

# OUR LADY OF LOURDES PARISH NEWSLETTER



15<sup>th</sup> Sunday In Ordinary Time

12 July 2020

## A receptive heart

In the course of our lives we hear an enormous number of words. Most of these go in one ear and out the other, and so have no effect on our lives. But some have a profound effect on our lives. Why? Because they go straight to our hearts.

Jesus compared the word to a seed. It is a beautiful image. A seed has the potential to enrich. But for that to happen it needs to fall into favourable ground. So God's work has the power to enrich our lives, provided we receive it favourably.

Clearly the parable applies to all words. But Jesus was talking specifically about the word of God. The ground in which the precious seed of God's word is sown is the human heart. Just as there are some kinds of ground that are conducive to growth and others that militate against it, so it is with the human heart. There are states of heart that favour growth and states that hinder it.

The seed that fell on the beaten path represents those whose hearts are hard. Sadly, God's call makes no impression on them. A hard heart is a closed heart, so it cannot receive. A hard heart inevitably becomes a barren heart.

The seed that fell on stony ground represents those whose hearts are resistant. God's call is heard alright but does not make a deep impression. When difficulties occur, it fades away.

The seed that fell among thorns represents those whose hearts are so full of worldly concerns that the call of God gets drowned out. It is not that God is deliberately excluded, but that there is no room for God.

And the seed that fell on good ground represents those who receive God's call with open and generous hearts, and in responding to it, produce a harvest of goodness.

God does not speak to us like a dictator speaks to his subjects. God's voice is a very gentle one. This is because it is the voice of love. Yet God's gentle voice has the power to turn our hearts from a desert into a garden.

God's word is essentially an appeal to our hearts. God longs for our hearts and is continually calling us into communion with himself and with one another. Unfortunately the heart is not always receptive.

‘O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts’. (Ps 95:8). We would do well to heed that cry. To harden our hearts against anyone is bad. But to harden them against God would be a calamity.

St. Teresa said: “If God has not got your heart, he has nothing’. The question to ask then is: What place has God got in my heart? If God has no place in my heart, God will have no place in my life. If God has a central place in my heart, God will have a central place in my life. And my life will be more fruitful and joyful as a result.

We are not just hearers but also sowers of the word. Parents, teachers, and preachers sow a lot of words. Jesus’ parable is a very encouraging one for sowers. It tells them not to be discouraged if no ‘product’ is apparent. Their job is to go on sowing and not to get disheartened. We must leave the harvest to God.

New Sunday and Holy Day Liturgies

Flor McCarthy SDB

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**Foodbank: The Social Justice group of the parish would like to thank everyone for their kind donations at the food drive. Food donated each weekend will now add to this great start. If you are or know someone who is in need of food help please contact the Parish Office and we will organise a food parcel.**

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#### **FROM THE DIOCESE:**

Today is **Sea Sunday**, when the Church prays for all those who live and work at sea. Without them we would not have many of the items we buy in the shops. Stella Maris (Apostleship of the Sea), is the Church’s official maritime welfare agency. It supports seafarers both practically and spiritually. Your donation is vital to enable it to continue its work, so please give generously and remember seafarers in your prayers.

Donation details: Sea Sunday INTERNET BANKING DONATION to: 01-0297-0024651-00 (AoSNZ Auckland) In the ‘Payees/Particulars’ box please write: your initials(optional) / Donation AoS Email. name and address for tax-rebate receipt to: [evashorayi@gmail.com](mailto:evashorayi@gmail.com) ; quote your initials and date of donation. For more information about its work and volunteering, visit [www.aos.org.nz](http://www.aos.org.nz)

**Liturgy Conference 2020.** An invitation is extended to every parishioner in the Auckland Diocese to attend the Liturgy Conference 1-3 October at Baradene College. Worshipping under Southern Skies | *Te Huinga Whakamoemiti Kei Raro i Te Taki-o-Autahi* - Weaving together Liturgy and Life | *E rarangatia ana ngā Ritenga me te Ira Tangata*. It will be a great opportunity to grow in faith. Please visit the website [wuss.org.nz](http://wuss.org.nz)

**The Peace and International Justice Committee** of the Diocese of Auckland's Justice and Peace Commission is looking for new members. Our activities have included advocating for better support for migrants during the current pandemic, organising interfaith gatherings over the Syrian crisis, supporting clergy persecuted by the Philippines government, expressing solidarity with West Papua and Palestine, and monitoring climate change migration issues. If you have the background and interest in serving the Diocese in this area please contact: Convenor Phillip Cass [cass.philip@gmail.com](mailto:cass.philip@gmail.com).

