

OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH NEWSLETTER



27th Sunday in Ordinary Time

06 October 2024

The Marriage Commitment

Today young people think that when emotional love ends, they no longer love one another. Harold Kushner, an American rabbi, tells how a young couple came to see him one evening. Their wedding was upcoming and he was to officiate at it. At one point the young man said to him: 'Rabbi, would you object if we made one small change in the wedding ceremony? Instead of pronouncing us husband and wife *till death do us part*, could you pronounce us husband and wife *for as long as love lasts*? We have talked about it and we both feel that, should the day come when we no longer love each other, it would not be morally right for us to be stuck with each other.'

But the rabbi replied, 'I do object, and I will not make the change. You and I know that there is such a thing as divorce, and we know that a lot of marriages these days don't last until one of the partners dies. But let me tell you something. If you go into marriage with an attitude of "*if it does not work out, we can always split*" then I can almost guarantee you that things will not work out for you. I appreciate your honesty. But you must understand that a marriage commitment is not just a mutual willingness to live together, but also a commitment to accept the frustrations and disappointments that are an inevitable part of two imperfect human beings relating to each other. It is hard enough to make a go of marriage even when you give it everything you've got. But if only a part of you is involved in the relationship, then you have virtually no chance. The result would inevitably be a fragile, tentative relationship that was sure to fail. Some enter into marriage expecting it to make their lives pleasurable all the time, and when at times it offers pain and conflict, they want out of it.'

When two people get married, their lives are linked together. From that point on they have a common destiny. They are committed to one another, and are responsible to and for one another. God seals and blesses this bond. However, the bond is not made of unbreakable material. It is made of human, and therefore, imperfect material. God made us for love - to receive it and to give it. However, the ability to love is not something that is given to the couple on their wedding day with all the other gifts.

(continued on the back page)

PARISH NEWS

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. Please contact: [Julian 027 488 3360](tel:0274883360)
Spaces are available if you wish to be part of the team leaders.

October - Month of Holy Rosary

"One who says his Rosary alone only gains the merit of one Rosary; but if he says it with thirty other people he gains the merit of thirty Rosaries. This is the law of public prayer. How profitable, how advantageous this is!" St Louis Marie de Monfort.

For the entire month of October, there will be Rosary prayer half an hour before each mass (excluding Sunday 10.30am masses).

Weekdays Rosary lead by parishioners available

Weekends Rosary lead by Legion of Mary members.

Pledge Envelopes

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

Youth Fun Day



The Youth Group is having a *Fun Day* **Sat 12 October 10am - 3pm** at the parish. Poster is on the noticeboard.

DIOCESE NEWS

Celebration Sunday



'Let my actions be a continual prayer and speak to you of my love.

Thanks be to God for all he has done and is doing for us.'

Celebrating the life, spirituality and good works of Venerable Meri Hōhepa Suzanne Aubert (died 01 Oct 1926).

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

Last Week's Collection:

House - \$1,493.30

Parish - \$2,540.70

Thank you for your generosity.

Readings For The Upcoming Week

Mon 07 Oct: Gal 1:6-12

Lk 10:25-37 Ps 110:1-2, 7-10

Tue 08 Oct: Gal 1:13-24

Lk 10:38-42 Ps 138:1-3, 13-15

Wed 09 Oct: Gal 2:1-2, 7-14

Lk 11:1-4 Ps 116

Thu 10 Oct: Gal 3:1-5

Lk 1:69-75 Lk 11:5-13

Fri 11 Oct: Gal 3:7-14

Lk 11:15-26 Ps 110:1-6

Sat 12 Oct: Gal 3:22-29

Lk 11:27-28 Ps 104:2-7

Sun 13 Oct: Wis 7:7-11

Ps 89:12-17 Heb 4:12-13

Mk 10:17-27

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Love is something that has to be learned. The real journey married couples have to make, and not just them but single people too, is the journey from selfishness to love. Nothing is a greater challenge to love, nothing provides a greater opportunity for growth in love, than marriage. It calls for a lot of maturity. Gold fish in a bowl get along easily. But bring two human beings together and you soon have problems. When two people get married they bring their strengths and weaknesses, loves and hates, hurts and wounds, hopes and fears to the union. However, the difficulties they encounter can become opportunities for growth. There is more depth to a relationship that has weathered some storms. The fragility of the bond should make the couple eager to seek God's help.

Flor McCarthy SDB

Pilgrimage Tour 2025

Fr Chris Friel (Timaru) will lead this 17-Day tour of Portugal, Spain and France in June 2025. Early bird tickets on sale now and over the next two months. Sale will extend to early 2025.

For full details and itinerary please email Pilgrimage Tours (Auckland) at: info@travlink.co.nz or call [0800 99 7788](tel:0800997788)

Ruth Miller Scholarship

Bishop Steve is pleased to call for applications for the *Ruth Miller Scholarship* for Theological Study. This scholarship will be available ideally for those already teaching in a Catholic school, who intend to do one or more theology papers towards a Bachelor of Theology degree in 2025.

For more info, email: scholarship@cda.org.nz Applications close **15 Nov 2024**

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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