



## *Who Do People Say That I Am?*

Who do people say the Son of Man is?

The question is still alive today. This is an important question - we can get it wrong or we can get right. Jesus knew who he was. He asked the question for the benefit of the disciples. Questions help people to clarify their thinking.

Everyone was asking the same question: *Who is this Jesus?* After he calmed the storm, the apostles asked, 'Who is this man that the wind and the sea obey him?' In answer to his question the apostles told Jesus that some said he was John the Baptist, others Elijah, and others one of the ancient prophets come back to life. All of these answers contained an element of truth. Still, they were only approximations to the mystery of Jesus. Then Jesus turned to the apostles and said, 'And you, who do you say that I am?' And Peter answered, 'You are Christ, that is, the Messiah of God.' At least Peter was on the right track. Jesus was indeed the Messiah, but he was much more than that. The apostles did not fully grasp who Jesus was until after the resurrection. Here we have the full identity of Jesus. This is the core of faith on which the Church was founded. However, in the early centuries of Christianity various controversies arose. Some denied either the humanity or divinity of Jesus. It had to be settled in various Councils of the Church. We need to constantly remind ourselves of what we believe about Jesus. This is why we recite the Creed at Sunday mass. Two thirds of the Creed relate to what we believe about Jesus. It is easier to profess the faith and we have around 2,000 years of tradition to guide us. But it is important to give an answer of our own. We need to believe, not simply because the Church says so, but out of personal conviction. Each of us must face the question posed by Jesus: Who do you say that I am?

**Story** ~ The American actor, Martin Sheen, tells how he lost his faith and recovered it again. He was raised Catholic, his parents were devout Catholics. They had family rosary most nights in the house. But when something is given to you, it is not unusual to let it slip. Here is what he said: 'I came back to the Church at 40 after having a heart attack where I nearly died. I had the last rites. It is always a crisis that brings you back which forces you to reflect on your life and take serious responsibility for it.

*(continued on the back page)*

## PARISH NEWS

*Stations of the Cross:* Every Friday (during Lent) 7pm.

*Lenten Reconciliation:* Wed 09 Apr 7pm

### Palm Sunday



There will be a procession (*9am mass only*) around the church with palms preceding the mass

**Sunday 13 April.** Please bring your own palm to be blessed.

### 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.

### \*\*\*\* Important Notice \*\*\*\*

The church carpark will be closed **Mon 07 April until Tues 08 April** (inclusive) for improvements. The grass area at the back of the church will be open for parking. We appreciate your cooperation. Thank you.

### Easter Raffle Update

The *Easter Raffle Draw* will be on **Sunday 06 April 11.45am** (hall) followed by morning tea.

## Holy Week & Easter Mass Times

### Holy Thursday

**7pm:** Mass of the Lord's Supper  
**Adoration at Altar of Repose** until 11pm (classroom)

### Good Friday

**9am:** Stations of the Cross (church)

**10.30am:** Stations of the Cross (church)

**3pm:** The Passion of the Lord



### Holy Saturday

**7pm:** Easter Vigil

### Easter Sunday



**9am & 10.30am**

### 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**

### Lyn Smith's Farewell Luncheon Party



**Sunday 13 April  
11.30am (hall)**

The parish will be hosting a luncheon party to celebrate Lyn's departure. After having lived and worked in NZ for more than 30 years, Lyn is going back to her homeland (UK). We would like to take this time to express our sincere gratitude for her unwavering support and contributions to our parish over the years and offer our best wishes for her future endeavours. All welcome.

**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 - \$1,164.40**

**Parish - \$1,930.70**

**Thank you for your generosity.**

### Readings For The Upcoming Week

**Mon 31 Mar:** Is 65:17-21

Jn 4:43-54 Ps 29:2, 4-6, 11-13

**Tue 01 Apr:** Ezek 47:1-9, 12

Jn 5:5-16 Ps 45:2-3, 5-6, 8-9

**Wed 02 Apr:** Is 49:8-15

Jn 5:17-30 Ps 144:8-9, 13-14, 17-18

**Thu 03 Apr:** Ex 32:7-14

Jn 5:31-47 Ps 105:19-23

**Fri 04 Apr:** Wis 2:1, 12-22

Jn 7:25-30 Ps 33:16, 18, 19-21, 23

**Sat 05 Apr:** Jer 11:18-20

Jn 7:40-52 Ps 7:2-3, 9-12

**Sun 06 Apr:** Is 43:16-21

Ps 125 Phil 3:8-14

Jn 8:1-11

*(continued)*

And you begin to ask those two fundamental questions: Who am I, and why am I here? I started going to mass again. I was fearing the possibility of death. When you have been on a life journey and chose to go about it with drugs, alcohol, power, ego, etc..... and to finally come to our senses, we begin to realize that it has been a costly journey. That is how you know it has value.

This story contains two main elements relating to today's reflection: first, the necessity to make the faith our own. Second, the cost of following Christ.

**Flor McCarthy SDB**

## **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). To learn more, please call the parish office or send your email to: [glenedenrcia@gmail.com](mailto:glenedenrcia@gmail.com) Registrations close **Tues 22 April 2025**.

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

## **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.

|  |   |
|--|---|
| <p><b>OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC CHURCH</b><br/>7 Glendale Rd, Glen Eden<br/><b>Ph:</b> 818-6325<br/><b>Office hours:</b> 9am to 3pm (Mon-Fri)<br/><b>E-mail:</b> ourladyoflourdes@xtra.co.nz<br/><b>Web:</b> www.glenedencatholic.org.nz<br/><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<br/>E: paulhelsham@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Asst Parish Priests:</b><br/>Fr Boniface Kujur OFM Cap<br/>E: bonikujur1969@gmail.com<br/>Fr Praful Kerketta OFM Cap<br/>E: kerkettapraful20@gmail.com</p> <p><b>Deacon:</b> Robert Mitchell<br/>E: robertmitchell1410@gmail.com</p> |
|--|---|