St Francis & St Therese Catholic Parish Newsletter

The St Francis Epistle

Parish Priest: Fr John Webb

"Our parish is a Christian community called to follow Christ faithfully with gratitude, humility and simplicity, worshipping our God in prayer and serving our neighbour to build a united and loving community."

Vol. 77 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time 20th September 2026

Matthew 20.1-16 of Sunday September 20, 2026

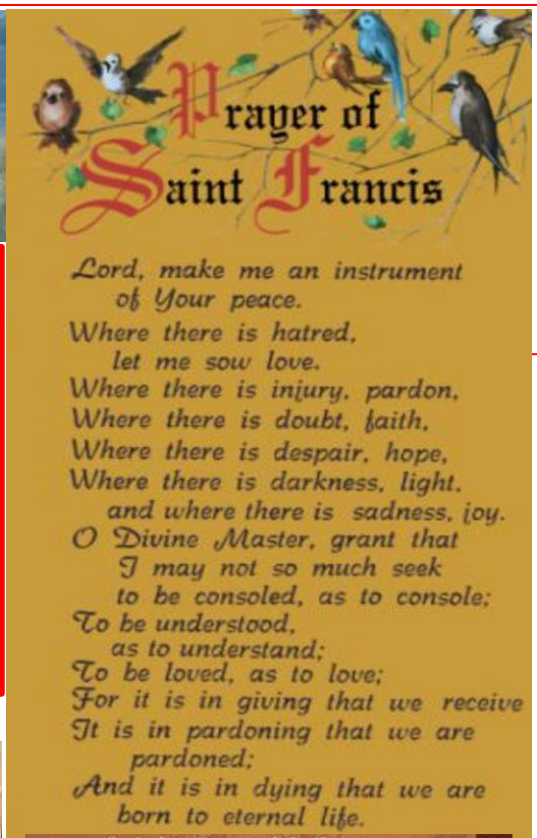
Jesus spoke this parable to his disciples: "The kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire labourers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the labourers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. "When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' "When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the labourers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. "Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' "So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

THE GOSPEL OF THE LORD

Saturday 3rd October
Rite II Reconciliation
10 – 10:45am & 4 – 4:30pm
Vigil Mass at 5:30pm

Sunday 4th October
9am Mass followed by a shared lunch in the Parish Hall.

All welcome.
Please bring a plate of food to share.



"Special Year of St. Francis" 10th Jan 26 – 10th Jan 27

Prayer of St Francis for Animals

God our Heavenly Father, You created the world to serve humanity's needs and to lead them to you. Give us the grace to see all animals as gifts from you and to treat them with respect for they are your creation. We pray for all animals who are suffering as a result of our neglect. Through our Lord Jesus Christ who lives and reigns with You now and forever. Amen.

Through Baptism last weekend, we welcome,

Raif

into our Parish Family

Chainsaw Action

If anyone has a chainsaw and is keen to reduce this stubborn stump on the Presbytery lawn to ground level, please contact Stuart on 027 818 2403.

Address: 46 Pt Chevalier Road, Pt Chevalier. **Ph**: 09 846 7612
Email: stfrancis-ptchev@xtra.co.nz **Secretary**: Ms Paula Betham
Safeguarding Email: ptchevparishsafeguarding@gmail.com
Office Hours: Mon-Fri 9am – 2:30pm; except Thursday Office Closed.
Parish Account: Name: **SS Francis & Therese Pt Chevalier Property Acct** 02-0108-0707331-003
St Francis School Principal: Mrs Lisa Bateman Ph: 846 4696

AMAZING HELP Thank you!

