



**LEVIN-TAITOKO**

**“A COMMUNITY RADIATING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST”**

**ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC PARISH**

56 Weraroa Road, Levin

**Website:** [www.stjosephlevin.com](http://www.stjosephlevin.com)

**Facebook:** [St Josephs Catholic Church Levin](https://www.facebook.com/StJosephsCatholicChurchLevin)

**Parish Community Line:** 022 314 4642

**Email:** Fr Simione Volavola - [pp@stjosephlevin.com](mailto:pp@stjosephlevin.com)

Office - [office@stjosephlevin.com](mailto:office@stjosephlevin.com).

**ASCENSION SUNDAY - 25th MAY 2025**

Dear brothers and sisters,

*As he blessed them he parted from them and was taken up to heaven.*

Luke 24:51.

Everything our Lord Jesus did on earth he did for us. From His conception to His birth, from his childhood to His adulthood, from His death to His ascension, our Lord Jesus was claiming for Himself every part of human life. By ascending to His Father in heaven, our Lord Jesus was opening the gates of heaven for us that we too may ascend to Them in heaven.

So what does that mean for us now? It means that wherever we are in our lives now, we are in His presence and His Father's. We are never alone. By His ascension to the Father in heaven, all of life on earth is now united to life in heaven. The infinite chasm that once separated heaven from earth is now filled with His presence. In Jesus, heaven is wedded to earth.

This is the great mystery we celebrate today. This is the new creation we are embracing today. “Behold I make everything new,” (Revelation 21:5). He who created us and the universe, He who set that chasm between heaven and earth after the original sin of our first parents, the same God has now reconciled earth to heaven.

We as believers in the Ascended One are now being created anew along with the cosmos. Through the sacraments, the One who is enthroned in heaven is already transforming us into new beings. Our human nature are being taken up already now into the likeness of the divine nature of the Son of Mary.

This is why the apostles, upon seeing our Lord Jesus ascend into heaven and out of their sight, return to Jerusalem rejoicing. They are not sad. Neither are we. We rejoice because we know that the earthly lives we live now are lived in Him who sits at the righthand of the Father. So we rejoice. All shall be well.

Father Simi.

**JUBILEE YEAR 2025** Celebrate on a pilgrimage! Join the Family Pilgrim Walk *Walk for a Cause on Saturday, 28 June, the Memorial of the Immaculate Heart of Mary.* Pilgrims will meet at 8am at Parliament, visit the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart and St. Mary, his mother, then head to St Mary of the Angels Church The National Shrine that is dedicated to Mary Assumed into Heaven for the culminating mass at 11:00am. Register: *family-pilgrim-walk,raiselysite.com*. \$15 or \$50 for a family.

**TAX RECEIPTS** from St Vincent de Paul and the Parish are both available in the foyer. Thank you for your support.

**TUESDAY SOCIAL CLUB** At 12pm in the Parish Centre for a gathering of friends for fellowship and a shared lunch.

**COMMUNITY LINE PHONE** Do you happen to have a little time on your hands? We are in desperate need of people to answer the Community Line phone. This is a service to the parish which is not too taxing – the more people we share it with, for a week at a time, the less often you are needed. If you could do this, please contact Kilian – 022-695-0056.

**MISSING! WHERE IS IT?** The key from the lock-box in the flower room has been missing for some weeks. Please leave it somewhere we can find it in the church.



## CONFIDENTIAL PRAYER INTENTIONS

- Prayer Intentions are collected twice a week
- They are given to the Prayer Chain in complete privacy.
- You can use the language with which they feel comfortable because we have people in the Prayer Chain able to translate
- The Prayer Intentions will then be



## ARE YOU HOUSEBOUND?

*Or do you know anyone who is?* You are still welcome to receive Communion in your own home. You can also enjoy a visit from the ministers, Just phone the

**PARISH COMMUNITY LINE: 022 314 4642**

**STILL URGENT NEED** for volunteers to help with the Children's Liturgy Programme. We are at risk of not being able to continue this important ministry due to a lack of leaders. Please consider donating some of your time towards this programme. No prior experience is required and training can and will be provided. If you are able to help please reach out to Tekea at via phone or text on 021 081 17024 or by email at *bwebwent@gmail.com*. Thank you!



## St VINCENT de PAUL CORNER

In today's Gospel, we read of the day Jesus left the earth in his physical body. However, He charged the disciples with the task of carrying on his work here in the world. There are many ministries in the Church today, not the least of which is helping the poor and underprivileged. The Vinnies are privileged to be charged with carrying out this work in Jesus' name. But our numbers here are limited. We could do with many more members. Have you considered joining us? You would be most welcome.

**SVdP Levin Bank Account for donations: 11 6932 0308328 11**



**John** 027 626 4792

**Kilian** 022 695 0056

**Brigette** 027 379 2802

## BABY ASSIST

As we have recently prepared several Welcome parcels for newborn babies, we would appreciate donations of blankets: both cot and bassinette sizes, and knitted garments of all sizes, to replenish our supplies. Many thanks.



**NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS TO [OFFICE@STJOSEPHLEVIN.COM](mailto:OFFICE@STJOSEPHLEVIN.COM) BY 9AM WEDNESDAY**  
**POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR JUNE 2025**

**That the world might grow in compassion** Let us pray that each one of us might find consolation in a personal relationship with Jesus, and from his Heart, learn to have compassion on the world.

