



The Persecution of the Just

Good people have always suffered at the hands of the wicked.

Ellie Wiesel (Jewish writer, Nobel Peace Prize winner and Holocaust survivor) tells a very disturbing story in one of his books. Once after delivering a lecture in New York he met a man who looked vaguely familiar. He began to wonder who he was and where they had met before. Then he remembered. He had known him in Auschwitz. Suddenly an incident involving this man came back to him.

As soon as the children arrived by train at Auschwitz, together with the elderly and the sick, they were immediately selected for the gas chamber. On one occasion a group of children were left to wait by themselves for the next day. This man asked the guards if he could stay with the children during their last night on earth.

Surprisingly his request was granted.

How did they spend that last night?

He started off by telling the children stories in an effort to cheer them up.

However, instead of cheering them up, he succeeded only in making them cry.

So they cried together until daybreak. Then he accompanied the little ones to the gas chamber. Afterwards he returned to the prison yard and reported for work.

When the guards saw him, they burst out laughing.

This story illustrates what today's scripture readings are talking about. In it we see the brazenness of people, the persecution of the innocent. It has a marvellous example of service done to the little ones.....something that Jesus highlights in the gospel.

This man's heroic act of service shines out all the brighter because of the darkness lurking in the background. Compassion comes as rare as a flower in winter.

The man rose above all of that. He had no answers to give to the children, no salvation to offer them. All he could do was to accompany them during their last hours so that they would not suffer alone.

He is a Christlike figure. Neither would he stand idly by nor watch others suffer without trying to alleviate their sufferings. Even though he was just an ordinary person, with no rank or status of any kind, he was undoubtedly the greatest person present on such sad occasion.

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PARISH NEWS

Anointing of the Sick

*Father in heaven,
through this holy anointing,
grant this person comfort in their
suffering.*

*When they are afraid, give them
courage. When afflicted, give them
peace. When dispirited, let them know
that there is hope and when alone,
assure them of your presence in their
lives.*

We ask this through Christ our Lord.

Anointing of the Sick mass **Friday 27
Sep 9am.**

Children's Liturgy Meeting

The Children's Liturgy leaders are having a light morning tea meeting **Sunday 13 October 10am** (hall). We are inviting parishioners interested in the Children's Liturgy to attend this meeting where we will discuss and share our ideas/visions going forward. Text or phone: [Julian 027 488 3360](tel:0274883360) Spaces are available if you wish to be part of the team leaders.

Daylight Saving

Daylight Saving begins **Sunday
29 Sep.**

Pledge Envelopes

Please pick up your new pack from the foyer. It starts **Sunday 06 Oct 2024.**

DIOCESE NEWS

Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship



HE EMPTIED HIMSELF
Philippians 2:7
One-day Men's Retreat

Date and time: Sat 19 October 8am to 4pm
Venue: St Thomas More Church, 336 Wairau Rd, Glenfield, Auckland

Bring your Bible and a packed lunch (otherwise food is available at local shops).
Morning and afternoon tea provided

Suggested Koha: \$20. Please pay online to account number 12-3035-0511285-00. Use your name as a reference.

To register online:
<https://nsjoshua.wufoo.com/forms/z1orcm750bcobb/>

Enquiries:
Greg Sullivan 021 437 747 or
Russell Sobottier 022 094 5678

Directed by
Bishop Steve Lowe

Invitation to all men. Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship is hosting a **One-day Men's Retreat**, directed by Bishop Steve Lowe titled "He Emptied Himself" (Philippians 2:7).

Sat 19 October (8am-4pm) at St Thomas Church, Glenfield. It will be a special time of formation, prayer, worship, fellowship and will end with Mass celebrated by the Bishop. Please bring your Bible and a packed lunch. Morning and afternoon tea will be provided. Suggested koha of \$20. **(Bank Account 12-3035-0511285-00).** To register please use the QR code on the newsletter.

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

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 Abla,
Priscilla Fernandes, Nellie Lemusu-Kea,
Joy Rapcsak, Gerard Hoover

St Francis Retreat Centre - Job Vacancy

We are looking for a part time **Assistant Groundskeeper** to join our team to support landscaping and maintenance for our buildings and grounds. Key duties include: performing minor repairs, assisting with maintenance and managing grounds upkeep. To apply or if you have any questions, send your email to: emily@sfrc.org.nz

St Joseph's Takapuna - Job Vacancy

Following restructuring of the parish staff, two positions have become available: **Executive Assistant** - 25 hrs per week; **Property Manager** 10-15 hrs per week. For position descriptions and to apply, please email Fr Mark Napa: frmark@stjoseph.org.nz
Applications close 27 Sep 2024.

If you wish to place a notice in our parish newsletter, please email the parish office by Wednesday

Last Week's Collection:

House - \$ 1,457.90

Parish - \$ 2,348.50

Thank you for your generosity.

Readings For The Upcoming Week

Mon 23 Sep: Prov 3:27-34

Lk 8:16-18 Ps 14:2-5

Tue 24 Sep: Prov 21:1-6, 10-13

Lk 8:19-21 Ps 118:1, 27, 30, 34-35

Wed 25 Sep: Prov 30:5-9

Lk 9:1-6 Ps 118:29,72, 89, 101

Thu 26 Sep: Eccl 1:2-11

Lk 9:7-9 Ps 89:3-6, 12-14

Fri 27 Sep: Eccl 3:1-11

Lk 9:18-22 Ps 143:1-4

Sat 28 Sep: Eccl 11:9 - 12:8

Lk 9:43-45 Ps 89:3-6, 12-14, 17

Sun 29 Sep: James 5:1-6

Num 11:25-29 Ps 18:8, 10, 12-14

Mk 9:38-43, 45, 47-48

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What made him great was his *goodness*.

God never abandons the upright. Their reward is in the life to come.

'On the third day he will rise.' The resurrection assures the ultimate triumph of good over evil and of life over death.

Flor McCarthy SDB

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](#)
[Diocese of Auckland on 021 2931807](#)

St Francis Retreat Centre

Transitus of St Francis ~ Tues 01 Oct 6.30pm-8pm. Join us to commemorate the "passing over" of St Francis of Assisi with stories of his dying moments, hymns, music and drama. For more details and to register, visit our website.

St Francis Open Day ~ Join us to celebrate the feast of St Francis. Come explore the grounds and learn more about St Francis. There will be an *Animal Blessing* so please bring your pets **Sun 06 Oct 3pm-4pm.**

Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College

Enrolments for first semester 2025 are accepted from **23 Sep to 22 Nov 2024.** Courses offered: Bachelor of Divinity, Graduate Diploma in Theology, Diploma and Certificate in Christian Studies and a new micro credential on Managing Church Organizations. To enrol, send your email to: admin@ctc.ac.nz

<p>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</p>	<p style="text-align: right;">Priests Contacts:</p> <p>Parish Priest: Fr Paul Helsham OFM Cap E:paulhelsham@gmail.com</p> <p>Asst Parish Priest: Fr Boniface Kujur OFM Cap E:bonikujur1969@gmail.com</p> <p>Deacon: Robert Mitchell E:robertmitchell1410@gmail.com</p>
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