MINISTRY ROSTER September 26						
DATE	**COMMENTATOR**	**1ST READER**	**2ND READER**	**COMMUNION**	**PROJECTOR**	**ALTAR SERVERS**
19th Sep	Chrystal Rodrigues	Hugh Finnemore	Ceejay Rodrigues	Anne King & Maree Burns	Lai Peng Chiew	Keanu, Ray Ayden
20th Sep	Maria Oa-Ariki	Emma Ibbetson	David Schischka	Renata Kowalczyk & Beata Stus-Greig	Jeff Han	Marcelo, Leonardo & Vinnie & Dom F
26th Sep	Laureen Simmonds	Erin Joyce	Megan Scott	Anne King & Maree Burns	Liam Joyce	Patrick, Cameron & Callum
27th Sep	MDM Youth	MDM Youth	MDM Youth	Anthony & Arpana Korshapati	Melinda Chuo	Susie, Noah, Lorenzo & Marco

	Morning Tea	Children's Liturgy	Church Cleaning	Counting
19th / 20th Sep	Renata, Stuart & Malith	Ali	Fabiana	Roy & Maree
26th / 27th Sep	School Holidays	School Holidays	Janet	Mew Han

Ministry Whats app Leaders:
Projectionists: Joe Joseph 02040806963
Readers and Communion:
Anne King 0274507939
Altar Servers, Children's Liturgy & Morning Tea: Stuart King 0278182403

For access to School Newsletters, please click on this link.
News + events – St. Francis Catholic Primary School

Foodbank continues
If you have any spare non perishable food, spare toiletries or cleaning products, that you would like to donate, our Parish foodbank basket is at the back of the Church. Donated grocery vouchers are also gratefully accepted.
If you, or someone you know is in need of a helping hand, please email Paula at the Parish Office. All communications are kept strictly confidential.

Kids Corner

CELEBRATING TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY in OT
https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/CELEBRATING-THE-TWENTY-2.pdf

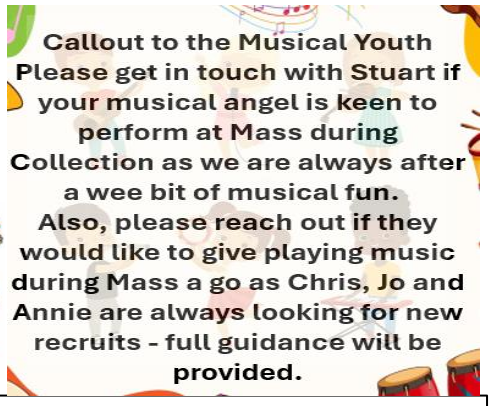
WHEN YOU WORK FOR GOD
https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2026/09/When-you-work-for-God.pdf

Please keep both Fr John and Fr Ezio in your prayers.

Fr John will be on some much need annual leave from **6th October until 9th November**. During this time Fr Ezio Blasoni will celebrate weekend Masses and we will only have Liturgy of the Word with Communion on Fridays.

Feast Day of Saint Vincent De Paul
All Auckland Vincentians are invited to come and celebrate the Feast Day of Saint Vincent De Paul with a Shine Televised Mass.
Saturday **19 September** 2026 at 2.00pm at Sacred Heart Church, Vermont Street, Ponsonby. Celebrant: Fr Martin Wu. Mass will be followed by a shared afternoon tea in the St Columba Centre. Bring yourselves and food to share. Drinks will be provided. Note: Shine Masses are recorded before the weekend they will be screened, this mass will be aired on St Vincent's actual feast day - 27 September 2026

We are seeking some more Helpers to run the Sunday Children's Liturgy sessions in the School whanau room. It's a brief breakout session (around 20 mins during Mass) where the leader reads the Children's version of the gospel, discusses it and gets the kids to do some fun colouring-in. All materials and the process is provided. Please contact Stuart on 027 818 2403 for more info. It's a great Service hour generator for high-schoolers and you'll only need to do it once or twice a term.



CLASSIFIEDS

To place an ad in the Classifieds, please email through by end of business each Wednesday

PUBLIC NOTICES

Mass Times:

Monday	10am Selwyn Village
Wednesday	Midday at Church
Friday	9:15am
Saturday	5:30pm English
Sunday	9:00 am English
	11:00am Croatian

Reconciliations every Saturday 5pm or by appointment.

