



# St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception

2134 Great North Rd, Avondale, Auckland 0600

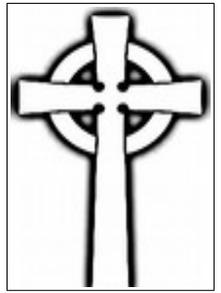
14<sup>th</sup> March 2021

*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*



## Fourth Week of Lent

**Readings: Chronicles 36:14-16.19-23; Psalm: 136; Ephesians 2:4-10; John 3:14-21**

### Gospel Reflection

**“For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him might not perish but might have eternal life.” John 3:16**

This Scripture passage from John’s Gospel is a familiar one. Often times, at large public events such as sports games, we can find someone holding up a sign that says, “John: 3:16.” The reason for this is that this passage offers a simple but clear summary of the entire Gospel. There are four basic truths that we can take from this Scripture. Let’s look at each of them in a brief way.

**First**, it’s made clear that the Father in Heaven loves us. We know this, but we will never fully comprehend the depth of this truth. God the Father loves us with a profound and perfect love. It’s a love that is deeper than anything else we could ever experience in life. His love is perfect.

**Second**, the Father’s love was made manifest by the gift of His Son Jesus. It is a profound act of love for the Father to give us His Son. The Son meant everything to the Father, and the gift of the Son to us means that the Father gives us everything. He gives His very life to us in the Person of Jesus.

**Third**, the only appropriate response we can make to such a gift is faith. We must believe in the transforming power of accepting the Son into our lives. We must see this gift as a gift that gives us all we need. We must accept the Son into our lives by believing in His mission and giving our lives to Him in return.

**Fourth**, the result of receiving Him and giving our lives in return is that we are saved. We will not perish in our sin; rather, we will be given eternal life. There is no other way to salvation than through the Son. We must know, believe, accept and embrace this truth.

<b>Parish Priest:</b>	Pa Peter Tipene
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:ppriest@avondalecatholic.org.nz">ppriest@avondalecatholic.org.nz</a>
<b>School Principal:</b>	Mrs. Kathryn Hira
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:principal@stmarysavondale.school.nz">principal@stmarysavondale.school.nz</a>
<b>Parish Secretary</b>	Mrs.Christine Imperial
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:office@avondalecatholic.org.nz">office@avondalecatholic.org.nz</a>
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.avondalecatholic.org.nz">www.avondalecatholic.org.nz</a>
<b>Facebook:</b>	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/stmarysavondale">www.facebook.com/stmarysavondale</a>

<b>Phone:</b>	<b>(09) 828 9309</b>
<b>Parish Office Hours:</b>	
<b>Tue – Fri:</b>	<b>11am – 2pm</b>
<b>Mondays:</b>	<b>CLOSED</b>
<b>School Phone:</b>	<b>(09) 828 5599</b>
<b>Pre-School :</b>	<b>(09) 820 9524</b>

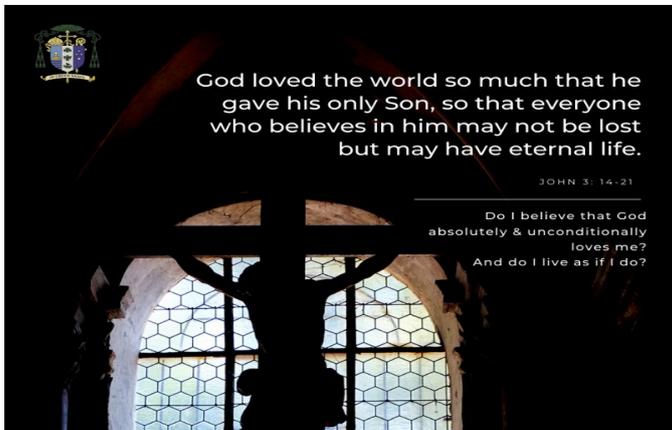
Pledge Giving Account Number: 02-0100-0120958-04  
Mass Offering Account Number : 02-0100-0120958-05

