

# St. Joseph's Grey Lynn

470 Great North Road  
Tamaki Makaurau

8th March 2020

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## SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT - YEAR A

***His face shone like the sun. Mt 17:1-9***

### WALKING TOWARDS OUR FUTURE GLORY

Today is the second Sunday of Lent. Through his transfiguration, Christ reveals to us the glory that that would be ours in future if we remain faithful and triumph. Through this, he encourages us to be strong and courageous in our journey this season of Lent.

In the first reading, God made a Promise to Abraham and blessed him: *"I will make you a great nation...I will bless those who bless you and curse those who curse you."* What is the condition for these blessings to be fulfilled? Abraham had to effectively respond to God's call and command: *"Leave your country... for the land I will show you..."* In other words, his part of the covenant was to obey God's command by accepting his difficult mission.

Most times we are very fast to claim Abraham's blessings and glory. This is good. However, it is important to note that the necessary condition for claiming this blessing is, obedience to God's will and response to his call and mission for us.

This is not easy. At times, it demands that one must leave behind something very important. It may demand one to do something extraordinary. In short, response to the call must make you *"leave"* your comfort zone. This is the condition for receiving Abraham's blessing. It for those who remain steadfast to God's will and obey his commands.

In the second reading, Paul encourages to: *"bear the hardship for the sake of the good news."* It is the grace of God that sustains us to respond fully to our call. This grace which existed *"before the beginning of time and of creation"* was revealed by the appearing of Jesus Christ. In other words, we must look up to this ancient grace which is Christ himself, who by his death and resurrection has guaranteed our future glory.

Today's gospel is on the Transfiguration of Christ. Through it, Christ reveals himself and his future glory to us. Most importantly, with the transfiguration, Christ reveals one of the constants of human life to us. There is no life without death, neither joy without pain, nor regeneration without destruction. All, take place at the same time. Hence, his future glory is for those who have washed themselves pure in the blood of the Lamb. It is for those who have *"suffered"* for the sake of the good news (Rev 12:11).

Peter's amazement and statement: *"Lord it is wonderful for us to be here..."* is interesting. However, he was wrong, and was only being human. No, it was not yet time to rest, or enter the fullness of this glory. *"A luta continua, vitória é certa"* (The struggle continues and victory is certain through Christ). The transfiguration drama is meant to remind us that, if we work hard and remain faithful to God's call and command, we shall be among the triumphant church. This glory is only a glimpse of the future glory of our final destination.

So, in order to share in Christ's glory, we must first walk with him to Calvary. Also, if we want to share in the blessings and glory of Abraham, first, we must be ready to *"leave something"* behind (Gen 12). If we want a double portion of Elijah's anointing and spirit, first, we must contend with, and overcome the Jezebel and Ahab of our time (1 Kg 19). If we want the prophetic power and glory of Moses, first, we must struggle against, and overcome the Pharaoh of this earthly kingdom (Ex 6: 13).

The glory revealed today should serve as the *"activation energy"* that motivates us to continue walking towards our final destination. The journey is not yet over, and truly, not an easy one. However, Christ is with us. So, He encourages and tells us: *"Do not be afraid!"*

Fr. Joseph Thirumala

### MASS TIMES

#### WEEKEND

**Saturday:** 8:15am, Vigil: 5:30pm

**Sunday:** 8:30am, 10:30am(in Samoan)

#### WEEKDAYS

**Monday - Friday:** 9:00am

**Confessions:** Saturday at 5pm

**Divine Mercy Chaplet:** Sunday at 8am

**Adoration:** 1st Sunday of the Month at 4pm

**Novena Mother of Perpetual Help:** Thursdays at 5:45pm

**Children's Liturgy of the Word:** Sunday 8:30am mass

**A reading from the book of Genesis      Gen 12:1-4**

***The call of Abraham, the father of God's people.***

The Lord said to Abram, 'Leave your country, your family and your father's house, for the land I will show you. I will make you a great nation; I will bless you and make your name so famous that it will be used as a blessing. 'I will bless those who bless you: I will curse those who slight you. All the tribes of the earth shall bless themselves by you.' So Abram went as the Lord told him.

**Kote kupu o te Ariki (This is the word of the Lord) *Whakamoemiti ki te Atua (Praise be to God)***

**Responsorial Psalm      Ps 32:4-5. 18-20. 22. R. v.22**

***Lord, let your mercy be on us, as we place our trust in you.***

1. The word of the Lord is faithful and all his works to be trusted. The Lord loves justice and right and fills the earth with his love. (R.)

2. The Lord looks on those who revere him, on those who hope in his love, to rescue their souls from death, to keep them alive in famine. (R.)

3. Our soul is waiting for the Lord. The Lord is our help and our shield. May your love be upon us, O Lord, as we place all our hope in you. (R.)

