

OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH NEWSLETTER



5th Sunday in Ordinary Time

09 February 2025

At Your Word

Peter and his companions had fished all night but had caught nothing. It is possible to do one's best and still have nothing to show for it.

Jesus could have blamed the apostles.....making a passing comment that they were supposed to be experienced fishermen. But Jesus did not blame Peter and his companions. Instead Jesus challenged them to try again. He told them to launch out into the deep and let down the nets for a catch.

When we fail after doing our best, blame is the last thing we need. What we need is someone to encourage us.

Usually the time for fishing was at night. If anyone else had said to Peter to launch out his net in broad daylight, he would have accused them of being mad. He would have never agreed to be making a fool of himself in front of his fellow fishermen. But when Jesus said those words to Peter, his response was, 'Lord, if you say so, I will let down the net.' For Peter the word of Jesus was different from the word of anyone else. Hence, if Jesus said it, then no matter how hopeless the situation might seem, or how tired he was, or even how foolish he might appear to others, he would try again.

Peter had absolute trust in Jesus. At his word he was prepared to attempt the impossible. We see this again in the Gospel when he attempted to walk on water at the word of Jesus.

Fishing is a worthy calling. Jesus saw that Peter was also capable of other things. He was the kind of man he wanted to help him with his work. What qualities did Jesus see in Peter that made him involved the fisherman in his work? Peter had the first and most essential one - faith (in Jesus). He also had humility.

When they made a huge catch, Peter was so overcome by a sense of the holiness of Jesus and his own sinfulness, that he asked Jesus to leave him. He hadn't yet grasped that it was to call sinners that Jesus had come. Jesus reassured him, saying, 'Do not be afraid. From now on you will be a catcher of men.' And Peter and his companions left everything and followed Jesus. The Gospel story is not so much about fishing, but about trust.

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PARISH NEWS

Parish Novena Our Lady of Lourdes



Sat 08 & Sun 09 Feb ~ mass 5pm

followed by Rosary & Novena

Mon 10 Feb ~ Rosary & Novena 6pm

followed by mass 6.30pm

Tues 11 Feb ~ ***Feast of Our Lady of Lourdes*** - Mass 6.30pm followed by a shared meal in the hall. Please bring a plate.

Perpetual Succour Novena ~ starts

Wed 12 Feb 6pm and every Wednesday thereafter.

Croatian Mass

It is with some sadness that we are announcing the cancellation of all Croatian masses for 2025 at our parish. Fr Danko sends his apologies. Please note that there will be no mass **Sunday 09 Feb.**

New Year's Prayer

The start of the new year usually is a time of reflection on the past year and giving thanks while finding inspiration, seeking guidance for the coming year and asking for God's blessings.

This brings us to **Jeremiah 29:11** where God declares to us, "***For I know the plans I have for you, plans to prosper you and not to harm you, plans to give you hope and a future.***"

The power of prayer can help you achieve your goals as you seek God's plan for your life. God bless.

The Jubilee Prayer Pilgrims of Hope

Pope Francis has declared 2025 as a year of Jubilee with the theme '***Pilgrims of Hope***' giving voice to his desire for the year to foster:

- ♦ *a greater sense of global sisterhood and brotherhood*
- ♦ *solidarity with the poor*
- ♦ *and caring for the environment*

Therefore beginning **Saturday 08 February** we will be saying the Jubilee Prayer (shortly after Communion) at all weekend masses till the end of the year.

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**

World Apostolate of Fatima

We are blessed to offer the opportunity for parishioners to welcome the statue of Our Lady of Fatima into their homes. Additionally, we meet **every Friday** in church (after the 9am mass) and pray 20 Decade Rosary. All welcome. For more info, please contact:

[Agnes Lafaele, WAF President,
Diocese of Auckland 021 293 1807](#)

3-Day Prayer Retreat for Women

All women are welcome to this 3-day retreat starting **Fri 28 Feb 6pm to Sun 02 Mar 3pm**. There will be sessions on: *What is prayer? How do I pray? Why should I pray? Humility and Forgiveness*. Early bird registration: www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz

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, 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 - \$1,534.20

Parish - \$2,436.30

Thank you for your generosity.

Readings For The Upcoming Week

Mon 10 Feb: Gen 1:1-19
Mk 6:53-56 Ps 103:1-2, 5-6, 10,12
Tue 11 Feb: Gen 1:20 - 2:4
Mk 7:1-13 Ps 8:4-9
Wed 12 Feb: Gen 2:4-9, 15-17
Mk 7:14-23 Ps 103:1-2, 27-30
Thu 13 Feb: Gen 2:18-25
Mk 7:24-30 Ps 127:1-5
Fri 14 Feb: Gen 3:1-8
Mk 7:31-37 Ps 31:1-2, 5-7
Sat 15 Feb: Gen 3:9-24
Mk 8:1-10 Ps 89:2-6, 12-13
Sun 16 Feb: Jer 17:5-8
Ps 1:1-4 Lk 6:17, 20-26
1 Cor 15:12, 16-20

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Jesus was saying to Peter: 'How far are you prepared to trust me?'

It was a turning point in Peter's life. What started out in failure ended in a new beginning - that of becoming co-workers with Jesus in the building of the kingdom of God.

We all need someone who accepts us for what we are.....who believes we are capable of more, and challenges us to realize it.

Emerson says, 'There is in each of us a chamber, or a closet, that has never been opened.'

Flor McCarthy SDB

The Prayer Journey



The Prayer Journey St Teresa of Avila directed by Fr Carl Telford is a one-day retreat open to all ~ **Sat 15 Feb 8am to 4pm** at St Thomas More Church, 336 Wairau Rd, Glenfield.

Bring lunch, morning and afternoon tea provided. Suggested koha \$20 cash on the day. Scan the QR code to register.

For more info, please contact [**Greg Sullivan 021 437 747**](tel:021437747)

Commissioning Mass

As we begin another grace-filled year of youth ministry, we are inviting Catholics from across the Diocese to be part of the Young Leaders' Commissioning Mass **Sun 23 Feb 7pm** at St Patrick's Cathedral. Bishop Steve will be celebrating the mass and commissioning our young leaders as they are sent out for ministry in 2025. Unite with our young leaders in faith, hope and joy as we commence another beautiful year of youth ministry in the Diocese of Auckland!

OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC CHURCH

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