

OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH NEWSLETTER



24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

17 September 2023

Importance Of Forgiveness

Today's Gospel deals with a subject that touches us all - *forgiveness*.

None of us can go through life without getting hurt. The memory of wrongs done to us seeps into our heart, producing a legacy of bitterness and resentment. Some people have years of stored hurts inside them. Bitterness is internal decay - it can poison our spirit and destroy our capacity to love.

A study done among divorced men and women has shown that more hurt is caused by the resentment they harbour than by the divorce itself. At all costs we must keep the heart free of bitterness. We cannot be healed unless we forgive. Having said that, forgiveness is never easy - to forgive is, first and foremost, a duty we owe to ourselves. We forgive for the sake of our own well-being. We forgive because we do not want to live with feelings of resentment and desire for revenge. We forgive in order to cleanse ourselves of these unhealthy attitudes and states of mind, so that we may be able to devote all our energies to loving, which is the only activity that befits a Christian.

Story ~ A former inmate of a Nazi concentration camp was visiting a friend who had shared the ordeal with him.

'Have you forgiven the Nazis?' he asked his friend.

'Yes,' came the reply.

'Well, I haven't. I'm still consumed with hatred for them.'

'In that case, they still have you in prison.' said his friend gently.

One of the things that can motivate us to forgive is an appreciation of our own need of forgiveness. Jesus says that unless we forgive others God won't forgive us. The fault is not with God but with us. When we refuse to forgive we break down the bridge over which we ourselves must pass.

Forgiveness does not mean forgetting the wrong done to us. It means remembering and letting go.

There is a saying: *The stupid neither forgive nor forget; the naïve forgive and forget; the wise forgive but do not forget.*

Forgiveness is one of the highest and most beautiful forms of love. It is a holy task. Only God can help us to accomplish it fully.

FLOR McCARTHY SDB

PARISH NEWS

Parish ~ New Phones

The parish office has updated its phone system.

Compliments of Simon & Justine Gillett.

Calls will be answered mainly during office hours. You are welcome to leave a message on our voicemail. Please note that messages received during the weekends will be responded to on Monday mornings.

Foodbank

The Parish Foodbank team wishes to thank everyone for their continued support (food, general items & cash donations). We have been asked to give an update of what we need. Here is our list, thank you.

Dry goods & general items: biscuits, long-life milk, rice, flour, small bottles of cooking oil, toiletries.

Tins/cans: tomatoes, corned beef, tuna, mackerel, peas, five bean mix, lentils, kidney beans, chickpeas, fruit.

Jars: jam & peanut butter

Daylight Savings



Please note that daylight savings begins **Sunday 24 September 2023**. You will need to set your clock forward one hour (usually before going to bed on Saturday night).

Group Fitness ~ Zumba

Maria & Patsy would love you to join them every Monday (6pm-7pm) in the parish hall for a fun Zumba workout.

DIOCESE NEWS

St Francis Retreat

St Francis Open Day ~ join us to celebrate the Feast of St Francis. Come explore the grounds and learn more about St Francis. There will also be an **Animal Blessing Service** so please bring your pets. **Sun 01 Oct 2pm - 4pm.**

Time Out Days ~ for those who seek a retreat - 9.30am - 2.30pm (\$30 incl lunch). **Tues 03 Oct / Wed 01 Nov / Thu 07 Dec.**

24 HR Prayer Retreat For Women ~ join us for a reflective prayer retreat in the Catholic tradition for talks on prayer, with time for personal prayer, Holy Mass and Eucharistic Adoration. **Sat 07 Oct 3pm - Sun 08 Oct 3pm.** Early Bird \$130 pp (before 24/09). Standard \$150 pp. All meals and accommodation included.

Contemplative Prayer Retreat ~ want to deepen your faith?

Join us to learn about fruits of the journey of meditation in the Christian Tradition. **Sat 07 Oct 10am - 4pm.** Early Bird \$65 (before 23/09) Standard \$85.

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.**

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).

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)

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 - \$ 875.20

Parish - \$1,400.40

Thank you for your generosity.

Readings For The Upcoming Week

Mon 18 Sep: Tim 2:1-8
Lk 7:1-10 Ps 27:2, 7-9
Tue 19 Sep: Tim 3:1-13
Lk 7:11-17 Ps 100:1-3
Wed 20 Sep: Tim 3:14-16
Lk 7:31-35 Ps 110:1-6
Thu 21 Sep: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13
Mt 9:9-13 Ps 18:2-5
Fri 22 Sep: Tim 6:2-12
Lk 8:1-3 Ps 48:6-10, 17-20
Sat 23 Sep: Tim 6:13-16
Lk 8:4-15
Sun 24 Sep: Is 55:6-9
Phil 1:20-24
Mt 20:1-16

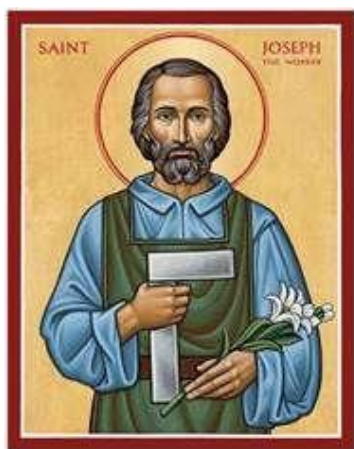
Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College

Enrolments are now being accepted for Bachelor of Divinity & Graduate Diploma in Theology starting **25 September 2023**.

With a dedicated and qualified faculty of theologians, and access to a wealth of resources, our programme will empower you to critically analyze complex theological issues, foster spiritual growth, and prepare you for a meaningful career in ministry, education, or other fields where a profound understanding of theology is invaluable.

To learn more about the programmes, please go to:

www.tekupenga.ac.nz/programmes



St Joseph Prayer Group

Calling any man wanting St Joseph's help.....

For guidance, companionship, support or encouragement, we would like to invite you to a meeting on **Wednesday 27 September at 7.00pm** ~ Saint John Paul II Centre for Life, 569A Richardson Road, Mt Roskill.

For more info, please contact:

[Simon Archer on 021 400 729.](mailto:Simon.Archer@tekupenga.ac.nz)

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC CHURCH

7 Glendale Rd, Glen Eden

Ph: 818-6325

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

E-mail: ourladyoflourdes@xtra.co.nz

Web: www.glenedencatholic.org.nz

Facebook: Glen Eden Catholic Church

Priests Contacts:

Parish Priest: Fr Paul Helsham OFM Cap
E:paulhelsham@gmail.com

Asst Parish Priests:

Fr Boniface Kujur OFM Cap
E:bonikujur1969@gmail.com
Fr Rajat Dungdung OFM Cap
E:rajatcap@yahoo.com

Deacon:

Robert Mitchell
E:robertmitchell1410@gmail.com