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Issue
August 2018

Mabuhay and Welcome to our PILIPINO MASS
Every Sunday at 11:30 am

Insights, News and Events

Auckland Catholic Filipino Chaplaincy Newsletter

Good Shepherd Catholic Church, 27 Telford Ave, Balmoral, Auckland

ACFC Email: acfc17ram@gmail.com

Office Hours: 12:30 – 3:30pm every Thursday

ACFC Chaplain: Fr. Gilbert Ramos

ACFC Chairman: Oscar Batucan Sr JP QSM

News & Events >>>

SACRAMENT OF INITIATION

PRESENTATION OF CANDIDATES

On Sunday 29th of July 2018, the ACFC Evangelisation Team presented its candidates to the Sacrament of Communion and Confirmation held at the Good Shepherd Church during the Filipino mass presided by Father Bernard Espiritu, a member of the Society of the Divine Word, SVD.

Together with their parents, they were given a blessing as they journey together for the next few weeks. Special thanks to the Catechists and support group who were also given a blessing by Father Bernard Espiritu.

Special thanks to the Devotees of Our Lady of Piat for sharing and celebrating their devoitons at the Filipino Mass in Balmoral last July 1, 2018. Thank you to the organizers led by Romy & Fritz Udanga.

August Highlights
Pope Francis Prayer Intention:

The Treasure of Families

That any far-reaching decisions of economists and politicians may protect the family as one of the treasures of humanity.

(By USCCB)

Prayer to the Holy Family

(Source: USCCB)

The *Relatio Synodi* (final document) from the 2015 Ordinary Synod of Bishops included this prayer, which is a slightly modified version of a prayer Pope Francis shared in a 2013 [Angelus address](#).

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, in you we contemplate the splendor of true love, to you we turn with trust. Holy Family of Nazareth, grant that our families too may be places of communion and prayer, authentic schools of the Gospel and small domestic Churches.

Holy Family of Nazareth, may families never again experience violence, rejection and division: may all who have been hurt or scandalized find ready comfort and healing.

Holy Family of Nazareth, make us once more mindful of the sacredness and inviolability of the family, and its beauty in God's plan.

Jesus, Mary and Joseph, graciously hear our prayer.
Amen.

Setting the season >>>

The Sacrament of Initiation Journey begins



Father Bernard Espiritu SVD welcomes the RCIA candidates



Candidates presented to the community



Fr Bernard Espiritu and the community prays over the candidates



ACFC Faithful Workers



Blessing & distribution of course books



Presentation & blessing on Catechists



Fr Bernard Espiritu gives final blessing on ALL

INSIGHTS BY MA. CONSUELO DEL CASTILLO

ON CHURCH MUSIC

Sometime ago, I listened to someone remarking at one of our ACFC masses about how much she loved the choir group that was singing at that time. It was one of those Sundays during Ordinary Time where she spoke with great admiration on the *beautiful* blending of the voices and the instruments, the *masaya na mga kanta*, and the fact that they were in a uniform. She went on further to say, “*Sila yata ang pinakabest na choir sa lahat ng grupo.*” Hearing this, I thought to myself: along with the choir’s voices and instruments, the fact that it is *masaya*, and nice uniforms, the singing becomes all the more meaningful if the hymns and songs are sung in praise.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church states of music in liturgy: “Address... one another in psalms and spiritual songs, singing and making melody to the Lord with all your heart.” (Sec.1156, p. 333). And in Sec. 1157, p. 334, it mentions three important criteria, thus: “**beauty expressive of prayer, the unanimous participation of the assembly at the designated moments, and the solemn character of the celebration.**” So there it is! Not just *masaya*, not just the beautiful voices and instruments, nor the uniforms but likewise, the ability to generate **conscious** and **wholehearted participation** from the congregation and to **lift the heart** and **inspire**.

There is a place, then, for everything. According to the pamphlet, “Music in the Catholic Worship”, based on the Vatican II’s Constitution on the Sacred Liturgy, the *Acclamations (Alleluia, Gospel, Holy, Memorial, Great Amen, and Doxology to the Lord’s Prayer)* are shouts of joy and by their nature, we should sing them positively, strongly, and affirmatively. The *Entrance* and *Communion* songs are sung to create and sustain an awareness of community and unity even as the communion song is meant to be more reflective in nature. During the *Lamb of God*, on the other hand, we can let the choir sing it and we can join in in the responses. The *Preparation of the Gifts* and *Recessional* songs are actually advised as optional. For the music leaders in our ACFC music ministry, I find the pamphlet very helpful and excellent reading. Please do read it!

Finally, in ending this little message, I would like to say that our chaplaincy has been blessed with many musicians-singers, instrumentalists, organists, choir leaders, even composers who accept that it is a privilege to sing or play for the Lord. God bless them and may their music lead others to praise, worship and thank God!