## Scam emails, text messages and What's App messages

Over the last couple of weeks we have seen an increase in the number of spam messages being sent through email **The messages are not from the actual priest's email ( their account has not been compromised). Rather the messages are from fake email accounts/phone numbers purporting to be Bishop Pat or a priest of the Diocese.** The content of the message is usually that they have urgent work or need a favour from the recipient. Sometimes there is a link to click or a phone number to call. We encourage you to be very vigilant when receiving messages and to check the detail of the address or phone number. Checking the details of an email address are relatively easy on a computer but often harder to determine when reading an email message on a phone or other portable device. The numbers that text and What's App messages come from are typically international numbers so that's an immediate indication that the message is fake as our priests typically have New Zealand mobile phone numbers.

**As a precaution we recommend that you carefully check the email address that you are sending to, especially when writing emails to priests. Please do NOT respond to suspicious emails/messages. If in doubt you should verify the sender of the message by another method.** If the message is fake our recommendation is that emails should be permanently deleted (hold the shift key down as you delete the message). Similarly we would recommend you delete or block any text/What's App messages.

**The Diocese has reported these messages to the NZ Police and Department of Internal Affairs.** More information on how to protect from these types of scams can be found on the NZ Police Website: <https://www.police.govt.nz/advice/email-and-internet-safety/internet-scams-spam-and-fraud> and the Department of Internal Affairs website: <https://www.dia.govt.nz/Spam>. This information can also be found on the diocesan website <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/2021/03/02/be-alert-scammers-at-large/> This link might be easier to share through your social media accounts.



**Lenten Giving Envelope** Packs have been distributed. You can either use the weekly donation envelopes or use a single donation envelope. You may either return your donation envelopes during the parish offertory collection or send them to Caritas directly. A free post envelope is available for this option. NZ Post specifies that cash must not be sent through the post.

**Care for creation and our surroundings** The season of Lent is the time of spiritual preparation for Easter. We do prayers, penance to repent for our sins and other sacrifices such as fasting to cleanse ourselves. As we go through that process let us not forget to also do something to God's creations and care for our surroundings. It is also our responsibility to keep our surroundings clean and pleasant as this is a reflection of ourselves and that of our parish.

## News from the Parish School

What a crazy stop/start we have to this school year but we are pleased to say that all our staff and children are well and coping tremendously with the challenges that keep getting thrown at us. To have a read about all the wonderful things happening at our school please have a read of our latest school newsletter. Please keep our St Mary's children in your prayers this Lent as they strive to follow faithfully, tell courageously and live joyfully the Good News of Jesus Christ. Ngā mihi nui, Kathryn and the team.

**Bishops Lent Appeal** For this season of prayer, fasting and almsgiving, Caritas is making available our Lent Reflection booklets which include the Gospel readings for each week of Lent. These can be reflected on or prayed with on an individual or small group basis in compliance with Covid restrictions. They can be viewed from [https://caritas.org.nz/system/files/resources/2021%20LRP%20English\\_web.pdf](https://caritas.org.nz/system/files/resources/2021%20LRP%20English_web.pdf)

**Divine Mercy Devotion with Mass** on Friday 19th March 7:00pm St Patrick's Parish, 19 Sunset View Road. Panmure Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Praise & Worship, Chaplet of Mercy Sung, Benediction, Holy Mass, followed by general Blessing of St Faustina's relic. A warm welcome is extended to all.

**Choral Mass in Celebration of St Joseph** "Saint Joseph reminds us that those who appear hidden or in the shadows can play an incomparable role in the history of salvation." Pope Francis, Apostolic Letter on the 150th Anniversary of the Proclamation of St Joseph as Patron of the Universal Church. We are delighted to bring you a beautiful Choral Mass celebrating the feast day of St Joseph in the Year of St Joseph 7 pm at the Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph Friday 19th March 2021. Music is brought to you by the celebrated Cathedral Vocal Ensemble directed by Nicholas Forbes. Validated parking will be available at the Wilson car parks on Durham Lane \$2 & Hobson Street \$4. Please bring your ticket with you to validate in the Cathedral. All welcome.

