

# OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH NEWSLETTER



Fifth Sunday of Lent

06 April 2025

## Commitment

To those who would follow him Jesus said, 'When you put your hand to the plough, don't look back if you want to be found worthy of the kingdom of God.'

Here he is stressing the need for dedication and commitment. We all have various commitments. Among those commitments is our commitment to Christ. He tells us that once a person is launched upon the journey of discipleship, there can be no turning back.

To appreciate the images he uses we have to think of a plough drawn by an ox. If the ploughman wishes to plough a straight furrow, he must give his undivided attention to what he is doing. If he keeps on looking back, he won't do a good job. It suggests a high degree of dedication and commitment. It implies if we begin a task, we should give it our all. That is the kind of commitment that is required of those who wish to be faithful disciples of Jesus.

When Elijah came to call Elisha to succeed him as a prophet, he was out ploughing with oxen. Elijah approached him and threw his cloak over him to symbolize the transfer of power. Elisha then slaughtered the oxen and burned the plough. It meant that there could be no possibility of returning to his old way of life. From that point on, Elisha committed himself totally to his new calling.

We have an even better example of commitment when Jesus was preparing himself for his journey to Jerusalem. He already knew of the rejection, betrayal and death awaiting him there. But his Father had given him the task of bringing salvation to his brothers and sisters. Thus he has given an example to his followers of the kind of dedication that is required. Some people are called to dedicate themselves totally and in a professional way to the following of Christ.

What does the following of Christ mean for the ordinary person?

It means to be called to be a Christian where you are and in your chosen profession. There are more ways than one of serving Christ and his Gospel.

**Flor McCarthy SDB**

## 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.

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

The church carpark will be closed **Mon 07 April & 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.

***As from Wed 09 April, the parking will be marked CP (Church Parking) where relevant.***

### **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 - \$1,738.50**

**Parish - \$2,965.00**

**Thank you for your generosity.**

### Readings For The Upcoming Week

**Mon 07 Apr:** Dan 13:1-9, 15-17, 19-30  
Jn 8:12-20 Ps 22

**Tue 08 Apr:** Num 21:4-9  
Jn 8:21-30 Ps 101:2-3, 16-21

**Wed 09 Apr:** Dan 3:14-20, 24-25, 28  
Jn 8:31-42 Dan 3:52-56

**Thu 10 Apr:** Gen 17:3-9  
Jn 8:51-59 Ps 104:4-9

**Fri 11 Apr:** Jer 20:10-13  
Jn 10:31-42 Ps 17:2-7

**Sat 12 Apr:** Ezek 37:21-28  
Jn 11:45-56 Jer 31:10-13

**Sun 13 Apr:** Lk 19:28-40  
Is 50:4-7 Ps 21:8-9, 17-20, 23-24  
Phil 2:6-11 Lk 22:14 - 23:56

## 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. 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.*

## Divine Mercy Feast



*Jesus told St Faustina “My Heart rejoices in this title of Mercy.”*

You are warmly invited to attend the **Divine Mercy Feast Sun 27 Apr 5.30pm** at St Benedict’s Parish, Eden Terrace. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Blessing of Images, Benediction, Holy Mass, Veneration of St Faustina’s relics. **Bring your Divine Mercy images and artefacts to be blessed.** Free parking is available at Wilson carpark, including free street parking on Sundays.

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

7 Glendale Rd, Glen Eden

**Ph:** 818-6325

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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:**

*Fr Boniface Kujur OFM Cap*  
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#### **Deacon:**

*Robert Mitchell*  
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