



LEVIN-TAITOKO

“A COMMUNITY RADIATING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST”

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC PARISH

56 Weraroa Road, Levin

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FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER - 18th MAY 2025

Dear brothers and sisters,

*“I give you a new commandment: love one another.
As I have loved you, so you also should love one another,”* (John 13:34).

On this Fifth Sunday of Easter, our Lord teaches us a commandment of love that is present in the Old Testament (Leviticus 19:18), but with a very new modification: He wants us to love one another as only *He* has loved us. How differently and uniquely did Jesus love us? By His death and resurrection.

By His death and resurrection, Jesus alone has had the power to lovingly immerse Himself completely into every death, into the very darkness of our complete and utter separation from His Father and from that abyss of loneliness and isolation, He has arisen and ascended to His Father in great glory.

No one before our Lord Jesus had ever arisen from that abyss of death but Him. It was with a love so powerful that He has united to Himself the death that every human being had suffered since the fall of our first parents in the garden. Our deaths is the result of the death of perfect love for God in us.

In dying, Jesus has filled our loveless deaths with His own Love, the Holy Spirit. With that same Love He arose and reunited with the apostles and all who believe in Him. By ascending to His Father, Jesus reconciles all believers to the Father in the one Spirit that binds the Father and the Son.

Through His death and resurrection, our Lord Jesus Christ has now introduced us to the love of the Holy Trinity. In the perfect love of the Trinity, we as believers are able to then love one another just as Christ has loved us.

The new commandment of Jesus is not a commandment to love that is based on mere human efforts. The new commandment of love is new because it is intimately bound up in the internal love of the three Persons of the Trinitarian God.

Let us remain in Their love.

Father Simi

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

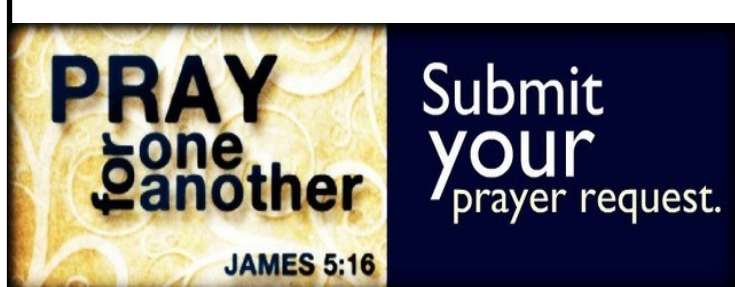
HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN



Going to the hospital? Just phone the Community Line at 022 314 4642 and let us know your details before you go. The chaplain will be there for you.



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



PRAYER CHAIN

Pray for the intentions of your fellow parishioners in your own home and in your own time. Phone the Parish Community Line: 022 314 4642.

MISSING! WHERE IS IT? The key from the lock-box in the flower room has been missing for some weeks. Please return NOW or SOONER!



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 CORNERS

As the weather shows signs of cooling down and getting ever closer to winter, it is obvious that many people will be needing the means to keep themselves warm. Electricity is expensive and so there are many families who simply cannot afford to pay for power as well as feed their children. Hence the need for our Christian help is always on the rise.

We know that Jesus identified himself with those who are struggling, and so the Vinnies strive, with your help and support. to ease their burden knowing that no act of generosity ever goes unrewarded.

SVdP Levin Bank Account for donations: 11 6932 0308328 11

John 027 626 4792

Kilian 022 695 0056

Brigette 027 379 2802

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.

BABY ASSIST



NEWSLETTER CONTRIBUTIONS TO OFFICE@STJOSEPHLEVIN.COM BY 10AM WEDNESDAY
POPE LEO'S PRAYER INTENTION FOR MAY 2025

For working conditions Let us pray that through work, each person might find fulfillment, families might be sustained in dignity, and that society might be humanised.

THINKING OUTSIDE THE BOX with Fergus Wilton. "Death without Debt." Thursday 22 May, 10-11:30am at Te Takeretanga o Kura-hau-po / Levin Library. A koha would be appreciated.

Habemus Papam! We have a pope!

As the smoke cleared and the world heard the name of our new shepherd, we rejoiced with a hope that runs deep — because we know the young Church is watching. And today, we proudly echo the response:

"We are with you, Holy Father!"



Pope Leo XIV brings to the Chair of Peter a heart formed in missionary zeal, rooted in Augustinian community, and shaped by deep pastoral experience. His first words — calling the Church to move forward “without fear, united, hand in hand with God and with each other” — resonate deeply <our mission> and the cry of this generation.

from The Life Teen Movement



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

Suzanne Aubert says...

All our proceedings must be characterised by the principle of justice. Children are never too young, the aged are never too old to have it meted out to them; the good are never so perfect as to be insensible to its denial.

Reflection:

What exactly do we mean by ‘justice’? It must be much more than punishing wrongdoers. Joseph, the ‘just man’, was unwilling to expose Mary to public shame when he found she was pregnant. Why? Because he recognised a mystery here and was fearful lest he hinder God’s plan.

In practice for me, it means giving the other person the benefit of the doubt, if there is doubt. And even if there isn’t, I must recognise the mystery of God’s designs.



Prayer:

Lord, teach me to act with justice in all my dealings with others.

<u>W E E K L Y S C H E D U L E</u>		
Monday, 19th May	9:30am	Liturgy of the Word with Communion
Tuesday, 20th	9:30pm	Holy Mass, St Bernardine of Siena
	1:00pm	Tuesday Social Group
Wednesday, 21st	9:30am	Holy Mass, St Christopher of Magallanes + Companions
	10:00am	Rosary in the Chapel
Thursday, 22nd	9:30am	Holy Mass, St Rita of Cascia
	7:00pm	Christian Meditation in the Side Chapel
Friday, 23rd	11:00am	Exposition
	12:10am	Holy Mass, Reconciliation
Saturday, 24th	5:30pm	Vigil Mass, Our Lady Help of Christians
Sunday, 25th	9:30am	Holy Mass
	11:00am	Legion of Mary Kiribati Group (Chapel)

Readings at Sunday Mass

(18/5/2025) **1st Reading:** Acts 14: 21-27 **2nd Reading:** Revelation 21: 1-5a
Gospel: John 13: 31-33a, 34-35

Psalm Response: *I will praise your name for ever, my king and my God.*

(25/5/2025) **1st Reading:** Acts 15: 1-2, 22-29 **2nd Reading:** Revelation 21: 10-14, 22-23a
Gospel: John 14: 23-29