



## *St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception*

**Avondale Parish Bulletin – 30<sup>th</sup> August 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*



# **Twenty-second Sunday in Ordinary Time**

**Readings: Jeremiah 20:7-9; Psalm 63; Romans 12:1-2; Matthew 16:21-27**

### **First Reading**

**A reading from the prophet Jeremiah 20: 7 - 9**  
**The word of the Lord God has meant derision for me.**

You have seduced me, Lord, and I have let myself be seduced; you have overpowered me: you were the stronger. I am a daily laughing-stock, everybody's butt. Each time I speak the word, I have to howl and proclaim: 'Violence and ruin!' The word of the Lord has meant for me insult, derision, all day long. I used to say, I will not think about him, I will not speak in his name any more. Then there seemed to be a fire burning in my heart, imprisoned in my bones. The effort to restrain it wearied me, I could not bear it.

**The Word of the Lord.**  
Thanks be to God

### **Responsorial Psalm**

**Ps(R.) My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.**

1. O God, you are my God, for you I long; for you my soul is thirsting. My body pines for you like a dry, weary land without water. **(R.)**
2. So I gaze on you in the sanctuary to see your strength and your glory. For your love is better than life, my lips will speak your praise. **(R.)**
3. So I will bless you all my life, in your name I will lift up my hands. My soul shall be filled as with a banquet, my mouth shall praise you with joy. **(R.)**
4. For you have been my help; in the shadow of your wings I rejoice. My soul clings to you; your right hand holds me fast. **(R.)**

### **Second Reading**

**A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans 12: 1-2**

May you present your bodies as a living sacrifice. Think of God's mercy, my brothers, and worship him, I beg you, in a way that is worthy of thinking beings, by offering your living bodies as a holy sacrifice, truly pleasing to God. Do not model yourselves on the behaviour of the world around you, but let your behaviour change, modelled by your new mind. This is the only way to discover the will of God and know what is good, what it is that God wants, what is the perfect thing to do.

### **Gospel Acclamation**

Alleluia, alleluia!

May the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ enlighten the eyes of our heart, that we might see how great is the hope to which we are called.

Alleluia!

### **Gospel**

**A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew 16: 21-27**

Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself. Jesus began to make it clear to his disciples that he was destined to go to Jerusalem and suffer grievously at the hands of the elders and chief priests and scribes, to be put to death and to be raised up on the third day. Then, taking him aside, Peter started to remonstrate with him. 'Heaven preserve you, Lord,' he said. 'This must not happen to you.' But he turned and said to Peter, 'Get behind me, Satan! You are an obstacle in my path, because the way you think is not God's way but man's.' Then Jesus said to his disciples, 'If anyone wants to be a follower of mine, let him renounce himself and take up his cross and follow me. For anyone who wants to save his life will lose it; but anyone who loses his life for my sake will find it. What, then, will a man gain if he wins the whole world and ruins his life? Or what has a man to offer in exchange for his life? 'For the Son of Man is going to come in the glory of his Father with his angels, and, when he does, he will reward each one according to his behaviour.'

**The Gospel of the Lord**

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

## Gospel Reflection by Greg Sunter

This week's gospel is the first of three predictions of Jesus' death and resurrection in Matthew's gospel (see also Mark and Luke). Despite Peter's confession of faith that immediately precedes this passage (see last week's gospel), the disciples still do not have a very solid understanding of Jesus' purpose. They may regard him as the Messiah, but still do not fully understand what that means. In this passage, Jesus is beginning to prepare them for the events of the passion – his death and resurrection. He is trying to lead them to a greater understanding of his mission and message. But Peter abruptly 'rebukes' Jesus and tells him not to speak like that. One can almost hear Peter saying, 'Look, Jesus, you've got a good thing going here, don't spoil it by talking about dying!' However, Jesus responds to Peter very sharply, suggesting that his lack of understanding is inspired by evil and reflects human thought, not divine wisdom.

The passage then leads in to a description of the challenge of discipleship. To be a follower of Jesus means to 'deny' oneself, take up one's cross and follow Jesus. In the context of this passage, to 'deny' oneself means to not be concerned about 'I' but to be concerned about 'You' – to put others before self. To be a follower of Jesus means to be selfless, not self-centred. In the ultimate example of this, Jesus tells his disciples that whoever wishes to save their life will lose it, but whoever loses their life for Jesus' sake will find it. To 'save' your life is to hold back from giving yourself fully to the message of Jesus – to be 'half-hearted' in your faith. But to 'lose' yourself in the message of Jesus is to fully give yourself over to living the reign of God and through 'losing' yourself in this way, Jesus tells us, is how to truly find life.