Today's Readings:

1st Reading: Isaiah 55:6-9
Responsorial Psalm: Psalm 144
2nd Reading: Philippians 1:20-24, 27
Gospel: Matthew 20:1-16

Next Week's Readings:

1st Reading: Ezekiel 18:25-28
Responsorial Psalm: 24
2nd Reading: Philippians 2:1-11
Gospel: Matthew 21:28-32

For our READERS.

Here is a link you can use to **find the readings** on your rostered day. We hope this will help you with preparations.
Visit:
https://readings.livingwithchrist.ca
Click on "**Our Faith**" and choose **'Daily readings**" then scroll to the right to find the date you want. This link has the daily readings as well as Sundays

Back by popular demand, the St. Francis Dads will have a special support session, aka pub crawl, on **Friday 20 November - *for all new, existing and past St. Francis Dads - everyone is invited***. The fun and shenanigans will commence at the **Pt. Chev. Bowling Club from 5pm**, where it will be onwards and upwards to Ambler, Nomads, Cupid Bar and of course Wapiti. To find out where we are on the night and for any queries, please contact Stuart on 027 818 2403.

PRAYER INTENTIONS

Pray for all those who are sick in our Parish especially:
Arvi Crossland, Christine Hurrell, Katie Gabric, Peter and Paul Tolich; John Cunningham, Helen Hunter and Terrence Kayes

Pray for all those who are recently deceased especially ***Kathleen Burmester & Fr Nkululeko Qokolo****.*
Please pray also for all those whose Anniversaries occur around this time especially ***Fr Vales Dania***

PARISH COMMITTEES

Parish Pastoral Council Members:

Fr John Webb; Hugh & Jane Finnemore; David & Trish Schischka; Alex van Crasbeek; Lai Peng Chiew; Janet Skinner; Margaret Gilvray; Annie Cass; Esther Vernon
For any queries, please contact the Parish Office. **12th Oct.**

Finance Committee Members:

Stuart King ***Chair 0278182403***.
Fr John Webb; Brad Murphy David Joyce, Arvi Crossland & welcome to Kudzaiishe (Craig) Kahuni. **13th Oct**

Liturgy Committee Members

Chris Smith **(Chair)**; Fr John Webb; David Schischka; Joe Joseph; Effie Smallridge; Agnes Steffany; Jane Finnemore.
Next meeting **12th Oct.**

INHOUSE FORMATION

Baptism Preparation Class

Please contact the Parish Office directly for registration. The Preparation class is mandatory.
1st Sat of every month 3:30-4:30pm

Sacramental Programme.

Registrations for 2027 will be open in February 2027. If you are interested in enrolling your child (ren), you are welcome to email the Office and ask to be put on the waiting list.

SOCIAL NEWS

Morning Teas

Our wonderful welcoming and friendly Parish Morning Teas. Every Sunday after Mass. Please contact Stuart if you would like to be rostered on to help out and feel free to bring along any home baking, etc. Another great Service hour opportunity for secondary school kids.

St Joseph's Gift Shop & Christian Supplies Ltd
253 Dairy Flat Highway,
Albany, Auckland
shop@stjosephscentre.co.nz
09 489 5613

NZ Catholic

The latest edition of the monthly diocesan newsletter NZ Catholic is now available on www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz

St. Francis Dads' Support Group aka Darts Night - last Thursday of the month

The next stupendous darts session is on this **Thursday, 24 September, from 8pm**, at the **Pt. Chev. Bowling Club**. The more the merrier - all Dads are very Welcome - no darts experience is necessary given the majority of us are woeful. Contact Stuart on 027 818 2403 to join the Dad's WhatsApp group.

