

*The following deaths and Anniversaries are about this time*

- 25 Katie McGuire  
Michael Philip Amies  
Cecil Montague Lange (Father of Fr Brian Lange)
- 26 Kevin William Beals
- 28 William James Pender (Brother Cyril)
- 29 Dale Ellen Collins (Sister of Ann Cottle)

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

**Saints of the week, cycle C.**

**Monday, 25th of Aug:-** Saint Louis of France

**Tuesday, 26th of Aug:-** Saint Alexander of Bergamo

**Wednesday, 27th of Aug:-** Saint Monica

**Thursday, 28th of Aug:-** Saint Augustine

**Friday, 29th of Aug:-** The Passion of John the Baptist

**Saturday, 30th of Aug:-** Blessed Ildefonso Schuster

**Sunday, 31st of Aug:-** Saint Abundius of Como

**Church Notices**

We are also looking for volunteers to assist as **Ministers of the Word and Eucharistic Ministers.**

If you're able to help, please contact:

**Litia Lockington** – 021 0832 9971

**Clare Williams** – 021 178 0667

**Your support is greatly appreciated!**

# Welcome to St. Andrew's Catholic Church, Tuakau

*21th Sunday of Ordinary Time, 24th August 2025, Cycle C*



**Physical Address**

186 George Street, Tuakau

**Postal Address**

24 Domain Street, Waiuku  
2123

**Website:**

[www.tuakaucatholic.org.nz](http://www.tuakaucatholic.org.nz)

**Parish Priest**

Fr. Robert Steele  
[office@pukekohecatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@pukekohecatholic.org.nz)  
Mobile: 021 1133840

**Assistant Priest:**

Fr Joseph Doan

**Mass Times:**

Saturday Vigil, 5:00 pm  
Wed & Fri, 11:00 am

**Reconciliation:**

Saturday: 4:30 to 4:45 pm or  
by appointment

**Anointing of the sick:**

First Friday, during Mass at  
11:00 am

**Introduction:**

***The Last shall be First.***

*Prayer Thought: God's ways are not our ways: we cannot set limits on his actions. He has every right to call to his kingdom anyone he chooses: we have no exclusive right to a place at his table..*

**Readings from Sacred Scripture:**

**First Reading** Isaiah 66:18-21

*Nations of every language shall come to see my glory.*

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 39:2-4.18

**R/. Go out to the whole world; Proclaim the Good News. Alleluia!**

**Second Reading:** Hebrews 12:5-7,11-13

*Whom the Lord loves, he disciplines.*

**Gospel Acclamation:-** Acts 16:14

*Alleluia, Alleluia! If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my father will love him, and we shall come to him. Alleluia!*

**Gospel Reading:** Luke 13:22-30

*People will come from north and south, east and west, and take their place in the Kingdom of God.*

**WEEKLY INSPIRATION – PERSEVERANCE**



**“Strive to enter through the narrow door, for many, I tell you, will seek to enter and will not be able.”**

— Luke 13:24

Following Jesus takes effort and focus. We cannot assume our place in God's Kingdom. Daily, we are called to examine our hearts, turn from what leads us astray, and pursue righteousness. Persevering on this narrow path opens the door to life, purpose, and the joy of God's eternal banquet.

### Scripture note :-

Today's Gospel reading is the third of three parables in chapter 13 that deal with the theme of the unexpected reversals brought by the Kingdom of God. The other two parables are about the tiny mustard seed that grows into a large tree and the small amount of yeast that makes a large batch of dough rise. All three are about the few and the many and the Kingdom of God.

As this parable opens, Luke reminds us that Jesus is making his way to Jerusalem. This journey, this exodus as Luke refers to it, makes up the entire middle of the Gospel. He is teaching as he goes. A question from the crowd gives Jesus the chance to make a prophetic statement. Luke uses this question device a number of times in his Gospel. A few weeks ago, the question "What must I do to inherit eternal life?" led to the parable of the Good Samaritan. The question about will only a few be saved uses typical Christian language about salvation but also expresses the Jewish concern about whether everyone who calls himself a Jew is actually faithful to the covenant. This was a concern of the Pharisees.

Jesus answers that they must strive in the time remaining to enter through the narrow door because many will be trying to get in but won't be strong enough. He then moves to a parable about another door. (The translation says "gate" then "door," but the same Greek word is used.) Once all those entering the master's house are in and he locks the door, there will be no way for others to get in. Those left outside may knock, but the master will say he doesn't know them. Unlike the Gospel reading from a few weeks ago where Jesus was teaching about prayer, and we were told to knock and the door would be opened, in this parable, the master will not open and say he does not know us. People from the north, south, east, and west will take our place inside. Abraham, Isaac, Jacob, and all the prophets will take our place in the Kingdom of God. Those who do not make it through the narrow door will be cast out to where there is wailing and grinding of teeth.

