

*The following deaths and Anniversaries are about this time*

- 10 Irene Margaret Finn (mother of Marilyn Masemann)
- 11 Delia Rogers
- 12 Robert Thomson  
Doreen Casbolt (cousin of Irene Dromgool)
- 13 Michael O'Doherty (father of Diane Tukiri)  
Adolf Hardegger (father of Agnes Deane)
- 15 Brother Wilfrid

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**

*Monday, 9th of March Saint Frances of Rome*

*Tuesday, 10th of March :- Saint John Ogilvie*

*Wednesday, 11th of March :- Saint Rosine of Wenglingen*

*Thursday, 12th of March :- Saint Fina of San Gimignano*

*Friday, 13th of March :- Saint Roderigo*

*Saturday, 14th of March – Saint Matilda*

*Sunday, 15th of March :- Saint Longinus*



**First Holy Communion & Confirmation—Sacramental Programme 2026**

Reconciliation—3:30 pm to 4:15pm Weekly before Vigil mass

February 28th	Week 1
March 7th	Week 2
March 14th	Week3
March 21st	Week4

For any enquiries, please contact **Clare Williams** on 021 178 0667 or **Litia Lockington** on 021 083 29971.

**Volunteers**

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

*Third Sunday of Lent, Cycle A, 8th March 2026*



**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: Unless you Repent, you will Perish**

*Prayer Thought: Today's Gospel is one of the most frightening we meet. Jesus warns us against putting off repentance until tomorrow— who knows if tomorrow might be too late?*

**Readings from Sacred Scripture:**

**First Reading:** Exodus 17:3-7

*God tells Moses to bring forth water from the rock.*

**Responsorial Psalm:** Psalm 102:1-4

*R/. The Lord is compassion and love.*

**Second Reading:** Romans 5:1-2,5-8

*Christ died for us while we were still sinners.*

**Gospel Acclamation:-** John 8:12 Alleluia, Alleluia!

*Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God! Repent, says the Lord, for the kingdown of heaven is close at hand, Glory to you, O Christ, you are the Word of God! Alleluia!*

**Gospel Reading:** John 4:5-42

*Jesus reveals himself to the Samaritan woman at the well.*

**WEEKLY INSPIRATION –MERCY**



*Jesus answered her, 'Everyone who drinks this water will be thirsty again, but whoever drinks the water I give them will never thirst. Indeed, the water I give them will become in them a spring of water welling up to eternal life.' – John 4:13-14*

Jesus sees and values everyone, regardless of their past or social status. Like the Samaritan woman, we are called to receive His grace and share it with others. True fulfilment comes from the Living Water He offers, inspiring us to break barriers and spread hope

## Scripture note :-

On this Sunday and the next two Sundays, we break from reading the Gospel of Matthew to read from John's Gospel. The Gospel of John is the only Gospel not assigned to a particular liturgical year. Instead, readings from John's Gospel are interspersed throughout our three-year liturgical cycle.

In today's Gospel, the dialogue between Jesus and a woman from Samaria is among the most lengthy and most theological found in Scripture. The most startling aspect of the conversation is that it happens at all. Jesus, an observant Jew of that time, was expected to avoid conversation with women in public. The animosity between the Jews and the Samaritans should have prevented the conversation as well. The woman herself alludes to the break from tradition: "How can you, a Jew, ask me, a Samaritan woman, for a drink?" Yet Jesus not only converses with the woman, he also asks to share her drinking vessel, an action that makes him unclean according to Jewish law.

The initial conversation between Jesus and the woman is better understood if we consider the importance of water, especially in the climate of Israel. At first, the woman understands Jesus' promise of "living water" in a literal sense: "Sir, give me this water, so that I may not be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water." With no running water, the daily trip to the well by the women of the community was of paramount importance. The women of the town would have traveled to the well in the early morning, but this woman came to the well at noon, the hottest time of the day. The timing of her visit is a clear sign that she is an outcast within the Samaritan community. We learn in her conversation with Jesus that she is an outcast because of her "many husbands."

Behind the conversation lies the animosity and rivalry between the Jews and the Samaritans. Samaritans shared Jewish ancestry, but Samaritans had intermarried with foreigners when they lived under the rule of the Assyrians. Samaritan religion included worship of Yahweh, but was also influenced by the worship of other gods. When the Jews refused Samaritan help in the building of the Temple at Jerusalem, the Samaritans eventually built a temple for themselves at Mt. Gerizim (the same mountain mentioned by the woman at the well). Like the Jews, the Samaritans believed that a Messiah would come.

The high point of the conversation is when Jesus reveals himself to her as the Messiah. His answer to the Samaritan woman's questions about worship is meant to predict a time when worshipping in truth and spirit will become the way to worship.

After the conversation, the Samaritan woman becomes a disciple. Even though she is an outcast and not a Jew, she returns to her town to lead others to Jesus and to wonder whether she has found the Messiah. The Samaritan townspeople return with her to meet Jesus for themselves, and many are said to come to believe in him.

The significance of the encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman has many levels. The first is personal: The woman is herself converted to belief in Jesus as Messiah because he knows her sin but speaks with her just the same. The second is social: Having come to know Jesus as the Messiah, the Samaritan woman becomes an evangelist to her own people.

The third level of the story is educational: Jesus uses his encounter with the Samaritan woman to teach his disciples that God's mercy is without limit. The disciples return from their shopping quite confused to find Jesus talking with a Samaritan, and a woman at that! But the conversion of the Samaritan townspeople is a foretaste of the kind of open community that will be created among those who believe that Jesus is the Messiah.

## Fourth Sunday of Lent, Cycle A, 15th March 2026

**Theme:- This Man Welcomes Sinners**

**First Reading:** *Samuel 16:1b,6-7,10-13a*  
*Samuel is sent to anoint David as king.*

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Psalm 33:2-7*  
**R/. Taste and see that the Lord is good.**

**Second Reading:** *Ephesians 5:8-14*  
*The Ephesians are told to live as children of light.*

**Gospel Acclamation:-** *Luke 15:18 Alleluia, Alleluia! Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus! I will leave this place and go to my father and say: 'Father I have sinned against heaven and against you.' Praise and honour to you, Lord Jesus Alleluia!*

**Gospel Reading:** *John 9:1-41*  
*Jesus heals the man born blind and reveals himself to him as the Son of Man.*

**Notices & Remembrances** 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

**OneLicense** exciting Update. Are you struggling to have musicians to play at each Mass? OneLicense has launched a new Recorded Audio License. With this add-on you can legally play master recordings and self-produced recordings in worship services, embed them into slides, and more! For more information please see <https://www.onelicense.net/how-it-works#recorded-audio> If you wish to add one on to your current license, please email your Auckland Diocese Group Manager Tina Coll on [tinac@cda.org.nz](mailto:tinac@cda.org.nz)

**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: [dovenational.leader@gmail.com](mailto:dovenational.leader@gmail.com) or Ph 0272456742. website: [www.dove.org.nz](http://www.dove.org.nz)

## 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.

## 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/>

## ROSTER FOR 14/03/2026

### Introduction:

- Shelly Zinampan

### Ministers of word:

- 1st Reader : Clare Williams
- 2nd Reader: Mrs. Poto

### Eucharistic Ministers:

- Natoba Lockington
- John Poto

### Altar Servers:

- Liam
- Grace