CLASSIFIEDS

To place an ad in the Classifieds, please email through by end of business each Wednesday

VACANCY

Local Youth Ministers Wanted!
The Catholic Diocese of Auckland is looking for self-motivated relationship-builders to become part-time Local Youth Ministers, working in a secondary school and/or parish. This is a unique opportunity to make a difference in the lives of young people! To learn more and to apply, please visit: www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/

General Manager | Catholic Diocese of Auckland
An exceptional leadership opportunity has arisen to join the Diocese of Auckland as General Manager.
Reporting to the Bishop and Diocesan Administration Council, this influential role provides strategic and operational leadership across finance, property, people, IT, governance support, and organisational performance. Working alongside senior leaders across education, pastoral care, social services, and Māori ministry, the successful candidate will help shape and deliver a significant renewal agenda for New Zealand's oldest and largest Catholic diocese.
We are seeking an experienced senior leader with strong commercial and financial acumen, excellent stakeholder management skills, and a genuine empathy for the Catholic faith, ethos, and mission.
This is a rare opportunity to make a lasting impact in a values-driven organisation serving communities across Auckland and beyond. **For more information and to apply, visit:** https://www.sheffield.co.nz/Job-Search?Id=729

Mission Sunday 100th Celebration:
The Catholic Church around the world will mark the 100th Mission Sunday on **October 18**. The day is set aside to pray for the Church's mission and to support those who carry the Gospel to places where hope is fragile, where faith is young and where believers often face hardship or persecution. That support can be financial and through prayer.
Find out more at: https://missio.nz/

FELLOWSHIP

Dove Catholic Fellowship for Women is delighted to announce the launch of Dovecotes for Women NZ, a new initiative designed to support women in parish communities throughout New Zealand. Dovecotes are small parish-based groups where women from all walks of life can come together in friendship, prayer, and faith. Through the power of the Holy Spirit, these groups offer a welcoming space for women to bond, encourage one another, and grow more deeply in their relationship with God.
For more information contact Gloria Stafford: dovenational.leader@gmail.com or Check out the Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/dovefellowship/

Prayer Retreat for Women
Prayer and the Interior Life' Friday **9th October** 6pm to Sunday **11th October** 3pm 2026 - with time for Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, Personal Prayer and Spiritual Direction. Location: Hillsborough, Auckland.
Register: www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz

The Little Sisters of the Poor, St. Joseph Home for the aged requires a full-time Registered Nurse and one casual registered nurse. Please express your interest and send your CV and application to Mother Superior at ms@lspauk.co.nz

JOSHUA CATHOLIC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP – AUCKLAND

Meeting date: Wed 23 Sep 2026 | 7.00pm: Fellowship | 7.30pm
Meeting Venue: **St Mark's Church, 334 Pakuranga Road, Pakuranga**
SPECIAL SPEAKER FROM THE USA: **Fr Shenan Boquet**, President Human Life International. In conjunction with Family Life International NZ, Fr Boquet will give a talk on **Man's Vocation to Purity and Love.**
All men welcome. For more info, contact: Tet-Woo 021-0380196, Chris 027-5687736, or Dominic 021-1003694

YOUTH

WYD 2027 Webinars
In preparation for World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul Korea, Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College invites young people and everyone to grow in their faith, hope and missionary discipleship, with this year's webinar series, "Take Courage! I have overcome the world" (John 16:33). More information at www.tekupenga.ac.nz/webinars-2026

Diocesan Youth Mass
Last Sunday of each month 4:30pm February – November At St Patrick's Cathedral For more info contact the Auckland Catholic Youth Ministry Team: youthmin@cda.org.nz

CALLING ALL TERTIARY STUDENTS! JOIN US in 2026! check out the Auckland Catholic Tertiary Chaplaincy (ACTC) socials. Search "aucklandcatholicchaplaincy

Local Youth Ministers Wanted!
The Catholic Diocese of Auckland is looking for self-motivated relationship-builders to become part-time Local Youth Ministers, working in a secondary school and/or parish. This is a unique opportunity to make a difference in the lives of young people! To learn more and to apply, please visit: www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/

If you would like to place an advert in our newsletter, please email the Parish Office by Wednesday of each week.

