



Catholic Parish of Christchurch South

1st October—26th Sunday in Ordinary Time

SYNOD IN ROME OCTOBER 2023 – Part 1 [30 Sept – 1 Oct]



Last month I was struck by a comment Pope Francis made about the Synod that begins in Rome on 4th October.

Pope Francis acknowledged that the upcoming Synod on Synodality may be “*of little interest to the general public*” but underlined that the Synod is “*truly important*” for the Church.

“I am well aware that speaking of a ‘Synod on Synodality’ may seem something abstruse, self-referential, excessively technical, and of little interest to the general public” Pope Francis stated.

Joanne and I have been involved with the preparation for the Synod on a parish, diocesan and national level. Our hope is that what we are going to share with you on the front page of our parish newsletter for the five weekends of October will, in some way, assist you in coming to an understanding of **how important this Synod will be for the life of the Church in the future.**

A background to the Synod:

In February 2020, Pope Francis announced that the theme for the XVI Ordinary General Assembly of the Synod of Bishops in October 2023 and October 2024 would be “**For a Synodal Church: Communion, Participation and Mission**”.

The journey towards the celebration of the Synod opened in October 2021 in dioceses around the world and Pope Francis invited the entire Church to reflect on this theme that is decisive for its life and mission. **All Catholics were invited to take part in the parish and diocesan consultation process to promote a sense of communion and journeying together.** Four groups of our parishioners took up the invitation to reflect on how the church is journeying together and submitted their reflections, as did a number of individuals.

The Synod poses the following fundamental question: *A synodal Church, in announcing the Gospel, “journeys together.” How is this “journeying together” happening today in your local Church? What steps does the Spirit invite us to take in order to grow in our “journeying together”?* (PD, 26)

Pope Francis states: “We have opened our doors, we have offered everyone the opportunity to participate, we have taken into account everyone’s needs and suggestions. **We want to contribute together to build the Church where everyone feels at home, where no one is excluded. We are trying to learn a new way of living relationships, listening to one another to hear and follow the voice of the Spirit.**”

Listening is the key according to Pope Francis. **“To listen to God, so that with God we may hear the cry of God’s people; to listen to God’s people until we are in harmony with the will to which God calls us.”**

The purpose of the synodal process **“is not to produce documents, but to open horizons for hope for the fulfilment of the Church’s mission”.**

Joanne and Father Peter

In Part 2 next week we will explain the preparation that has taken place since Pope Francis announced the Synod in October 2021.

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Parish office

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Office Hours:

9.00am–3.00pm

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READINGS (Year A) Eze 18:25-28;
Phil 2:1-11; Matthew 21:28-32

Response: Remember your mercies, O Lord

Next Week: Isa 5:1-7; Phil 4:6-9;
Matthew 21:33-43

These are also on the Parish App under **Readings**.



VENERABLE SUZANNE AUBERT: Celebration Sunday,



1 October 2023, is celebrated in parishes and communities across Aotearoa New Zealand this weekend. It is a day to remember the life, spirituality and good works of Venerable Meri Hohepa Suzanne Aubert. While we wait and pray for Meri Hohepa Suzanne Aubert to be beatified, we continue to unite to promote her message of compassion and love throughout Aotearoa New Zealand and the world.



Parish Website
Christchurchsouth.org.nz



Parish App
The Catholic Parish of
Christchurch South



<https://www.facebook.com/CatholicChchSouth/>

PARISH NOTICES

A SPECIAL THANK YOU TO Peter Stribling and Eddie Cook who have retired from music ministry in our parish. They both played the guitar at Our Lady of the Assumption church, Hoon Hay, until the church was closed. Eddie has played for 40 years and Peter for 35 years. We express our gratitude to them both for their commitment and generosity over many years.



CUP OF TEA TODAY AFTER 10.30AM MASS AT ADDINGTON: 1st October 2023. Come over for a coffee / tea and a chat after Mass.



CHRISTCHURCH SOUTH PARISH FRIENDSHIP GROUP: The next meeting is Thursday **5 October** for Mass at 10am at Nazareth and following by morning tea. Everyone welcome. For further information ring Theresa 338 9876.

