

# OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH NEWSLETTER



6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

16 February 2025

## *The Beatitudes*

I have seen the houses of the super-rich in America. A thing I have noticed about them is that they lack life and laughter. An air of melancholy seems to hang over them.

The American writer, Maya Angelou, tells how her aunt was once a live-in housekeeper for a wealthy couple in California. The couple lived in a mansion that had fourteen bedrooms. The aunt's main job was to do the cooking. Every day she cooked and served a light breakfast, a good lunch, and a full dinner to the couple and their frequent guests.

But the years passed and the couple grew old. As they did so, they stopped entertaining. Eventually their evening meal consisted of scrambled eggs, toasts and a cup of tea. They ate in silence, hardly seeing each other at opposite ends of a large table.

On Saturday nights the housekeeper used to invite a few of her friends into her own quarters in the basement. There they would eat some plain but good food, have a few drinks, play records, dance, and finally settle down to a game of cards. There was lots of laughter.

One night in the midst of all the hilarity the door opened. It was her employers who beckoned to her to come out. In the hallway the wife said to her, 'We don't mean to disturb you. But you all seem to be having such a good time. We'd just like to watch you.' Then the husband added, 'If you'll just leave the door ajar, your friends don't need to know. We won't make a sound.' Her aunt readily agreed. But she found it sad that her employees owned a large house, a swimming pool, three cars, but had no joy.

This true story illustrates how in a deep sense the poor can be better off than the rich, because they know how to make it work in the littlest of what they have and finding joy in that.

The story also gives us an insight of what Jesus was talking about in the beatitudes.

**Flor McCarthy SDB**

## PARISH NEWS

### Special Mass

*Anointing of the Sick Mass* ~ **Friday 07 March 9am** followed by *Morning Tea* with Kevin (hall) ~ first Friday of the month morning tea is back!

*All welcome.*

### Church Carparks

It has been brought to our attention by the Playhouse that a lot of people are using their designated carparks during the day. Please note that your car will be towed away if you use their carparks. While they are aware that they have also used the church carparks on several occasions in the past, the church has come to an agreement that we will respect each other's territory from now on. Last year we distributed carpark permits, please use them when coming to church. There are some available in the church foyer.

### 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.

### Youth Group Meeting

The Youth Group is having a meeting **Sun 23 Feb 4pm** (classroom). If you missed the first meeting, it is not too late to join. We are inviting all young adults to come along to this meeting, share your thoughts and ideas.

*See you there!*

### 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*

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](http://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 - \$1,528.00**

**Parish - \$2,204.10**

**Thank you for your generosity.**

### Readings For The Upcoming Week

**Mon 17 Feb:** Gen 4:1-15, 25  
Mk 8:11-13 Ps 49:1,8,16-17, 20-21  
**Tue 18 Feb:** Gen 6:5-8, 7:1-5, 10  
Mk 8:14-21 Ps 28:1-4, 9-10  
**Wed 19 Feb:** Gen 8:6-13, 20-22  
Mk 8:22-26 Ps 115:12-15, 18-19  
**Thu 20 Feb:** Gen 9:1-13  
Mk 8:27-33 Ps 101:16-21,22-23, 29  
**Fri 21 Feb:** Gen 11:1-9  
Mk 8:34 - 9:1 Ps 32:10-15  
**Sat 22 Feb:** 1 Pet 5:1-4  
Mt 16:13-19 Ps 22  
**Sun 23 Feb:** 1 Cor 15:45-49  
Lk 6:27-38 Ps 102:1-4,8,10,12-13  
1 Sam 26:2, 7-9, 12-13, 22-23

## **CathNews New Zealand**

The Bishops Conference launched (this week) the renewed CathNews New Zealand project. This ministry supports Catholics and people interested in the Church in accessing news and other content of interest. It draws from material that has already been published and includes original content. The best way to receive CathNews New Zealand is by signing up to the newsletter which is sent on Tuesday and Friday mornings. Visit the CathNews NZ website and sign up at [www.cathnews.co.nz](http://www.cathnews.co.nz)

## **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!

## **Receptionist/Administrator**

Catholic Social Services is looking for a part-time (20 hours - 3 days) Receptionist/Administrator based in Ponsonby. As faith-based professional service Catholic Social Services provides social work, counselling, out-reach and support to individual people and families.

The successful applicant would be required to provide efficient, effective, and professional reception and administrative services to the team at Catholic Social Services. For further details please go to our website

[www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz) Diocesan Services and staff vacancies.

### **OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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**Facebook:** Glen Eden Catholic Church

### **Priests Contacts:**

**Parish Priest:** Fr Paul Helsham OFM Cap  
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**Asst Parish Priest:**  
Fr Boniface Kujur OFM Cap  
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