CLASSIFIEDS cont

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Open Circle Markets. This spring we're taking our food trucks on the road with the Open Circle Tour 2026 — a series of free, family-friendly food-truck nights popping up in community parks right across Auckland. We're bringing it to Coyle Park, Point Chevalier on Sat 17 Oct 2026, 5–9pm — free entry, great kai and a relaxed community night out for the whole whānau. There's no cost to anyone

Catholic Enquiry Centre (CEC)

The CEC is keen to grow the number of parish-based 'Connectors' throughout NZ. For the approximately 200 parishes in NZ they have around 64 such individuals in place.

The CEC hears of people who do not know if they are permitted to enter a Catholic Church, or who sit in a car outside on a Sunday but cannot summon the confidence to step inside. It makes a huge difference if they can put an enquirer in touch with someone in their local neighborhood who will meet with them and then accompany them to a Church service.

Every parish should strive to have at least one such 'Connector' on the books of the CEC. In recent months the CEC was able to connect an enquirer with a parishioner in Ngāruawāhia, and several with parishes in Auckland where they have such contacts. If you can help in any way, Carly Mulqueen, the CEC Director, would love to hear from you. carly@catholicenquiry.nz

If you're interested in being a "Connector" for our Parish, please email Paula at the Office or speak with Fr John.

Season of Creation 2026

Christians around the world unite in prayer and action to celebrate Season of Creation. **From 1 Sept** (World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation) to **4 Oct** (Feast of St Francis of Assisi), we are invited to renew our relationship with God as Creator.
The Church invites every parish, school, chaplaincy, family, and individual to celebrate the Season of Creation. Visit our website for resources on how to celebrate.
https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/season-of-creation/

Greetings from the **St Joseph's Gift Shop**,
God's Word 2027 has finally arrived! This Daily Reflections Liturgical Diary is prepared for Australian and New Zealand Catholics. It contains the Scripture readings from the Jerusalem Bible set down for each day of the liturgical year with reflections by eminent spiritual writers. You can see it here on our website. We are offering all Auckland Parishes and Schools **20% off God's Word 2027** which is currently $29.50.
Orders must be in by 1st of October to guarantee your 20% discount.
To order, please respond to this email and we can send you an invoice.
Feel free to get in contact. God bless, Michael Pervan – Director www.stjosephscentre.co.nz

For those needing a helping hand or a listening ear, please reach out

Direct Crediting

Some have had difficulty with the requirement to match bank account numbers to account names. Unfortunately different banks need different information:
Our account number is:
02-0108-0707331-003
Some banks only require a 2 digit suffix, in which case you would use "**03**" instead of "**003**"

Some require different name matches. Dependent on your bank, here are the versions that are attached to our Account.
"Ss Francis and Therese"
"Pt Chevalier Propert"
"Parish of Ss Francis & Therese"
"Ss Francis & Therese Parish"

Our Full Bank Account Name is:
"Ss Francis and Therese Pt Chevalier Ecclesiastical Goods Trust"

Partial Matches are usually ok to authorise, and once processed you can call the Parish Office to check it has been received.

What a fantastic **Gift idea** for a loved one(s) - a Personalised Church brick to be permanently remembered.

We are very grateful for the recent bricks donated.

