

OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH NEWSLETTER



Eleventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

16 June 2024

Partners with God

There is a version of the creation story that goes like this.

When God was creating the world, he did it bit by bit. He made the trees, the grass, the animals, the birds, the fish and so on. As he was making these things, the angels kept asking, 'Is the world finished yet?' To which God would reply with a simple 'No'. Finally God made people and said to them, 'I'm tired, I want you to finish the world. If you agree to do so, then I promise to be your partner.' They agreed.

After this, whenever the angels enquired of God if the world was finished, the reply would come, 'I don't know. You will have to ask my partners.'

In a very real and true sense we are God's partners in the work of creation. There is something we can do and which we have to do. God will not do it for us. Not that God couldn't do it - it is just that he wants us to be partners with him.

It is up to us to plant the seed. That is our part. But having done that, we have to acknowledge that we can't do the most important thing of all - we can't make the seed grow. That is God's part. And God does his part. Any farmer or gardener would tell you that.

So, if there is something that we want to do, or goals we would like to achieve, let's not sit around dreaming about them. Let's do something about them, even it is something very small. Let's plant one seed. If we do that, then we can be sure that in good time God will see to it that we have a harvest to reap. Meanwhile, as Paul says, 'For we walk by faith and not by sight' (second reading).

Story - Once a food buyer for a residential school in Boston went to the Farmer's Market. Passing a stand that was heaped with beautiful corn, the buyer asked the farmer, 'Did you grow this corn?'

'No, I planted the seed,' came the reply.

After gathering a bountiful harvest, the farmer took off his cap. Then standing in the middle of the empty cornfield, he looked up to heaven and said, 'Thank you, Lord, for the fine harvest.'

And the Lord looked down and said, 'And thank you. We did a good job!'

We are the work of God's hands, but we are also God's hands at work.

Flor McCarthy SDB

PARISH NEWS

Ministry Workshop Certificates

For those who attended the Ministry Workshop held at our parish in March 2024, your presence is requested on **Sunday 23 June at the 10.30am mass**. Fr Paul will do the commissioning before presenting the certificates to the ministers.

Minimarket

We are introducing new pastries for our minimarket **Sunday 23 June** after 9am & 10.30am masses. Help us improve our minimarket - feel free to tell us what you are looking for. We are also in the process of getting a new coffee machine. We look forward to seeing you all.

First Friday of the Month

On the **first Friday** of the month after the 9am mass, you are welcome in the Parish hall for a cuppa, chat with friends and meet new people. Feel free to bring your favourite plate and share with others. Poster is on the noticeboard where all the dates are listed till the end of the year. Kevin Davis is hosting this monthly gathering. Thank you Kev!

Legion of Mary

Experience the intersection between faith and the profound act of compassion.

Please join the Legion of Mary as they welcome guest speaker Tony Lenton (Senior Catholic Hospital Chaplain) to our parish **Saturday 29 June 9am-12pm** in the Parish hall. We will be focussing on the ministry of taking Holy Communion and visiting the sick. All welcome. For more info, please contact Justine Mitchell:

justinemitchell18@gmail.com

DIOCESE NEWS

Young Adults Ball 2024

The theme for this year is *Wonderland*. **Saturday 14 September 7pm-11pm** at Muhughs of Cheltenham, 46 Cheltenham Rd, Auckland. Early bird tickets on sale now. Go to [AKCYM Facebook Page](#) to get your ticket or email felicitym@cda.org.nz for more info.

St Francis Retreat Centre

Time Out Days ~ For those who seek a day retreat **Thursday 27 June 9.30am - 2.30pm** (\$30 incl lunch). To book please call [\(09\) 625 6651](tel:096256651) or visit www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz

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) ~ (under 18)
every Sunday 11.45am in the classroom

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](mailto:marilyn@parishoffice.com)

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, Aaron Ablan,
Priscilla Fernandes, Nellie Lemusu-Kea,
Joy Rapcsak, Gerard Hoover.

Last Week's Collection:

House - \$ 1,182.80

Parish - \$ 1,970.80

Thank you for your generosity.

Readings For The Upcoming Week

Mon 17 Jun: 1 Kg 21:1-16
Mt 5:38-42 Ps 5:2-3, 5-7

Tue 18 Jun: 1 Kg 21:17-29
Mt 5:43-48 Ps 50:3-6, 11, 16

Wed 19 Jun: 2 Kg 2:1, 6-14
Mt 6:1-6, 16-18 Ps 30:20, 21, 24

Thu 20 Jun: Sirach 48:1-14
Mt 6:7-15 Ps 96:1-7

Fri 21 Jun: 2 Kg 11:1-4, 9-18, 20
Mt 6:19-23 Ps 131:11-14, 17-18

Sat 22 Jun: 2 Chr 24:17-25
Mt 6:24-34 Ps 88:4-5, 29-34

Sun 23 Jun: Job 38:1, 8-11
2 Cor 5:14-17 Mk 4:35-41
Ps 106:23-26, 28-31

NZCatholic ^{\$4}

The national Catholic newspaper

June 16 - 29, 2024 • No. 687

Caritas reacts to
Government's
Budget

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New Zealand
synod response
sent to Rome

4

Fast falls the eventide

Thanks for your
loyal readership

Next edition: Photographic commemorative issue

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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Priests Contacts:

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Asst Parish Priests:

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Fr Rajat Dungdung OFM Cap
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