To my co-worshippers: **Happy singing to the Lord! Whatever and however we sing, let us remember: “He who sings, prays twice.”**

Ma. Consuelo del Castillo
Member, ACFC Bible Apostolate

Upcoming events >>>

Message from the Chaplain:

Everyone is invited to join a Triduum Mass to be held in honour of Our Lady of the Assumption, the Patroness of NZ.

Time: 7pm each night

Dates: Aug 13 Monday, Aug 14 Tuesday and Aug 15 Wednesday, 2018.

Venue: St Dominic Parish, 34 Bolton St, Blockhouse Bay

The ACFC has been rostered to sponsor the mass on Tuesday Aug 14, 2018.

Shared dinner follows after Aug 14 mass.

Final Thoughts >>>



Solemnity of The Assumption of Mary celebrated on the 15th of August

Excerpts from The Story of the Solemnity of the Assumption of Mary
(<https://www.franciscanmedia.org/solemnity-of-the-assumption-of-mary/>)

On November 1, 1950, Pope Pius XII defined the Assumption of Mary to be a dogma of faith: "We pronounce, declare and define it to be a divinely revealed dogma that the immaculate Mother of God, the ever Virgin Mary, having completed the course of her earthly life, was assumed body and soul to heavenly glory." The pope proclaimed this dogma only after a broad consultation of bishops, theologians and laity. There were few dissenting voices. What the pope solemnly declared was already a common belief in the Catholic Church.

Reflection

In the light of the Assumption of Mary, it is easy to pray her Magnificat (Luke 1:46-55) with new meaning. In her glory she proclaims the greatness of the Lord and finds joy in God her savior. God has done marvels to her and she leads others to recognize God's holiness. She is the lowly handmaid who deeply revered her God and has been raised to the heights. From her position of strength she will help the lowly and the poor find justice on earth, and she will challenge the rich and powerful to distrust wealth and power as a source of happiness.

An Invitation to Communities or Devotional Groups:

ROSARY AOTEAROA

Sunday 7 October at 3PM



For more details, visit
<http://rosarynewzealand.nz/>

Growing in Faith >>>

Prayer Group Schedules

Bible Apostolate: Bible Study and Sharing, every 1st Thursday & 3rd Friday of the month, Mary Mackillop Hall, 7:00pm

Legion of Mary: Weekly Prayer Meeting, 1st Saturday of the month, and Fridays for the rest of the month, JP II Hall, 6:00pm

Kapatiran Group: Prayer Meeting, twice every month

Santo Nino de Cebu Novena & Mass: Every 3rd Friday of the month, St Benedict's church 7pm

Need Information?

ACFC CONTACT PERSONS



Auckland Catholic Filipino Chaplaincy Team

Your support to the Auckland Catholic Filipino Chaplaincy enable Liturgy, Worship, Evangelization, Church Services and Maintenance.

Please consider joining the planned giving scheme to help with Chaplaincy ongoing projects and activities.

Contact Rey Grafia for an enrolment form.

Your Financial Support is Highly Appreciated.

Pease take home a copy of the newsletter for your information.

**Proud To Be A Filipino.
MABUHAY TAYONG
LAHAT!!!!**

Note: Kindly email articles & notices to M Batucan:

batucan@xtra.co.nz

M Batucan 01 Aug 2018

ACFC Chaplain	Fr. Gilbert Ramos	021-797-918
ACFC Pastoral Council Chairman	Oscar Batucan	027-570-1139; 027-801-1782 batucan@xtra.co.nz
ACFC Pastoral Council Deputy Chairman	Lito Magalong	021-298-1224
ACFC Pastoral Council Secretary	Dadai Norman	021-164-7031
Ministry of the Word	Eva Ricacho	021-158-2002
Ministry of the Holy Eucharist	Carmen Shaw	021-143-1360
Music Ministry	Eva Ricacho/ Carmen Shaw	
Children's Liturgy of the Word	Brenda Yumul Nicola Shaw Adriene Grafia	021-0225-0201
Offertory/Mass Sponsors	Lucy Ainsworth	021-171-7528
Church Keeping	Delia Espenido	021-110-3251
Sacramental Programme	Djoh Leedom	021-118-2753
Altar Servers	Brian Gonzales	027-421-4264
Youth Ministry	Dimple Espenido/ Jean Colle	
ACFC Office Secretary Office Hours: 12:30pm – 3:30pm Thursdays	Ruth Paler	027-527-8838
ACFC Finance Council Chairman	Rey Grafia	021-116-4687
Service Committee	Gloria Mandingiado	022-327-4688
	Susan Grafia	
	Luzmarie Abelardo	0211747540
DPC Representative	Generoso Lopez	0211152967

COME AND JOIN THE PILIPINO MASS!!! Invite your family and friends