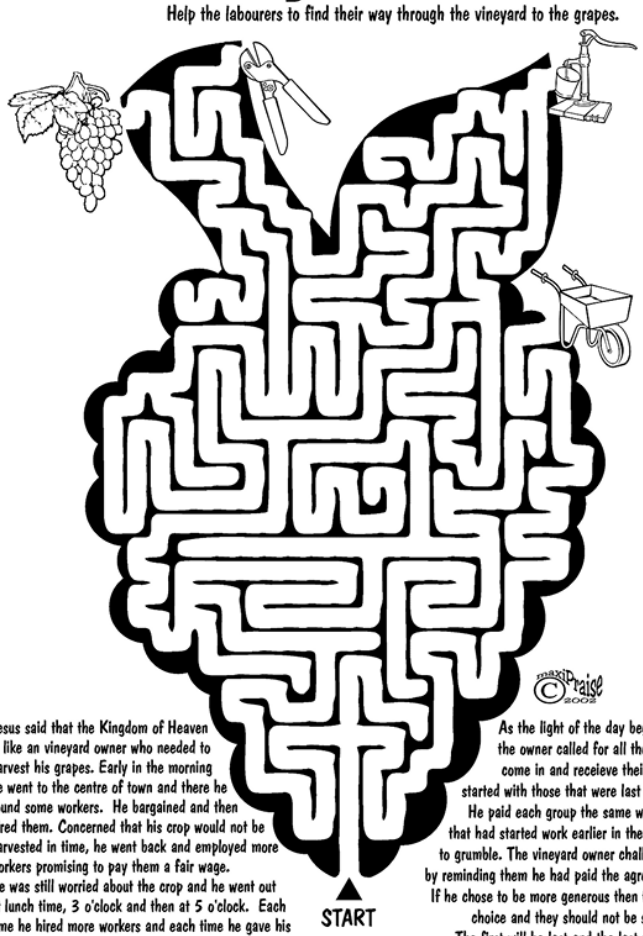
We are very grateful for the recent bricks donated. Our "Buy a Brick" campaign continues in order to replenish the Parish's building repairs & maintenance fund. So, be part of history, forever be immortalised and get yourself and/or your loved ones a Brick - refer below. We will be going to print with the next batch of plaques shortly (for donations of $500+) - so please get in touch with Stuart King and let him know what you want on it. All donations attract a **33% tax refund**.

For our kids

parable

The Vineyard Laborers

Help the labourers to find their way through the vineyard to the grapes.



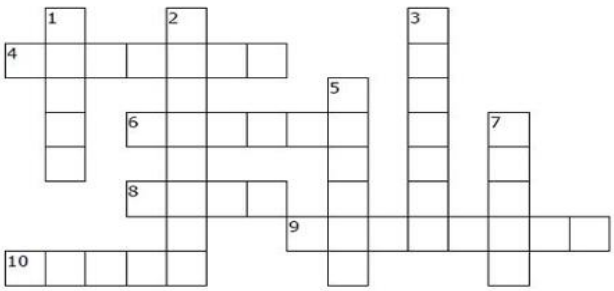
Jesus said that the Kingdom of Heaven is like an vineyard owner who needed to harvest his grapes. Early in the morning he went to the centre of town and there he found some workers. He bargained and then hired them. Concerned that his crop would not be harvested in time, he went back and employed more workers promising to pay them a fair wage. He was still worried about the crop and he went out at lunch time, 3 o'clock and then at 5 o'clock. Each time he hired more workers and each time he gave his word to pay a fair wage.

As the light of the day began to fade, the owner called for all the workers to come in and receieve their wages. He started with those that were last to be hired. He paid each group the same wage. Those that had started work earlier in the day started to grumble. The vineyard owner challenged them by reminding them he had paid the agreed amount. If he chose to be more generous then that was his choice and they should not be so resentful. The first will be last and the last will be first.

The Workers in the Vineyard

'These men who were hired last worked only one hour,' they said, 'and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the work and the heat of the day.' Matthew 20:12 (NIV)

Based on Matthew 20:1-16



ACROSS

4. People who labor, usually for wages or a salary
6. The place where God lives
8. A period of time equal to sixty minutes
9. A place where grapes are grown
10. Pay received for working

DOWN

1. Coins or bills used to pay for something
2. To give or share freely with others
3. To gripe or complain
5. Not playing by the rules
7. Two things that are of the same value

