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"If you should fail, be humble, make a resolution to be submissive to God's will and then get up, and carry on" -Padre Pio

1st of February 2026— Fourth Sunday of Ordinary Time (Year A)

Responsorial Psalm Ps 146
Response: Blessed are the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

Mission Statement of Our Parish
"We the Catholic Community of the Holy Cross Parish Henderson, empowered by the Holy Spirit, accept and proclaim the Good News and strive to be one in God's love and to be of service to others".

The Call to Beatitude!

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he had sat down, his disciples came to him. He began to teach them, saying: "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." **Matthew 5: 1-3**

The Beatitudes elevate all laws of the Old Covenant. Jesus not only calls us to profound holiness, He also provides the means to achieve it through His Sacrifice, transmitted through the grace of the Sacraments. To live the Beatitudes is to live in imitation of Christ, who perfectly embodied all virtues in His life, Passion, and Resurrection. Hence, the Beatitudes are not only a moral code we must follow, they are a participation in and union with the Son of God, Who lived the Beatitudes to perfection.

As we ponder the Beatitudes, reflect today on their high and glorious calling, as well as their rewards. Sometimes, reading the Beatitudes can leave us discouraged, as we are aware of how far we are away from perfecting them. Dispel discouragement and know that these new divine precepts are attainable by grace. Set your eyes on the heights of perfection and open yourself to the abundant grace offered. Doing so will not only result in glorious spiritual rewards in this life, it will also result in the greatest eternal rewards in Heaven.

Lord of perfection, You lived the Beatitudes to the fullest during Your life on earth and continue to manifest those perfections from Heaven. Please open my heart to Your grace and fill me with Your Holy Spirit, so that I may answer the call to the new and glorious moral state to which I am called. Empower me to live fully immersed in and guided by Your Sacrificial Love. Help me to inspire others to embrace this path of holiness, so that we may journey together toward the eternal joy of Your Kingdom. Jesus, I trust in You.



Readings This Sunday

First: Zephaniah 2: 3; 3: 12-13

Psalm: 146

Second: 1 Corinthians 1: 26-31

Gospel: Matthew 5: 1-12a

Readings Next Sunday

First: Isaiah 58: 7-10

Psalm: 112

Second: 1 Corinthians 2: 1-5

Gospel: Matthew 5: 13-16

Scripture Readings for the week

Monday	Ps 24	Mal 3: 1-4	Heb 2: 14-18	Luke 2: 22-40
Tuesday	Ps 86	2 Sam 18: 9-10, 14, 24-25a,	Mark 5: 21-43	
Wednesday	Ps 32	2 Sam 24: 2, 9-17	Mark 6: 1-6	
Thursday	1 Chron 29	1 Kings 2: 1-4, 10-12	Mark 6: 7-13	
Friday	Ps 18	Sir 47: 2-11	Mark 6: 14-29	
Saturday	Ps 119	1 Kings 3: 4-13	Mark 6: 30-34	

Church Office: 9:30am-12:30pm (Tue-Fri) Tel: (09) 835 3355 Address: 2 Lavelle Road, Henderson Auckland 0612

Email: secretary@hendersoncatholic.org.nz, accounts@hendersoncatholic.org.nz Website: www.hendersoncatholic.org.nz

Devotions: All devotions starts this week (except **20 Decades of Rosary** resumes 11th of February).

Caring Community—Drop in (Morning Tea) resumes back on Tuesday 3rd of February after the 9am Mass

Mass Time Change: Sunday Mass 10:30 am is now moved to 11 am starting 1st of February

The Feast of the Presentation of the Lord, celebrated on February 2 (40 days after Christmas), commemorates Jesus being presented in the Temple, fulfilling Jewish law and marking his first public appearance as "Light to the Nations". Known as Candlemas, it features candle blessings, symbolizing Christ as light. We will have a **morning Mass on Monday 2nd February 9am. Please bring your own candle to be blessed by Fr Daniel for your own personal use.**

Ministry work—For those who are bringing communion to the sick, please contact the Parish as you need to inform the Parish as to who are you bringing communion to, when are you bringing communion to them, and you need to have a special training as well as police vetting and volunteer form signed.

