



**LEVIN-TAITOKO**

**"A COMMUNITY RADIATING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST"**

**ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC PARISH**

56 Weraroa Road, Levin

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## **SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

The theme of the readings for this 6th Sunday of Easter reminds us that at the heart of Christianity is the command to love. Christian love is not always easy to put into practice though. Christian love is demanding because it requires us to move out of the familiar and comfortable, to remove the "fences" we put round our own surroundings so that we can connect with and embrace those whose life-styles or beliefs may be in conflict with our own values. Christian love is non-judgmental; it does not discriminate but accepts others as creations of a loving God whose kindness and faithfulness are given to all. Pope Francis in an interview in July 2014 listed ten tips for bringing joy into life; second on his list was "Be giving of yourself to others." In this way we can respond to the command to love as Jesus did, seeking out others, bringing joy into their lives. This giving of oneself does not have to be Herculean; a warm smile or a simple greeting can bring a new sense of well-being to a lonely soul.

Today we also celebrate and pray for all mothers and those who nurture others in so many ways. A mother's love, selflessly given, is a reflection of the Creator's love and is exemplified in the life of Mary, the mother of Jesus. We give thanks for her generosity of spirit and willingness to accept the call to love without counting the cost. We call on Mary to help us to seek out, pray for and offer support to those who struggle to provide a loving environment for their children. Their struggle may be the result of a lack of positive role-models in their own lives, lack of financial or emotional support, poor accommodation, post-natal depression or lack of confidence. Whatever the reasons, are we as a faith community or as individuals prepared to move out from behind our "fences" to bring joy into their lives by loving them into wholeness as Jesus commands us?

It is only through showing Christian love and acting on it that we will truly be able to, as the Psalmist says, "Sing a new song unto the Lord."

Marie Vaney

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**Saturday Vigil Mass**

5:30 pm

**Sunday Morning Mass**

9:15 am

**Weekday Masses**

9.30 am Tuesday to Thursday

12:10 pm Friday

**Liturgy of the word with Communion**

9.30 am Monday

**Adoration**

11:10 am Friday

**Reconciliation**

Friday after Mass

## P A R I S H   N O T I C E S

**THE SOCIAL GROUP** invites everyone to join them every Tuesday from 1 to 2:30pm at the Parish Centre (back of the church)

**MEDITATION IN THE CHRISTIAN TRADITION** - Resuming on Thursday this week, 5pm at the chapel.

**DRIVE SLOWLY** posters are visible in our carparks hoping to remind everyone using the space that they are not alone.

**PLEROMA STALL** - visit the stall at the back in the foyer.

**SCHOOL CARPARK** please DO NOT park on the red brick pavers, as the pavers are NOT designed to be driven or parked on.

**ST STEPHEN'S KUKU MASS** resumes on the 4th Sunday of each month at 8.30am. Next Mass on Sunday May 23rd.

**PENTECOST SUNDAY MORNING MASS** please bring a plate to share.

**FR CHRIS SKINNER CONCERT:** at St Brigid's Parish Feilding, 2pm on Sunday 23rd May. Tickets are \$20 for adults and \$10 for students. Book at: (06) 323 3980 or [stbrigids@xtra.co.nz](mailto:stbrigids@xtra.co.nz).

**LOOKING FOR A HOUSE TO RENT**— if you have or know somebody who has a house for rent, please contact Atina Telea at 0211 423 758. They are in desperate search for a new abode.

**THANK YOU FROM 40 DAYS FOR LIFE** your efforts have contributed to : **755 babies saved from abortion; 11 abortion workers converted and 3 abortion facilities shut down!** To God be the glory!  
**DO NOT FORGET** to sign the COVID19 form upon entry to the church!!!

## FINANCE COMMITTEE

**Parish Enrolment Forms** are available in the foyer.

**New Parish Bank Account:** St. Joseph Catholic Parish (BNZ) 02 0668 0115553 000.

**Automatic Payment Forms** are available at our website and in the foyer.

**Envelopes for planned giving** are in the foyer. If you have transferred to automatic payments, you will still need the brown envelopes. Please collect the brown ones and leave the white ones.

**Tax receipts are available in the foyer.**

### Faith on Line

“Hope for Judas” an hour long videoclip which has wonderful thoughts about the mercy of God. Visit or click the link <https://youtu.be/WC-8p0VjgBo>

“Who is St. Matthias - Feast day 14th May” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9aSb71GTgNo>

### **NZ CATHOLIC MEDICAL ASSOCIATION**

Pastoral Care and Support conference and retreat for Catholic health practitioners at Our Lady's Home of Compassion, Island Bay, Wellington, 3pm, 28 to 3pm, 29 May. Hear interesting local speakers. Mass and Reconciliation available. The NZ Catholic Bishops Conference supports this. Registration and details at:

[www.newzealandcatholicmedical.co.nz](http://www.newzealandcatholicmedical.co.nz)

## S T V I N C E N T D E P A U L C O R N E R

Our next meeting will be held on **Thursday 13 May at 1.30pm.**

The Vision of St Vincent de Paul is to live the Gospel message by serving Christ in the poor with love, respect, justice, hope and joy and by working to shape a more just and compassionate society. More than ever the needs are there to be met and we greatly appreciate the prayerful and practical support of our fellow parishioners.

