

OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH NEWSLETTER



First Sunday in Lent

21 Feb 2021

The Struggle Against Temptation

The temptations of Jesus were no mere play-acting. They were real, but not necessarily outward experiences. Most likely the battle was fought in the mind and heart of Jesus. But that doesn't make them any less serious. The most subtle and dangerous attacks are the ones that originate inside us. They are also the most difficult to deal with because they involve self denial, something that is never easy.

But some might ask: Can a good person be tempted like the rest of us? The answer is a resounding 'yes'. Good people become targets for evil. The powers of darkness hate the light. This was especially true of Jesus. The powers of darkness massed against him.

The good person who resists temptation knows more about its power than the weakling who submits at the very onset of temptation. So, if you want to know what victory over temptation costs, don't ask a sinner; ask a saint. You don't look for help from someone who has tried and failed. You look for help from someone who has tried and succeeded. It is because Jesus struggled with temptation and was victorious over it, that he can help us in our struggles with temptation.

What did temptation mean for Jesus? The temptations came immediately after his baptism. At his baptism, he received a mission from the Father-the mission was to inaugurate the kingdom of God. The temptations were an attempt to distort that mission. The devil sought to undermine Jesus in his faithfulness to the Father and to the mission he had received from the Father. And his tempting was not a one-off event. Temptations never are. The temptations continued through his ministry. His victory in the desert was not the winning of the war, but merely the winning of a battle. The same is true of us. Some people think that they will reach a stage when they will be beyond temptation. Jesus never reached that stage. Neither did the saints.

The story of the temptation of Jesus is a consoling one-it is consoling to know that Jesus too struggled. But it is also a challenging story-it shows us that there is a price to be paid to succeed in the struggle. The Holy Spirit was with Jesus during his struggle. And the Holy Spirit will be with us too in our struggles.

New Sunday & Holy Day Liturgies

Fr Flor McCarthy SDB

The church doors and parish office will remain closed till we move to Level 1. There will be no Masses, services and meetings in church while we are at Level 2.

PARISH NOTICES:

Stations of the Cross: **When we move to Level 1**, Stations of the Cross will be prayed every Wednesday at 8.40 am and every Friday at 6.30 pm. There will be no Rosary on Wednesday mornings in Lent. Copies of prayers will be left near the baptismal font for those who wish to pray the Stations of the Cross at any other time.

Anointing of the Sick: This will be during the 10.00 am Mass on Friday 26 Feb, **if we are at Level 1 by then**. If you know of anyone who is housebound and would like to receive the Sacrament at home, please let the parish office know.

Altar servers are needed for the Sunday 9 am Mass. Parents, if your children can serve, please contact the parish office.

JUNIOR LEGION OF MARY: invites all young children to join. Prayer meeting every Sunday after 10.30 am Mass. Please contact the office or Deacon Robert.

DIOCESAN NOTICES:

Bishop Pat and Michael have prepared a short video for the start of the Lent season – please distribute widely and feel free to share through Facebook, on websites etc as well as sending out the link.

Bishop Pat - Ash Wednesday <https://youtu.be/bKVjFnrYPZ4> ,

Bishop Michael - A Reflection on Lent <https://youtu.be/RzWSDHBEUyA>

February Diocesan Youth Mass | Hosted by The Logos Project Join us for the first Diocesan Youth Mass of 2021!! This will be held at St Patrick's Cathedral, 7pm Sunday the 28th of February. Mass will be hosted by the Logos Project and year 13 school leaders and will be celebrated by Fr Kev Murphy SM. For more info contact Felicity on 022 635 2366 or see our Facebook page @akcym *Please note that due to the current situation with Auckland being in level 3 we will continue to update you about if this Mass can proceed.

Are you interested in facilitating post-abortion healing A training day is available 27th Feb via zoom on the Living in Colour programme which deals specifically with abortion loss. It has excellent workbooks and a facilitator guide for lay people. Queries: Catherine Gillies 021-432-020.

FOOD FOR FAITH offers brief daily email encouragements in LENT 2021 for those who sign up at www.foodforfaith.org.nz. Take a few minutes each day of Lent to experience Jesus Christ present with you and experience immediate benefits. This Lent's offerings include a TAKE ONE hour a week invitation to be in contact with others who are on the same journey. More information at www.foodforfaith.org.nz.

Walk a day in their shoes! Join a 12-hour walk around Auckland on the 6th of March to raise funds for vulnerable families in Latin America through the Catholic charity - NPH New Zealand. Find out more or donate here: www.nph-nz.org/walk.

