

OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH NEWSLETTER



12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

25 June 2023

Someone To Watch Over us

When Jesus sent the apostles out to be his witnesses in the world, he knew that they would be putting their lives in danger. He knew that as a consequence they were afraid. He understood their fears, and tried to allay them. He told them not to be afraid of human beings who can kill the body but can do no more. They should fear God who can condemn a person to an even worse fate - eternal damnation.

There is such a thing as a holy fear of God. The Bible says 'Fear of God is the beginning of wisdom.' It consists of the fear of displeasing God, the fear of losing God, the fear of eternal damnation. These can be powerful motivating forces. Fear sometimes has a protective function, warning us of the presence of danger. In this case, fear is a grace.

But Jesus is not telling us that we should base our relationship with God on fear. Rather, he is urging us to base it on trust. He is trying to move us from fear to trust. Fear creates suspicion, distance, defensiveness, and insecurity. Trust leads to closeness, intimacy, and a sense of safety.

He says, 'Can you not buy two sparrows for a penny? And yet not one sparrow falls to the ground without your Father knowing.....so do not be afraid; you are worth more than many sparrows.' Here Jesus wants us to know how far-reaching and all embracing is the knowledge and care of God. Everything that happens to any of his creatures, even the most insignificant of them, is seen by God and is important to him – yes, even the fall of a single sparrow. The fact that God doesn't prevent this fall does not mean that God is indifferent to it. God is never indifferent about the fate of any of his creatures.

If then God is concerned about the sparrows, we can be sure that he is concerned about us who are his children. Still, we have no guarantee that nothing bad will happen to us. However, we believe that even should death come, God will take care of us.

The essence of faith is to know that life is full of risk and insecurity, and yet to rejoice in it. Nowadays with security cameras all around us, the feeling of someone watching us is not a pleasant feeling but the feeling that someone is watching over us is a lovely feeling. The conviction that God is watching over us, gives us comfort, strength and hope especially in times of difficulty and danger. In the end only God can allay our deepest fears.

FLOR McCARTHY SDB

PARISH NEWS

Children's Liturgy

Urgently needed people who can be leaders of Children's Liturgy for Sunday masses at 9.00am & 10.30am. Training will be provided. Please contact - [Marta Cullen on 021-898345](mailto:Marta.Cullen@21-898345) or email marta.cullen@gmail.com

DIOCESE NEWS

Auckland Catholic Singles Social Group

This is a new group for single Catholic men and women in their 30s & 40s who feel they have outgrown young adults events. A chance to meet and socialize with others who share similar faith.

Mt Eden Village Craft Market

Saturday 8th July - 11am onwards
Craft market ~ Lunch ~ Walk up Mt Eden
[Meet outside the front of: 449 Mt Eden Road, Mt Eden](#)

Classic Movie Night

"Bringing Up Baby" (1938) starring Katharine Hepburn & Cary Grant.
Tuesday 27th June 7.00pm onwards
Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College: 10 Vermont Street, Ponsonby.
BYO snacks and a donation for the venue, thank you.

World Youth Day Auckland

Not every young person can get to Lisbon for World Youth Day 2023, but Sancta Maria College is much more accessible. WYD Auckland is happening on Sunday 6 August (2pm-8.30pm).

(WYD Auckland cont.....)

Let's come together as diocesan young people to celebrate WYD with inspiring speakers, powerful worship, Mass, dinner (paid by Bishop Steve), Reconciliation and Adoration. More details soon.

Save the date!

Theology of the Body for Teens

What is love? Where do I get my identity from? What is the purpose of my sexuality? How can I live in authentic freedom, grow in virtue and build healthy friendships? Weekend courses on Saturday 22 July 2-6pm and Sunday 23 July 12-6pm at Hillsborough, Auckland.

Ages: 13-19 year olds. To register or for more info: theologyofthebody.nz or email tobauckland@gmail.com

Holy Family Parish Conference

94 Taikata Road, Te Atatu Peninsula

Guest Speaker: Dr Peter Holmes

(Lecturer in Theology & Scripture at the University of Notre Dame, Australia).

Healthy Sexuality in a Pornified World

Sexual integrity, being the lover God calls us to be ~Thursday 29th June 7pm-9pm.

Life Hacks for a Happy Marriage

Daily habits that bring couples together in more enjoyable marriages ~ Friday 30th June 7pm-9pm.

The Mission of Masculinity ~ Authentic masculinity in a time of crisis ~ Saturday 1st July 10am-5pm.