(SVdP Levin Bank A/c for direct donations: 11 6932 0308328 11)

F R O M   T H E   P A R I S H   C O U N C I L   C H A I R

Hello my fellow Christian friends.

Firstly, I would like to take the opportunity to thank the many wonderful people in our church community who actively contribute to our parish in all sorts of mighty ways; usually without much acknowledgement – well done and thank you.

By our baptism, we have a duty to be proactive in the faith – Read the parable of the talents in Matthew 25: 14-30. Too many of us today see our salvation as simply a bus ticket to heaven and we believe it doesn't matter too much in what we do while we wait for the bus. St. Paul writes in Ephesians 2: 10 – “For we are Gods handiwork Created in Christ Jesus to do good works which God prepared in advance for us to do”.

God is not dead nor is he stagnant and his holy revelations to us are continuous. He works through his people for the advancement of humanity and in his third millenium there are many issues that need our discernment.

To name a few, married and women priests, same sex relationships and marriage, bioethics, ecumenicalism, human sexuality and morality, and political secularism. Ignoring these topics are not going to make them go away. We must have the courage to face them, but at the same time, remain true to the gospel.

Church reform is not just the responsibility of the clergy and church bureaucrats. We are together one body in Christ and collectively we will advance God's holy kingdom.

If you have anything you would like to be brought to the attention of the parish team, and if you are able to offer your talents or services, please email me at [bennik@xtra.co.nz](mailto:bennik@xtra.co.nz).

PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL

Fr Dennis Nacorda  
Harry Bennik  
Makisi Finau  
Kerry Gaffaney  
Rasella Fuauli  
Gladys Fermo  
Anna Tate-Smith  
Maria Lyne  
Hilary Sheeran

**BRAIN TEASER** 9 May 2021: The Pope has asked for the month of May to be dedicated in prayer to what cause?

*Answer: A marathon of prayer with the Rosary for the entire world wounded by the pandemic; Each day the rosary will be recited in different Marian shrines around the world and everyone is encouraged to join in to entrust into the hands of our Holy Mother the whole human race;*

Blessing to you all,  
**Harry Bennik**  
Parish Council Chair

ST. JOSEPH SCHOOL CORNER

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May the souls of our beloved dead and the souls of all the faithful departed through the mercy of God rest in peace.  
Jack Scott





# ***WHY DO WE... venerate relics?***

Relics are classified in three ways: first class are the body or fragment of a Saint or a Blessed person; second class, objects used by the Saint, such as clothing or instruments employed during martyrdom; third class, other objects, such as a cloth which has touched a first class relic. Relics of the true Cross and other instruments of Christ's

Passion also exist and are allowed to be venerated by permission of the Church.

The veneration of all relics is legitimate according to Canon Law. In praying before a relic, it is not the relic itself which is being invoked, but the Saint, so the question of idolatry is not an issue. Major relics may not be transferred without permission of the Holy See. Church altars usually contain an altar stone contain relics. On occasions, we see relics being taken on a pilgrimage, as it were, for the veneration of the faithful in a district or country. Small relics are sometimes found in religious lockets. All relics must be authenticated as such by the Church.

## **W E E K L Y   S C H E D U L E**

Monday , 10th May	9.30am	Liturgy of the Word with Communion, St. John of Avila
Tuesday, 11th	9.30am	Holy Mass
	1pm	Tuesday Social Group at the Parish Centre
Wednesday, 12th	9.30am	Holy Mass, Sts Nereus, Achilleus, and Pancras
Thursday, 13th	9.30am	Holy Mass, Our Lady of Fatima
	1:30pm	SVdP Meeting at the Parish Centre
	5pm	Meditation in the Christian Tradition at the chapel
Friday, 14th	11.10am	Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament
	12.10am	Holy Mass with school children, St. Matthias—Apostle
	2pm	RCIA at the presbytery
Saturday, 15th	5:30pm	Ascension Sunday Vigil Mass
Sunday, 16th	9:15am	Ascension Sunday Mass, World Communication Sunday

**Usually there are more spaces in the front pews, come and sit.**

### **Readings at Sunday Mass**

(09/05/2021) **1st Reading:** Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48; **2nd Reading:** 1 John 4:7-10;  
**Gospel:** John 15:9-17  
**Responsorial Psalm:** “ The Lord has revealed to the nations his saving power.”  
 (16/05/2021) **1st Reading:** Acts 1:1-11; **2nd Reading:** Eph 4:1-13;  
**Gospel:** Mark 16:15-20



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