

READERS

12 MAR Lyn Hopkins
 19 MAR Peter McAuliffe
 26 MAR Shelley Johnson

MINISTER OF COMMUNION/SACRISTAN

12 MAR Frank
 19 MAR Jenny
 26 MAR Olivia

OFFERTORY / GIFTS

12 MAR Liji & Rojo
 19 MAR Tania & Mike
 26 MAR Caigoy Family

ALTAR SERVERS

12 MAR Zaydee / Kiera / Jaren/Jordan
 19 MAR Aidan / Marilyn / Eve
 26 MAR

FLOWERS

MAR Judy / Maree
 APRIL Jade
 MAY Michelle

MORNING TEA

12 MAR Team Liturgy
 19 MAR Team Youth
 26 MAR Team Yolanda

CHURCH CLEANING

MAR WK 1 GROUP 3 Frank Schnuriger /
 Mary Wenzlick/Gail Ryan/Judy Thomas

MAR WK 3 GROUP 4 Christine Pearce/
 Sherly Njarakkal/Cassie Fleming



Remembering those
 who have passed.
MARCH Charlotte
 Aspin, Margaret
 Higgs, Jean Rabe,

Keith Managh, John Madgwick, James
 Higgs, Arthur Lundberg, Uma MacDonald,
 John Lander, Mervyn McDowell, Michael
 O'Grady, Phyllis Dorrington, Agnes Bee-
 cher, Peter Sheehan, Olive Taylor, Kathleen
 Russek, Ken Wright, Lucy Constantina,
 Jorge Feliciano, Connell Duggan, Leo Gan-
 ley, Hubert McGuire, Liam Wahrlich, Nora
 Fisher, Samuel Devcich, Judith Rohrlach,
 Joan Graham, Paul Keane, Judith Gilliland,
 Robert Clark, Peg Connell, Joy Madgwick,
 Francis Donnelly, Maureen Scarborough,
 Max Twentyman, Ian Whyman



St Francis of Assisi CATHOLIC CHURCH, THAMES

3RD SUNDAY OF LENT — YEAR A

12 MARCH 2023

FIRST READING

EXODUS 17: 3-7

Give us water to drink.

SECOND

READING

ROMANS 5: 1-2, 5-8

The love of God has been poured into our hearts by the Holy Spirit which has been given to us.

GOSPEL

JOHN 4: 5-42

The water that I shall give will turn into a spring of eternal life.

Living Water for a Thirsty Soul

Jesus came to a town of Samaria called Sychar, near the plot of land that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. Jacob's well was there. Jesus, tired from his journey, sat down there at the well. It was about noon. A woman of Samaria came to draw water. Jesus said to her, "Give me a drink."

John 4:5-7



Whoever drinks this water will never thirst - Jesus

Today, throughout the world, Catholic liturgies will celebrate the first of three Scrutinies of those adults who are preparing to receive the Sacraments of Initiation at the Easter Vigil. The word "scrutiny" comes from the Latin word *scrutari* which means an inquiry, close examination or search of something. It originally referred to rummaging through rubbish so as to find something of value. In a sense, this is what God does with all of us. When we first turn to Him, He sorts through the disorder of our fallen human nature and our sins so as to point to the goodness and beauty of the child He created. As for the liturgical rite that will be celebrated in churches throughout the world today, the *Right of Christian Initiation of Adults* describes it as follows: "The scrutinies are meant to uncover, and then heal all that is weak, defective, or sinful in the hearts of the elect; to bring out, then strengthen all that is upright, strong, and good" (#141). The Gospel story we read today depicts this action beautifully. It is the long and inspiring story of the woman at the well. This story is filled with symbolism, much of which the casual reader could easily miss. *Amen*

PARISH INFORMATION

Fr Marchellino Park
 Email: pih0116@gmail.com
 021 113 1855

Presbytery
 111 Baillie Street, Thames 3500
 Ph. 868 6169

Pastoral Care
 Sister Paula Cronin
 Ph 868 6310
 Email: sisterp3@outlook.com

Parish Office
 111 Baillie Street, Thames 3500
 Robyn Smith (Administrator)
 Ph. 868 9407
 Mobile: 027 291 5165

Email:
 stfrancisthames@xtra.co.nz
 www.coromandelcatholic.org.nz

St. Francis School
Principal—Oliver Fahey
 Ph. 868 7655

Parish Leadership Team
 Margaret Mabey

Ministry to the Sick/Elderly
 Sr Paula (Coordinator)
 8686310

Reconciliation
 During Exposition on Fridays &
 Saturdays after 9.15 am Mass.

LITURGICAL TIMES

WEEKDAY MASSES IN THE CHAPEL

Monday— No Mass

Tuesday—Rosary and Mass 5pm

Wednesday—Rosary & Mass 9.00am

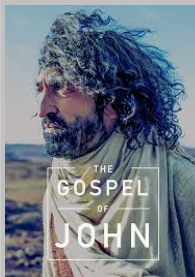
**Rosary and Mass at
 10.30am (Ngatea)**

Thursday—Rosary and Mass 9.00am

**Friday—Adoration, Rosary 11am and
 Mass 12:15pm**

Saturday- Rosary and Mass 9.00am

Sunday—Mass 8:30am



WELCOME VISITORS, to St Francis of Assisi, Thames. Whether you are here for the first time or visit periodically you are most welcome.



