



St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception

Avondale Parish Bulletin –13th September 2020

Vision / Tirohanga

Growing in Faith Together / Oranga i roto i te Whakapono

Goal / Whaingā

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



Twenty-fourth Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Ecclesiasticus: 27:30-28:7; Psalm: 102; Romans 14:7-9; Matthew 18:21-35

First Reading

A reading from the book of Ecclesiasticus

Forgive your neighbour's faults and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. Resentment and anger, these are foul things, and both are found with the sinner. He who exacts vengeance will experience the vengeance of the Lord, who keeps strict account of sin. Forgive your neighbour the hurt he does you, and when you pray, your sins will be forgiven. If a man nurses anger against another, can he then demand compassion from the Lord? Showing no pity for a man like himself, can he then plead for his own sins? Mere creature of flesh, he cherishes resentment; who will forgive him his sins? Remember the last things, and stop hating, remember dissolution and death, and live by the commandments. Remember the commandments, and do not bear your neighbour ill-will; remember the covenant of the Most High, and overlook the offence.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.

1. My soul, give thanks to the Lord, all my being, bless his holy name. My soul, give thanks to the Lord and never forget all his blessings. **(R.)**
2. It is he who forgives all your guilt, who heals every one of your ills, who redeems your life from the grave, who crowns you with love and compassion. **(R.)**
3. His wrath will come to an end; he will not be angry for ever. He does not treat us according to our sins nor repay us according to our faults **(R.)**
4. For as the heavens are high above the earth so strong is his love for those who fear him. As far as the east is from the west so far does he remove our sins.

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Romans

Whether alive or dead, we belong to the Lord. The life and death of each of us has its influence on others; if we live, we live for the Lord; and if we die, we die for the Lord, so that alive or dead we belong to the Lord. This explains why Christ both died and came to life, it was so that he might be Lord both of the dead and of the living.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

Gospel Acclamation

Alleluia, alleluia!

**I give you a new commandment:
love one another as I have loved you.
Alleluia!**

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

I tell you that you forgive not seven times but seventy times seven. Peter went up to Jesus and said, 'Lord, how often must I forgive my brother if he wrongs me As often as seven times?' Jesus answered, 'Not seven, I tell you, but seventy-seven times. 'And so the kingdom of heaven may be compared to a king who decided to settle his accounts with his servants. When the reckoning began, they brought him a man who owed ten thousand talents; but he had no means of paying, so his master gave orders that he should be sold, together with his wife and children and all his possessions, to meet the debt. At this, the servant threw himself down at his master's feet. "Give me time, he said "and I will pay the whole sum." And the servant's master felt so sorry for him that he let him go and cancelled the debt. Now as this servant went out, he happened to meet a fellow servant who owed him one hundred denarii; and he seized him by the throat and began to throttle him. "Pay what you owe me", he said. His fellow servant fell at his feet and implored him, saying, "Give me time and I will pay you." But the other would not agree; on the contrary, he had him thrown into prison till he should pay the debt. His fellow servants were deeply distressed when they saw what had happened, and they went to their master and reported the whole affair to him. Then the master sent for him. "You wicked servant," he said. "I cancelled all that debt of yours when you appealed to me. Were you not bound, then, to have pity on your fellow servant just as I had pity on you?" And in his anger the master handed him over to the torturers till he should pay all his debt. And that is how my heavenly Father will deal with you unless you each forgive your brother from your heart.'

The Gospel of the Lord

Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ

Gospel Reflection

A reading according to the Gospel of Matthew

If your brother does something wrong, go and have it out with him alone, between your two selves. If he listens to you, you have won back your brother. If he does not listen, take one or two others along with you: whatever the misdemeanour, the evidence of two or three witnesses is required to sustain the charge. But if he refuses to listen to these, report it to the community; and if he refuses to listen to the community, treat him like a gentile or a tax collector. In truth I tell you, whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven; whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven. In truth I tell you once again, if two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven. For where two or three meet in my name, I am there among them.

For personal reflection.

- a) Which part of the text struck you most? Why?
- b) What advice does Jesus give to help people solve the problems of the community and reconcile the members among themselves?
- c) What is the basic requirement that comes out of Jesus' advice?
- d) In Mt 16:19, the power to forgive is given to Peter; in Jn 20:23, this same power is given to the apostles. Here, the power to forgive is given to the community. How does our community use this power to forgive given to us by Jesus?
- e) Jesus said, "Where two or three meet in My name, I am there among them". What does this mean for us today?

