited God into this relationship. The priest asked me to pray for this person every day. God was faithful, his grace was abundant, and my relationship was fully restored.

In my work so many people say to me "I am not worthy of God's forgiveness" or "I would shock the priest." God already knows our sin; he just wants us to come to Him so we can be healed and forgiven.

Remember, if God can take a slave trader and heal and forgive, he wants you to come to him; to be honest, and to call out for His *Amazing Grace*.

Our bi-monthly Parish evening is called *Amazing Grace* for a reason. Everyone in the Parish is invited to come, to pray, to receive, to encounter God and His *Amazing Grace!*

Join us next Friday 25th August at 7pm for a time of Reconciliation and then a time of prayer and music.

***Clare Bell* - Pasterol Worker**