

## ACCR newsletter. October 2014

### Monthly Message from Anil Baptist, Auckland CCR Chairperson.

There have been many changes in the ACCR over the last couple of months. Regretfully we had to let go of our long serving administrator Vanessa Ornelas after the Centre was taken over by the diocese. We thank Vanessa for her loving service and for being the face of Renewal in Auckland for so many years. We wish her well in her future endeavours.

The service group has begun visiting prayer groups since last month and in the month of October we hope to visit quite a few. This will help us gather the leaders and core group members for our annual meeting on November the 15<sup>th</sup>.

I would once again invite you to use our website [www.catholiccharismatic.org.nz](http://www.catholiccharismatic.org.nz). You can see past copies of our newsletter, SOT, and I recommend that you read Josie Olsen's latest article on the importance of prayer. <http://www.catholiccharismatic.org.nz/the-earth-to-become-a-house-of-prayer/>. Our intention is to make the website a gateway to the ACCR so your participation and interaction is important. All the latest events will be put up there.

On the 26<sup>th</sup> of September we had a beautiful night vigil organised by the Hope intercessors. They have been doing this for 5 years now and although numbers were down there were up to 100 people at the start and 25 still there for the 4am mass. It was good to see many new faces and also an increased number of men. Praise God! On behalf of the Service group I would like to thank the Hope intercessors for the work they do in organising the vigil.

Please continue to keep the service group in your prayers as we tide over this time. If you need to contact us please do so via our email, [aucklandccr@gmail.com](mailto:aucklandccr@gmail.com)

God Bless, Anil

### Mark your calendars

**October 10th 7.30pm: Friday Gathering Night at St Joseph's Centre** All are invited to join the ACCR Service Group for praise and Worship, Teaching, Sharing, Prayer Ministry followed by Fellowship and a cuppa

**October 16th Healing prayer:** available after the 7.30pm mass at St Thomas More Catholic Church, Glenfield

**November 15th Saturday 10am - noon: Planning Meeting for ACCR 2015.** (starting with a cuppa at 9.30) Venue tba.  
We would like to see 2 representatives from each prayer group at this important meeting.

### Prayerwatch

Can you commit to praying for one hour a week for the Renewal. If would like to be part of this contact Mike Lobo on 274-5926 or 093900048 toll free or 0212809285 or [mlobo@titan.co.nz](mailto:mlobo@titan.co.nz).

### Intercessory prayer requests from Josephine Olsen (NZCCR Intercession Coordinator)

The Lord has been sharing 2 things.

1. To pray for the conversion of Iraq - To offer up the blood of the martyrs with Christ for Iraq's conversion
2. The Lord through the cross pulled down division between the Pagans and the Jews.

Jesus has conquered division by His blood, therefore we must claim that truth for the Church and for all of humanity through intercession. All division is a lie of the enemy and we must pray the truth. We must pray in unity.

**Dove Catholic Fellowship for Women West Auckland: *Jesus is the Good Shepherd* with Lynne Beneka** at St Michael and all Angels Anglican Church - 425 Great North Road, Henderson on Tuesday 7th October at 7:30pm. Prayer Ministry and Fellowship to follow meeting. For more information please call: Jane 832 7240.

## Called into the Healing Ministry

The article below has been written by Maysoon [Rassam](#).

Maysoon is an active member of St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield and a member of the St Thomas More Healing Ministry Team.

At age 67 she left her job to do a 3 year degree in Counselling.

[Here is her story.](#)

I am Arabic in ethnicity, Christian in faith, Iraqi by birth, Western by education.

I was born into a Catholic family in Nineveh, the very city the prophet Jonah did not want to go to! While in Iraq, I was working at the Medical School as a researcher and a lecturer in biochemistry until my husband Jalal and I immigrated to NZ, in 1996, to join our daughter and family and to find a safe haven to live in.

In Auckland I worked as a biochemist at research centers, the last of which was Plant and Food research.

The change of heart from science to counselling followed extensive surgery (gastrectomy) after being diagnosed with stomach cancer in March 2000. It was then that I reflected on my life and felt that the Lord had given me another chance to live a more fulfilled life. I am always reminded of the Bible verse: "All things work for good for those who love the Lord and are called according to his purpose" (Rom 8:28).

Feeling that my faith was more head than heart knowledge, I started searching for spiritual nourishment and this led me to the ALPHA course. The Holy Spirit weekend of the course changed my heart completely from seeking science to seeking spiritual nourishment and reaching out to those who are hurting.

I became involved in many church activities including, fundraising, evangelization, spiritual formation, hospital chaplaincy and healing prayer ministry. It was through this ministry that I was drawn to inner healing.

[This led me](#), at the age of 67, to close a long chapter of my life which defined me as a lecturer and a scientist with a Ph.D. degree in Biochemistry, to open a new chapter in my life where the first page started with undergraduate study of theology, philosophy and psychology, at Laidlaw College, as part of the qualification requirements towards the Bachelor's degree in Counselling.

In this new chapter of my life, my passion is to reach out to wounded souls. I see professional counselling as a ministry of love and compassion. I believe that love alleviates suffering, and compassion is the medicine for rejection and that the worst type of suffering is that which is accompanied by social isolation.

As a professional counsellor and a provisional member of NZ Christian Counsellors Association, I am now working in my private practice which I have named "**Oasis of Peace Counselling**". The name was a dream that came true. It is what my heart was yearning for years before I thought of studying counselling.

I consider it a privilege to journey with you and support you through a challenging time in your life.

In the counselling session, I endeavor to offer you a safe space of trust and acceptance with culturally and religiously sensitive counselling because I respect the otherness of others and the dignity of the human person.

I work on a sliding scale according to financial means. Special rates are given to students and community service card holders.

I hold the view that therapy is about rekindling passion and compassion towards a more fulfilled and purpose driven life.