Secular Franciscans will meet next Sunday, 8th of February in Holy Cross Pastoral Centre at 2:30pm. Visitors are welcome. (Every second Sunday of the month).

Sacrament of the Sick— Tuesday the 17th of February at 11 am followed by a shared lunch. All are welcome!!! There will be no Preference signing on that day.

Marriage and Funerals—if you want a marriage or a funeral celebrated at Holy Cross Parish Church Henderson, please email the office before setting up a date, you will need to speak to the Parish Priest before the celebration can be scheduled. By emailing the Parish Office, we can send you the requirements needed.

Notice on Illegal Parking and Towing Enforcement – In coordination with Holy Cross Catholic School, please be advised that **Auckland Towing Co. Ltd (09 378 0780)** will begin towing illegally parked vehicles. This includes cars parked in the following prohibited areas: **Disability Parking without a valid disability card, Emergency Parking zones, Staff Parking, Keep Clear areas, On the grass, and Blocking exits or other vehicles**. Towing will be enforced during these times: **Sundays: 9:00 am – 11:00 am, School days: 8:00 am – 9:00 am and 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm**.

Unauthorized parking hours (without Parish Permit Card): **Monday to Friday: 1:00 pm – 5:00 pm, and Monday to Sunday: 10:00 pm – 6:00 am**.

To avoid being towed, please ensure your vehicle is parked in accordance with the rules. Thank you for your cooperation.

Auckland City Council are also issuing parking tickets to those parked on the Yellow Lines, on the grass verge, and blocking private driveways. The Parish is not responsible if you get a ticket.

Car Park at View Road—has been re-gravelled and can now be used safely for parking.

Vatican News: The special Jubilee Year of Saint Francis proclaimed by Pope Leo XIV will take place from 10 January 2026 to 10 January 2027, on the occasion of the eighth centenary of the death of Saint Francis of Assisi.

The Apostolic Penitentiary has issued a Decree granting the plenary indulgence during the Year of Saint Francis on the occasion of the 800th anniversary of his death. What exactly are the conditions, and to whom is it addressed?

The Apostolic Penitentiary, in accordance with the will of Pope Leo XIV, has issued a Decree granting the faithful the plenary indulgence during the Year of Saint Francis, celebrated on the occasion of the 800th anniversary of the death of the Saint of Assisi. The life of the Poor Man of Assisi shows that God's mercy works in history also through people who have opened their hearts to His action.

Looking at his example, we see that God's grace can transform even the greatest weaknesses. Precisely indulgence makes it possible to free the heart from the burden of sin, since it is the remission by God of the temporal punishment for sins that have already been forgiven in the sacrament of penance and reconciliation, so that one may carry out the due reparation in full freedom.

Therefore, the Jubilee is an opportunity for the faithful to rekindle their faith, strengthen their relationship with God and with the community of the Church.

To obtain the plenary indulgence during the Year of Saint Francis, certain specific conditions indicated by the Church must be fulfilled: sacramental confession, Eucharistic Communion, certain prayers according to the intentions of the Pope, interior detachment from sin, and the performance of certain works, such as a pious pilgrimage to Franciscan churches, participation in Jubilee celebrations, prayer and meditation in the Franciscan spirit, as well as daily acts of charity and humility that express the spirituality of Saint Francis.

In the document of the Apostolic Penitentiary, we read these words: **"This Year of Saint Francis should encourage all of us, each according to his or her own possibilities, to imitate the Poor Man of Assisi."** What message does the life of Saint Francis offer to modern man?



