

OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH NEWSLETTER



Thirteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

30 June 2024

A Personal Encounter with Jesus

The woman who came to Jesus was desperate. For twelve years she had been suffering from an illness and had exhausted all human possibilities of healing. Then she heard about Jesus. So great was her faith that she believed that all she had to do was to touch the hem of his garment and she would be well. She was not seeking a meeting with Jesus. What she was looking for was a 'quick fix'. She had been through so much already that you could not blame her for wanting a 'quick fix'. The woman's faith was rewarded. She got her quick cure. But Jesus didn't go in for this kind of cure. So, just as the woman was about to disappear in the crowd, he sought her out with a view of having a face-to-face encounter with her.

Jesus was thinking of her - he knew that she needed, not just physical healing, but also psychological and spiritual healing. After all the years of sickness she was feeling bad about herself and feeling alienated from God too. So he met with her. In the encounter we see the sensitivity and courtesy of Jesus. The woman came forward frightened and trembling. A woman with a haemorrhage was considered to be ritually unclean, and by touching Jesus she rendered him ritually unclean too. Yet Jesus did not scold her for her 'reprehensible' conduct. Instead he commended her faith. And spoke lovely words to her: 'My daughter, your faith has restored you to health; go in peace and be free of your complaint.'

Jesus confirmed that she was cured. He told her that through her faith and courage she had played a part in her own healing. Many in her situation would have given up and resigned themselves to their fate.

Jesus made her feel as if she was the only person in the world. He never cured just an illness; he cured a sick person. His touch healed her body; his words healed her spirit; his love healed her heart. How much better this was than an impersonal, hasty and secretive cure. If the woman had got her desire she would have got her cure, yes, but she would not have got to know Jesus as a person. Her relationship with him would have remained a very superficial one. It would be like getting the Pope's blessing from the balcony of St Peter's as one of thousands, as opposed to actually meeting the Pope.

(continued on the back page)

PARISH NEWS

Junior Legion of Mary

We look forward to welcoming our young parishioners (under 18) to our Junior Legion of Mary meetings **Saturdays (3.30pm- 4.30pm)** or **Sundays (11.45am-1.00pm)** at the parish. These sessions will assist in developing your spiritual growth in Jesus through Mary.

For more info please contact:

[Cristy Herrera 021 170 6809](mailto:Cristy.Herrera@parish.org)

(Saturdays) [Christian Malaitai](mailto:Christian.Malaitai@parish.org)
[021 116 8275](mailto:Christian.Malaitai@parish.org) (Sundays).

Minimarket



The minimarket ladies would like to thank everyone. We made a total sale of \$350 last Sunday. For those who wishes to pay through online banking, we will provide you with the Parish bank account.

DIOCESE NEWS

Divine Mercy Devotion

Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass **Friday 05 July 7pm** St Mary's Church, 20 Kitenui Avenue, Mt Albert.

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Mercy Sung, Benediction, Mass followed by Veneration of St Faustina's relic. All welcome.

World Apostolate of Fatima Group (WAF)

We are blessed to offer the opportunity for parishioners to welcome the statue of Our Lady of Fatima into their homes. If you are interested in this spiritual enrichment, you are invited to contact:

[Agnes Lafaele, WAF President](mailto:Agnes.Lafaele@waf.org)
[Diocese of Auckland on 021 2931807](mailto:Agnes.Lafaele@waf.org)

Job Vacancy

St Dominic's Parish in Blockhouse Bay is seeking a Parish Secretary.

Role involves administrative tasks, financial reporting and managing invoices. Must be able to handle website and MYOB. Part-time role of 20 hours a week. Please submit your CV and covering letter to Fr Ephrem Tigg OFM Cap: fretigga@gmail.com or the Parish office:

stdominicsparish@xtra.co.nz

Last date for submitting your application: COB 14 July 2024

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 Saturday (3.30pm-4.30pm) and
Sunday (11.45am-1.00pm) 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](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, Aaron Ablan,
Priscilla Fernandes, Nellie Lemusu-Kea,
Joy Rapcsak, Gerard Hoover, Margaret Sampson

Last Week's Collection:

House - \$ 1,421.20

Parish - \$ 2,373.50

Thank you for your generosity.

Readings For The Upcoming Week

Mon 01 Jul: Amos 2:6-10, 13-16
Mt 8:18-22 Ps 49:16-23
Tue 02 Jul: Amos 3:1-8, 4:11-12
Mt 8:23-27 Ps 5:5-8
Wed 03 Jul: Eph 2:19-22
Jn 20:24-29 Ps 116
Thu 04 Jul: Amos 7:10-17
Mt 9:1-8 Ps 18:8-11
Fri 05 Jul: Amos 8:4-6, 9-12
Mt 9:9-13 Ps 118:2, 10, 20, 30, 40
Sat 06 Jul: Amos 9:11-15
Mt 9:14-17 Ps 84:9, 11-14
Sun 07 Jul: Ezek 2:2-5
Ps 122 2 Cor 12:7-10
Mk 6:1-6

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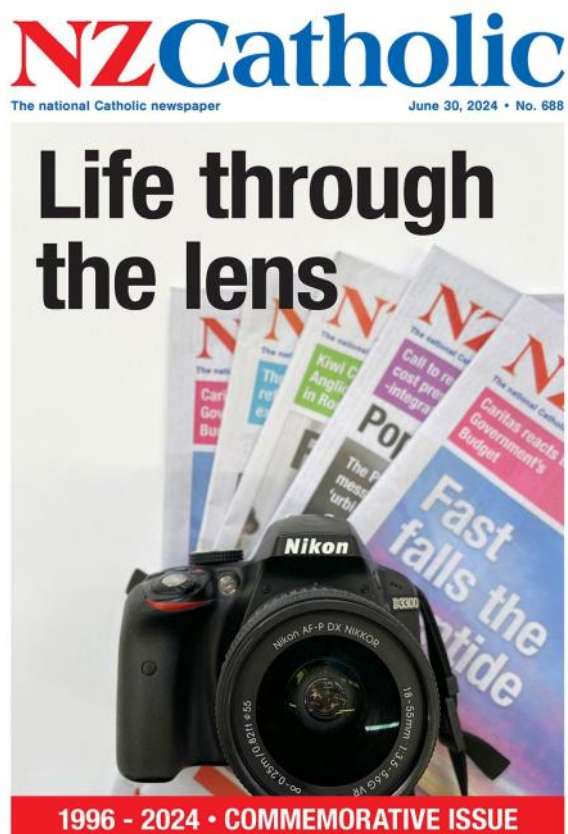
Who would be satisfied with the first if he could have the second?

St Paul considered everything as worthless compared to 'the supreme advantage of knowing Christ Jesus our Lord' (Phil 3:8).

Jesus seeks a personal encounter with each of us. We should seek it too.

It is available to us in many ways but especially in the Eucharist. Even though we are many, each of us can encounter the Lord personally. Faith comes to fulfilment only in a personal encounter with Jesus.

Flor McCarthy SDB



**FINAL PRINT EDITION OF
NZ CATHOLIC (on sale
at the bookshop)**

**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 Priest:
Fr Boniface Kujur OFM Cap
E:bonikujur1969@gmail.com

Deacon: Robert Mitchell
E:robertmitchell1410@gmail.com