Walk through the Mass Saturday 20 March | An opportunity to deepen our understanding of the Mass, its words and gestures, and explore what is meant by our 'participation' | Saturday 20 March | 9.30am-1.00pm | Our Lady of the Assumption Onehunga | Morning tea provided. Donations welcome Register at liturgycentre@cda.org.nz.

DURING THIS WEEK IF AT LEVEL 1

SUNDAY—Masses 9 am, 10.30 am & 5 pm

MONDAY—Mass with Morning Prayer 8 am

TUESDAY & THURSDAY- Mass at 6.00 pm,
Angelus before Mass

WEDNESDAY-Masses 9 am & 6.30 pm. Rosary
and Perpetual Succour Novena before 6.30
pm Mass.

FRIDAY -Mass 10.00 am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament-Friday from
9 am

Divine Mercy Chaplet M/W/F after the morning
Masses

SATURDAY—Masses 9 am & 5 pm. Rosary
before 9 am Mass

**Confession-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, Legion
meeting, Friday 7.00 pm*

**Please pray for the repose of the soul of
Mika Kaisa, who died recently. May his
soul rest in peace.**

**ARE YOU A TERTIARY STUDENT IN
AUCKLAND?** You are invited to the Auck-
land Catholic Tertiary Chaplaincy (ACTC) for
our 2021 Welcome BBQ. ENJOY delicious
food, CONNECT with other Catholic stu-
dents, and DISCOVER your 'Home away
from home' in the city. 5PM-7PM, Friday 5th
March ACTC, 110 Symonds St, Grafton. For
more info visit: facebook.com/thechaplains.

**The Walter Francis Darby Trust Scholar-
ship for Medical Students.** If you are a 4th
or 5th year medical student in 2021, are an
active Catholic and normally reside within the
Auckland Diocese you may be eligible for the
Walter Francis Darby Trust
Scholarship. For more information contact
Catherine Ryan, Vicar for Education, Catholic
Diocese of Auckland. Phone (09) 360 3057
or email catheriner@cda.org.nz.

Please pray for our sick parishioners:

Violet Furtado, Patsy Nun Toon, Yvonne
Sommers, Gail Ware, Maryanne Pasina, Mary
Holmes, Kanesi Masae, Ethan Peter Lelo,
Rosalen Ahearn, Celestina Gardiner, Saulius
David Balsys, Kalameli Tauta, Joan Unkovich,
Melesete Va'asili, Lloyd Ball, Pauline Caffell,
Louisa Baptist, Christine Roberts Whitcombe,
Robert Shearman, Siufaga Maileoi Lili, Aloysius
Thoman, Lee Dunn, Alex Soniega and Barbara
Lynch.

READINGS THIS WEEK

Mon: 22 Feb: 1 Peter 5:1-4

Matthew 16:13-19

Tues: 23 Feb: Isaiah 55:10-11

Matthew 6:7-15

Wed: 24 Feb: Jonah 3:1-10

Luke 11:29-32

Thurs: 25 Feb: Esther 14:1, 3-5,
12-14

Matthew 7:7-12

Fri : 26 Feb: Ezekiel 18:21-28

Matthew 5:20-26

Sat: 27 Feb: Deut 26:16-19

Matthew 5:43-48

Sun: 28 Feb, Second Sunday of Lent

Genesis 22:1-2, 9-13, 15-18

Romans 8:31-34

Mark 9:2-10

ROSTER OF DUTIES FOR 27 & 28 Feb 2021 SUBJECT TO BEING AT LEVEL 1

	5 pm Saturday	9 am Sunday	10.30 am Sunday	5 pm Sunday
Announcers	Anne Cairney	Christine Richards	Olinda Domingo	Gerry Smith
Ministers of Communion	Aloysius Fernandes, Tina Nicholson, Giselle Mascarhenas	Talosaga Poasa, Joy Argano, Gloria Sofara	Ophelia Sequeira, Paula & Henry Bohte	Lina Mitchell, Nerissa Navarro
Ministers of the Word	Irene Sumner Rachel Almeida	Cecilia Menezes Faustina Hickson	Salepou Wright Paul Corcoran	Elisha Dourado Vienna Domingo
Altar Servers	Marco, Kris	Poiva, Semisi		Stephen Seuseu
Organists	M Abrogena	Parish Music Group	Samoan Choir	Tham family
Projectionists	M Abrogena	Parish Music Group	Samoan Choir	Tham family
Offertory	Whyburd family	Tonga family	Matthes family	
Children's Liturgy		Lorie Perez	Maddie Gates	Gillian Dawson
Cleaning-Kalameli Tauta, Prayer of the Faithful – Naomie Tham, Flowers-Salepou Wright.				

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