HEAVEN	GRUMBLE	MONEY	WORKERS	VINEYARD
GENEROUS	HOUR	WAGES	UNFAIR	EQUAL

GOSPEL FOR CHILDREN

Jesus told a story about a landowner who was hiring men to work in his vineyard. He hired some of them early in the morning some in the middle of the day, and some he hired just before quitting time. When it was time to pay the workers he paid them all the same. The workers who were hired early in the morning began to complain, "Hey! That's not fair! You paid the workers who worked only one hour the same as those of us who worked all day." The owner of the vineyard said, "I am not being unfair to you I paid you what I agreed to pay you. Don't I have the right to do what I want with my own money? Are you jealous because I am generous?"

Bequests

Bequests and including the Parish of St. Francis & St. Therese in your Will

A number of Parishioners have enquired as to how they can ensure a portion of their estate can be gifted specifically to the Parish of St. Francis & Therese.

One of the greatest contributions you can make to the mission of the Church is to leave your own lasting legacy of faith. This will help future generations to thrive in discovering their faith and facilitate the longevity of our wonderful inclusive Parish and Church community for many years to come.

Our Parish of St. Francis & St. Therese, with our beautiful Church in the heart of Point Chevalier, is an integral and active part of the mission of the Church. We kindly ask you to consider making a gift to the Parish in your Will (bequest). By leaving a bequest specifically to the Parish you leave a legacy that will benefit the Parish of St. Francis & St. Therese well into the future, a powerful gift that will be greatly appreciated. We are happy to arrange a personalised inscription on a Church Brick in your remembrance.

We invite you to let us know your intentions in advance, so that we can thank you in person.

You can simply instruct your lawyer to update/prepare a Will with a clause along the following lines:

Percentage of Residual Estate (most common)

"I give [insert percentage, e.g., 10%] of my residuary estate (or of the residue of my estate) specifically to The Parish of St. Francis & St. Therese Point Chevalier (Official name: Sts. Francis and Therese of Point Chevalier Ecclesiastical Goods Trust; Charity Registration Number CC29209), located at 46 Point Chevalier Road, Point Chevalier, Auckland 1022, for its general purposes. I declare that a receipt from an authorised officer of the Parish shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors and trustees."

Specific Sum of Money (pecuniary Bequest)

"I give the sum of $[Amount] specifically to The Parish of St. Francis & St. Therese Point Chevalier (Official name: Sts. Francis and Therese of Point Chevalier Ecclesiastical Goods Trust; Charity Registration Number CC29209), located at 46 Point Chevalier Road, Point Chevalier, Auckland 1022, for its general purposes. I declare that a receipt from an authorised officer of the Parish shall be a sufficient discharge to my executors and trustees".

Preparing your Will doesn't have to be complicated or expensive, but we recommend you seek the advice of a lawyer to ensure your Will is valid, and clearly sets out the way you intend your estate to be distributed. It is important to review your Will every few years to make sure it still reflects your wishes and any change in personal circumstances. For more information or further assistance about leaving a bequest to the Parish of St. Francis & St. Therese, please contact Stuart on 027 818 2403 or email the Parish Office at stfrancis-ptchev@xtra.co.nz

LOOKING FOR A SPECIAL PLACE

FOR YOUR SPECIAL MASS

Our beautifully renovated Church is available for Weddings, Baptisms, Family Masses, Special Celebration Masses.

Our Church

Newly Renovated
Fully airconditioned
Built in Sound System
Built in Projector
Accessibility Access
Comfortably seats up to 200
Parish Hall available on site

Our Parish Hall

Reasonable rates
Recently renovated
Fully airconditioned
Accessibility access
Full kitchen facilities
Chairs & tables included
New fridge & oven

For information on booking either our Church or Hall, please contact the Parish Secretary:
Email: stfrancis-ptchev@xtra.co.nz
or by phone: 09-8467612

ST FRANCIS AND ST THERESE PT CHEVALIER
2 MONTROSE STREET, PT CHEVALIER