**A reading from the second letter of St Paul to Timothy      2 Tm 1:8-10**

***God has saved us, and called us to be holy.***

With me, bear the hardships for the sake of the Good News, relying on the power of God who has saved us and called us to be holy – not because of anything we ourselves have done but for his own purpose and by his own grace. This grace had already been granted to us, in Christ Jesus, before the beginning of time, but it has only been revealed by the Appearing of our saviour Christ Jesus. He abolished death, and he has proclaimed life and immortality through the Good News.

**Kote kupu o te Ariki (This is the word of the Lord) *Whakamoemiti ki te Atua (Praise be to God)***

**Gospel Acclamation Mt 17:5**

**Glory and praise to you, *Lord Jesus Christ! From the shining cloud the Father's voice is heard: this is my beloved Son, hear him.***

**Glory and praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ!**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew      Mt 17:1-9**

***His face shone like the sun.***

Jesus took with him Peter and James and his brother John and led them up a high mountain where they could be alone. There in their presence he was transfigured; his face shone like the sun and his clothes became as white as the light. Suddenly Moses and Elijah appeared to them; they were talking with him. Then Peter spoke to Jesus. 'Lord,' he said 'it is wonderful for us to be here; if you wish, I will make three tents here, one for you, one for Moses and one for Elijah.' He was still speaking when suddenly a bright cloud covered them with shadow, and from the cloud there came a voice which said, 'This is my Son, the Beloved; he enjoys my favour. Listen to him.' When they heard this, the disciples fell on their faces, overcome with fear. But Jesus came up and touched them. 'Stand up,' he said 'do not be afraid.' And when they raised their eyes they saw no one but only Jesus. As they came down from the mountain Jesus gave them this order. 'Tell no one about the vision until the Son of Man has risen from the dead.'

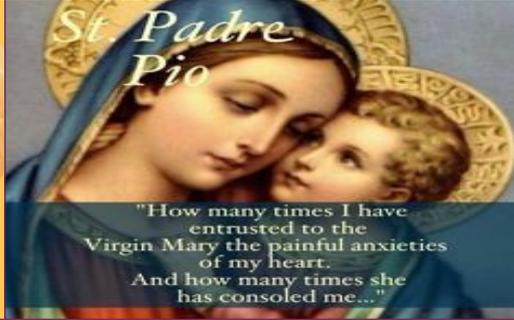
***Kia whakanuia rā koe, e te Ariki, e Hēhu Karaiti. (Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ)***

## PARISH NOTICES



Have you bestowed the Baptism identity on your Child?  
Is it an identity of "my Beloved" Child?

- By our baptism, we too are named the Beloved of God -



**First Holy Communion & Confirmation.** Class starts on Sunday, 15th March at 3pm sharp. Please meet inside church.

**Email Joey: joeyakeli@gmail.com**

### Marriage Preparation Classes

For any Couples Planning to get married Classes begins today Sunday, at 5:30pm in the hall meeting room. Please fill in a Registration Form in the Foyer. Fr. Iosefo

### STATIONS OF THE CROSS

Every Friday During Lent at 6:30pm. Praying the **stations** is to help us with our Christian faithful to make a spiritual pilgrimage through contemplation of the Passion of Christ.

### MARCH ROSTER

Lectors	Extra Ordinary Minister of Holy Communion
<b>5:30pm</b>	
07-Mar Norma/Jessica T	Taumaia/Nerisa
14-Mar Jessica G/Lisa	Trish/Alex
21-Mar Norma/Jessica T	Taumaia/Nerisa
28-Mar JessicaG/Lisa	Trish/Alex
<b>8:30am</b>	
08-Mar Teresa/Jaime	Elisa/Saraia
15-Mar Ana M/Viavia	Pelenatete/Silia
22-Mar Teresa/Jaime	Elisa/Saraia
29-Mar Lelava/Tutulu	Taumaoc/Tutulu
<b>10:30am</b>	
08-Mar Ana S/ Taumaoc	Matai/Silia
15-Mar Norma/Jessica	Sefulu/Bella
22-Mar Viavia/Vicjalina	Taupo/Akenese
29-Mar Upuia	Tialino/Sefulu

### PARISH AGM

Thank you to all who attended the AGM last week. It was a fruitful meeting towards building our Parish to becoming a Missionary Church with the Theme for 2020 Charity is the "Soul" of the Church's Mission.

Reports available in the Foyer.

