



St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception

Avondale Parish Bulletin –4th October 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-seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time

Readings: Isaiah: 5:1-7; Psalm: 79; Philippians 4:6-9; Matthew 21:33-43

First Reading

A reading from the prophet Isaiah

Let me sing to my friend the song of his love for his vineyard. My friend had a vineyard on a fertile hillside. He dug the soil, cleared it of stones, and planted choice vines in it. In the middle he built a tower, he dug a press there too. He expected it to yield grapes, but sour grapes were all that it gave. And now, inhabitants of Jerusalem and men of Judah, I ask you to judge between my vineyard and me. What could I have done for my vineyard that I have not done? I expected it to yield grapes. Why did it yield sour grapes instead? Very well, I will tell you what I am going to do to my vineyard: I will take away its hedge for it to be grazed on, and knock down its wall for it to be trampled on. I will lay it waste, unpruned, undug; overgrown by the briar and the thorn. I will command the clouds to rain no rain on it. Yes, the vineyard of the Lord of hosts is the House of Israel, and the men of Judah that chosen plant. He expected justice, but found bloodshed, integrity, but only a cry of distress.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Responsorial Psalm

(R.) The vineyard of the Lord is the House of Israel.

1. You brought a vine out of Egypt; to plant it you drove out the nations. It stretched out its branches to the sea, to the Great River it stretched out its shoots. **(R.)**

2. Then why have you broken down its walls? It is plucked by all who pass by. It is ravaged by the boar of the forest, devoured by the beasts of the field. **(R.)**

3. God of hosts, turn again, we implore, look down from heaven and see. Visit this vine and protect it, the vine your right hand has planted. **(R.)**

4. And we shall never forsake you again: give us life that we may call upon your name. God of hosts, bring us back; let your face shine on us and we shall be saved. **(R.)**

Second Reading

A reading from the letter of St Paul to the Philippians

There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving, and that peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard your hearts and your thoughts, in Christ Jesus. Finally, brothers, fill your minds with everything that is true, everything that is noble, everything that is good and pure, everything that we love and honour, and everything that can be thought virtuous or worthy of praise. Keep doing all the things that you learnt from me and have been taught by me and have heard or seen that I do. Then the God of peace will be with you.

The Word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God.

Gospel

A reading from the holy Gospel according to Matthew

Jesus said to the chief priests and the elders of the people, 'Listen to another parable. There was a man, a landowner, who planted a vineyard; he fenced it round, dug a winepress in it and built a tower; then he leased it to tenants and went abroad. When vintage time drew near he sent his servants to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his servants, thrashed one, killed another and stoned a third. Next he sent some more servants, this time a larger number, and they dealt with them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them. "They will respect my son," he said. But when the tenants saw the son, they said to each other, "This is the heir. Come on, let us kill him and take over his inheritance." So they seized him and threw him out of the vineyard and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?' They answered, 'He will bring those wretches to a wretched end and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will deliver the produce to him when the season arrives.' Jesus said to them, 'Have you never read in the scriptures: It was the stone rejected by the builders that became the keystone. This was the Lord's doing and it is wonderful to see? 'I tell you, then, that the kingdom of God will be taken from you and given to a people who will produce its fruit.'

Reflection

The symbol of the vineyard is a mirror where we can see a reflection of the personal and communitarian history of our relationship with God. Today, it is the church, this great vineyard that the Lord cultivates and cares for and that is entrusted to us, and the vine-dressers (collaborators) who have the task of continuing the mission started by Him. This is certainly a tall order. Nevertheless, as church, we are aware of the tension that exists and that the church may experience between fidelity and infidelity, between refusal and welcoming. This Sunday's Gospel tells us that, notwithstanding the difficulties and apparent fragility, nothing can stop the love of God for us, not even the elimination of His Son. It is this sacrifice that gains salvation for all.

- We are called to stay with Jesus and continue His mission of helping men and women to meet Him and to be saved, and to struggle every day to counter the forces of evil and fulfill the desire to do good and promote justice.
- As church we are called to learn, after the example of Jesus, to experience conflict and be able to bear difficulties in our commitment to evangelization.
- Do you believe that trials instruct our hearts? Do you believe that difficulties can be an instrument to measure our authenticity and the firmness of our faith?

Prayer for the Faithful

Priest: 'The stone rejected by the builders became the keystone.' God's Word is powerful and disturbing. Strengthened by its teaching, we approach our God for what we need.

Reader: For the gift of gratitude to God. (pause) May we be a people of thankfulness – aware of what God has done for us; and may our gratitude to God reflect in our lives of concern for other people.

Lord, hear us. Lord, hear our prayer

E te Ariki. Whakarongo mai ra ki a matou

Reader: For the gift of peace (pause). May we experience peace in our lives – the peace that comes from listening to the gospel, reflecting on its meaning and living by its teaching in thought and heart and deed.