BIKE RIDE FOR PARISHIONERS: On **Sunday, 29th October**, you are invited to bike from St Peter's, Beckenham to Sts Peter & Paul, Halswell. The bike ride will leave St Peter's at 10:15am and arrive at Sts Peter & Paul around 11am. The bike riders will join with the parishioners at the 10:30am Mass for morning tea. All are welcome. For any further information please contact Therese Fisher theresegp@gmail.com



BLOKES CUPPA: A chatty coffee morning tea for men of the parish. This **Thursday 5th October** (and every 1st Thursday of the month) No obligations. Gold coin donation. 10-11.30 am at Sacred Heart Church Hall, 70 Spencer St. Addington. All welcome.



CATHOLIC DISCUSSION GROUP: The Wednesday morning group is about to begin reading, and studying, and reflecting on the Book of Revelation. If anyone is interested in joining, please contact Paul 021 1518154.



BISHOPS' 2023 Election Statement published: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/election23/>

ST THÉRÈSE ROSE PETAL EVENING: "An evening of prayer with St Thérèse of Lisieux" Saturday **7th October**, from **5:30pm at the Community of the Beatitudes**. Potluck dinner to follow. All welcome! 67 Leithfield Rd, Leithfield, North Canterbury. For more information contact Thomas at 022 506 2538 or thomas@beatitudes.nz

BELIEVE—REFLECTIONS OF THE CREED. Join us for a six-week course on Zoom commencing **Tuesday 10th October at 7.30 p.m.** More details, a short sample of the course and registration here: [Believe | FDM](#) Contact Graeme Scott 021 413 659 **Faith Development Ministries**

VACANCY: Catholic Parish of Christchurch South - Coordinator of Sacramental Ministries.



A vacancy exists on our Parish Staff with a key focus of coordinating teams of volunteers to assist in the **Sacramental ministries** within our parish.

This role requires a special combination of experience, skill, and personal qualities. Applicants will demonstrate a personal faith commitment, relevant pastoral experience and a desire to be on mission. **Applications close Friday 13th October 2023**

More information including the position description and application form can be downloaded on the diocesan website:

[Vacancy - Coordinator of Sacramental Ministries - Catholic Diocese of Christchurch \(cdoc.nz\)](#)

Lord, make me know your ways. Lord,
teach me your paths Psalm 25:4

Mass Intentions: Susanita Alborno, Peter Grant, Franciscus Sangkop, Shona & Len Sullivan, Heather Boaz, Rosie & Bud Grose, Ngarita & Don Greig, Maurice J Newton



THANK YOU to those parishioners who have made donations to assist families with parish school Attendance Dues. Your generosity is much appreciated.



Weekly Collections 24 September
Parish \$1,955 Clergy Fund \$978

Next Special Collection:
Mission Sunday 29th October

Parish account for donations
Westpac 03-1592-0207148-20 Thank You

Catholic Parish of Christchurch South: Mass Times

Addington - Sacred Heart

70 Spencer Street

Monday	6.00pm
Wednesday	9.00am
Friday	9.00am
Saturday	9.00am
Saturday Vigil	5.00pm
Sunday	10.30am

Sacrament of Reconciliation

Sacred Heart:

Saturday 10.30am–11.30am
or by appointment with a Priest

Exposition at Sacred Heart

Friday 9.30am until 10.30am
Saturday 9.30am until 11.30am

Beckenham - St Peter's

11 Fisher Avenue

Sunday	9.00am
Thursday	11.00am*

(*School Term only)

Carmel Monastery

52 Halswell Road

Daily 8.30am

Halswell - Sts Peter & Paul

56 Nicholls Road

Thursday	9.00am
Saturday Vigil	6.00pm
Sunday	9.00am
Sunday	10.30am

Baptisms 2nd Sunday of the month.

Contact the Parish Office on 338 8395

Primary Schools

Our Lady of Assumption

Ph 338 9503,

www.ola.school.nz/Home/

Sacred Heart, Ph 338 3247,

[www.sacredheartchch.](http://www.sacredheartchch.school.nz)

[school.nz](http://www.sacredheartchch.school.nz)

St Peter's, Ph 332 7598,

www.saintpeters.school.nz