Prayer for the Faithful

Priest: Brothers and sisters, mindful of God's mercy and compassion we turn to the Lord in prayer

Reader:

For our Church leaders: Pope Francis, cardinals, bishop, priests and religious leaders that they seek forgiveness and be ministers of God's forgiveness.....we pray.....Lord, hear our prayer

For families torn apart by resentment and anger : That they will work towards reconciliation and healing. ... we pray,Lord, hear our prayer

For media organisations:, That they will be mindful of their influence and act with integrity.... we pray,.....Lord, hear our prayer

For St Mary of the Immaculate Conception faith community: That we will be generous in forgiving others.....we pray,....Lord, hear our prayer

For Harmony: That people of different races and cultures will treat one another with respect and understanding.... we pray,....Lord, hear our prayer

For an end to the coronavirus pandemic: That governments, communities and individuals will work together to curb the spread of the coronavirus. we pray,...Lord, hear our prayer

Parish Prayer

Mary of the Immaculate Conception bless our Parish community, so that we may love God with all our heart. We ask you to encircle our families with your loving care. Help parents to be good example to their children and our youth to grow in strength as good Christians. To the sick grant health, to the aged bring serenity and to those in sorrow, joy. May we grow stronger in faith and our love for one another become deeper in our daily living. Amen

Priest: God Most High, you sent your son Jesus to challenge our ways and drive anger from our hearts. Hear the prayers of your people and help us to forgive others as you have forgiven us.

Friendly Reminder :Rosters for Saturday 19 September

Flowers: Samoan Community Church Cleaning: Lataki Youth Group

News and Updates from the Parish and Diocese

Lord, how often must I forgive those who wrong me?

Matthew 18:21

Do I believe that God forgives me, shows mercy to me?

Can I forgive my own failings?

Am I able to forgive wholeheartedly those friend or enemy that have wronged me?

The Lord is kind and merciful slow to anger, rich in compassion



24 SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

A reminder to all Parishioners that a video of the Parish **Sunday Mass will be uploaded on Facebook on Saturday the 12th of September at 5:45 pm until Monday, 14th September.**

Car Park: Due to work being done in the car park this week till next week we only have one entry/exit available. The exit beside the church is closed. Please park at the car park with care and discretion as to avoid any untoward incident. For those dropping off or picking up children from school, the car park on the other side of the church is available.

We pray for the souls of our loved ones whose anniversaries occur during this time 12th September – 16th September Mary Neville, Audrey Joan Miles, Barbara Olivia Freitchie Fistonc, Anthony Guilfoyle, Ivan George Marinovich, Ruta Iutita Thomsen, Unasa Charles Lawrence Schwenke, Leandro Teodli Shiel, Giovanni John Russo, Edward Joseph Von Dinklage, Thomas McLeod, Joseph Otto Rasch, Ida Mary Boyle, Hendrikus Arnoldus Johannes Bernards, Annie Agatha Mareko Savelio, William Andrew Betham, Martin James Kennelley, Nesetolio Etuale Atiga.

For Mrs. Effie Serrao who passed away in India last 7 September 2020.

May the Lord grant them eternal rest. Amen.

New Sacramental Programme Schedule

Saturday, 10th Oct class 3-4pm

Saturday, 17th Oct class 3-4pm

Saturday, 24th Oct class 3-4pm

Saturday, 31st Oct class 3-4pm

Saturday, 7th Nov class 3-4pm

Wednesday, 11th Nov Reconciliation

Saturday, 14th Nov sponsor Rehearsal

Saturday, 21st Nov sponsor Rehearsal

Sunday, 22nd Nov Mass 6pm

Be informed about the End of Life Choice Act Referendum:

- The End of Life Choice Act is not an option of 'last resort'. It will not just apply to the 'exceptionally difficult cases'. It does not require that a person first make use of available treatments or counselling, nor that they first receive palliative care. A person does not need to be in physical pain.

- If euthanasia becomes legal in NZ, people will access it because they think they lack other choices. Even though quality palliative care is effective, there is no corresponding legal right to access palliative care. Under current law, people can already say 'no' to treatments and can receive whatever level of pain relief they need. These days, no-one need die in pain. The EOLC Act is badly drafted and seriously flawed. Whatever one's views about the idea of euthanasia, it is not 'compassion' to vote for a dangerous law.

Priest Administrator

Fr. Shane Reade SDB

Email:

ppriest@avondalecatholic.org.nz

Assistant Priest:

Fr. James Adayadiel SDB

Email:

adayadiel@gmail.com

School Principal:

Mrs. Kathryn Hira

Email:

principal@stmarysavondale.school.nz

Parish Secretary

Mrs. Christine Imperial

Email:

office@avondalecatholic.org.nz

Website:

www.avondalecatholic.org.nz

Facebook:

www.facebook.com/stmarysavondale

Phone: (09) 828 9309

Mobile: 027-325-2986

Parish Office Hours:

Tue – Fri: 11am – 2pm

Weekends: CLOSED

Mondays: CLOSED

School Phone: (09) 828 5599

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