



St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception

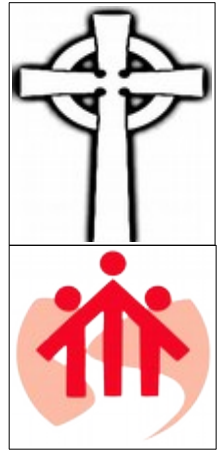
Avondale Parish Bulletin – 26th July 2020

Vision / Tirohanga

Growing in Faith Together / Oranga i roto i te Whakapono

Goal / Whainga

To Grow in Awareness as One Parish Family / Kokiritia te Oranga Kotahitanga o te Whanau Whakapono



Seventeenth Week Ordinary Time

Readings: Kings: 3:5.7-12; Psalm: 118; Romans 8:28-30; Matthew 13:44-52

Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter

The twin parables of today's gospel – the treasure in the field and the pearl of great value – reveal a paradoxical truth about the kingdom of Heaven. Throughout the gospels, Jesus presents the kingdom as 'now but not yet'; as 'present but future'. This paradox is captured in these twin parables. In both cases, the kingdom is likened to something of great value that is discovered but cannot be immediately grasped. In both parables, the finder must go away and sell everything so that they can eventually come to possess the treasure they have discovered.

By comparing this experience with the kingdom of Heaven, Jesus suggests that most of us can only ever catch glimpses of what it means to live in the kingdom. For most of us, only in the future reality of heaven will we ever fully come to understand the kingdom. However, those glimpses that we catch – those moments of inspiration and connection with God and with one another – are like the treasures of the parables. They are enough to inspire us to do what it takes to make sure that we will one day enter into that kingdom reality.

The third parable of this gospel passage reveals yet another truth about the kingdom. The dragnet thrown into the sea is like the message of Jesus – it is flung far and wide and does not discriminate about where it falls or on whom it falls. This parable rounds out the chapter that began with the parable of the sower and the image of casting the net is a neat parallel to the indiscriminate casting of seed. It is not up to the one who casts the net, the seed or the Word. Rather it is up to each individual to determine how they will respond to receiving the Word.

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School Principal:	Mrs. Kathryn Hira	Weekends:	CLOSED
Email:	principal@stmarysavondale.school.nz	Mondays:	CLOSED
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Account Number for pledge giving: 02-0100-0120958-04

Account Number for mass offering: 02-0100-0120958-05

Account Number for SMACC Building Fund: 02-0108-0339938-04

St Mary of the Immaculate Conception Parish, 2134 Great North Rd, Avondale, Auckland 0600

Grandparents Thanksgiving Mass on Monday 27 July at 9am. All St.Mary's students will be attending. Everyone welcome to join. Light refreshments to follow at the church foyer.**Reconciliation** on Wednesday **29 July** from 7pm to 8 pm. Everyone welcome.

The first Alpha Gathering was a fantastic success. The Parish is encouraging more parishioners to join the programme. Please contact Ronald Lopez at 0211890186 or for more info visit www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/the-alpha-program

Parishioners celebrating their wedding anniversaries and jubilees during 2020, a special Mass will be offered on **Sunday 9 August at 8:30am.** Please inform the office so we can look forward to the occasion.

Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary, Patronal Feast for New Zealand on **15 August.** Vigil Mass Friday 14 August 7pm and Saturday 15 August at 9am. The Saturday Vigil Mass is not intended to replace the Holiday of Obligation of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Matthew 13:44-52

Parables of the Kingdom

How do I seek Jesus?
What do I do to grow closer to Jesus?



Birthday Celebrations of our Blessed Mother Mary. Novena, Rosary and Holy Massin will be celebrated in Honour of our Blessed Mother of Good Health from **29th August to 8th September 2020 at 6.30pm.** We are invited to come and join the pilgrimage. Bishop Patrick Dunn and Priests from different Parishes will celebrate Holy Mass each evening. Let us humbly pray to our Blessed Mother to intercede on our behalf to her Son Jesus and obtain many favours and graces for you. For more information Ph Cynthia on 813 2101 or Helen 834 7798.

The Statue of Our Lady of the Immaculate Conception is available for the annual visit to each of our Parishioners houses. The statue can be kept for a minimum of 1 day and a maximum of 7 days. Please enter your details in the foyer on the sheet provided if you wish to take the statue for the period of August 2020.

Safeguarding

Pope Francis has made it clear he expects the Church, on every level, to implement whatever steps are necessary to ensure the protection of minors and vulnerable adults and to respond to their needs with fairness and mercy. The aim of the New Zealand Diocese's is to provide a consistent vision to create and foster a secure physical, emotional and spiritual culture in our faith communities, enabling everyone to enjoy the fullness of life in Jesus Christ. Creating safe environments involves active participation and responsibility taken by all parishes. It requires collaboration, vigilance and a proactive approach through policies, procedures and practices. St.Mary's Parish, Fr.Shane, Fr.James, committee members and volunteers take safeguarding measures very seriously.

Together Shine in the Mission of Christ
is the theme for this 3rd Year (2020) of Preparations
for the Parish Centennial (2021)

Notice from the Diocese and Beyond

Joshua Catholic Mens Fellowship July meeting date Wed 29 at 7.30pm at St Josephs Centre, Takapuna. Speaker: Michael WeckeTopic: Angels . All men are invited.

Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass on Friday 7th Aug 7:00pm at St Mary's Church, 20 Kitenui Ave, Mt Albert. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Mercy Sung, Benediction, Mass, followed by veneration of St Faustina's relic. All Welcome

Mercy Spirituality Centre is closing permanently at the end of this month (31 July 2020). As of the 31st of July - no programs will be offered. Thank you for your support.

Against trafficking in human persons A crime against humanity

"Trafficking," Pope Francis has said, is "an unjustifiable violation of the victims' freedom and dignity, which are integral dimensions of the human person willed and created by God. This is why it must be considered, without a doubt, a crime against humanity."



People trafficking and modern day slavery is a world-wide problem with very few countries immune. The United Nations has set aside **30 July** annually to raise awareness and increase prevention of this horrendous practice. 

PROLIFE FACTS There are serious fishhooks in the End of Life Choice Act and with the Referendum coming up on Election Day (19th September), New Zealanders need to be aware of them when voting Yes or No. Canadian lawyer Alex Schadenburg is the Executive Director of the Euthanasia Prevention Coalition. He ran his lawyer's eye over the Act and claims that some of the key wording is seriously misleading. He says for example: "The actual purpose of the Act is to give medical and nursing practitioners, the right in law to cause the death, or to provide the means for a person to cause their own death – if deemed eligible." Schadenburg points out that the conditions that enable death by lethal injection, are almost completely subjective and nearly impossible to regulate. The Act forbids the health practitioner suggesting "assisted dying", but these conversations are usually in private and impossible to monitor. Self-reporting on the processes followed, enable potential cover ups and open the door to abuse of the law. **The Act gives decision making power to the medical or nurse practitioner** – not the vulnerable patient.

Six Day Residential Silent Individually Guided Retreat. In the dynamic of the Spiritual Exercises of St Ignatius of Loyola 25 October 10AM - 30 October 4PM ST Francis Retreat Centre, 50 Hillsborough Road, Auckland \$770. Apply to chair@ignatianspirituality.nz

happy birthday
lots of hugs for you!

Happy Birthday to our Senior Parishioners in the month of August

2 Margaret Goodwin 8 Meke Auvaa

11 Martha Barnes 30 Victoria Jessop 31 Elizabeth Benson

St. Mary's Avondale Community Centre **SMACC**

For all those giving for SMACC thank you for your continued support.



If not yet giving, would you consider making a regular payment towards SMACC Fund?

Account Number for SMACC Building Fund: 02-0108-03339938-04

'Celebrating Communities'

Dates for your Diary

Mon, 27 July	Grandparents Thanksgiving Mass Church 9am
Mon, 27 July	Alpha Gathering, Hall 7pm
Tue, 28 July	SMACC Committee Meeting, Presbytery 7pm
Wed, 29 July	Parish Reconciliation, Church 7pm-8pm
Fri, 31 July	Avondale Youth Gathering, Hall 5pm
Sat, 01 Aug	Church Flower Arrangement Roster Tongan Community
Sat, 01 Aug	Church Cleaning Roster Mother of Divine Mercy Youth
Mon, 03 Aug	Safeguarding Meeting, Presbytery 7pm

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Isaiah: 55:1-3; Psalm: 144; Romans 8:35,37-39; Matthew 14:13-21

	Saturday, 6 pm	Sunday, 8:30 am	Sunday, 10:30 am	Sunday, 6 pm
Commentator	Arlene Mathiah	Mara Fatunu'u	Tania Starr	Teena Roy
Ministers of the Word	1 st Cynthia Paul 2 nd Don Perera	1 st Jane Benedito 2 nd Telesia Fatialofa	1 st Alama Lakalaka 2 nd Seletute Tuima	1 st Demelza Colaco 2 nd Raisa Mathias
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion	A.Bonamis V.Coelho	C.Benedito, L.Colaco,M.Funaki, T.Funaki,C.Lewis, J.Peauvasa, M.Sherwood	F.A'Costa, V.Jessop, B.Joseph, A.Lata, L.Lilo, F.Pouhila, Sr.Amalia	M.Colaco N.Imperial

We pray for the souls of our loved ones whose anniversaries occur during this time 26th July – 31th July

Edith Mary Mennie, Neeltje Elsa Follas, Rowan Hamilton North, Bertha Te Anini, Elizabeth Sheehan, Keith Bernard Jackson, Lena Mary Edmiston, Arthur Thomas Spong, Madeleine Adele Lishman, Milka Eva Kovacevich, Kopu Koreta Utuutuia Petere-Strickland, Lena Alice Delaney, Moira Prime, Michael Andrew McCarthy, Ronald Desmond Reeves, Ena Mary (Rosen) Clews, Emily Allen, Teresa Ellen Floyed, John Michael Kearney, Merlyn Cecilia O'Hara, Rebecca Maria Martin, Margaret Joy Haworth, Leslie Penny, Mavis Catherine O'Connor, Helen Ryan, Margaret O'Dwyer, Mary McClelland .

May the Lord grant them eternal rest. Amen.

MASS SCHEDULE

Sunday: Mass: 8.30am / 10.30am / 6.00pm

Saturday: Rosary & Novena: 5.30 pm; Vigil Mass: 6 pm

Monday – Saturday: Mass: 9.00am

Daily Rosary: Mon – Sat, 8.25am; Sun, 7.45am

Friday Adoration: After 9 am Mass to 10:30 am

1st Friday: Mass: 7 pm

RECONCILIATION: Saturday: after 9 am Mass, (other times by appointment)