

# **Episcopal Ordination of Rev Fr Michael Gielen as Auxiliary Bishop of Auckland Frequently asked questions**



## **Where is the Episcopal Ordination being held?**

The Vodafone Events Centre, 770 Great South Road, Wiri, Manukau 2104

## **Is there parking available?**

YES there is free parking for buses and cars. Please enter through Gates 2 and 3. We encourage you to carpool if possible. The Vodafone Events Centre is 5 minutes by bus from the Manukau Station (or a 20 minute walk).

## **What time is the Episcopal Ordination?**

The Episcopal Ordination will begin at 11.00am on Saturday 7 March. Doors will open at approximately 9.45am and we ask that you be seated by 10.45am.

## **Do I need to register?**

NO! We can seat just under 3000 people. Some seats will be reserved for Bishop-Elect Michael Gielen's family and friends, for VIPs and for choirs and other groups who are taking a role in the service. All other seats are available on a first-come basis. This will be a wonderful celebration of faith for our Diocese. It's a historic moment and we would love you to be part of this celebration! Bring your family and friends – let's fill the Vodafone Events Centre!

## **I'd really like an invitation to the Episcopal Ordination. Is this possible?**

Everybody is welcome to join the celebration. You can download an invitation from Bishop Pat from our website: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/episcopal-ordination/>.

## **Can I reserve seating for my parish or community group?**

Sorry, other than the reserved seating noted above there is no reserved seating. Please gather your group together outside the Vodafone Events Centre and come in as one group if you would like to sit together. Ushers will be seating people from the front on a first-come, first seated basis.

## **What if I can't climb the stairs to get to seating at Vodafone Events Centre?**

Accessible seating for those who wouldn't be able to climb stairs is available at ground level, including an area that provides for wheelchair spaces. If you are with a friend or your family they will be able to join you in this area (sorry – no large groups can be seated in this area). We do ask that you are seated by **10.40am** as any available seats at that time will be offered to others.

## **Is there parking close to the venue for those who have a Mobility Parking Permit?**

Those with a mobility parking card can park on the lower plaza which provides very easy access into the Vodafone Events Centre. A car park warden will direct you when you arrive at Vodafone Events Centre. Please be sure that your mobility parking permit is visible to the car park warden on arrival.

### **Will NZSL interpreters be there?**

YES! There will be a reserved area in the second block of seating on your left as you face the altar. Family members are welcome to join you in this area.

### **Can we take photos and videos?**

This is an unplugged Ordination Mass. We ask that you respect the reverence of the service and refrain from taking photos and videos during the service. We have three official photographers and a team of videographers. Photos and a highlights video will be available via our social media platforms in the days following the Episcopal Ordination. You are welcome to take photos before and after the service.

### **How can I find out more about Bishop-Elect Michael Gielen?**

NZ Catholic wrote a great article introducing Bishop-Elect Michael Gielen. You can read this online at: <https://www.nzcatholic.org.nz/2020/01/28/my-first-priority-is-supporting-bishop-pat/>

We have recorded a series of short 1 minute videos to introduce Bishop-Elect Michael Gielen to you. These will progressively be uploaded over the next two weeks to:

Bishop Pat's Facebook page at: <https://www.facebook.com/bishoppatrick/>

Auckland Catholic Diocesan Facebook page: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/episcopal-ordination/>

We encourage you to LIKE, SHARE and COMMENT.

Bishop-Elect Michael Gielen will be celebrating the 11am Mass at St Patrick's Cathedral and the 6pm Mass at St Mary's Parish in Avondale on Sunday 23 February. All are welcome at these Masses.

### **Can we get a blessing from Bishop Gielen after the Mass?**

YES! Bishop Gielen will be available for group blessings. Please gather your group together and have the group join one of two lines. Bishop Gielen will give you a blessing and for those who wish our official photographers will be there to take a photo of your group with Bishop Gielen. These photos will be available at no charge via our social media platforms. We regret to advise that due to the high number of people attending there can be no individual blessings on this occasion.

### **Will there be hospitality after the Episcopal Ordination?**

Bishop Gielen will cut a celebratory cake. A light snack will be available following the Episcopal Ordination, but you may like to bring a picnic and enjoy the grounds with your family or group.

### **Where can I get more information?**

Go to the Auckland Diocesan website: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/episcopal-ordination/>.

## **Diocesan Celebration – All Welcome**



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND  
TE TAUMATA O TE HAHĪ KATORIKA