

# OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH NEWSLETTER



Twentieth Sunday in Ordinary Time

18 August 2024

## *From Eucharist to Life*

The theme of today's Gospel is exclusively eucharistic.

It is essential to what we believe about the Eucharist is that Christ is really and truly present there. For those who believe that God is present in all things and in all places, his special presence in the Eucharist has the same effect.

When we receive communion, Jesus comes to each of us personally, as though we are the only person in the world at that moment. We are not just in *communication* with him but in *communion* with him, something that is more personal and intimate. However, we must never forget that the Jesus we receive in the Eucharist is the same Jesus who gave his life for us. The words of the consecration reminds us of this: '*This is my body given for you.....This is my blood shed for you.*

Hence, communion should evoke a spirit of sacrifice in us.

Mother Teresa of Calcutta had a rule that when a newcomer arrived to join her Order, the Missionaries of Charity, the very next day the newcomer had to go to the Home of the Dying. One day a girl came from outside India to join, so Mother Teresa said to her; 'You saw with what love and care the priest touched Jesus in the host during mass. Now go to the Home of the Dying and do the same. It is the same Jesus you will find there in the broken bodies of our poor.'

Three hours later the newcomer came back and with a big smile she told Mother Teresa how she helped a man who had fallen into a drain. He was covered with dirt and had several wounds. She washed him and cleaned his wounds and as she was helping him she knew she was touching the body of Christ. To be able to make this kind of connection we need the help of the Lord himself. This is what Mother Teresa says about the Eucharist: 'In the Eucharist I receive the spiritual food that sustains me in all my labours. Without it I could not get through one single day or hour of my life.'

## **Story**

There was a wealthy merchant who had his newly married son and his wife living in his household. The son had a kind heart and devoted himself to helping the poor.

*(continued on the back page)*

## PARISH NEWS

### Legion of Mary Auxiliary Day

The Legion of Mary warmly invites you to a special day dedicated to all AUXILIARY MEMBERS **Sunday 25 August** (after the 10.30am mass) in the Parish hall.

It is our humble way of saying "THANK YOU" to the Auxiliaries for all the support and prayers, and the important role they play in the Legion of Mary. Without them, the Legion would be incomplete. Come and join us if you wish to become an **Active** or **Auxiliary** Legion of Mary member.

### Marian Weekend

**Fri 06 Sep ~ Adoration** 7pm-9pm in church (after the 6.30pm mass)

**Sat 07 Sep ~ Mother Mary's Day**

Mass 9am followed by "A Closer Look at the Seven Approved Apparition of the Blessed Virgin Mary" video (hall). Refreshments will be served.

**Sun 08 Sep ~ The Nativity of our Blessed Mother Mary** Rosary before 9am & 5pm masses. Shared lunch and cake cutting in the hall (after the 10.30am mass). Please bring a plate. All welcome.

## DIOCESE NEWS

### Special Mass

A Mass will be offered for those who have experienced loss of a child. The Catholic Sacraments of Reconciliation and Eucharist help facilitate healing through fully knowing God's love and mercy.

Please join us at St Michael's Catholic Church, 6 Beatrice Ave, Remuera **Saturday 07 Sept 5pm**. Reconciliation and Adoration from 4.30pm.

For more info please contact:

[Brenda Brightwell 027 641 5615](mailto:brenda.brightwell@diocese.org)

### 2024 Vailankanni Novena

This is happening from **30 August to 08 September** at St Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church, Avondale. All welcome.

**Monday-Saturday:** Rosary 6.30pm, Holy Mass 7pm.

**Sunday:** Rosary 5.30pm, Holy Mass 6pm.

Fr Boniface will be celebrating the Holy Mass at Avondale on **Tuesday 03 Sep** with our parish Music Group choir. Come along and place your heartfelt prayers to our Mother Mary. She will intercede on our behalf to her son Jesus.

### 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 (c)**

**Junior Legion of Mary (Our Lady Queen of Angels) (under 18) ~ Saturdays 3.30pm to 4.45pm (c)**

**Junior Legion of Mary (Mary Mother of Good Counsel Praesidium) (under 18) ~ Sundays 11.45am to 1.00pm (c)**

### 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 - \$1,323.90**

**Parish - \$2,169.80**

**Thank you for your generosity.**

### Readings For The Upcoming Week

**Mon 19 Aug:** Ezek 24:15-24

Mt 19:16-22 Deut 32:18-21

**Tue 20 Aug:** Ezek 28:1-10

Mt 19:23-30 Deut 32:26-28, 35-36

**Wed 21 Aug:** Ezek 34:1-11

Mt 20:1-16 Ps 22

**Thu 22 Aug:** Ezek 36:23-28

Mt 22:1-14 Ps 50:12-15, 18-19

**Fri 23 Aug:** Ezek 37:1-14

Mt 22:34-40 Ps 106:2-9

**Sat 24 Aug:** Rev 21:9-14

Jn 1:45-51 Ps 144:10-13, 17-18

**Sun 25 Aug:** Eph 5:21-32

Jn 6:60-69 Ps 33: 2-3, 16-23

Josh 24:1-2, 15-18

*(continued)*

In time the young wife gave birth to a son. In honour of the occasion, the happy grandfather arranged a feast.

Shortly before the festivities began, the son came to his father and asked, 'Tell me father, what arrangements have you made for the seating of the guests? If you do the conventional thing and seat the rich at the head table and the poor near the door, it will distress me. You know how I love the poor. As this is my celebration, let me arrange the seating of the guests. I would like to seat the poor at the head table and the rich at the door.'

His father listened attentively and replied, 'My son, look at it this way: Why do poor people come to a feast? They come because they are hungry and would like to eat a good meal. Rich people come to a feast to get the honour. They don't come to eat because they already have enough at home. Now imagine what would happen if you seated the poor at the head table? They would sit there very self-consciously, feeling everyone's eyes on them. Don't you think that it would be better for their sake that they sat unnoticed at the door where they could eat to their hearts' content? Then again, suppose I do what you are asking for and seat the rich at the door.....most probably they would feel insulted.'

The Eucharist is the banquet Jesus provides for his followers. All of us come to this banquet hungry. All of us need the bread that he only can give - the bread of eternal life. Here all of us are nourished. And here all of us are honoured because here every place is a place of honour.

**Flor McCarthy SDB**

**Email Scams \*\* IMPORTANT \*\***

Parishioners please be aware that there are emails circulating at the moment pretending to be from our Parish Priests. **If the email address is other than the ones listed below then delete it immediately.** Alternatively you can report it as phishing or blacklist the sender's email address (if possible).

<p><b>OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> 7 Glendale Rd, Glen Eden <b>Ph:</b> 818-6325 <b>Office hours:</b> 9am to 3pm (Mon-Fri) <b>E-mail:</b> ourladyoflourdes@xtra.co.nz <b>Web:</b> www.glenedencatholic.org.nz <b>Facebook:</b> Glen Eden Catholic Church</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Priests Contacts:</b></p> <p><b>Parish Priest:</b> Fr Paul Helsham OFM Cap E:paulhelsham@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Asst Parish Priest:</b> Fr Boniface Kujur OFM Cap E:bonikujur1969@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Deacon:</b> Robert Mitchell E:robertmitchell1410@gmail.com</p>
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