Lord, hear us. Lord, hear our prayer

E te Ariki. Whakarongo mai ra ki a matou

Reader: For the gift of producing good fruit (pause). May our lives be fruitful in God's service, and, in our living by the gospel teaching, may God's purposes be fulfilled; and may we share with others the gifts that God has generously given us.

Lord, hear us. Lord, hear our prayer

E te Ariki. Whakarongo mai ra ki a matou

Reader: For the gift of wisdom. (pause) The stone rejected by the builders became the keystone. May we have the gift of wisdom to discern the signs of the times; and open to what God wants in the church and in the community.

Lord, hear us. Lord, hear our prayer

E te Ariki. Whakarongo mai ra ki a matou

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 of consolation, your truth sets us free, your way leads to life. Grant what we need. We commend all our prayers spoken and unspoken to the Immaculate Heart of Mary and Help of Christians with Hail Mary full of Grace.....

Act of Spiritual Communion

Because current circumstances continue to impede attendance at Mass and reception of Holy Communion, I invite those who are joining us by this video link to ask God that by spiritual communion you might receive the graces of sacramental communion. Offer this Mass and your hunger for the Eucharist for the safety of your loved ones, of yourselves and of our world.

Act of Spiritual Communion Prayer

My Jesus, I believe that You are in the Blessed Sacrament. I love You above all things, and I long for You in my soul. Since I cannot now receive You sacramentally, come at least spiritually into my heart. As though You have already come, I embrace You and unite myself entirely to You; never permit me to be separated from You.

News and Updates from the Parish



The Church doors after the approval by the PPC have been replaced. Please enter and exit the Church with care.

Parishioners are kindly reminded that a video of the Parish **Sunday Mass will still be uploaded on Facebook on Saturday the 3rd of October after 10 pm until Monday, 5th October.**

Thanksgiving Day 7th October 1950 was the Missionaries of Charity Sisters Foundation day. Each year it is a special day of prayer and thanksgiving offered to our Lady, Queen of the Holy Rosary. This year, on Wednesday 7th October there will be an Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament from 10:00am to 5:30am at the Sisters Convent at 20 Tomo Street Glen Eden. Anyone who wants to spend some time before the Blessed Sacrament during the day is most welcome.

We pray for the souls of our loved ones whose anniversaries occur during this time 3rd October – 9th October:

Annie Irene Page, Desmond Henry Short, Ida Agnes Page, Mark Luke Francisco Nelson, Jarlath Joseph Conway, John Bratton, Margaret Barbara Manning, Henry Pascal Murray Ward, Monica Margaret Nelson, Thomas Denis Hetherington Jessop, Fagamoia Taliu Funaiga, Bertram Joseph Brown, Elvira Tauyan, Ta'atele Helen Wigg.

May the Lord grant them eternal rest. Amen.

Matt
22:1-14

..go to the crossroads and invite everyone you can find to the wedding.

- * Do I take the time to listen to God's invitation to the banquet?
- * Am I prepared to go out and invite others to join the banquet?



#INVITATION

7 October Feast of Our Lady of the Rosary, there will be an Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament at the Church from 12pm to 3pm.

Sacramental Program 2020 will resume next Saturday 10 October, for more info, please contact Jane Benedito 02102325451.

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 October.

St. Mary's Avondale Community Centre (SMACC) Fund: The Parish encourages families who can afford to pledge \$10 a week towards our community centre. For those who wish to contribute, the Account Number for SMACC Building Fund is 02-0108-0339938-04.

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

News and Updates from The Diocese

NZ Catholic Bishops 2020 Election Statement

Whakapuaki Pōti has just been published. Limited printed copies of the Election Statement will be available from pastoraloffice@cda.org.nz if you would like them please email and give the requested number. It is also available at www.catholic.org.nz/assets/Uploads/Catholic-Bishops-Election-Statement-2020.

Venerable Suzanne Aubert Celebration Sunday October 4 is here!

We are very encouraged about significant progress in her journey towards Sainthood with news received from Rome only a few weeks ago that the inquiry medical documents translated into Italian and submitted to the Causes for Saints, are being closely examined at this time. It's an important opportunity to help more New Zealanders learn about Suzanne Aubert/Meri Hōhepa and also to pray for her intercession on our behalf.

NZ Catholic A free digital copy has been sent to Parishioners email.

Be informed about the End of Life Choice Act Referendum:

- The Act only requires a doctor to “do their best to ensure that the person expresses their wish free from pressure.” However, the Act fails to outline how this happens. Doctors are not trained to detect coercion and are further limited in their ability to detect coercion because, unlike the Netherlands, they cannot interview others without the patient's permission.
- Requests for an assisted death are often motivated by depression, something that is also extremely difficult to detect. There is no mandatory screening for depression in the Act.
- In the Netherlands and Belgium, disabled people and people who are mentally ill were not initially eligible. However, assisted death is now offered to people with mental illnesses and dementia, and to disabled people. The same changes will likely happen here.

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.

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

The 7 pm Mass every Wednesday is suspended until further notice

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)

Priest Administrator

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Facebook:

www.facebook.com/stmarysavondale

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

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