## Prayer of the Faithful

**For the Church** – that the Word of God is always proclaimed with confidence and clarity.

**Reader: E te Ariki All: Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.**

**For world leaders** – that they ensure the religious freedoms of all people within their countries.

**Reader: E te Ariki All: Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.**

**For all Christian people** – that as they take up their cross and follow Jesus, they overcome what separates them and become more manifestly, the one Body of Christ.

**Reader: E te Ariki All: Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.**

**For people who suffer from the pandemic** – that the grieving be consoled, the sick healed, the jobless employed and the pandemic ended.

**Reader: E te Ariki All: Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.**

**For Aotearoa New Zealand in this election year** – that those standing for election act with integrity, are motivated by a desire to serve, and seek to build a society that is just to all and cares for its most vulnerable.

**Reader: E te Ariki All: Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.**

**For the local Parishioners** - who are feeling lonely, isolated and afraid.

**Reader: E te Ariki All: Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou.**



## News and Updates from the Parish and the Diocese:

**To Parishioners of St Mary of the Immaculate Conception, Avondale.** A reminder to all that we are moving to alert level 2 on Monday 31 August, however under the new guidelines **gatherings will only be limited to 10 people or less so celebrating the Holy Mass inside the church won't be possible** until the current guidelines or alert level is lifted.

**The Diocese continues to provide Broadcast Mass Shine TV Sunday 2.00pm** Free-to-air TV Channel 25 | SKY TV Channel 201. This week from St Joseph's Takapuna. This is also available to download from 6pm Saturday on the diocesan website <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/>. A reminder to pray for Bishop Patrick Dunn for consolation as he comes to terms with his deteriorating eyesight.

**All members of the Catholic Diocese of Auckland** community are warmly invited to the Liturgy Conference, Worshipping under Southern Skies: Weaving Together Liturgy and Life, to be held at Baradene College from 1st – 3rd October. Excellent keynote speakers, a mouth-watering variety of Breakout Sessions. See <https://wuss.org.nz/>. This will be a time to grow deeper in faith, to grow stronger in community, richer in love, more vibrant in our communal prayer and celebration of the liturgy.

**Birthday Celebrations of our Blessed Mother Mary from 29 August to 8 September are cancelled.** St Mary's Parish Avondale will not be hosting the Novena, Rosary and Holy Mass due the Pandemic. The link for the Rosary and Novena via Zoom is posted below. Thank you for your kind support.



**Rosary and Novena  
to Our Lady of Health Vailankanni  
on Zoom  
From 29<sup>th</sup> August to 8<sup>th</sup> September at 7pm**

Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/77960704091?pwd=YTIvVzBGbG9XNmQ0xpbFB4eW5hTTdsUT09>  
Meeting ID: 779 6070 4091  
Passcode: MotherMary

### Anniversaries of deceased Parishioners (29th August-4th September)

Thomas Gordon Reid, Lizzie Boland, Sophie Anne Larmer, John Raymond Kearns, Florence Rose Evangeline Eades, Sydney William Grey, Michelle Courtney, Gloria Mary Borich, Sushil Chand Prasad, Ellen Mary Kenna, Dominic Vessadkar, Thomas Francis Curtis, Livia York, Kata Salle, Edward Early, Walter Bolger, Michael Joseph Dromgool, Ante Robert a.k.a Bob Dragicevich, Fred Alger, Mary Margaret Stewart, Antonia Sincova, Owen Paul Schaumkell, Francis Parrish, Agust Wilhelm Hjaltason, Tauasilima Vaiafai Mauau. **May the Lord grant them eternal rest. Amen.**

Parish Administrator:	Fr. Shane Reade SDB	Phone: (09) 828 9309
Email:	<a href="mailto:ppriest@avondalecatholic.org.nz">ppriest@avondalecatholic.org.nz</a>	Mobile: 027-325-2986
Assistant Parish Priest:	Fr. James Adayadiel SDB	Parish Office Hours:
Email:	<a href="mailto:adayadiel@gmail.com">adayadiel@gmail.com</a>	Tue-Fri: 11am - 2pm
School Principal:	Mrs. Kathryn Hira	Weekends: CLOSED
Email:	<a href="mailto:principal@stmarysavondale.school.nz">principal@stmarysavondale.school.nz</a>	Mondays: CLOSED
Parish Secretary	Mrs. Christine Imperial	School Phone: (09)8285599
Email:	<a href="mailto:office@avondalecatholic.org.nz">office@avondalecatholic.org.nz</a>	
Website:	<a href="http://www.avondalecatholic.org.nz">www.avondalecatholic.org.nz</a>	
Facebook:	<a href="https://www.facebook.com/stmarysavondale">www.facebook.com/stmarysavondale</a>	

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