

# OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH NEWSLETTER



1st Sunday of Lent

09 March 2025

## Immortal Words

A story is told that in ancient Rome, at the time of the Emperor Tiberius, there lived a good man who had two sons. One son was in the army, and had been sent to a distant region of the empire. The other son was a poet, and delighted all of Rome with his poems.

One night the father had a dream. An angel appeared to him and told him that the words of one of his sons would be known and repeated throughout the world for all generations to come. The father woke from his dream a very proud man.

Shortly after this the father died while trying to save a child from being crushed by the wheels of a chariot. He went straight to heaven, where he met the angel who appeared in his dream.

'You were a good man,' the angel said.

'When you appeared in my dream, you said that the words of one of my sons would be read by people for generations to come. I would like to see this come true for my son,' asked the father.

With that they were both projected far into the future. They were surrounded by thousands of people speaking a strange language. The man wept with happiness.

'I knew that my son's poems were immortal,' he said through his tears. 'Can you please tell me which of my son's poems these people are repeating?'

'The verses of your son who was the poet were very popular in Rome,' the angel said. 'Everyone enjoyed them. But when the reign of Tiberius ended, his poems were forgotten. The words you are hearing now are those of your son in the army.'

The father looked at the angel in disbelief. He made the assumption that the angel was referring to his son (the poet) in his dream. The angel continued, 'Your son went to serve in a distant province where he became a centurion. He was a good and just man. One day one of his servants fell ill, and appeared doomed to die. Your son had heard of a holy man who was able to cure illnesses, and he rode out to meet him. When he met him he told him about the servant. The man made ready to go to his house with him. But your son said these words, words that have never been forgotten.'

*(continued on the back page)*

## PARISH NEWS

### Mass Intentions

Please note that the cut-off day for all mass intentions is **Monday 3pm**. All mass intentions will then be processed for the week (Tuesday through to the following Monday). If there is a sudden death in the family or any other unforeseen circumstances, email or call the parish office and it will be included in the same week.

### Easter Raffle



The Parish Council is organizing an **Easter raffle**. All proceeds will go towards the maintenance of our lovely church and future raffles. Prizes include 2 cell phones and lots of chocolates. Tickets will go on sale **Sat 08 Mar until Sun 06 Apr** after each mass (namely Sat 5pm, Sun 9am & 10.30am). Prizes will be drawn on **Easter Sunday 20 Apr** (after the 10.30am mass). Tickets: **\$2 each** or **\$5 for 3** (cash only). Thank you for your support.

## RCIA Registration

*“Is God Calling You to Something More?”*

The Rite of Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) programme is now open for enquiries. If you or someone you know feels drawn to the Catholic faith, desires a deeper relationship with Christ, or wishes to receive the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation or the Holy Eucharist, we warmly invite everyone interested to embark on this sacred journey.

Registrations close **Tues 22 April 2025**.

To learn more, please call the parish office or send your email to:

[glenedenrcia@gmail.com](mailto:glenedenrcia@gmail.com)

***May the Holy Spirit and Our Blessed Mother guide you on your journey of faith.***

### Safeguarding Workshop

Our parish is hosting a **Safeguarding Workshop Wednesday 19 Mar 7.15pm** (hall). All ministers in our parish are being called to attend this workshop. For more info please email: Lisa-May Gray (CDA) Safeguarding Coordinator [lisam@cda.org.nz](mailto:lisam@cda.org.nz) or call [09 360 3019](tel:093603019)

### 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, 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

### Youth Group Meeting

The Youth Group is having a meeting **Sunday 09 Mar 4pm** (classroom) and every *second Sunday* of the month thereafter. Please refer to the noticeboard for upcoming meeting dates.

### Singles Ministry

Singles Ministry is holding a *Meet & Connect* for single Catholics (no age limits) looking for a (romantic) partner **Sat 29 Mar 4pm-6pm** at Our Lady of the Sacred Heart in Epsom. Snacks & drinks provided. To register please contact: [Clytie 021 836 705](tel:021836705) or [Reena 027 838 7151](tel:0278387151)

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

### Last Week's Collection:

**House - \$1,518.80**

**Parish - \$2,406.60**

**Thank you for your generosity.**

### Readings For The Upcoming Week

**Mon 10 Mar:** Lev 19:1-2, 11-18

Mt 25:31-46 Ps 18:8-10, 15

**Tue 11 Mar:** Is 55:10-11

Mt 6:7-15 Ps 33:4-7, 16-19

**Wed 12 Mar:** Jonah 3:1-10

Lk 11:29-32 Ps 50:3-4, 12-13, 18-19

**Thu 13 Mar:** Esther 4:17

Mt 7:7-12 Ps 137:1-3, 7-8

**Fri 14 Mar:** Ezek 18:21-28

Mt 5:20-26 Ps 129

**Sat 15 Mar:** Deut 26:16-19

Mt 5:43-48 Ps 118:1-2, 4-5, 7-8

**Sun 16 Mar:** Gen 15:5-12, 17-18

Lk 9:28-36 Ps 26:1, 7-9, 13-14

Phil 3:17 - 4:1

*(continued)*

*He said, "Lord, I am not worthy that you should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my servant shall be healed."*

The centurion could not have known that those words would reverberate in the hearts of millions of people over the centuries at the most sacred moments in their lives when they receive the sacrament of Holy Communion. The words of the centurion were recorded in the Gospel.

We believe that when we receive Communion, we receive Jesus. There is no better way of disposing ourselves to receive the Lord than to echo the words of a centurion.

**Flor McCarthy SDB**

### **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)**

<p><b>OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC CHURCH</b> 7 Glendale Rd, Glen Eden <b>Ph:</b> 818-6325 <b>Office hours:</b> 9am to 3pm (Mon-Fri) <b>E-mail:</b> <a href="mailto:ourladyoflourdes@xtra.co.nz">ourladyoflourdes@xtra.co.nz</a> <b>Web:</b> <a href="http://www.glenedencatholic.org.nz">www.glenedencatholic.org.nz</a> <b>Facebook:</b> Glen Eden Catholic Church</p>	<p style="text-align: right;"><b>Priests Contacts:</b></p> <p><b>Parish Priest:</b> Fr Paul Helsham OFM Cap E:<a href="mailto:paulhelsham@gmail.com">paulhelsham@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>Asst Parish Priest:</b> Fr Boniface Kujur OFM Cap E:<a href="mailto:bonikujur1969@gmail.com">bonikujur1969@gmail.com</a></p> <p><b>Deacon:</b> Robert Mitchell E:<a href="mailto:robertmitchell1410@gmail.com">robertmitchell1410@gmail.com</a></p>
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