The image of the door is replaced in the final verses of the parable with the image of the heavenly banquet. Two passages from the Book of Isaiah influence the conclusion. Isaiah 43:5-6 speaks of God bringing Israel's descendants back from the east and from the west, the north and the south. And Isaiah 25:6 speaks of the Lord providing a feast of rich foods and choice wines for all peoples on his holy mountain. The answer to the question if only a few will be saved is no. In the end, many will be saved, but many who thought they would be saved will not be saved. The parable is a prophetic warning to repentance in order to enter the kingdom.

**Mothers Group:** All mothers and their children under the age of 5 are invited to "St Gianna's Mothers and Children Group". The morning starts with an element of formation and group discussions while your children enjoy a safe area to play, followed by Mass and lunch (provided). Join us on the **second and fourth Tuesdays** of the month from **10am - 1pm**. This group is run by Family Life International at their 'St Gianna's Home for Mothers and Babies' in Pukekohe Auckland. First session will be on Tuesday 29th of April.

Contact Amie for the address: 027 350 8227; werthenextgen@gmail.com

**Te Ara o te Tūmanako - The Way of Hope - 29th September 2025 to 19th October 2025** Every 25 years the Church proclaims a Holy Year, a special gift of grace and mercy for all God's people. The theme for Jubilee 2025 is "Pilgrims of Hope." On the way we will meet pilgrims of the past, who we now know as saints, but were once pilgrims of the past who have influenced our local and the universal Church and who will inspire us in hope as journey to the Holy Door in St Peter's Basilica in Rome. For further information and bookings please contact Harvest Journeys NZ Call free 0800 819 156 - [harvestjourneys.com/pv2566](http://harvestjourneys.com/pv2566) or [info@harvestjourneys.com](mailto:info@harvestjourneys.com)

### Scripture Readings for 22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time, 31st August, Cycle C

#### Theme:- The Greatness if Humility

#### First Reading Sirach 3:17-18,20,28-29

*Humble yourself and you will find favor with God*

#### Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 116

*R/. In your goodness, O God, you prepared a home for the poor.*

#### Second Reading: Hebrews 12:18-19,22-24

*You have approached Mount Zion and the city of the living God, the heavenly Jerusalem.*

#### Gospel Acclamation:- Acts 16:14

*Alleluia, Alleluia! If anyone loves me, he will keep my word, and my father will love him, and we shall come to him. Alleluia!*

#### Gospel Reading: Luke 14:1,7-14

*When you hold a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind.*

Please email items for the newsletter or Memorial book to [minu\\_mathew@hotmail.com](mailto:minu_mathew@hotmail.com) or text to 021 926 935 – Minu Mathew

### CATHOLIC NEWS IN YOUR IN-BOX:

What's happening in the Catholic Church in New Zealand? What is Pope Leo doing and saying? What are the big stories affecting people of faith in our country? Get Catholic headlines delivered to your inbox each Tuesday and Friday. Sign up today at: <https://cathnewsnz.com/>

**Hope and Renewal Summit** - RACE Awapuni, 67 Racecourse Road, Palmerston North, In this Jubilee Year of Hope, the Summit calls parish leaders, clergy, and volunteers to dream boldly and step confidently into a future where parishes thrive in mission and discipleship. This 3-day gathering will equip you with practical tools, Spirit-led inspiration, and a renewed vision for lasting parish renewal. In partnership with Divine Renovation and the Diocese of Palmerston North, the summit builds on New Zealand's growing renewal movement—now is the time to fan the flame into a nationwide transformation. **October 2** - Clergy Only Day: A day of spiritual renewal and leadership formation for priests. **October 3- 4** - Open to everyone Inspiring keynotes from renewal leaders Hands-on workshops Spirit-led prayer. From small rural parishes to large urban communities, this summit offers the vision, tools, and encouragement to embrace mission, inspire hope, and transform parish culture. The time is now. The call is clear. Are you ready to set your parish on fire for mission? Please visit the following link for details and registration: [Home - Hope and Renewal Summit | Parish Renewal Conference](#)

### Engaged / Planning a wedding? Catholic Diocese of Auckland – Approved Marriage Preparation Course

Book your Marriage Preparation Course early 1 year for NZ and 18months for overseas weddings. Register & Book here: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/our-courses/> For more information contact: Gerry at [gerrys@cda.org.nz](mailto:gerrys@cda.org.nz) M: 021 02247442

Please contact Father Robert as soon as possible in planning your marriage.

**Dove Catholic Fellowship for Women** is moving to small parish-based groups called Dovecotes, where women may experience the warmth of fellowship, the power of prayer and the joy of worship. If you feel a need for a Dovecote in your area, please contact Gloria: [doventational.leader@gmail.com](mailto:doventational.leader@gmail.com) or Ph 0272456742. Or see our website: [www.dove.org.nz](http://www.dove.org.nz)