

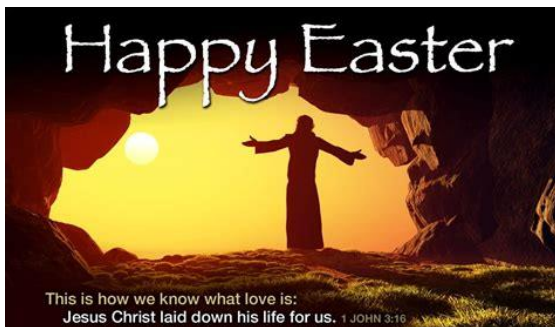


Auckland Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group Network

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 deeper 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 March 2024



“For God so loved the world, that he gave his only Son, that whoever believes in him should not perish but have eternal life”. [John 3:16](#)

We thank God for the gift of his Son Jesus. We thank Jesus for the gift of his life for our Salvation. And we praise God for the Resurrection.

I hope you have all been able to grow closer to Jesus this Lent. In *Evangelii Gaudium*, Pope Francis has emphasized the centrality of the encounter with Jesus: *“I invite all Christians, everywhere, at this very moment, to a renewed personal encounter with Jesus Christ, or at least an openness to letting him encounter them; I ask all of you to do this unflinchingly each day.”*

On Feb 10th 28 of us attended a retreat for service group, prayer group leaders and core team members. We encouraged all groups to run a life in the Spirit Seminar this year and I have included more about Life in the Spirit Seminars in this newsletter.

Anil Baptist recently stepped down from service group, and we were able to thank him for his service, on your behalf, during the retreat. Anil was chairperson for Auckland CCR for 9 years and stayed on after this as advisor and supporter for ACCPGN. I would like to take this opportunity to thank Anil for all he has done for Charismatic Renewal in Auckland and NZ, as he also spent some time as administrator for the National Service team. I would also like to thank Jennifer, Anil’s wife, for the support she gave Anil, and for the help she gave the service group, particularly with our recent Christmas parties.

It was good to see many of you at the Charismatic Mass on March 10th where over 20 of us served as prayer ministers. We hope to see you again at Pentecost on 19th May. Please calendar this date, more information later.

We are very pleased to say that we have 3 new people joining the service group in April. Elsa from St Bens, Nigel from St Marks and Noel from St Dominics prayer groups. Included today is a testimony on prayer from Noel, Responding to God’s Call.

Easter greetings to you all. Please keep us all in prayer as we pray for you. Deidre



Calendar these events	
27 April	<p>CALL OF DUTY: A Life in the Spirit Seminar for Young Adults.</p> <p>When: 27th April *8.30am – 4.30pm</p> <p>Where: St Joseph Church Hall Takapuna</p> <p>Register for Free: bit.ly/-calloffuty</p>
11-12 May	<p>A weekend Life in the Spirit Seminar: organised by Lamb of God. At Christ the King Hall, Owairaka .</p> <p>Day 1 Saturday 9:45am - 4:00pm, Day 2 Sunday 11:00am - 4:00 pm</p>
12-14 April	<p>Getset. The Theme this year is “By the Stream” and we will explore what it means to be refreshed and renewed by God’s Word. See Flyer attached. Register here: http://tinyurl.com/GetSet2024</p>



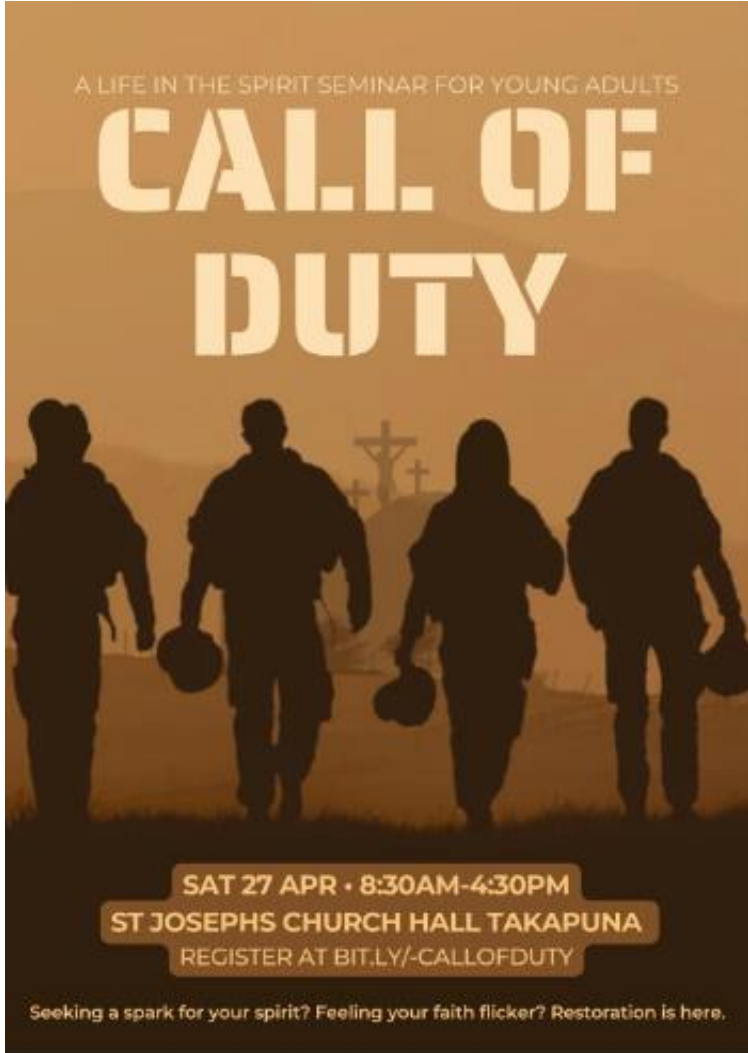
Pope Francis is very keen to see charismatic groups run Life in the Spirit Seminars.

