

OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH NEWSLETTER



Mission Sunday

22 October 2023

Allegiance To God Comes First

The most important part of a ship is the rudder. Without the rudder it could not be steered. It would simply run amuck. The most precious thing we possess is our *conscience*. Without a conscience we could not steer the barque of our lives towards the harbour of truth and right. As Christians God must always have the first claim on our conscience.

Franz Jägerstätter was born in Austria and was brought up a Catholic. He was an unremarkable young man who had only an elementary education and who became a casual worker. There was nothing about him to suggest that he had in him the stuff of martyrs.

However, at some stage he suddenly matured. He became very responsible and began to take his religion seriously. He was not, however, fanatical about it. He married a girl by the name of Anna, and they had three children.

By the time the Second World War was raging, Franz (at 36) was called up to serve in Hitler's army. But he refuses to join up. This was the equivalent to suicide.

When friends tried to talk him into joining up, he said simply, 'I cannot join.'

'But many have joined up....so why can't you?' they persisted.

'Because I believe that this war is not a *just* war. Therefore, it would be wrong for me to join up. What others do is their business. I have to answer for my own conscience.'

'But where's your loyalty to your people, to your country, and to your flag?' they continued. 'I love my people and I love my country. But there's a higher law - God's law. And God's law tells me that this war is wrong.'

Franz did not have a death wish. He had a lot to live for. Further efforts were made to get him to change his mind. He was arrested and put in prison. Even his wife begged him to reconsider his decision....but all to no avail.

Franz Jägerstätter was executed on August 9, 1943. He felt he was obeying the words of Christ "*Give to Caesar what belongs to Caesar, and to God what belongs to God.*"

He was beatified by Pope Benedict XVI in 2007.

Every Christian living in today's world is faced with difficult decisions. Franz showed us that whatever else we might give to Caesar, we must not give him our conscience. A true Christian is at one and the same time a good citizen of his country and of the kingdom of God. But his first and deepest loyalty is to God. **FLOR McCARTHY SDB**

PARISH NEWS

All Saints Day

There will be an additional mass on **Wednesday 01 November** at 9am. Usual mass at 6.30pm.

All Souls Day

There will be an additional mass on **Thursday 02 November** at 9am. Usual mass at 6.30pm. A wooden box has been placed in the church foyer. For the departed souls of 2023 (as per our Death Registry) their names will be announced at both masses. If you wish to include a loved one, email the parish office by **Monday 30 October**.

Young Adult Group (18s to 35s)

Eat and Bowl

Sunday 29 Oct ~ Meeting (after 5pm mass) at **La Porchetta (Henderson)** at **6.30pm** followed by bowling at PINS Tenpin Bowling at 7.45pm. **All expenses will be paid for.** We look forward to your presence and to share an evening of fun and quality time together. For more info, please contact: Christian Malaitai [021 116 8275](tel:0211168275) or cmalaitai@gmail.com

Guest Speaker - Br. Johnson Sequeira

Come One, Come All...

Receive the blessing, healing and the love of our faithful God.

Br Johnson, a Catholic lay preacher and founder of **Jesus Christ Is Lord Ministry** (JCILM) will be visiting our parish:

Friday 27 Oct (3pm-9pm)

Saturday 28 Oct (11am-9pm)

Sunday 29 Oct (11am-1pm).

They will give a presentation of their ministry work in the parish hall.

All welcome.

DIOCESE NEWS

Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship

All men are invited to a meeting **Wed 25 Oct 7.30pm** at St Joseph's Centre, Takapuna. There will be a video presentation on Catholic Masculinity followed by a discussion on what Joshua 2024 will be like.

We value your presence and input. For more info, contact Russell [022 034 5678](tel:0220345678).

Pompallier Diocesan Centre

You are invited to an **Open Home** at the Centre ~ 30 New Street, St Mary's Bay on **Thurs 09 November 4pm-7.30pm**. It will be an opportunity to engage with staff, explore some of the archival treasure, purchase liturgical resources, enjoy a snack and more.

Divine Mercy Devotion

Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass ~ **Friday 3rd Nov 7.00pm** at St Mary's Parish, 20 Kitenui Ave, Mt Albert. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Mercy Sung, Benediction, Mass followed by a veneration of St Faustina's relic. All welcome.

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.**

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.



The Parish Music Group will be performing at the Titirangi War Memorial Hall ~ **Sat 18 November at 7.00pm.**

Join us for an evening of unforgettable performances. For more info, visit www.nzmeltingpot.com and to book your tickets.

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

Last Week's Collection:

House - \$ 914.50

Parish - \$1,346.10

Thank you for your generosity.

Readings For The Upcoming Week

Mon 23 Oct: Rom 4:20-25

Lk 1:69-75 Lk 12:13-21

Tue 24 Oct: Rom 5:12, 15, 17-21

Lk 12:35-38 Ps 39:7-10, 17

Wed 25 Oct: Rom 6:12-18

Lk 12:39-48 Ps 123

Thu 26 Oct: Rom 6:19-23

Lk 12:49-53 Ps 1:1-4, 6

Fri 27 Oct: Rom 7:18-25

Lk 12:54-59 Ps 118:66, 68, 76-77

Sat 28 Oct: Eph 2:19-22

Lk 6:12-19 Ps 18:2-5

Sun 29 Oct: Ex 22:20-26

Ps 17:2-4, 1 Thess 1:5-10

Mt 22:34-40

Data Entry - Parish

The parish is looking for 2 people to complete Data Entry.
The job is for **1 week** only from **10am - 4pm @ \$28 an hour.**

Start date: **Monday 04 Dec 2023**

Finish date: **Friday 08 Dec 2023**

This job will ideally suit a Year 13 or University student.

Please submit your application in writing (stating why you would be suitable) and include the name of one referee to [Fr Paul Helsham - E:paulhelsham@gmail.com](mailto:Fr Paul Helsham) by **Friday 03 November.**



Check out our first Photo Gallery on our website!

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Priests Contacts:

Parish Priest: Fr Paul Helsham OFM Cap
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Asst Parish Priests:

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