



Auckland Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group Network

Our Vision – To see the restoration of all the Gifts of the Holy Spirit as a normal part of Catholic Church life, and lead people into a personal relationship with Jesus Christ as Lord and Savior and develop the fullness of the Holy Spirit in the lives of all believers.

Mission Statement – ACCPGN seeks to serve the Catholic Church by being one of the agents and instruments of the Holy Spirit working for the ongoing renewal and growth of the Church today.

Chairpersons message for ACCPGN newsletter Jan-Feb 2023

Don't be drunk with wine, because that will ruin your life. Instead, be filled with the Holy Spirit, singing psalms and hymns and spiritual songs among yourselves, and making music to the Lord in your hearts. And give thanks for everything to God the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ" [Ephesians 5:18-20](#)

In one of the Alpha training videos Nicky Gumble says, "When Paul said 'be filled with the Holy Spirit' he used the present continuous tense, so he means go on being filled with the Holy Spirit over and over again.

We need to surrender our lives to God and invite Jesus to be Lord of our life every day, and then ask him to fill us afresh with his Holy Spirit. The Holy Spirit's activity can be quenched when we sin. We need to continually repent and recommit ourselves to Jesus.

On September 9th we had our formation day, Unlock the Power of the Holy Spirit. Susilo gave us great teaching on the Holy Spirit and the Charisms and shared from his own experiences.

Here are a few of the points he made.

- **Pray every morning - 'Lord fill me with your Spirit.'**
- **Ask the Holy Spirit each morning to guide you through the day**
- **Ask God to give you a heart for the lost, the lonely etc**
- **Stay close to Jesus, daily quiet time, adoration, eucharist and reconciliation.**
- **Make the decision to activate your gifts and then step out in faith.**
- **Keep a journal, write down words, visions etc and record when they are confirmed.**

If you want more gifts from the Holy Spirit ask for them. One participant prayed for the gift of visions. The next Sunday during the Eucharist she got a vision.

Here is a prayer for growth in the charisms.:

Holy Spirit, You spread your abundant graces on us. Thank you for the marvelous things you are doing in the Church. Formerly you showed great signs and wonders through Apostles. You continue to accomplish these things in the Church today. In me too, you put charisms to send me to build the community. Through me, you want to convert many persons. You want to use me to liberate captives, heal the sick. I accept to be a tool for you for the salvation of all persons. Give me charisms and make me grow in exercising them. I welcome them and I thank you for calling me to be a servant in your Church. May your name be glorified forever and ever.

On 17-19 November national leaders of NZ Charismatic groups will be meeting in Hamilton. In her letter to leaders Helen said 'Everyday we need to be renewed in the Holy Spirit. As we all gather together as leaders of the streams of CCR, I am expecting a new



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Pentecost to refuel, reignite and to be empowered afresh to go and make disciples. As we gather together, we will call upon the Holy Spirit and He is faithful. He will come. He will empower us for the “mission” to share baptism in the Holy Spirit with the whole Church. Please keep all leaders of charismatic groups in prayer.

We look forward to seeing some of you at our Christmas gathering. Unfortunately, we had to limit registrations because of space. If you are coming, please dress in the spirit of Christmas.

I would like to thank the service group members, Anil, Anne, and Engelbert for all their time and help with activities this year.

It’s still a way off, but we wish you and your families all blessings for Advent and the Christmas season. Please keep one another in your prayers.

Deidre.



News from the prayer groups

Hope Intercessors from St John Vianney Parish, Hillsborough have worked with their parish priest, Fr Sam, to **present a 12 week video series, the Bible and the Blessed Virgin Mary.**

Jesus the Good Shepherd prayer group, Takapuna - Praise and Worship, and Teachings every Wednesday at 7.30pm.

Orewa are showing a 6 week video series on Prayer. It’s called Strength to Strength. It is produced by café ministries (UK). It has excellent, understandable content.

The Living Water East Coast Bays At present members are helping lead a 9 week Alpha program at St Francis Church, Torbay.

Jesus My Light PG Blockhouse Bay is doing a program where the whole group is taking selected gifts of the Holy Spirit in teams of two and after prayer, study, and prep are presenting it to the whole group in turns. This gets the members to participate actively and trains them for sharing / teaching which is expected to help in leading in P & W.

Temple of The Holy Spirit, Manurewa – continues to have their Monday Praise and Worship meetings at the church hall at 7.00pm or via zoom if hall is occupied.

Calendar these events

25 th Nov	6-9pm Christmas dinner. Registration has closed. If you have registered and can’t make it, please email aucklandccr@gmail.com
1-3 rd Dec	Growth Camp. Organized by JGSPG. All welcome.
10 th Feb 2024	Prayer Group Leaders Retreat Day at Kohimarama.
10 th Mar 2024	Charismatic Mass followed by prayer ministry. Organized by Currents of Grace. Venue: Christ the King, Mt Roskill Time: TBC (approx. 3.00-6.30pm)



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Family Growth Camp: "Hearts on Fire". A time for conversion and growth.

JESUS THE GOOD SHEPHERD PRAYER GROUP invites you for a family growth camp, All ages welcome. Teachings, Eucharist, Music, Food, Games, Christmas Carols, Bonfire.

International Speakers - Ralph Martin and Joe Heschmeyer, **live on Zoom**, from the US. Mass with Fr Nathaniel Brazil.

When: Friday 1st Dec 5pm to Sunday 3rd Dec 3pm.

Where: Sunshine Ranch, 223 Creightons Rd, Clevedon

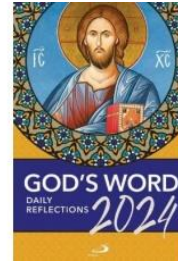
Cost (including meals and accommodation): adults \$100; children 5 to 10yrs \$50; and under 5s free.