Pope Francis said, One goal that you are proposing, and which I myself have encouraged, is **to expand the “Life in the Spirit Seminars” in all places and for everyone.** These are truly kerygmatic moments, opportunities for the “initial proclamation” of the Gospel. They make it possible for people to encounter the living Jesus, in his word and his Spirit, and at the same time to experience his Church as a welcoming environment, a place of grace, reconciliation and rebirth. In reality even small parish groups and local leaders can organize them and present them to people in their area.

From <https://www.charis.international/en/speech-by-pope-francis-to-participants-in-the-called-transformed-and-sent-event/>

. Here are some links for running a LISS.

1. You can buy or download a 6 session DVD series called The Gift or borrow it from me. See <https://www.thegiftofthespirit.org/>
2. You can use this link to download 7 Life in the Spirit talks As by a New Pentecost. with Ralph Martin and others. Free on you





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tube <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=XY1IfEJoKww&list=PLLK1vk61R6yie9galr0JLpZ6V1ZyMauu&index=1>

3. Use this link for the 7 talks of the Life in the Spirit seminar followed by 3 talks on the charisms of the Holy Spirit and a talk on the fruits of the Holy Spirit. <https://www.altonrenewal.com/2021>

4. If you want to do run your own LISS. I can send you more information about various formats and planning aids

Coming up in Australia: Damian Stayne in NSW. Damian is a lay Catholic evangelist from UK with a ministry of prophecy, physical healing and miracles. **Healing service Saturday May 4th 2pm - 5pm free. Share with friends in Australia.**

Venue: Servants of Jesus Centre, 15 Park Road, Seven Hills NSW 2147

Also Deeper into the Prophetic: **26th April- 27th April 9am – 9pm \$120 Au and Healing Signs and Wonders: Saturday May 4th. 8am - 1pm 2 sessions \$60Au. More info at <https://servantsofjesus.org/events/>**

Note: Barbara and Brian Hines will attend May 4th, contact them if you are going.

Responding to God's call – Noel Tauro

The formative years in my faith journey have been spent searching for answers to various questions, primarily on how to pray. If prayer, as learned in childhood, meant talking to God, I struggled to understand what it meant. I had tried, and there were times I asked myself, "Who's here? Who am I talking to? Does it really matter?"

Having been blessed with the privilege of being surrounded by holy men and women of God from my early years, I received spiritual direction on how I could build my prayer life. It focussed on three major areas: daily scripture reading, daily mass, and reconciliation once every month. As Jeremiah 29:13 says, "You will

seek me and find me when you seek me with all your heart." As I began to concentrate on these areas, prayer started making sense to me.

I began meditating daily on God's word and I encountered revelations in scripture through the Holy Spirit in new and profound ways. Similarly, at mass, God was meeting me where I was and restoring my brokenness to bring healing in my life. The more I practiced the simple spiritual direction given to me, my understanding of God's love kept deepening and time spent with him became intimate. It was no longer a struggle to connect with God and having tasted and experienced the love of God, there was no going back.

As Christians, although each of us have a unique calling over our lives, we are all called to a life of prayer. Saint Augustine said, "Our hearts are restless until they rest in God alone." God is waiting for us. He is a loving father and a faithful friend.

I have been journeying with Jesus for a few years now, and despite the challenges and disappointments that I've encountered in different areas of my life, prayer has become oxygen for my soul. I cannot imagine life without Jesus and desire to tell everyone about Him. For those who believe in a higher power, energy, or external force holding everything together, I want to stand in the gap and help them know the love of Jesus; affirming that it's Jesus they seek. My life is a testament that a relationship with God and understanding His love for us can conquer life's greatest battles. Through ministry and sharing my testimony with others, I have witnessed the same grace that changed my life begin to transform others who have been receptive to His call.

Our ever-loving God is true to His word; He does not change – Hebrews 13:8 *Jesus Christ is the same yesterday, today and forever.* All that is required of us is to be open to His calling and allow Him to be God in all areas of our lives.

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