

OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH NEWSLETTER



21st Sunday in Ordinary Time

25 August 2024

Freedom to Choose

When God created us, he could have created us in such a way as to have total control over us. But God did not do that. He gave us freedom, that is, the power to choose. We could choose to obey or to disobey, to do good or to do evil. We value freedom very highly.

But with freedom comes responsibility. Because we are free, we are responsible for our choices and to have to answer to them.

Jesus forced no one to follow him. After life, freedom is the greatest thing we have. In the First Reading we see how Joshua puts a choice before the people just after they had entered the Promised Land - to serve the false gods of their neighbours or to serve the true God of their ancestors, Yahweh. Joshua himself chose to serve Yahweh, but he did not impose his choice on the people. They had to make their own choice.....and they did. They chose to serve Yahweh.

We see similar thing in the Gospel. Jesus gave his disciples a choice - to stay with him or to leave him. The apostles chose to stay with him.

What was it that motivated Peter to stay?

No doubt he was committed to Jesus in the first place and he was also attracted to the teaching of Jesus: 'Lord, you alone have the words of eternal life.'

Jesus truly has the words of eternal life. Eternal life is not something that lies in the future - it has already begun in baptism. And those words of Jesus have been preserved for us in the Gospels. Each Sunday we are invited to listen to them.

'Will you also leave me?' These words are now addressed to us. It is not the Lord who leaves us but us who may leave him. We have chosen to stay - our presence here is a sign of that. But we need to reaffirm our commitment just as the Israelites did on taking possession of the Promised Land. Every Sunday we get a chance to recommit to Christ.

In his teaching we have a compass that will not lie to us. In him we have a star that will lead us safely to port.

To follow Christ is to be free. When we live as God intended us to live, we are free. We experience the truth of what Jesus said: 'The truth will set you free.'

Flor McCarthy SDB

PARISH NEWS
Marian Weekend



Fri 06 Sep ~ Adoration 7pm-9pm
in church (after 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 10.30am mass). Please
bring a plate. All welcome.

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).

DIOCESE NEWS
Special Mass

A Mass will be offered for those who have experienced loss of a child. 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](tel:0276415615)

Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship

All men are welcome for a time of learning, praying and fellowship **Wed 28 Aug 7pm** at St Thomas More Church, Glenfield.

*Guest Speaker: **Jim Gribble***

*Topic: **Chaplaincy - A Vital Ministry in the Church***

For more info contact:

[Russell 022 034 5678](tel:0220345678)

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

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 - \$1,643.40

Parish - \$2,814.90

Thank you for your generosity.

Readings For The Upcoming Week

Mon 26 Aug: 2 Thess 1:1-5, 11-12

Mt 23:13-22 Ps 95:1-5

Tue 27 Aug: 2 Thess 2:1-3, 14-17

Mt 23:23-26 Ps 95:10-13

Wed 28 Aug: 2 Thess 3:6-10, 16-18

Mt 23:27-32 Ps 127:1-2, 4-5

Thu 29 Aug: Jer 1:17-19

Mk 6:17-29 Ps 70:1-6, 15, 17

Fri 30 Aug: 1 Cor 1:17-25

Mt 25:1-13 Ps 32:1-2, 4-5, 10-11

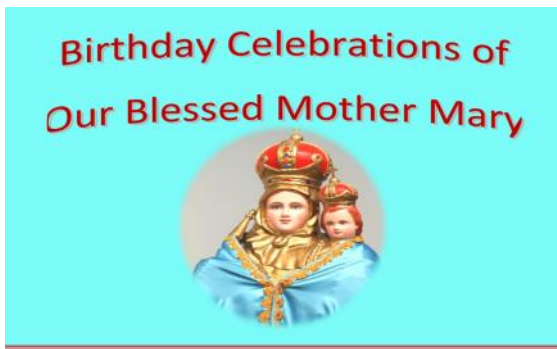
Sat 31 Aug: 1 Cor 1:26-31

Mt 25:14-30 Ps 32:12-13, 18-21

Sun 01 Sep: Deut 4:1-2, 6-8

Ps 14: 2-5 James 1:17-18, 21-22

Mk 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23



Mary, Mother of Good Health

NOVENA, ROSARY AND HOLY MASS FROM 30th AUGUST – 8th SEPTEMBER 2024
Monday - Saturday: 6.30pm; Sunday: 5.30pm

St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church, Avondale, Auckland
2134 Great North Rd, Avondale, Auckland

DATE	CELEBRANT	NOVENA/ ROSARY	HOLY MASS	CHOIR
Fri 30 AUG	Fr Glen Lowe	Devotees of Mary	Friendly Choir Group	Friendly Choir
Sat 31 AUG	Pa Peter Tipene	Filipino Community	Filipino Community	Filipino Choir
Sun 1 SEPT	Fr Raphael Lobo	North Shore Rosary Group	Divine Retreat Centre NZ	DRCNZ Music Ministry
Mon 2 SEPT	Fr Matthew V	Tongan Community	Tongan Community	Tongan Choir
Tues 3 SEPT	Fr Boniface Kujur	Our Lady of Lourdes Parish	Our Lady of Lourdes Parish	Our Lady of Lourdes Choir
Wed 4 SEPT	Fr Ranjit Ekka	Holy Cross Parish	Holy Cross Parish	Holy Cross Choir
Thurs 5 SEPT	Fr Marchellino Park	St Therese Parish	St Therese Parish	St Therese Choir
Fri 6 SEPT	Fr Yornes	Divine Mercy Group	Christ the King Parish	Christ the King Choir
Sat 7 SEPT	Fr Joseph	Syro Malabar Mission	Syro Malabar Mission	Syro Malabar Mission
Sun 8 SEPT	Pa Peter Tipene	Legion of Mary	Vailankanni Committee	Mother of Divine Mercy

• Monday - Saturday: Rosary at 6.30pm; Holy mass at 7pm
• Sunday: Rosary: 5.30pm; Holy Mass at 6.00 pm

2024 Vailankanni Novena

Vailankanni Novena from **30 August to 08 September** at St Mary of the Immaculate Conception Church, Avondale.

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

Sunday: Rosary 5.30pm, Holy Mass 6pm.

Fr Boniface will be celebrating Holy Mass at Avondale on **Tuesday 03 Sept** with our choir *Parish Music Group*.

Come along and place your heartfelt prayers to our Mother Mary. She will intercede on our behalf to her son Jesus.

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross

Holy Cross Seminary (Ponsonby) would like to invite you for the celebration of the Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross **Monday 02 Sept 7pm** at Sacred Heart Parish, 16 Vermont Street, Ponsonby.

Bishop Steve will be presiding.

Light refreshments will be served after mass.

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