

ACCR newsletter, SOT November 2014

Monthly Message from Anil Baptist, Auckland CCR Chairperson.

...not neglecting to meet together, as is the habit of some, but encouraging one another.

We certainly live in a time of confusion and fear. I heard on the radio a few days ago that 1500 Anglican clergy who were surveyed said they did not believe in a God. Another report says that in Britain more men are joining ISIS rather than the British army. And the Synod of Bishops held in Rome recently showed a deep divide in the church on the issue of homosexuality. This leads to confusion and fear. Questions come up in our minds, 'Does God really exist?' 'Does he care?' Those of us who have been around a long time may have seen God disappearing from the landscape and of late rather quickly.

All this is because of a lack of trust in God and in one another. In order to experience God we must have faith. Faith comes from the Latin word 'Fidei' which means to trust. **Hebrews 11:1 tells us that "Faith is the assurance of things hoped for, the conviction of things not seen."** Faith is the journey from the invisible to the visible. From the seed to the fruit. The essence of this journey is prayer. Hence we have prayer groups. The writer in Hebrews encourages all of us not to neglect meeting together and encouraging one another, and all the more as you see the day drawing near. One of my observations whilst visiting the prayer groups is the faithfulness of the people who have gathered every week, in spite of a lack of support from the parish priest and even the service group. May God continue to bless all of you abundantly.

On November 15th we have our annual meeting with all the prayer group leaders or their representatives. We hope to see you all there so that we can plan the next year together.

God Bless,
Anil

November 21 - Nov 23rd: Growth Retreat

You, your family and your friends are invited to join Jesus the Good Shepherd Prayer Group from Milford at their Growth Retreat at **Marsden Christian Camp, Friday evening until Sunday afternoon.**

Fr McGill will be our speaker/resident priest.

Cost approx \$125 for accommodation and food.

For more information or to register contact kevin.a340@hotmail.com 021 929944 or engelbert.dsouza@yahoo.com 09 4102306

Mark your calendars

Saturday November 15th: Planning meeting for ACCR 2015.

The Service Group of ACCR and 2-3 reps from each prayer group.

Venue: the hall below St Josephs Church, Taharoto Rd, Takapuna.

Mass: 9am in the church if you wish to attend.

Morning tea: 9.30 til 10am.

Meeting: 10am - 12pm

November 20th Healing prayer: available after the 7.30pm mass at St Thomas More Catholic Church, Glenfield

Healing Family Wounds

Ramiz Iskander from the St Thomas More Healing Ministry Team gave a presentation on this topic at a parish meeting and it was well received. He is happy to give the talk to other groups or parishes. The presentation and final prayer takes just over an hour and 15 mins but this includes 2 mins for reflection after each section and a few minutes for relevant hymns. For more information contact ramiz.iskander@xtra.co.nz

Prayer request

This prayer request was received on 23rd Oct, from a member of CCR in Scotland,

Amy, who lives in Hobsonville, is very ill. She is 30 years old, is 25 weeks pregnant, went into hospital with pains last Thursday and at the weekend was diagnosed with terminal bowel and liver cancer. Please would your group pray for the Lord in His great love to give the family strength and courage to cope with the situation and to send His Healing Power over Amy and her baby - a little boy.

PS Update on 30th October

Amy started her first round of chemotherapy at 11am your time Wednesday 29th. October which will go on for three days and another scan will be done next week. The doctors had said they were going to induce birth before chemo but apparently changed their minds so we're praying that baby, now 26 weeks, won't be affected by the medication. She's also been in a lot of pain but has been given pain management to help. Unfortunately she has been very sick with some of that. We just have to keep bringing her before the Lord and trusting in Him. It's really amazing how the Lord has brought people together in prayer for her in many places over the world and we just thank Him for that. His Goodness really knows no bounds.

Please thank everyone from me and from Amy's family.

God bless.

Sincerely,

Linda Fairley