

OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH NEWSLETTER



19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

13 August 2023

God's Ways Are Not Man's Ways

Ahab was King of Israel from 874 to 853 BC (according to Edwin R. Thiele). Under his reign, Baal-worship became the official cult in Israel. The Baal-worship was fostered by Ahab's queen, Jezebel (a Phoenician princess). God's prophets were being killed. Those who survived were in hiding. Nonetheless, Elijah took on himself the fearsome task of combating this false worship.

He adopted, however, a very militant, even bloodthirsty approach. After the defeat of the prophets of Baal at Mount Carmel, he had all of them slaughtered (more than 400). Elijah was a man of great faith. But because of his ways, Jezebel wanted to have him killed. So he fled the desert and took refuge in a cave. A beaten and broken man, he just wanted to die. However, in the cave he experienced the presence of God. But God had a different plan for Elijah. He was thus shown another aspect of his God. He was taught that God's ways are not man's ways - even Elijah had to learn this. The tactics he had adopted were not God's tactics.

God's ways means that we may feel weak and powerless facing the hard knocks of life. We may even discover that our faith is not as strong. And at such times we may choose to cry out to the Lord for help, like the apostles did. Knowing that God is with us and his power is available to us does bring some comfort to our journey. We are being assured that we are not alone - God does give us the strength to cope.

I believe that most of us, on looking back over our lives, can say that there were some circumstances we would never have been able to cope with were it not for our faith. This means that we have experienced what Elijah and the apostles have experienced. God wants us to be reassured that he knows what he is doing and that we must have faith in trusting his ways.

Since we live in a very noisy world, if we want to hear the voice of God (like Elijah did in the cave) we need to create some stillness and quietness in our soul. Yet for those who know how to listen, God's gentle voice can make itself heard even in the midst of a storm. Over the roar of wind and the waves, the apostles heard Jesus saying to them, 'Courage! It is I. Do not be afraid.'

FLOR McCARTHY SDB



PARISH NEWS

Sacramental Program 2023

A special thank you to Deacon Robert and Justine Mitchell for their support during the Sacramental Program preparing the older children.

Feast of the Assumption

There will be a mass at 9am (in addition to the usual 6.30pm mass) **Tuesday 15 August** to celebrate the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary. There will be a Rosary (both masses) half an hour beforehand.

Help Needed



We are looking for some volunteers to help with arranging flowers in our church. You will be put on a roster and getting reimbursed for the costs involved. We would love you to be part of our team. Please contact [Margaret Newcombe](mailto:Margaret.Newcombe@gpbs.com.au) on 021-2133386

DIOCESE NEWS

Legion of Mary Auxiliary Day

Giving glory to God through the sanctification of its members, all active and auxiliary members are invited **Sunday 20 August** at Holy Family Church, 94 Taikata Rd, Te Atatu Peninsula. Legion prayers with Benediction of the Blessed Sacrament start at 2pm.

Special Mass

A special mass will be offered for those who have experienced loss of a child, on **Saturday 02 September 5pm** at St Michael's Catholic Church, 6 Beatrice Road, Remuera.

For more info, please contact [Brenda Brightwell](mailto:Brenda.Brightwell@gpbs.com.au) at St Michael's Church on [027-6415615](tel:027-6415615).

In Beauty We Walk ~ 2024 Guided Tour of Ireland

Think Epic! Think Exhilarating! Think Enchanting! Think Ireland!

A specially crafted pilgrimage through Ireland for parish and school music ministers, liturgists, teachers and pastoral leaders fully escorted by Tour Leader Paul Skippen, as we sing, explore and experience Ireland ~ *Sunday 4 August to Saturday 24 August 2024*.

Paul Skippen (editor of GPBS website) has had many years in ministry in Catholic schools and parishes. He is an avid traveller and has experienced many of the world's Catholic spiritual lands - he has led 4 pilgrimages walking the Camino in Spain. With a real passion for his Irish heritage, Paul has made over 20 journeys to Ireland. *Reserve your place today!*

[Paul Skippen \(E\): info@gpbs.com.au](mailto:info@gpbs.com.au)
[/ \(W\):www.gpbs.com.au](http://www.gpbs.com.au) / [M: 0412850883](tel:0412850883)

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.**

******* IMPORTANT NOTICE *******

Parish New Bank Accounts

The Parish has recently changed their bank accounts which was necessary to comply with the latest banking regulations.

Please take note of our new bank accounts:

Parish Account: 02-0108-0707868-000

House Account: 02-0108-0707868-001

If you are donating through AP (automatic payments), you do not need to make any changes to your bank account details as it will automatically route to our new bank accounts. On the other hand, if you have set up the Parish as your payee, please ensure that you update your payee record with our new bank accounts.

Thank you.

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 - \$1,323.00

Parish - \$1,840.90

Thank you for your generosity.

Readings For The Upcoming Week

Mon 14 Aug : Deut 10:12-22

Mt 17:22-27

Tue 15 Aug: Lk 11:27-28

Rev 11:19, 12:1-6, 10 Ps 44:10-12

Wed 16 Aug: Deut 34:1-12

Mt 18:15-20

Thu 17 Aug: Josh 3:7-11, 13-17

Mt 18:21 - 19:1

Fri 18 Aug: Josh 24:1-13

Mt 19:3-12

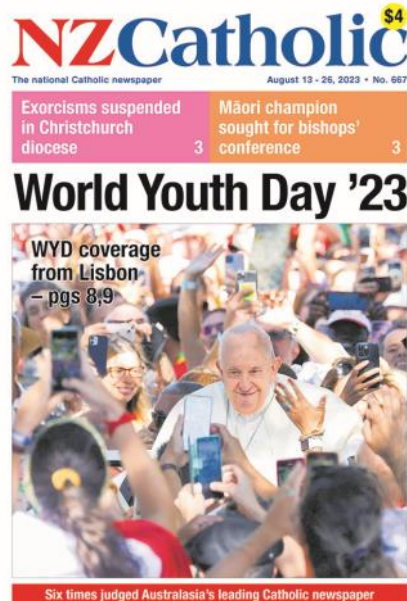
Sat 19 Aug: Josh 24:14-29

Mt 19:13-15

Sun 20 Aug: Is 56:1, 6-7

Rom 11:13-15, 29-32

Mt 15:21-28



Synodality and Women

World Women's Observatory (worldwomensobservatory.org) is organizing 3 webinars focused on showing the results of the work carried out throughout the Synodal process. A chance to meet with women members of the diocese with leading roles within the country as well as all regions of the world sharing their own experiences and testimonies.

Both men and women are invited to participate since all of us, as baptized individuals, are equally involved in the process. The dates are:

- ◆ 13 September: 6.00pm - 7.30pm (Rome time) 4am - 5.30am (NZ time)
- ◆ 14 September 9.00am - 10.30am (Rome time) 7pm - 8.30pm (NZ time)
- ◆ 14 September 2.30pm - 4.00pm (Rome time) 12.30am - 2.00am (NZ time)

Save the date! Additional information and Zoom link later.

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Office hours: 9am to 3pm (Mon-Fri)

E-mail: ourladyoflourdes@xtra.co.nz

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Priests Contacts:

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