

OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH NEWSLETTER



7th Sunday in Ordinary Time

23 February 2025

The Values of the Kingdom

Most likely you have come across the story where a Native American would tell you about the two wolves who live inside of us.....where one is angry, vengeful and violent while the other is loving, forgiving and compassionate. The wolf who will win the fight in your heart is the one you feed.

In today's Gospel Jesus stresses the obligations of fraternal charity. He sets a very high standard to which his disciples are to imitate the kindness and compassion of God. Jesus told us to love our enemies, pray for those who treat us badly. It can be hard sometimes to love our friends, so how can we be expected to love our enemies?

Where others are concerned, we seldom see the picture, much less the full picture. We cannot see into the mind and heart of another which means we are not in a position to judge. We have all been victims of hasty and unfair judgements and we know how unhelpful and hurtful that can be. Our heart was made to love, not to hate. Because of his great successes on the battlefield, David was very popular with the people. As a result, Saul became jealous of him, saw him as a threat, and sought to kill him. David had the opportunity to kill Saul, but refused to do so because in his eyes Saul, as king of Israel, was a sacred person. This is what God meant when he told us to show love and compassion towards our enemies.

Story ~ One morning a parishioner was very late for mass and the priest noticed it. He was so annoyed when she came up for communion. He was not happy to give her communion. He did not stop to consider that she might have had a very good reason for being late. Instead he rushed to judgement. In doing so, he made a terrible mistake and hurt her deeply. Obviously he did not know the first thing about the woman or about her home situation She was a very good wife and a deeply religious person. She was not in the habit of coming late to mass. But the past few days she has been trying to cope with her husband who got very sick suddenly. The daily mass and communion meant the world to her. Love, forgiveness and compassion are beautiful things. If we allow these to take possession of us, we will produce a harvest of kind and noble deeds. Like the wolf story, we must try to feed the loving wolf and starve the angry wolf.

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 the dates for 2025 are on the noticeboard. *All welcome.*

Church Carparks

We are in the process of getting the church carparks redone so that everyone is aware where to safely park when coming to church. **We ask that you do not use the Playhouse parking spaces – it is now officially a tow away zone.**

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!*

DIOCESE NEWS

Inner Healing Retreat

Jesus My Light Ministry invites you to a Lenten Inner Healing retreat on the following days at St Dominic Church, Blockhouse Bay.

- ♦ **Fri 04 Apr 6.30pm - 9pm**
- ♦ **Sat 05 Apr 9.30am - 5pm**
- ♦ **Sat 12 Apr 9.30am - 5pm**

A journey with Christ to release past hurts, nurture your emotional well-being and receive a deep sense of peace. Please bring your Bible, notebook and lunch. Tea & coffee will be provided. For more info please contact: [**Betsy Rego 021 165 3856**](tel:0211653856)

Divine Mercy Devotion

Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass **Fri 07 Mar 7pm** at St Mary's Parish, Mt Albert. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Mercy Sung, Benediction, Mass followed by veneration of St Faustina's relic. *All welcome.*

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 - \$1,548.20

Parish - \$2,750.30

Thank you for your generosity.

Readings For The Upcoming Week

Mon 24 Feb: Sir 1:1-10
Mk 9:14-29 Ps 92:1-2, 5
Tue 25 Feb: Sir 2:1-11
Mk 9:30-37 Ps 36:3-4, 18-19, 27-28
Wed 26 Feb: Sir 4:11-19
Mk 9:38-40 Ps 181:165,168,171-2
Thu 27 Feb: Sir 5:1-8
Mk 9:41-50 Ps 1:1-4, 6
Fri 28 Feb: Sir 6:5-17
Mk 10:1-12 Ps 118:12,16,18,27
Sat 01 Mar: Sir 17:1-15
Mk 10:13-16 Ps 102:13-18
Sun 02 Mar: Sirach 27:4-7
Lk 6:39-45 Ps 91:2-3, 13-16
1 Cor 15:54-58

CathNews New Zealand

The Bishops Conference launched last 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

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 Diocesan Services and staff vacancies.

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