

# OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH NEWSLETTER



Third Sunday of Lent

23 March 2025

## *Nathan and David*

King David committed adultery with Bathsheba, the beautiful wife of one of his army commanders, Uriah. He then engineered Uriah's death in order to have Bathsheba to himself. It was a despicable act on the part of someone who had been so highly favoured by God, something that is stressed in the First Reading.

As a leader of the people, Nathan (prophet) felt it was his duty to confront David about the evil he had done. There is an art in correcting another person. It is something that calls for courage, sensitivity and above all love. A harsh approach won't work.

Nathan adopted a very subtle approach in correcting David. Instead of confronting him directly with his sin, he told him a story which went as follows:

*'In the same town there were two men, one rich, the other poor. The rich man had flocks and herds in great abundance. The poor man had nothing but one small ewe lamb he had bought. The lamb grew up with him and his children, eating his bread, drinking his cup, sleeping on his chest. The lamb was like a daughter to him. One day a traveller arrived to stay at the house of the rich man. The rich man could have taken a sheep from his own flock to provide for the traveller but instead he took the poor man's lamb, killed it, and prepared it for his guest.'*

On hearing this David's anger flared up and he said, 'As God lives, the man who did this deserves to die!'

Then Nathan said to him, 'You are that man.'

David saw immediately what Nathan was getting at. And to his credit, he acknowledged his sin, declaring, 'I have sinned against the Lord.'

Nathan assured him that God would forgive him. The greatest height a trial can attain is where the accused sees the evil he has done, passes judgement on himself and repents.

By adopting a gentle and subtle approach, Nathan enabled David to see the magnitude of his sin. The story of David shows that anyone can fall. But it takes a great person to repent and get up again. It prepares us for Jesus' confrontation with the sinful woman in the Gospel.

*(continued on the back page)*

## PARISH NEWS

### Stations of the Cross

Every Friday (during Lent) 7pm.

### RCIA Programme 2025

*"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 called to the Catholic faith or would like to receive the Sacraments of Initiation, please join us **Monday 31 Mar 6pm** (classroom). 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.*

### Daylight Saving

Please note that daylight saving ends **Sunday 06 April 2025**.

A reminder to put your clock **back** 1 hour before going to bed Saturday 05 April.

## DIOCESE NEWS

### Legion of Mary Acies Ceremony

It is that special time of the year when we renew our consecration to Our Lady: *"I am all Yours, my Queen and my Mother, and all that I have is Yours."*

All Active and Auxiliary Legion members are warmly invited to the **Acies Ceremony Sun 30 Mar 2pm** at Christ the King Church, Mt Roskill.

### SUMMIT Weekend

*SUMMIT ~ Young Leaders Weekend 28-30 March 2025*

Youth Ministry and young adult ministry leaders - get ready for an incredible weekend of formation, fellowship and being spiritually filled. Please note that this is an 18+ event. Registration \$140. To register go to:

[www.summit25.eventbrite.com](http://www.summit25.eventbrite.com)

### Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship

All men are invited to a meeting **Wed 26 Mar 7.30pm** at St Thomas More Church, Glenfield. Dr Ethan Breinhorst (guest speaker) who is back to encourage and challenge us with a talk titled *Men's Health Matters*.

For more info, please contact:

[Jerome 027 233 4380](tel:0272334380)

### 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

### 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](#)

### 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, Epsom.

Snacks & drinks provided. To register please contact: [Clytie 021 836 705](#) or [Reena 027 838 7151](#)

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

### Last Week's Collection:

**House - \$1,778.70**

**Parish - \$2,976.50**

**Thank you for your generosity.**

### Readings For The Upcoming Week

**Mon 24 Mar:** 2 Kg 5:1-15

Lk 4:24-30 Ps 41:2-3; 42:3-4

**Tue 25 Mar:** Is 7:10-14, 8:10

Heb 10:4-10 Ps 39:7-11

**Wed 26 Mar:** Deut 4:1, 5-9

Mt 5:17-19 Ps 147:12-13, 15-16

**Thu 27 Mar:** Jer 7:23-28

Lk 11:14-23 Ps 94:1-2, 6-9

**Fri 28 Mar:** Hosea 14:2-10

Mk 12:28-34 Ps 80:6, 8-11, 14, 17

**Sat 29 Mar:** Hosea 5:15 - 6:6

Lk 18:9-14 Ps 50:3-4, 18-21

**Sun 30 Mar:** Joshua 5:9-12

Ps 33:2-7 2 Cor 5:17-21

Lk 15:1-3, 11-32

*(continued)*

He did not have to confront her with her sins. She was already painfully aware of them and sorry for them.

As a result of her encounter with Jesus, the woman began to live a new and better life. By welcoming her as he did, and graciously accepting her gift, Jesus put wind in her sails.

**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)**

#### **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 Priests:**

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