



The Prophet Rejected

There are two things in particular that keep people from receiving a message - when they reject the messenger and when they find the message unpalatable. Both of these are at play in today's gospel.

Jesus returned to his native village of Nazareth. On the Sabbath he preached in the local synagogue. But the people refused to take his message on board.

They refused to believe his message because they did not believe in him.

They recalled his humble origins. What he was but an ordinary artisan whose family was well known to them. What could such a person like him have to teach them?

When people reject the messenger, the message has no chance.

This brings us to the second reason. The people of Nazareth found his message unpalatable. As members of God's chosen people, Jesus expected to find some faith among them. Yet he told them that he found more faith among the Gentiles. He went on to suggest that the Gentiles would take their place in the kingdom. There was no way they were going to accept that.

One of the signs of God's care for his people was that he kept on sending them messengers (prophets) to call them back to the right path. Even though the word of the prophets was often a critical one, they were words spoken out of love. It meant that God had not abandoned his people. God does not abandon us to the darkness of error or wrongdoing. He sends us messengers and most often the messenger is someone who is close to us. Now, if we don't like that person, then in all probability we will reject the message. But it may be the message that we don't like - even though we know that it is true. While the truth can hurt sometimes, it can set you free. However, the truth that sets us free often is precisely the truth that we prefer not to hear. It takes great courage to face the truth and those who do will experience the truth of Jesus' words - 'The truth will set you free' (Jn 8:32).

We should also pray for the courage to be able to speak the truth to others. To set a person on the right path is a great thing. But there is a way of doing this. It has to be done with love and concern for the person. The secret is to be totally honest and totally kind at the same time.

Flor McCarthy SDB

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@diocese.org.nz)

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

DIOCESE NEWS

Youth Retreat

The Legion of Mary is hosting a Youth Retreat based on Catholic Faith Awareness **Saturday 13 July 8.00am - 4.00pm** at the Holy Family Parish, 94 Taikata Rd, Te Atatu Peninsula. Lunch and refreshments will be served. All welcome. Poster is on the noticeboard.

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@diocese.org.nz)

[Diocese of Auckland on 021 2931807](tel:0212931807)

World Youth Day Auckland

Get ready for WYD Auckland 2024! Calling all young people (13-35 yrs old) and their youth leaders. Join us and over 1,000 young Catholics for an unforgettable day **Saturday 17 August 10am - 8.30pm** at Victory Convention Centre, 98 Beaumont St, Freemans Bay. Inspiring guest speakers, uplifting music, free food, mass with Bishop Steve, powerful prayer experiences and so much more. To register: www.eventbrite.com/e/world-youth-day-auckland-2024-tickets

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) ~ Wednesdays
7.10pm (classroom)

Senior Legion of Mary (Mary Mother of Grace Praesidium) ~ Fridays 7.00pm
(classroom)

Junior Legion of Mary ~ (TBA) (under 18)
Saturdays 3.30pm-4.30pm

Junior Legion of Mary (Mary Mother of Good Counsel Praesidium) ~ (under 18)
Sundays 11.45am-1.00pm (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.

Receive a special protection and greatest blessings through her intercession.

If you are interested, please contact

[Marilyn 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 - \$1,347.50

Parish - \$ 2,252.00

Thank you for your generosity.

Readings For The Upcoming Week

Mon 08 Jul: Hosea 2:16-18, 21-22

Mt 9:18-26 Ps 144:2-9

Tue 09 Jul: Hosea 8:4-7, 11-13

Mt 9:32-38 Ps 113B:3-10

Wed 10 Jul: Hosea 10:1-3, 7-8, 12

Mt 10:1-7 Ps 104:2-7

Thu 11 Jul: Hosea 11:1-4, 8-9

Mt 10:7-15 Ps 79:2-3, 15-16

Fri 12 Jul: Hosea 14:2-10

Mt 10:16-23 Ps 50:3-4, 8-9, 12-14

Sat 13 Jul: Is 6:1-8

Mt 10:24-33 Ps 92:1-2, 5

Sun 14 Jul: Amos 7:12-15

Eph 1:3-14 Ps 84:9-14

Mk 6:7-13

Young Adults Ball



We are excited to bring you the Young Adults Ball 2024 **Saturday 14 September 7pm** at McHughs of Cheltenham, Devonport.

The theme for this year is **Wonderland**. Here is your chance to put on your best formal attire and fall down the rabbit hole and into a world of whimsy.....where the fantastical realm of Alice in Wonderland awaits! Earlybird tickets \$100 (until 15 July) Standard tickets \$120 (sales close 31 Aug or earlier if sold out)

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