### PARISH REGISTRATION FORMS

**Welcome to St Joseph's Church**

Registration Forms available for individuals and families to complete. Please take a Form home to complete and return and place in the sealed box in the Foyer. If you have any questions, please see Fr. Iosefo, Tutuila or Lisa. Thank you

### Upcoming Events

<u>Date</u>	<u>Event</u>
09-Mar	Young Peoples Meeting 4pm
12-Mar	Novena - Grey Lynn Community
13-Mar	Stations of the Cross
15-Mar	First Holy Communion Class 3pm
15-Mar	Confirmation Class 3pm
15-Mar	Liturgy Meeting 5pm
19-Mar	Novena - European
20-Mar	Stations of the Cross
26-Mar	Novena - Legion of Mary
27-Mar	Stations of the Cross
27-Mar	<b>Executive Meeting</b>
29-Mar	First Holy Communion Class
29-Mar	Confirmation Class

### LAST SUNDAY'S COLLECTION

Registration Forms are available in the Foyer if you wish to serve our parish as a Lector/Reader or Extra Ordinary Minister of Holy Communion.

Parish collection last week:	\$1,293.33
Total for March:	\$1,293.33
<b>Parish Needs: (4 x \$1,500 per week)</b>	<b>\$6,000.00</b>
Thank you for your generosity	

## YOUNG PEOPLES NOTICES

### HEADZ UP

1st Session of Spiritual Faith Formation to be held on Sunday, \_\_\_\_\_

All young people invited to attend. Extended invitation to Family and School Friends. Theme is on \_\_\_\_\_



Young Peoples Core Team Retreat held last weekend. Mass, Prayer & Planning for this Year's YP Activities for 2020.

## AUCKLAND DIOCESE'S NOTICES

**33 Days Spiritual Journey.** Are you called to be a Eucharistic Apostle of Divine Mercy? Consecration to the Divine Mercy on 19 April (Divine Mercy Sunday). Preparation starts 17 March for 33 days until 18 April. \$20 for reading material. Those who previously did the consecration, please prepare for renewal. For details, please contact 02041026838.

**Prayer for healing and miracles.** Everyone is invited to a Healing Service with Father John Rea SM on Saturday March 21st, 9.30am - 12ish at Sacred Heart Church, 16 Vermont St, Ponsonby. Praise and worship and teaching followed by prayer for healing. Note: This service does not include mass. Info: Deidre Broome 09 4108899

**A Public Lecture on 'Governance and Abuse in the Church' celebrating St. Pope John Paul II's encyclical *Ut Unum Sint* May 1995, promoting Christian Unity.** A talk not to be missed by a female renowned international speaker, an expert in Canon Law, Dr. Myriam Wijlens. On 11th March 2020, 7:00PM at the St Columba Centre, Ponsonby.

Training course for **Volunteer Chaplaincy Assistants at Auckland Hospital.** If you are interested, please contact Robert Burley, Chaplaincy Assistant Training administrator email [aucklandhospitalchaplaincy@gmail.com](mailto:aucklandhospitalchaplaincy@gmail.com)

**ST PATRICK'S DAY HIGH TEA AT THE CATHEDRAL. Celebrating 179 Years of the Cathedral (1841 – 2020).** Join Bishop Patrick at the St Patrick's Day to a High Tea in Liston Hall. 1 pm, Tuesday, 17th March. Tickets are \$35 and are available for sale at The Square Gift Store, St Patrick's Square, 43 Wyndham Street-cash preferred. Tickets are strictly limited so be in quick so you aren't disappointed.

**One-day pastoral leadership conference** for all Catholic faith community leaders. Theme: Seeking Holiness in a Secular World; **Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> March 2020, 9:30am – 2pm.** At Our Lady of Assumption Parish hall, 97 Galway St, Onehunga. Registration essential email us at [pastoraloffice@ccda.org.nz](mailto:pastoraloffice@ccda.org.nz). Morning Tea provided. Please bring own lunch. For topics and speakers, visit our website.

**Evening Talk not to be missed, on Governance and Abuse in the Church.** A canon law expert, an international speaker, Dr Myriam Wijlens speaking on "Co-Workers in the Vineyard of the Lord", Wednesday 11<sup>th</sup> March 2020 at 7:00pm, St Columba Centre, 40 Vermont St, Ponsonby.

**Candlelight Vigil praying for healing, mercy, and life.** Join us for a peaceful prayer vigil on Sunday 15 March at 7:30pm outside the local abortion centre, AMAC. This is a meaningful way to pray for an end to abortion, remember those who have died, those who have been wounded by abortion, and to be a sign of hope. The vigil is part of the 40 Days for Life prayer effort. All welcome. For more information phone Michelle 027 526 1199 or visit [fli.org.nz/40daysforlife](http://fli.org.nz/40daysforlife)

**Interfaith Service.** Sunday, March 15th 2pm - 3.30pm at Holy Trinity Cathedral, Parnell. The Auckland Inter-faith Council is bringing members of the Inter-faith network together to remember those whose lives were lost one year ago in the mosques of Christchurch. Let us be inspired to work together and pray for peace, looking forward with hope as we build a harmonious society. All are welcome at this service which will include prayer, live song, readings & time for quiet reflection.