**THE FEAST OF THE ASCENSION OF JESUS CHRIST**

This day is a moment of profound significance, marking both the completion of His earthly mission and the beginning of a new spiritual era. After His resurrection, Jesus spent forty days with His disciples, strengthening their faith, preparing them for the task ahead. But His time among them was not meant to last forever. He ascended into heaven, taking His rightful place in glory, completing His victory over sin and death.

His disciples, watching Him rise, stood in awe, perhaps feeling a mix of wonder and uncertainty. Yet, they were not left alone. Christ's departure was not an abandonment but a transformation of His presence. Through the Holy Spirit, He remains among His people, guiding, empowering, and working within them. No longer confined to one place and time, His presence extends to all who call upon Him.

The Ascension is the fulfillment of a promise. Jesus had told His disciples, "I go to prepare a place for you." In rising, He opened the way for all believers to follow. His victory is not just His own—it is ours, too. His reign in heaven is a pledge that we, too, are called to eternal life. But His departure also carries a responsibility.

Before ascending, Christ commissioned His followers: "Go and make disciples of all nations." His mission did not end—it was entrusted to them, to us. We are not meant to stand idle, gazing heavenward. We are called to act, to spread His message, to live in His love, and to share His grace with the world.

The Ascension reminds us that faith is not passive; it is a call to movement, to transformation. Christ has lifted us, and He remains with us. Let us not only look toward heaven but walk boldly in His love, carrying His light wherever we go, fulfilling the mission He has entrusted to us.

C Geppetto

**PRAYER AND FASTING FOR PEACE AND THE RELIEF OF SUFFERING**

Catholics, moved by confronting images of children in Gaza, invite other Catholics to take part with them in Twenty-four hours prayer and fasting for Peace and the relief of children suffering starvation, injury and death due to wars being fought by adults. You are invited to fast from food, or if health excludes food fast, fasting from another activity on Friday 30<sup>th</sup> of May and to Pray for Peace in all places of conflict. You may choose to donate to Caritas the amount you will not pay for food that day. You may also choose to continue this fast on Fridays until there is an end to the children in Gaza being denied food and safety.

We suggest praying "Lamb of God, you take away the sins of the world, have mercy on us" (as in the Mass) and or the Litany of saints we were asked to pray for the election of Pope Leo XIV.



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

Grace Hamer

*Suzanne Aubert says...*

*A kind heart is the joy of everyone who comes in contact with it.*

**Reflection:**

A friend does something nice for me, and I murmur, “You are so kind.” What is it about kindness which warms the heart of the both the giver and the recipient? I think of a cousin of mine who radiated kindness. Always she was thinking of what she could do for others. There was a glow about her which gave joy to all she met.

Genuine kindness is as precious as it is rare. There are those who perform kind deeds but their hearts are not engaged. And there are those whose every instinct moves them to be kind – all the time, to everyone. Am I of their number?



**Prayer:**

Lord, help me to experience the wonderful joy of being kind.

**W E E K L Y      S C H E D U L E**

Monday, 2nd June May	9:30am	Liturgy of the Word with Communion
Tuesday, 3rd	9:30pm	Holy Mass
	12:00pm	Tuesday Social Group
Wednesday, 4th	9:30am	Holy Mass
	10:00am	Rosary in the Chapel
Thursday, 5th	9:30am	Holy Mass
	7:30pm	Christian Meditation in the Side Chapel
Friday, 6th	11:00am	Exposition
	12:10am	Holy Mass, Reconciliation
Saturday, 7th	5:30pm	Vigil Mass
Sunday, 8th	9:30am	Holy Mass
	11:00am	Legion of Mary Kiribati Group (Chapel)

**Readings at Sunday Mass**

(1/6/2025) **1st Reading:** Acts 1: 1-11      **2nd Reading:** Ephesians 1: 17-23  
**Gospel:** Luke 24: 46-53

**Psalm Response:** *God mounts his throne to shouts of joy: a blare of trumpets for the Lord.*  
(8/6/2025) **1st Reading:** Acts 2: 1-11      **2nd Reading:** 1 Corinthians 12: 3b-7, 12-13  
**Gospel:** John 20: 19-23

## **SUPPORT A STUDENT - BE PART OF THEIR JOURNEY**

At St Joseph's School, we believe every child deserves the chance to thrive, participate fully in school life, and grow into the person God has created them to be.

To help make this a reality, we're undertaking fundraising efforts to support students in areas such as attendance dues, uniforms, camps, and other special learning opportunities. From time to time, these costs can place extra pressure on families - and your support can make all the difference.

Specifically, this year, a number of classes have the opportunity to take part in exciting trips - an overnight camp and an education-based day trip later in the year. We'd love to ensure every child is able to take part, regardless of financial circumstances.

If you feel called to support this initiative, donations can be made to the following school account:

**St Joseph's School Account Number: 12-3157-0123950-00**

(Please use "camp" as the reference for student trip support or "student support" for general sponsorship)

Every contribution, big or small, helps remove barriers and creates a more inclusive experience for all our learners.

Thank you for being a valued part of our faith-filled and caring community.

