

## *I am that bread, says Jesus*

In today's gospel, the people ask Jesus three questions and each time his response suggests, think again. The first question comes after the multiplication of the loaves and fishes on the other side of the sea and they're wondering where is he? On locating him they ask, 'When did you get here?' Jesus' answer is puzzling: you've seen the signs of God's love he says, but haven't understood their meaning and can only see that you've had plenty to eat!

He goes on to contrast working for what is here today, gone tomorrow and what sustains you forever. It's this I'm offering you, he says, through the Father. We'd prefer it if Jesus would stick to the script, but he doesn't. He doesn't answer to our expectations. Instead, he leads his listeners into what seems like uncharted territory and, like the Israelites in the first reading, we may begin to yearn for the certainties back in Egypt, when enslaved, but at least we weren't hungry. But then, that's what the spiritual revolution referred to in today's second reading is all about, our secure selves being overturned by what Jesus says, our minds opening up.

This leads to the second question: what must we do in order to do what God wants? Again, he wrong-foots them when he responds: Believe in the one he sent. They sort of get what he's saying and respond by thinking of him in the time-honoured way and ask, can you show us a sign like the manna given by Moses in the desert, so we might believe in you? And a third time he brings them undone. It's not about me, or Moses, he responds, but about my Father who gives you true bread from heaven, for the world's sake.

When they say give us that bread always, Jesus replies, I am that bread. It's a breathtaking statement, a new Passover, a new revelation of God. We've gone from loaves and fishes and manna in the desert to this pledge of God's love, where our hunger and our eating is the way into Jesus, into God. In eating this bread 'we receive what we are and become what we receive.'

We're learning to receive what God gives us and learning that we can't program it, or earn it in some way, but have only to receive it. It's so simple we don't quite get it and we're back to their questions and having to re-think our lives.

It all comes down to this simple act of eating. Food and eating and bodies, now transformed, so we might be bread for others.

Jesus is the sign of God's unending love for us made real in his broken body, the Church. To experience something of this reality is to believe in him who was sent. Is he the one we have been looking for? Come and eat.

**Damian Coleridge**  
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### 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  
**E-Mail:** office@glendowiecatholic.org.nz  
**Parish Website:** www.glendowiecatholic.org.nz  
**Parish Administrator:** Karla Nobre Milosevic  
**Pastoral Worker:** Maureen Keenan (Home)5754354  
**Redemptorist Website:** www.cssr.org.au

**18th Sunday of Ordinary Time**  
**Saturday 31 July & Sunday 1 August 2021**

## PARISH ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING



**Our Parish AGM is going to be on**

**Sunday 8 August,**  
**after the 10am mass.**

*All parishioners are invited to come.*

As you all know, we have to make

decisions about how our Parish will function when we are

sharing a Parish Priest with St. Ignatius Parish.

Fr. John Dunn encourages each

person who is interested in what

will happen and how the

Parishes will work together,

so please attend this

very important AGM.



# newsletter

## Talks on Redemptorist Spirituality Father Bruce McGill

The fifth talk "GOD'S LOVE", will take place on Friday **13 August** after 9am Mass in the Church.



**HOLY ROSARY SERIES** – A six session series to learn about the history, the prayers and the mysteries of the Rosary, with hands-on teaching to make your own Rosary.

Sunday 2pm – 4pm (\$15 pp per session includes all rosary making materials & afternoon tea). Sun 8 Aug | Sun 12 Sep | Sun 3 Oct | Sun 14 Nov | Sun 12 Dec. Come to one, some or all. Contact [rosaryworkshopnz@gmail.com](mailto:rosaryworkshopnz@gmail.com) to register or for more info.



## ANOINTING OF THE SICK MASS Friday 6 August at 9am

An Anointing Mass for the sick is held on the first Friday of the month, followed by **Morning Tea**.  
*All welcome*



You are invited to Morning Tea, after 9am Mass on **Tuesday, 3 August** to celebrate **Fr Roy's Birthday**



## Special Mass for

### Consecration to St. Joseph

On Tuesday 7 August, there will be a special mass at 7pm for those who are now preparing themselves to be consecrated to St. Joseph.  
*All are welcome*



**ENCOUNTER** - Young adult event happening August 7th @5pm in the Cathedral. Bishop Michael will be giving a talk on the Transfiguration. Bring a friend.

**We remember in prayer our parishioners whose anniversaries occur during July:**

Annie Hollis, John Ashby, Evelyn O'Donogue, Athol Reid, Michael O'Brien, Ulrica Paterson, Dorothea Steele, Jim Donald, Olive Smith, James Donald, Betty Hutton, Elizabeth Coyle, Harry Mark, Teresa Hally, Douglas Grant, Kathleen Kelsey, Alan Wilson, Franz Jagusch, Nance Sshaab

## Next Week: 19th Sunday of Ordinary Time 7 & 8 Aug

1. 1Kings 19:4-8 2. Ephesians 4:30-5:2 3. Gospel John 6:41-51

**Friday 6 August: TRANSFIGURATION OF THE LORD**

**Sunday 8 August: ST MARY OF THE CROSS, VIRGIN**

| <b>ROSTERS</b>                 | <b>5.30pm</b>                                 | <b>8.00am</b>                      | <b>10.00am</b>                         |
|--------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------|------------------------------------|----------------------------------------|
| <b>Welcomer</b>                | Kathy Slater                                  | Helen Wright                       | Lietta Latu                            |
| <b>Greeters</b>                | Judith Everitt<br>Louise Morton               | Liz Pascal<br>Maria Kneebone       | Peter Wallace<br>Brigitte Oberndorfner |
| <b>Musicians</b>               | Jason Diack                                   |                                    |                                        |
| <b>PowerPoint</b>              | Maureen Keenan                                | Fiona Wilson                       | Chris Izquierdo                        |
| <b>Children's Liturgy</b>      | God feeds Elijah - Maggie Mujica & Anne-Marie |                                    |                                        |
| <b>Prayers of the Faithful</b> | Cristy Pontiveros                             |                                    |                                        |
| <b>Ministers of Communion</b>  | David Manickum<br>Valerie Yeong               | Sam Wimsett<br>Gerard Murphy       | Mary Osborne<br>Kathleen Ward          |
| <b>Readers</b>                 | Anna Mortiaux<br>Tony Verner                  | Helen Wright<br>Donny James        | Emele Palu<br>Mathew Bland             |
| <b>Cleaners</b>                |                                               |                                    |                                        |
| <b>Grace Joel</b>              | 10.30am Delreen Rayen                         | <b>Altar Linen:</b> David Manickum |                                        |
| <b>Sac Prog</b>                | <b>Offertory Procession: Burton Family</b>    |                                    |                                        |