

Mercy Parish-Whānau Aroha

Parish Office:
Address:

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24 Forbury Road, Dunedin 9012; Ph 4558933
Tues, Wed, Thurs & Fri 9am-2pm

Parish Priest:

Fr Michael Hishon, email: mgtp62@gmail.com
Ph 0274170127
Father Joseph Nguyen, email: jos.nguyenlong@gmail.com
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Fr Vaughan Hook, Trinity Catholic College Chaplain
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**1st September
2024**

Sunday Masses at St Patrick's Basilica

1st September 2024

22nd Sunday in Ord Time Year B

6.00 pm Basilica (Vigil)

9.30 am Basilica

11.00 am Basilica

11.00 am Samoan Mass

8th September 2024

23rd Sunday in Ord Time Year B

6.00 pm Basilica (Vigil)

9.30 am Basilica

11.00 am Basilica

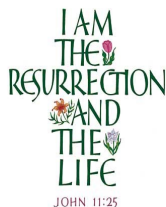
St Brigid's School Mass

6th September at 10 am in the School Hall

**Weekday Masses in the Mercy Chapel
Monday to Saturday at 9.00 am**

We Prayerfully remember those who have
died recently
Kevin O'Connor

and for those who have anniversaries at this time:
Frank O'Neill



Reconciliation:

11.30-12 noon Saturday in the Basilica

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament:

11.00am—12 noon on the First Saturday of the
month in the Basilica.

23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year B

First Reading: Isiah 35.4-7

Second Reading: James 2.1-5

Gospel: Mark 7.31-37

“LOVE FULFILLS THE LAW”

Jesus did not attack the old law of the Old Testament, but He perfected and internalized the law, and at the same time He invited us to go to the core of the law, which is the practice of love. Thus, the spirit of the law is love. Before going to his crucifixion, Jesus passed on to his disciples this new law: "I leave you a new commandment, that you love one another." The law that Jesus established with the blood He shed on the Cross is love, the love that He implemented as a prototype. "Love one another as I have loved you."

God clearly understands each person's heart. Saint Augustine said to God: "Lord, you know me better than I know myself." We cannot hide anything from God. God never measures external moral achievements to evaluate us, but He understands all the mysteries in each person's heart. The only measure by which He values us is the measure of love.

So, it is important to renew the heart. Changing your heart can change everything. The core thing in religion is not that we do this or that, but the reason that motivates us to do those things.

Prayers, Mass, meditating on God's Word, doing charity work... by themselves do not guarantee that we are holy. It only becomes holy before God when those actions come from love of God and others. Saint Paul asserted: "If I give away all my inheritance and give away my whole body to be burned, but do not have love, it profits me nothing" (1 Cor. 13.3).

Lord, please remind us that: rules and rituals are necessary, but do not forget the core of Your law is love. Please teach us to know only one thing: that we do everything only to love God and love our brothers and sisters, Amen.

Fr Joseph

Season of Creation and “Fruits of the Earth” collection for SVDP foodbank

It's awesome that in our part of the world, the Season of Creation (1 Sept – 4 Oct) coincides with the start of Spring, with so much promise of new life and beauty opening up before us. The theme this year is “ To Hope and Act with Creation” - an opportunity to reflect on how God's earth sustains and provides for all of us and how we can provide hope for others through our actions. Here at Mercy parish we are inviting people, if possible, to bring along some 'fruits of the earth' - fresh fruit or vegetables, for the SVDP foodbank, during the weekend of 7-8 September. We understand that toiletries are also in hot demand at the foodbank - including soap, shampoo, toilet paper, washing powder and dishwashing liquid. Thank you for your support.

INTERNATIONAL ROSARY

Will be celebrated at Mercy Parish Chapel in South Dunedin on Tuesday, 3rd September at 7.00 pm. We aim for 10 different languages to keep this Rosary truly International. Each decade is divided into two and we all reply in English. Please see June on the night if you are able to say 5 Hail Mary's in a different language but also if you like to pray in English for a country of your choice. That still keeps it International! There are many countries who need our prayers!! Thank you for your participation.

Re Planned Giving Thank you to all who have responded so positively to our recent Planned Giving campaign. It has been many years for most parishes since planned giving has been promoted and this is the first time we have had a diocesan-wide promotion.

These past three weeks have been a time when we have all reflected on the important place the Church has in our lives. We have also been able to provide some clarity around the income required to enable our parishes to be sustainable and to thrive. Thank you for the many ways that you support the life of the Church and for your financial support of your parish.

+Michael Dooley

Planned Giving If you would like to pay your planned giving by automatic payment the details are as follows: South Dunedin Parish Account 06-0901-0054866-15 Please put your name as reference and “PG” as code. If you would like a preprinted automatic payment form with the parish details on it there are some in the foyer.

For the month of August The Mercy Parish Tap and Go eftpos machine will be in support of the St Francis Trust.

SOUP & BUNS

In the Basilica foyer 3.30pm- 6pm every Thursday. Come along and join us for soup and company.



Social Justice Week: 8-14 September 2024

Imagine Peace for all: Choose forgiveness, know peace.

Each year, the New Zealand Catholic Bishops lead us in Social Justice Week to consider an issue of social justice in Aotearoa. This year we are looking at the importance of forgiveness and reconciliation for building lasting peace. Join us in reflecting on how these values can transform our lives and communities. Through prayer, education, and action, we can work together to create a more just and peaceful society. For more information and resources, including a reflection guide for use by individuals or a group, visit www.caritas.org.nz/parishes/social-justice-week.

Palliative Care offers to improve quality of life.

A Palliative Care workshop is being held where you will have the opportunity to learn about Palliative Care and discuss some of your own personal experiences.

The hope is that we will share this to our family and friends and parishioners we visit and also support those who have life-limiting illness, the terminally ill, and those approaching-end-of-life in our community. Dying and death has always been a communal event.

The workshop is centered around our faith in God, who loves us so much that while we were still sinners sent Jesus Christ, His Only Son to redeem us and the Holy Spirit to guide us and to continue to be His instrument to alleviate suffering and make our family and neighbours feel valued. Palliative Care is one instrument God is using to make His love known.

We would like to invite you to participate in learning sessions on Horizons of Hope: A Toolkit for Catholic Parishes on Palliative Care on:

29 August 2024 - First Module 6-8 pm

5 September 2024 - Second Module 6-8 pm

12 September 2024 - Third Module 6-8 pm

19 September 2024 - Fourth Module 6-8 pm

This will be held at the Little Sisters of the Poor, 295 Brockville Road.

Please email me if you are interested: jannet.mercardo@mail.com.

Registration is FREE but places are limited.

Please note the email address is mail.com NOT gmail.com.

The intercultural fellowship is having a family get-together to share our favourite kinds of kai (food). Sunday Sept. 15, at 3:15 pm in the Mercy Room. All are welcome to share friendship, stories, belonging and culture. For more information contact Jeremy at 02108497496.

Privacy As you know each Sunday the 9.30-am Mass is livestreamed through Youtube . For those who do not wish to be filmed please note that the seats along the back wall do not get filmed.

Sick and Housebound Parishioners:

If you are unable to come to Mass on a Sunday or know of parishioners who are no longer able to come to Mass please let us know so Holy Communion can be taken to yourself or them. **Please contact the Parish Office, Ph. 455 8933 or Adrienne Ryan, Ph. 476 1520.**