First **CWL Raffle** for 2023 will be **TODAY** They will then be held on the 26th March, 9th of April & 23rd of April.



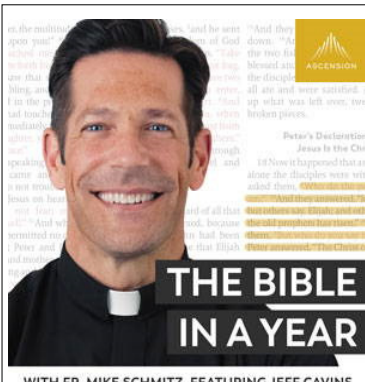
Come to a friendly fun afternoon meeting on the 1st & 3rd Monday each month in the school library. Cost = \$2

per session, Men & Women all welcome. afternoon tea is provided. The next afternoon is—**Monday the 20th of March 1pm** at Parish Centre.

Experienced Man Seeking Work

- Lawn mowing
- Gardening
- Hammer hand

Free quotes
Phone John 027 462 3783



The Bible in a Year

Fr Mike Schmitz a catholic theology priest from USA has prepared daily sessions to take us through the full bible in 12 months. Each daily episode is around 20-30 minutes and includes the daily readings along with a contextual explanation. I highly recommend this. To access go into your podcast app on your phone/ tablet and search for the above title. Alternatively the preferred option is to download the Hallow app on your phone/ tablet. (This option comes at a cost.)

If you need assistance to get access I'm happy to help. Contact Mark Oliver 021779200

PARISH FINANCIAL REPORT



February Collections TOTAL \$2790

(includes AP's Parish & House accounts)

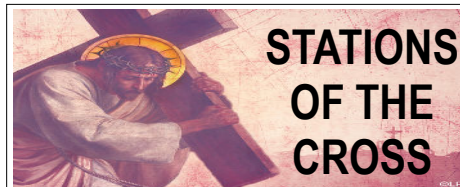
RC Bishop of Auckland Parish Account Thames
02—0100—0120990 —008

PLEASE NOTE: WE ONLY HAVE ONE COLLECTION

For priestly maintenance you can contribute into the House account.

RC Bishop of Auckland Coromandel Region House Account **02—0100—0726108 — 00**

Have you considered giving your gift to the Parish through **Auto Payment?** This is a way to show a strong commitment to your Parish. AP's continually support even when you are away on holiday.



Stations at 5:15 on a Friday

- 17th March - Youth Group
- 24th March - Lead Team
- 31st March - Youth Group

Sunday 8:30am 19th March Youth Mass with Youth Leaders from Northcote and Papakura Parishes



Thanks to the good donations received before & after Christmas. These donations through your church or dropped off at Pak'n'Save or 305 Mary Street has meant a good level of stock in the foodbank. However due to recent events in our area, the number of parcels given out has greatly increased so we are now starting to run short of some items.

Canned Corn, Canned Vegetables, Pasta, Breakfast cereal, Tinned Fruit, Coffee, Jam & other sandwich spreads, crackers, Spaghetti & Baked beans, Canned lentils etc.

Thank you for your support.
David & Jenny Cooper
Thames Foodbank

Data for January 2023

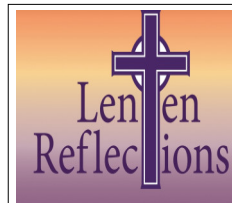
Food Parcels – 45 (feeding 128 people) – 77 adults and 51 children

Data for February 2023

Food Parcels – 59 (feeding 187 people) – 109 adults and 78 children

Thank you for all your support for the Foodbank.

Caroline Talbot, Manager



Lenten Reflections on the Sunday Gospels
Thursday 16th March
at 7 p.m. to be held at **Lyn Hopkin's**
224 Reservoir Road



Quiz Night: St Patrick's Day fun Parish Quiz Night.
Friday the 17th of March at 7pm in the Parish Centre.

Admission is \$10

Supper is Provided but this is a BYO event. The Theme for the evening is GREEN. Wear something green or dress up. Come and have a fun evening. (All proceeds are going to the Parish Centre upgrade.)

RITE II RECONCILIATION
WEDNESDAY 22nd MARCH 6pm

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is an essential part of our Catholic Identity and an integral part of our Mission. It is a holy moment in which we place ourselves in God's presence and honestly acknowledge our sins, it gives us a sense of lightness, freedom, and peace from the burden of sin. The experience also brings a sense of gratitude to our Lord for his compassion and mercy. Not only does the Sacrament of Reconciliation free us from our sins but it encourages us to be more Christ-like and have compassion and forgiveness for those who sin against us. Make this date part of your Lenten journey.

