

# OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH NEWSLETTER



30th Sunday in Ordinary Time

29 October 2023

## *Remember That You Were Once Strangers*

We are often told to forget painful experiences. But how can we learn from them if we forget them? Memory of suffering can be used in a positive or negative way. It can be used to state that we know what suffering is like....therefore we have no excuse for allowing it to be inflicted on others. Or it can be used to state that we have suffered therefore others must suffer too.

They say that compassion is not learned without suffering. Yet suffering does not always help people to grow in compassion. Suffering can harden people, so that they end up inflicting on others the harshness inflicted on them. And so the cycle goes on. The time of enslavement in Egypt was undoubtedly the darkest time in the history of God's people. It took them a long time to escape from there, and even longer to put it behind them. And yet they were told not to forget it but to remember it. Why?

Because now things had changed for the better. They had a homeland of their own, they had a king of their own and an army of their own. However, there were many foreigners among them - these people were very vulnerable.

The commandment to love one's neighbour occurs only once in the Hebrew Bible, and it referred only to one's fellow Israelites. But the commandment to love the stranger occurs 37 times - making it the most frequently cited moral injunction of ancient Judaism.

The Jews were reminded continually that they themselves were once strangers and exiled in Egypt, depending on the kindness of others. Now that they are settled, they have a duty to be kind to the stranger in their midst. Because it is easy to forget where we originally came from.

God commanded his people to remember so that history would not repeat itself. Having felt the pain of injustice and oppression themselves, they must never inflict that pain onto others.

Hermann Cohen who was a German Jewish philosopher believed that the biblical commandments protecting the stranger represented the beginning of true religion. His philosophy was that the stranger is to be protected simply because they are a fellow human being.

The health of a society can be measured by the way people are treating one another. If you say you love someone, then treat them justly.

**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**.

## DIOCESE NEWS

### 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.

## Te Kupenga - Webinar

This webinar is ideal for parish and ministry leaders or those who would like to lead a ministry. This series is called the *Foundations of Catholic Leadership* presented by Dr John Evangelista, Director of Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College. Sessions start 5.30pm-6.30pm on Zoom. Poster is on our noticeboard.

- ♦ *Session 1 - Tues 31 October*
- ♦ *Session 2 - Tues 07 November*
- ♦ *Session 3 - Tues 14 November*

**Registration fee:\$60 (for all 3 sessions)**

For more details and registration go to:  
[www.tekupenga.ac.nz/leadership](http://www.tekupenga.ac.nz/leadership)

### Prayer for Peace - (Pope Francis)

*Shalom, Peace, Salaam  
Lord, God of Abraham, God of the  
Prophets, God of Love,  
you created us and you call us to live  
as brothers and sisters.*

*Give us the strength daily to be  
instruments of peace; enable us to see  
everyone who crosses our path as our  
brother and sister.*

*Make us sensitive to the plea of our  
citizens who entreat us to turn weapons  
of war into implements of peace,  
our trepidation into confident trust,  
and our quarrelling into forgiveness.*

## 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](http://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 - \$ 691.50**

**Parish - \$1,102.50**

**Thank you for your generosity.**

## Readings For The Upcoming Week

**Mon 30 Oct:** Rom 8:12-17

Lk 13:10-17 Ps 67:2, 4, 6-7

**Tue 31 Oct:** Rom 8:18-25

Lk 13:18-21 Ps 125

**Wed 01 Nov:** Rev 7:2-4, 9-14

Mt 5:1-12 Ps 23:1-6

1 Jn 3:1-3

**Thu 02 Nov:** All Souls Day

**Fri 03 Nov:** Rom 9:1-5

Lk 14:1-6 Ps 147:12-15, 19-20

**Sat 04 Nov:** Rom 11:1-2, 25-29

Lk 14:1, 7-11 Ps 93:12-15, 17-18

**Sun 05 Nov:** Mal 1:14 - 2:2, 8-10

Ps 130

1Thess 2:7-9, 13

Mt 23:1-12

## Data Entry - Parish

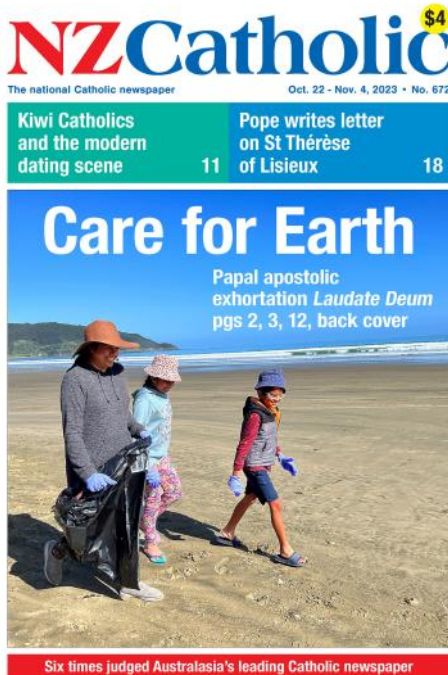
The parish is looking for 2 people to complete Data Entry.  
The job is for **1 week** only from **10am - 4pm @ \$28 an hour.**

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 - E:paulhelsham@gmail.com) by **Friday 03 November.**



**Check out  
our first  
photo gallery  
on our  
website!**

### **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](mailto:ourladyoflourdes@xtra.co.nz)

**Web:** [www.glenedencatholic.org.nz](http://www.glenedencatholic.org.nz)

**Facebook:** Glen Eden Catholic Church

### **Priests Contacts:**

**Parish Priest:** Fr Paul Helsham OFM Cap  
E:[paulhelsham@gmail.com](mailto:paulhelsham@gmail.com)

#### **Asst Parish Priests:**

Fr Boniface Kujur OFM Cap  
E:[bonikujur1969@gmail.com](mailto:bonikujur1969@gmail.com)  
Fr Rajat Dungdung OFM Cap  
E:[rajatcap@yahoo.com](mailto:rajatcap@yahoo.com)

#### **Deacon:**

Robert Mitchell  
E:[robertmitchell1410@gmail.com](mailto:robertmitchell1410@gmail.com)