

# OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH NEWSLETTER



**21<sup>st</sup> Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**26 August 2018**

## **Freedom to choose**

When God created us, he could have made us robots. That way he would have total control over us. But God did not do that. God gave us freedom, that is, the total power to choose. We could choose to obey, or to disobey, to do good or to do evil.

We value freedom very highly. Rightly so because after life freedom is God's greatest gift to us. To be deprived of freedom is to be like a bird shorn of its wings.

But with freedom comes responsibility. Because we are free, we are responsible for our choices and have to answer for them. There are benefits for choosing wisely. And there are consequences for choosing wrongly.

Having given us freedom, God will never take it away from us, even when we abuse it. Yet this is precisely what the cults do. Recent times, we have seen the rise of many cults, some truly weird. The leaders usually are people who control other people. Through a combination of inducements and indoctrination, recruits become like flies caught in a spider's web. Their freedom is completely taken away.

Jesus forced no one to follow him. After life, freedom is the greatest thing we have. The only thing that has moral value, and which helps us to grow, is what is done freely. Without freedom, no evil, at least no moral evil, is possible. But no virtue is possible either. Virtue is when we have a choice to do good or evil, and we choose to do good. Virtue cannot be imposed; it has to be freely chosen. Virtue has great strength when it is deliberately chosen.

We see a similar thing in the gospel. Jesus gave his disciples a choice: to stay with him or to leave him. The same choice is placed before each of us—to stay with Jesus or to leave him. We have chosen to stay—our presence here is a sign of that. We have chosen wisely. He alone has the words of eternal life. In his teaching we have a compass that will not lie to us. In him, we have a star that will lead us safely to port.

To follow Jesus is to be free. When we live as God intended us to live, we are free. We experience the truth of what Jesus said: 'The truth will set you free'.

**New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies**

**A request to parishioners. Parishioners and groups using the church, hall, classroom or meeting room on Mondays, please arrange to pick up the keys from the parish office during working hours, 9 am to 2 pm. Other than emergencies, we should try not to disturb our priests on their day off. Thank You.**

## PARISH NOTICES

**Mini market this Sunday after both the morning Masses.**

**Marian Mothers** is a group of women who support and nurture the faith and spirituality of mothers. We meet once a month for prayers, mutual encouragement and discussion. Our next meeting is on 8 Saturday 10am. All mothers are welcome. Any inquiries or would like to join our group, text or ring Helen Lees on 021 2535585 or leave your contact details in the parish office

<http://www.maristlaitynz.org/index.php?AboutMarianMothers>

**Second and last formation for Eucharistic ministers and readers who missed the earlier formation.** This will be on Saturday Sept 8 from 10 to 12 followed by a formation at 1 pm for ministers who take communion to the sick. Members from the Diocesan liturgy committee will be conducting these formations. Please make it a point to attend.

**Collectors Ministry.** More volunteers are needed to help out with the Offertory Collection at all Masses. Any one who is not in any other ministry and would like to volunteer, please contact the parish office.

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## OTHER NOTICES

**The Bible and the Virgin Mary study series** based on Dr. Scott Hahn's bestselling book, *Hail, Holy Queen* is being offered by Holy Cross Parish Henderson. A total of 12 sessions, from Monday, 3<sup>rd</sup> September to 19<sup>th</sup> November 2018, Duration: 7:00pm – 8:30pm. Venue: Holy Cross School, Henderson. Enrollment could be done through the Holy Cross Henderson Parish office during office hour (Monday to Friday, 9am to 1pm). Due to limited space, please enroll at your earliest. Any donation is welcome to cover the cost of the venue and course material. Flyer on noticeboard.

**Holy Cross Parish Henderson** will be having an **International Food Fair** on **15<sup>th</sup> Sept 2018 (Sat) 12pm** in the Parish Hall, as part of its Feast Day celebration (in conjunction with *the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross* – 14 Sept). Do come and join us for this joyous occasion! For more info., contact: Holy Cross Parish Office 838 1558 (Mon to Fri, 9am to 1pm).

**Birthday Celebrations of our Blessed Mother Mary through Novena, Rosary and Mass in Honour of our Blessed Mother of Good Health, Vailankanni daily from 29<sup>th</sup> August to 8<sup>th</sup> September 2018 at 6.30pm.** At St Mary's Parish, 2134 Great North Road, Avondale and join the pilgrimage. For more details please call Cynthia on 813 2101 or Helen 834 7798.

**'LIFEFEST 2018:** Attention **young people and youth groups!** 13 to 19 years, Amazing overseas speakers. Formation-Food-Prayer-Prizes. An October holiday day well worth the \$20! Sponsorships available. **Thursday 4<sup>th</sup> OCTOBER: 9 am to 9 pm** . Epsom Girls' Grammar School, Auckland. **ALSO: cheap accommodation** available for those travelling a distance for the nights of the 3<sup>rd</sup> and 4<sup>th</sup> Oct. For more info or to book the accommodation email: [clare.fli@xtra.co.nz](mailto:clare.fli@xtra.co.nz) txt: 021 2317954 ph: 04 2378343 or Michael on 021 825 955.

