



WOMEN-WOMEN: MARIAN MOTHERS

March 2019 News and Discussion Guide

Dear Friends,

In Aotearoa New Zealand it seems most people know someone impacted in some way by the drought or the fires. By the time you receive this we are hoping and praying that the fires in Nelson are under control and the extreme temperatures will have eased a bit. It is always so inspiring though, to see communities rallying together and supporting the most vulnerable in times of crisis and we are so blessed to have that instinct for compassion and empathy so deep in our Kiwi makeup.

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Thank you to Maria Kennedy for the reflection this month on St Joseph. We are very grateful to her for her beautiful insights and it's always good to hear new voices.. Maria is in the Johnsonville Marian Mothers Group. If any of you have an idea or experience you are willing to share please contact Bev. Making a reflection is easier than you might think.

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Ash Wednesday Lent and Easter are quite late this year. Ash Wednesday is on 6th March. The **Caritas Lenten Focus** this year is; **“Living Our Lives with Love”**. (*Te Nohi Tahi Me Te Aroha*) It is a quote from Pope Francis in Gaudete et Exultate (Rejoice and Exult p.14, 2018). The witness of St Joseph gives a great example of this.

Consider participating in the Lenten Program in your parish.

We are all called to be holy by living our lives with love and by bearing witness in everything we do, wherever we find ourselves. Pope Francis

Pope Francis Prayer Intentions: March

Rights of Christian Communities

That Christian communities, especially those who are persecuted, feel that they are close to Christ and have their rights respected..



Praying for Mothers & Children through Our Lady of Good Hope.

Please check that your Parish noticeboard has an up to date poster about dedicating mother and child to Our Lady of Good Hope.

If not please let us know. Prayer requests can be made at www.maristlaitynz.org — ‘Mother of Good Hope’ tab.

We encourage you to offer this prayer service to people in your family, parish, school and community. It is very rare that someone refuses prayer and it is a gentle way to draw them toward the love of God. It is particularly important for those outside church circles. Arohanui with our ongoing prayer for you and all you hold in your heart,

Bev and Margaret



Office Updates Margaret is away from the office **4th– 13th March, then 25th March to 10th April**. This means that Bev will be holding the fort and we ask for your patience if there are any delays or glitches. We are doing our best to be prepared and keep things running smoothly for you. We wish Margaret well as she makes the most of time with her family. Please keep her in prayer and Bev also who is still a bit compromised with a splint on her right hand from a tendon injury which is proving slow to heal.

