

FEAST OF OUR MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP

In the icon of Our Mother of Perpetual Help, the Child Jesus grasps the hand of His Blessed Mother, seeking comfort as He sees the instruments of His Passion, held by the Archangels Michael and Gabriel. The anguish He feels is shown by the loss of one of His sandals. Nevertheless, the icon also conveys the triumph of Christ over sin and death, symbolized by the golden Background (a sign of the glory of the resurrection) and the manner in which the angels hold the instruments, i.e. like trophies gathered up from Calvary on Easter morning. The position of Mary's hands – both holding the Child Jesus and presenting Him to us – conveys the reality of our Lord's incarnation, that He is true God who became also true man. In iconography, Mary here is represented as the one who guides us to the Redeemer. On this Parish Feast Day, we reflect on the profound meaning of the title, Our Mother of Perpetual Help (OMPH). The title originated in the text itself accompanying the original icon in Rome. The Blessed Virgin herself chose this name to serve as an encouragement to us all to have recourse to her with complete confidence in all our needs.

MOTHER

Mother is written in the icon in the two upper corners. MP OY = *Meter Theou*: Mother of God. Pope Francis has said that Mary is not referred to as "the widow of Joseph," but is rather called "the mother of Jesus." He further affirmed that Mary's motherhood is emphasized throughout the Gospels, from the Annunciation to the foot of the cross, when she became our mother also.

PERPETUAL

The adjective 'perpetual' conveys an attitude that is active rather than passive. Mary is not just waiting for us to call upon the help of God but she is always accompanying and encouraging us to come to Jesus. Likewise, this also emphasizes the perpetual quality of help. God, through the prayers of OMPH, is forever helping us in all our predicaments.

HELP

We are all creatures in need. We constantly seek the help of God and of one another through prayer and action. Those who have freely received blessings are called to freely help others, and those who have not yet received their petitions are encouraged to continue to ask. Mary is, first and foremost, a helper of God. Vatican Council II states, "In faith, Mary entrusted herself to God without reserve and 'devoted herself totally as the handmaid of the Lord to the person and work of her Son' (*Lumen Gentium*, #56)." Mary's "yes" of serving as the mother of the Messiah did not end in her death. She became mother and helper to the whole Church in the name of God's mission.

JESUS IS THE PERPETUAL HELP

Mary is the *Mother* of perpetual help; since Mary is the mother of God—Jesus—then Jesus is the source of perpetual help. The perpetual help of OMPH originates from the perpetual generosity and unconditional love of God. The most profound message of the icon is simply Mary perpetually directing us to her Son, Jesus, as the Way, the Truth and the Life. Thus, OMPH can also be appropriately called Our Lady of the Way.



Masses:

Saturday Vigil:

5.30pm

Sunday: 8.00am & 10.00am

Monday-Saturday: 9.00am

Anointing Mass:

First Friday of each
month at 9am Mass

Prayer of the Church:

Saturday: 8.45am &
Novena at 9am Mass

Reconciliation:

Saturday: After 9am
Mass & 4pm after-
noon

Rosary Group:

Each Friday: 3:30pm
in Parish Centre

Exposition:

Every Thursday
9.30am - 6.45pm
with Benediction at
6.45pm



MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP PARISH

Parish Office: 575 9296

Parish Priest: Fr John Dunn

Dcn Mark Rivalland: 021 482 555

Office Hours: Mon - Fri: 9.30am-12pm

Wednesday: 1.30-5pm

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Parish Administrator: Karla Nobre Milosevic

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Redemptorist Website: www.cssr.org.au

13th Sunday of Ordinary Time
Feast of Mother of Perpetual Help
Saturday 26 & Sunday 27 June 2021

Mother of Perpetual Help,

Woman of Eternal Hope,

*your wordless gaze tells us
so much about you.*

*Knowing eyes look upon us
with tender love. The slight
bend of your head reveals
such maternal concern.*

*While your left hand
supports the Child, your
right hand is ready to
receive us, too. Just as He*

*feels the beating of your heart, so you encourage us to
lead a life of hope and holiness. Just as His sandal
will fall on your lap, through your intercession may
God pick us up as we stumble and fall. Never let us
be parted from you and your son, Jesus. Lady of
love, you invite us to place our hand where His fin-
gers touch yours — near a heart of endless hope —
so that we may be united often in prayer here on
earth and joined forever with you in heaven.*

Amen.





CONFIRMATION for our Parish children is on Tuesday, 29 June at 7pm. Bishop Michael Gielen will lead this special Sacrament. All Welcome!

PETER'S PENCE DONATION

is a collection taken up each year among Catholics around the world for the support of the Pope and his works of charity.

The money goes direct to the Pope via the nunciature in Wellington.

Please put the Pledge Given number on the envelope.

Envelopes are on the table in the foyer.

MASS ROSTERS

from July to December 2021 are now available. Please collect your copy from the table in the Church foyer.

Many thanks for volunteering.

REDEMPTORIST SPIRITUALITY TALKS

by Father Bruce Mc Gill

This Friday's scheduled talk by Father Bruce has been postponed to next Friday, 9th of July due to the HEALNG MASS and morning tea on that day.



MOVIE NIGHT

All parishioners are welcome to join the Youth Group for their movie night on Sunday 27th June - 5pm-7.30pm

Sunday 27th June - 5pm-7.30pm

7.30pm

Please bring some finger food to share.



AUCKLAND EUCHARISTIC CONVENTION

Hear overseas and local speakers address the theme:

'Come to me all you who are weary and heavily burdened.'

Friday 16, Saturday 17 and Sunday 18 July

St Mary's College, New Street, Ponsonby (opposite the Pompallier Diocesan Centre)

Tickets \$30.00 per day or \$50 for the weekend.

See flyer for more information.

'May our Eucharistic celebrations transform the world.'

Pope Francis

We remember in prayer our parishioners whose anniversaries occur during June:

Gerardus Sars, Alexander Boric, Fr Gerard Ratcliffe CSsR, Marjorie Easdon, Daniel Sloan, Thomas Clark, William Reilly, Brian Truscott, Hilda Brosman, Tony Harris, Jason Fletcher, George Appleton, Ada Stanaway, Catherine Burke

Next Week: 14th Sunday of Ordinary Time 3 & 4 July

1. Ezekiel 2:2-5 2. 2Corinthians 12:7-10 3. Gospel Mark 6:1-6

<u>ROSTERS</u>	5.30pm	8.00am	10.00am
Welcomer	Jennifer Dagleish	Chester Rivera	Maggie Mujica
Greeters	Greg Curry Beverley Payne	Sue Rivalland Judith Bilderbeck	Kathleen Ward Richard Pain
Musicians	Filipino Singers		MPH Parish Choir
PowerPoint	Filipino Singers	Helen Wright	MPH Parish Choir
Children's Liturgy	Jesus of Nazareth—Ranche Johnson & Jacqui Foote		
Prayers of the Faithful	Br Frank Blewman		
Ministers of Communion	Brain Houston David Manickum	Don Bilderbeck Frank Blewman	Angela Shields Sheldon Bland
Readers	Frances Lynch Dennis Lynch	Fiona Wilson Liz Pascal	Therese Arahill Lina Kaukau
Cleaners	Teresita & Danilko Gatbonton		
Grace Joel	10.30am Gerard Murphy	Altar Linen: Heather Hart	
Sacramental Programme	Offertory Procession: 10.00am - Francis Family		