**DURING THIS WEEK**

**SUNDAY**—Masses 9 am, 10.30 am & 5 pm

**MONDAY**—Mass with Morning Prayer 8 am.

**WEDNESDAY**-Masses 9 am & 6.30 pm.

Rosary and Perpetual Succor Novena before 6.30 pm Mass.

**THURSDAY**-Mass at 6 pm. Angelus before Mass.

**FRIDAY** –Mass 10.00 am

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament-Friday from 9 am

Divine Mercy Chaplet M/W/F after the morning Masses

**SATURDAY**—Masses 9 am & 5 pm.

Rosary before 9 am Mass.

**Confession**-Wednesday from 6.00 to 6.30 pm and Saturday after morning Mass or by appointment.

*Junior Legion Meeting after 10.30 am Mass  
Sunday*

*Senior Legion of Mary Meeting, Wednesday 7 pm  
Mary Mother of Grace Presidium, Legion  
meeting, Friday 7.00 pm*

**Last week's collection:**

**House—1,440.00**

**Parish—1,828.60**

**Thank you for your generosity.**

Diocesan Youth Mass, Sunday July 26 at 7 pm at St. Patrick's Cathedral.

**Please pray for our sick parishioners:**

Violet Furtado, Christopher Hennings, Patsy Nun Toon, Iluminada Dorado, Claire Geddes, Pat Devereaux, Yvonne Sommers, Gail Ware, Maryanne Pasina, Mary Holmes, Kanesi Masae, Ethan Peter Lelo, Rosalen Ahearn, Celestina Gardiner, Saulius David Balsys, Kalameli Tauta, Joan Unkovich, Melesete Va'asili, Lloyd Ball, Pauline Caffell, Louisa Baptist, Christine Roberts Whitcombe, Robert Shearman, Siufaga Maileoi Lili, Leota Mike Kaisa, Aloysius Thoman, Lee Dunn, Alex Soniega and Barbara Lynch.

**READINGS THIS WEEK**

**Mon: 13 July:** Isaiah 1:10-17

Matthew 10:34-11:1

**Tues: 14 July:** Isaiah 7:1-9

Matthew 11:20-24

**Wed: 15 July:** Isaiah 10:5-7, 13-16

Matthew 11:25-27

**Thurs: 16 July:** Isaiah 26:7-9, 12, 16-19

Matthew 11:28-30

**Fri : 17 July:** Isaiah 38:1-6, 21-22, 7-8

Matthew 12:1-8

**Sat: 18 July:** Micah 2:1-5

Matthew 12:14-21

**Sun: 19 July, 16<sup>th</sup> Sunday in Ord Time**

Wisdom 12:13, 16-19

Romans 8:26-27

Matthew 13:24-43

**ROSTER OF DUTIES FOR 18 & 19 JULY 2020**

	<b>5 pm</b> <b>Saturday</b>	<b>9 am</b> <b>Sunday</b>	<b>10.30 am</b> <b>Sunday</b>	<b>5 pm</b> <b>Sunday</b>
<b>Announcers</b>	Anne Cairney	Kevin Davis	Olinda Domingo	Gerry Smith
<b>Ministers of Communion</b>	Aldrin D'Silva, Jerry Gomes, Sandra Almeida,	Gloria Sofara, Leila Vincent, Darin Johnston	Paula & Henry Bohte, Melinda Hamlyn	Tyralina Johans- son, Lina Mitch- ell, Herman Tauata, Nerissa & Chris Navarro
<b>Ministers of the Word</b>	Yvette Asthana  Michael Buddle	John Phillips  Cecilia Menezes	Brinal Gonsalves  Salepou Wright	Elisha Dourado  Vienna Domingo
<b>Altar Servers</b>	Shann, Tyler, Marco			Joshua
<b>Organists</b>	M Abrogena	Dominic Braganza	Parish Music Group	
<b>Projectionists</b>	M Abrogena		Parish Music Group	
<b>Offertory</b>	Abrogena family	D'Souza family	Wright family	
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>		Gillian Dawson	Maddie Gates	Christina Gomes
<b>Cleaning-Wye family, Flowers-Salepou Wright, Prayer of the Faithful—Naomie Tham.</b>				

**OUR LADY OF LOURDES CATHOLIC CHURCH**

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OFM Cap

Email: bonikujur1969@gmail.com

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Email: robertmitchell1410@gmail.com