MASS TIMES:

Monday: 9am
Tues/Wed/Thurs 6.30pm
Wed: Novena 6pm
Friday: 9am
First Friday: 6.30pm
Saturday: 5pm Vigil
Sunday: 9am, 10.30am, 5pm

**Reconciliation by appointment,
please contact the parish office.**

Blessed Virgin Mary

Would you like the Blessed Virgin Mary to visit your home?

Members of The Legion of Mary can leave her statue at your place for 2 weeks. Gather the whole family and pray the rosary daily. Receive a special protection and greatest blessings through her intercession. If you are interested, please contact [Marilyn on 021 299 4357](tel:0212994357)

Legion of Mary

Senior Legion of Mary (Our Lady of Lourdes Praesidium) ~ every Wednesday 7.10pm in the classroom.

Senior Legion of Mary (Mary Mother of Grace Praesidium) ~ every Friday 7.00pm in the classroom.

Junior Legion of Mary (Mary Mother of Good Counsel Praesidium) ~ Every Friday 5.30pm in the classroom (under 18).

If you wish to place a notice in our parish newsletter, please email the parish office by Wednesday.

Please pray for our sick parishioners:

Violet Furtado, Yvonne Sommers, Mary Holmes, Kanesi Masae, Ethan Peter Lelo, Rosalen Ahearn, Saulius David Balsys, Kalameli Tauta, Joan Unkovich, Pauline Caffell, Louisa Baptist, Robert Shearman, Siufaga Maileoi Lili, Lee Dunn, Alex Soniega, Barbara Lynch, Fata Peter & Lenora Fuiava, Priscilla Fernandes, Nellie Lemusu-Kea, Aaron Ablan, Joy Rapcsak, Gerard Hoover.

Last Week's Collection:

House - \$ 1,026.15

Parish - \$ 1,520.25

Thank you for your generosity.

Readings For The Upcoming Week

Mon 26 Jun: Gen 12:1-9
Mt 7:1-5

Tue 27 Jun: Gen 13:2, 5-18
Mt 7:6, 12-14

Wed 28 Jun: Gen 15:1-12, 17-18
Mt 7:15-20

Thu 29 Jun: Acts 3:1-10
Jn 21:15-19

Fri 30 Jun: Gen 17:1, 9-10, 15-22
Mt 8:1-4

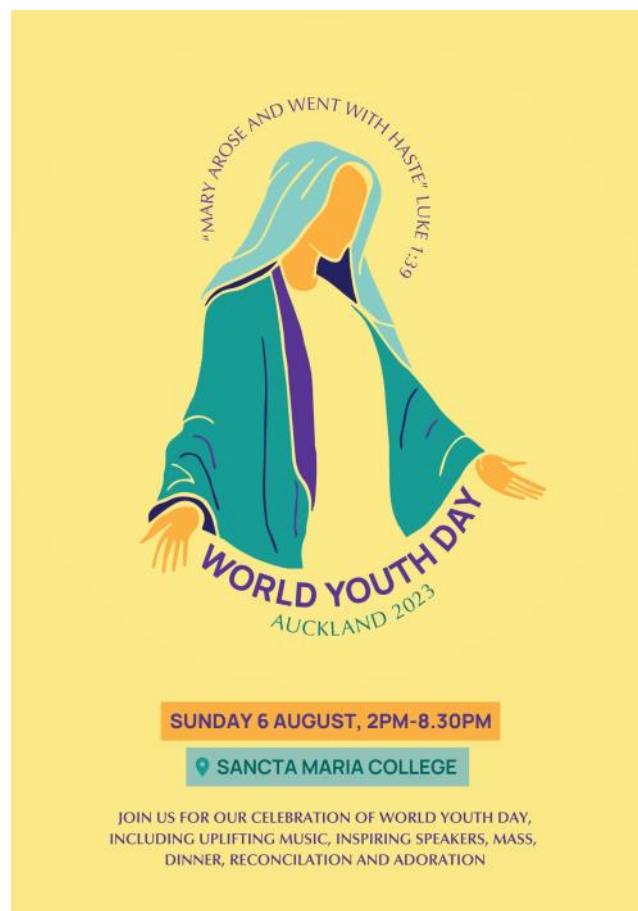
Sat 01 July: Gen 18:1-15
Lk 1:46-50, 53-55

Sun 02 July: Ps 88:2-3, 16-19
Rom 6:3-4, 8-11
Mt 10:37-42

Divine Mercy Devotion

Mass on Friday 7th July 7.00pm at St Mary's Church, 20 Kitenui Avenue, Mt Albert. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Mercy Sung, Benediction, Mass followed by general blessing of St Faustina's relic. All welcome.

WORLD YOUTH DAY AUCKLAND



OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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