Register by 20 Nov at bit.ly/jtgsonfire

Email- CONTACT@JESUSTHEGOODSHEPHERD.CO.NZ

Prayer ministry opportunity online

<https://encounterministries.us/inner-healing-freedom-2/> Go to this link for a one off zoom prayer session for inner healing. Check it out.



God's Word - Daily Reflections 2024: This book has the readings for each day with a short reflection. Sheila has books available at St Josephs Centre gift shop, Takapuna, for \$27.99.



Testimonies: It is so faith building to hear "God stories"

2 messages from Helen

A short time ago, I caught up with a lady I have met over the years. We were talking of answered prayer and the faithfulness of God. She said for a few years she saw amazing answers to prayer/ miracles in her life then she realized they seemed to have stopped. She said she asked the Lord why and He said, "Because you stopped telling the stories!"

Recently we had a Saturday gathering in Hamilton titled "But who do you say I am?" When we planned it, we had no idea that was the Sunday Scripture! God goes before us'.

A Conversion Story: I recently attended a talk at Glenfield parish. The speaker, a Catholic convert, has written a book to tell his story because his friend committed suicide and he wants people to know that despite their past and present circumstances they can have hope in a better future.

Nathan experienced some difficulties growing up and got into alcohol and drugs. A builder he met at work invited him to his home for a



meal and he saw how family life could be. The builder befriended him, without any judgement, and included him in his family's life. The young children asked when he was coming to mass with them. He began attending regularly, although it took some years before he was baptised during Covid. <https://nathantrinham.com/>

We are all called to be like that builder.



Possible teachings for you, your prayer groups or parishes.

Following God's Will by Fr Gareth Leyshon, <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=OGTieGd40J0&list=PLT5NouSRf5aULt9LSS-gyJCjK00HK2FPC&index=3> 44 min talk and 13 mins of questions. This talk was given at the October Adore Day of Renewal This talk is very good if you are trying to make a major decision or if you just want to know more about using the Ignation way of discernment.

Evangelization: Telling the Story of God's Love by Fr Mike Schmidt <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=mib825ROL7M> 30 min talk and 30 min answering people's questions. Acts 1:8 'You will be my witnesses.' The Heart of evangelisation is telling stories, what Jesus has done when on earth, and what he has done **in my life**.

A biblical walk through the mass. <https://ascensionpress.com/collections/a-biblical-walk-through-the-mass> Ajit and Patti recommend these videos which they have used in St John Vianney parish. Contact them if you want more information. adkpinto@gmail.com

An Ecumenical Opportunity
The Auckland Prayer Festival is a celebration of prayer. Just as a Film Festival would 'feature' all the films you could see at different theatres, the Prayer Festival 'features' all kinds of prayer you can participate in, at different churches, meetings, or initiatives. You can download the festival

guide here. <https://www.aucklandprayerfestival.nz/festival-guide> Or the calendar here, hover over a date to see whats on. <https://www.aucklandprayerfestival.nz/calendar>

If you would like to open your normal, regular, church prayer meeting to all during this Festival season Contact Dale, the Festival coordinator:
dale@aucklandchurchnetwork.nz

Updates from Helen Smithson, CharisNZ chairperson

Here are 3 changes which came into effect at the General Assembly held recently in Rome.
5 continents instead of 4
Oceania has been separated from Asia however as we are only Australia and New Zealand at present. We will continue to work with Asia, but we all need to be aware of working with Pacific counties and really pray about this.

Age of youth defined 35 years and under

Term of service extended from 3 years to 4 years.

Some of the changes are to bring the CHARIS Statutes into line with the Catholic Church which we are now in the heart of and so governed by Canon Law.

A quote from Pope Francis to reflect on. This was shared by Helen in her chairperson's report.

Along with his work in creation, we see the Holy Spirit at work in the Church, beginning with the day of Pentecost. We notice, however, that the Spirit does not inaugurate the Church by providing the community with rules and regulations, but by descending upon each of the apostles: every one of them receives graces and different charisms. Such an abundance of differing gifts could generate confusion, but, as in creation, the Holy Spirit loves to create harmony out of diversity. The



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harmony of the Spirit is not a mandatory, uniform order; in the Church, there is indeed an order, but it is “structured in accordance with the diversity of the Spirit’s gifts”. At Pentecost, the Holy Spirit descends in tongues of fire: he bestows upon each person the ability to speak other languages (cf. Acts 2:4) and to understand in his or her own language what is spoken by others (cf. Acts 2:6.11). In a word, the Spirit does not create a single language, one that is the same for all. He does not eliminate differences or cultures but harmonizes everything without reducing them to bland uniformity. And this must make us stop and reflect at this current time, when the temptation of “back-stepping” seeks to homogenize everything into merely apparent disciplines lacking any substance. Let us think about this: the Spirit does not begin with a clearly outlined programme, as we would, who so often become caught up in our plans and projects. No, he begins by bestowing gratuitous and superabundant gifts. Indeed, on that day of Pentecost, as the Scripture emphasizes, “all were filled with the Holy Spirit” (Acts 2:4). All were filled: that is how the life of the Church began, not from a precise and detailed plan, but from the shared experience of God’s love. That is how the Spirit creates harmony; he invites us to experience amazement at his love and at his gifts present to others. As Saint Paul tells us:

“There are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit... For in the one Spirit, we were all baptized into one body” (1 Cor 12:4.13). To see each of our brothers and sisters in the faith as part of the same body of which I am a member: this is the harmonious approach of the Spirit, this is the path that he points out to us!

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