## READINGS THIS WEEK

Mon: 27 August:

2 Thess 1:1-5, 11-12

Matthew 23:13-22

Tues: 28 August:

2 Thess 2:1-3, 14-17

Matthew 23:23-26

Wed: 29 August :

Jer 1:17-19

Mark 6:17-29

Thurs: 30 August:

1 Cor 1:1-9

Matthew 24:42-51

Fri : 31 August :

1 Cor 1:17-25

Matthew 25:1-13

Sat: 1 Sept:

1 Cor 1:26-31

Matthew 25:14-30

Sun: 2 Sept:

**22<sup>nd</sup> Sunday in Ordinary  
Time**

Deut 4:1-2, 6-8

James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27

Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

## Please pray for our sick parishioners:

Violet Furtado, Christopher Hennings, Norman Fynn, Patsy Nun Toon, Pat Wojcik, Iluminada Dorado, Eileen Hunter, Claire Geddes, Pat Devereaux, Yvonne Sommers, Gail Ware, Maryanne Pasina, Mary Holmes, Kanesi Masae, Ethan Peter Lelo, Rosalen Ahearn, Sami Williams, Dale Flaxman, Celestina Gardiner, Saulius David Balsys, Kalameli Tauta, Matalena Fatialofa, Joan Unkovich, Melesete Va'asili, Jennifer Logan, Lloyd Ball, Pauline Caffell, Tony O'Brien, Louisa Baptist, Christine Roberts Whitcombe and Robert Shearman.

## ***MASSES, DEVOTIONS AND MEETINGS THIS WEEK***

**Sunday Masses—9 am, 10.30 am & 5 pm**

**Monday—Mass with Morning Prayer 8 am**

**Tuesday & Thursday-Mass-6 pm, Angelus before  
Mass**

**Wednesday Masses -9 am & 6.30 pm. Rosary and  
Perpetual Succor Novena before 6.30 pm Mass.**

**Divine Mercy Chaplet M/W/F after the morning Masses  
Friday Mass—10.00 am**

**Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament-Friday from 9 am**

**Saturday Masses—9 am & 5 pm.**

**Marian Devotions after 9 am Mass. Rosary during  
Devotions.**

**Confession-Wednesday from 6.00 to 6.30 pm and  
Saturday after morning Mass or by appointment**

***Junior Legion Meeting after 10.30 am Mass Sunday***

***Senior Legion of Mary Meeting, Wednesday 7 pm***

***Mary Mother of Grace Presidium, Young Peoples Legion  
meeting, Friday 7.00 pm***

**Last week's collection: House— 1,160.00, Parish-1,996.80.**

**Thank you for your generosity.**

# **ROSTER OF DUTIES FOR 1 & 2 SEPT 2018**

	<b>5 pm Saturday</b>	<b>9 am Sunday</b>	<b>10.30 am Sunday</b>	<b>5 pm Sunday</b>
<b>Announcers</b>	Anne Cairney	Clive Pereira	Ann Lopez	Viveca Dourado
<b>Ministers of Communion</b>	Barbara Lynch, Jennifer & Mariano Men- donza, Val Maskell, Lorcan Murnane, Natalie Fernandes, Alo- ysius Fernandes	Ana Tonga, Regina Smuga, Phillip & Felicia Wye, Epi Poasa, Mary Leiatua, Darin Johnston	Mareko Emani, Barnabas Thom- sen, Genevieve Kabuya, Falani Masae, Catharina & Joop de Mooy, Maryanne Pasina	Herman Tauata, Arlene Lee, Lina Mitchell, Jeanette Atabelo, Zion Tauata, Marie Landingin
<b>Ministers of the Word</b>	Natasha Fer- nandes John Reyna	Faustina Hickson John Phillips	Nikita Sionetalli Paul Corcoran	Mati Maka Dixelle Sequeira
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Alanna, Marco, Rafael		Marcus, Lagi, Syl- vester, Kirk, Damian, Vanessa, Phillip M	Dayna, Lourdes, Phoenix F, Kirk, Vanessa, Marcus Lagi
<b>Organists</b>	Marina Tham	Evelyn Pereira	Music Group	Naomi Noronha
<b>Projectionists</b>	Tham family	Jerome Herrera	MG member	
<b>Offertory</b>	Whyburd Family	Purcell Family	Salvador Family	Delegates
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>		Marta Cullen	Therese Rabel	Christina Gomes
<b>Cleaning</b> -Andy van der Salm, Marlene Judd, Pearl & Maxell Sequeira, <b>Prayer of the Faithful</b> -Margaret Newcombe, <b>Flowers</b> —Margaret Matterson, <b>Linen for September</b> -Sue Cox.				

## **Priests contacts:**

## **OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC CHURCH**

7 Glendale Rd, Glen Eden

**Tel:** 818 6325, Office hours 9.30 am to  
1.30 pm

**E-mail:** ourladyoflourdes@xtra.co.nz.

**Website:** www.glenedencatholic.org.nz

Parish Priest: Fr Paul Helsham OFM Cap

Email: paulhelsham@gmail.com

Asst Parish Priest : Fr Boniface Kujur  
OFM Cap

Email: bonikujur1969@gmail.com

Deacon: Robert Mitchell

Email: robertmitchell1410@gmail.com