**Retreats at St Francis Retreat Centre**  
24 Hour Silent Lenten Retreat A Meditation on the Passion according to Mark, Fri 19 March 7 pm – Sat 20 March 7pm Cost \$120.00 | Holy Saturday – Day of Prayer + Contemplation Sat 3 April 10am – 2.30 pm. Drop in for some quiet prayer for as long as you wish between 10.00am and 2 pm | Time Out Days Wed 24/Mar 9:30 – 2:30pm Tue 13/Apr 9:30 – 2:30pm

**Venerable Suzanne Aubert – Journey to Sainthood** The Sisters of Compassion are asking for our prayers this month for the Beatification of Venerable Suzanne Aubert/Meri Hohepa. Beatification is the second step on the journey to sainthood. Beatification requires a miracle to be verified as having occurred through the intercession of Suzanne. Records and tests relating to an alleged miracle attributed to Suzanne have been forwarded to Rome. If the Beatification does happen this year, it will be a truly remarkable event and at a time when we could all do with some good news.

**The Catholic Diocese of Auckland Commission for Ecumenism** is hosting a public lecture on Ecumenism, celebrating 25th Anniversary of Pope John Paul II letter on "Ut Unum Sint (That They May All Be One)" Revisiting Ut Unum Sint after 25 years – a biblical perspective. Tuesday 27th April 2021 @7:00 PM | St Therese Catholic Church, 10 Wickman Way, Mangere | Light refreshments provided.

**The Walter Francis Darby Trust Scholarship for Medical Students** If you are a 4th or 5th year medical student in 2021, are an active Catholic and normally reside within the Auckland Diocese you may be eligible for the Walter Francis Darby Trust Scholarship. For more information contact Catherine Ryan, Vicar for Education, Catholic Diocese of Auckland. Phone (09) 360 3057 or email [catheriner@cda.org.nz](mailto:catheriner@cda.org.nz)

### **Catholic College Open Days**

**Sacred Heart College**, Tuesday March 16  
10am & 1pm

**Marcellin College**, Thursday 18 March,  
4pm - 7pm

**Marist College**, Tuesday 23 March,  
3pm – 6pm

**St. Dominic's**, Tuesday 23 March,  
6:30pm

**St. Paul's College**, Wednesday 24 March  
9:30am or 1:45pm

## *Dates for your Diary*

Tue, 16 Mar	SMACK Meeting, Presbytery 7pm
Fri, 19 Mar	Feast of St. Joseph Choral Mass St. Patricks Cathedral 7pm
Sat, 20 Mar	Church Cleaning Roster: Divine Mercy Group
Sat, 20 Mar	Centennial Family Picnic in the Park 10am-11am
Thu, 25 Mar	BOT Meeting, School 5:45 pm
Fri, 26 Mar	Finance Committee Meeting, Presbytery 7pm
Sun, 28 Mar	Youth Mass, St. Patrick's Cathedral 7pm

## Coming Sunday: Fifth Week of Lent

**Readings: Jeremiah 31:31-34; Psalm: 50; Hebrews 5:7-9; John: 12:20-30**

	Sunday, 8:30 am	Sunday, 10:30 am	Sunday, 6 pm
<b>Commentator</b>	Joseph Katoa	Youth	Raise Mathias
<b>Ministers of the Word</b>	1 <sup>st</sup> Joe James 2 <sup>nd</sup> Maria Jose	1 <sup>st</sup> Youth 2 <sup>nd</sup> Youth	1 <sup>st</sup> Teena Roy 2 <sup>nd</sup> Christine Imperial
<b>Extraordinary Ministers of Communion</b>	Wayne Hawtrey Autu Isaia Jacinta James	Teresita Minerva Down Beatrice Ngurinzira Edmar Oliveira	N. Imperial Purnima Nair

## 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'*

### MASS SCHEDULE

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

**Monday:** Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion 9am

**Tuesday – Saturday:** Mass: 9.00am

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

**Wednesday:** Rosary & novena to Our Lady of Perpetual Help 6:30pm

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

**1<sup>st</sup> Friday:** Mass: 7 pm

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