The passing of Saint Francis of Assisi, whose eighth centenary is being celebrated this year



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Donations/planned-giving: Jasmine Prem
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Mass intentions & office queries:

Warren Herrera
secretary@hendersoncatholic.org.nz

Holy Cross Parish Henderson Baptism Program— We welcome families wishing to have their child baptised in our parish. Please note the following requirements: Child must be less than 7 years of age, Parents (or at least one) are Catholics, Parents (or at least one) must attend, Sponsors/Godparents (or at least one) need to attend. A Baptism Preparation Course is held **every 3rd Friday of the month from 5:30 pm to 7:00 pm** and facilitated by the Missionaries of Charity Sisters. After attending the course, the Sisters will provide you with a form to email to the Parish Office to arrange a Baptism date. **Baptisms are held on Saturdays only, at 10:30 am, 11:30 am, or 12:30 pm. For any inquiries, please contact the Parish Office.**

4th Sunday of Ordinary Time 31st January & 1st February

Mass	Vigil Sat 6 pm	Sun 7am	Sun 9 am	Sun 11 am	Sun 6 pm
Leader :	child	Bonita Smith	Tai Asiata	Katherine Tanginoa	Gafatasi Endemann
Reader 1:	child	Frances Ah Ken	Yolanda D'Rosario	Fisiilose Dolora Veatupu	Kimberley Suan
Reader 2:	child	Mary Turnwald	Brigid Ann McGrath		Maria de Hoog
Ministers of Holy Communion:	Jasmine Prem Kumar Prem Joseph Dominica Cowan	Winnie Veikoso Geraldine Sequera Noelene Early	Clare Connolly Josephina Kim Pearlie Judd	Ngalo'afe Nau Malia Veatupu Celino Orquejo	Michael Eade Neil Fernandes Helan Roy Charmaine Monteiro
Collector:	Phyllis, Mark, & Elridge Liam Kim	Soniega Family Isabel de Jesus	Men's Fellowship Caroline Cibi	Filemoni & Celino Keyondre Uale	Michael Eade / Flocy Membreve Lui Alabastro
Altar Servers:	Joseph Seo Zephany Saldanha	Amanda de Jesus Titoa Smith	Lawrence Lolesio Frencheska Perlas	Jordan Solomon Joseph Uale	Feeba Corray Ana Fernandes
Music Ministry:	Musica Christi	Quiet Mass	Sr Ake & Choir	Tongan Community	Couples for Christ
Offertory		Cleaning Couples for Christ Redfern Family Sagote Family Samoan Family	Flowers Tongan Community	Children's Liturgy	

5th Sunday of Ordinary Time 7th & 8th February

Mass	Vigil Sat 6 pm	Sun 7am	Sun 9 am	Sun 11 am	Sun 6 pm
Leader :	Margie del Rosario	Jean Soniega	Tai Asiata	Elizabeth Tofeano Tanuvasa	Kaira Monteiro
Reader 1:	Ingrid D'Silva	Anita Gupta	Jane Thomsen	Sandy Mary Fonoti	Gavin Colaco
Reader 2:	Chris Mendes	Frances Martinez	Gemma Dominguez	Joy Mati	Danielle Monteiro
Ministers of Holy Communion:	Pearl Debra Coelho Wayne Coelho Lloyd de Melo	Ann McKeown Michael McKeown Pearlie Judd	Josephina Kim Paul Coakley Malia Seufatu	Frances Ieremia Sandy Fonoti Maria Faleusu Matalena Sagote	Mary Sarunija Mohan Charmaine Monteiro Neil Fernandes Helan Roy
Collector:	Phyllis, Mark, & Elridge Zephany Saldanha	Soniega Family Isabel de Jesus	Men's Fellowship Lawrence Lolesio	Filemoni & Celino Keyondre Uale	Michael Eade / Flocy Membreve Jacob Alabastro
Altar Servers:	Liam Kim Joseph Seo	Amanda de Jesus Titoa Smith	Frencheska Perlas Caroline Cibi	Joseph Uale Jordan Solomon	Francewill Gab Zara
Music Ministry:	Musica Christi	Quiet Mass	Vakauta Family	Samoan Community	Betham Family
Offertory		Cleaning Siemens Family Achio & Veatupu Family	Flowers Achio & Veatupu Family Tania Liuagamatagi	Children's Liturgy Missionaries of Charity Sisters	