

**Dates for your Diary: Monday 27<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 5<sup>th</sup> March 2023**

<b>Tue, 28 Feb</b>	Samoan Community Choir, 6pm – 8pm, Fr McGrath Room
<b>Wed, 1 Mar</b>	Parish Youth Choir, 6pm – 8pm, Church
<b>Thu, 2 Mar</b>	Tongan Community Choir, 7.00pm – 9.00pm, Fr McGrath Room
<b>Thu, 2 Mar</b>	Friendly Choir, 6.00pm – 8.00pm, Church
<b>Fri, 3 Mar</b>	World Day of Prayer Ecumenical Service, 10.00am, Church
<b>Fri, 3 Mar</b>	Stations of the Cross, 6.00pm, Church
<b>Sat, 4 Mar</b>	Legion of Mary meeting, 10.00am – 11.30am, Whare Iti
<b>Sat, 4 Mar</b>	<b>Church Cleaning:</b> Parish Youth Group, <b>9.30am – 12.30pm</b>
<b>Sat, 4 Mar</b>	<b>Church Flowers: NO FLOWERS during Lent</b>
<b>Sat, 4 Mar</b>	Samoan Community Choir, 3.00pm – 5.00pm, Fr McGrath Room
<b>Sat, 4 Mar</b>	Tongan Community Choir, 5.00pm – 7.00pm, Fr McGrath Room
<b>Sun, 5 Mar</b>	Samoan Sunday School, 8.30am – 10am, Fr McGrath Room
<b>Sun, 5 Mar</b>	Samoan Sunday School, 8.30am – 10am, Whare Iti (M Tapusoa)
<b>Sun, 5 Mar</b>	Tongan Community meeting, 12.00pm – 2.00pm, Fr McGrath Room

**KIDS CORNER**

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/02/First-SUNDAY-of-LENT.pdf>

**MASS SCHEDULE 2023**

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

**Monday:**  
No 9.00am Mass and no Liturgy of the Word

**Tuesday – Saturday:**  
Mass: 9.00am  
**Daily Rosary:**  
Tue – Sat, 8.20am | Sun, 7.45am

**Friday Adoration (after 9.00am Mass):**  
9.30am – 10.30am (Resumes Fri 10<sup>th</sup> March 2023)

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



**St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception**

2134 Great North Rd, Avondale, Auckland 0600

*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*

**FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT ~ 26<sup>th</sup> February 2023**

*Readings: Genesis 2: 7-9, 3: 1-7 | Ps 51 | Romans 5: 12-19 | Matthew 4: 1-11*

**Gospel Reflection**



*To Our Volunteers*

**Church Cleaning Roster**

**Sat 4 Mar 2023**

St. Mary's Avondale YOUTH

**Sat 11 Mar 2023**

African Community (Gertrude)

**Sat 18 Mar 2023**

Legion of Mary

**Flower Arrangement Roster**

**Sat 4 Mar 2023**

No Flowers (Lent)

**Sat 11 Mar 2023**

No Flowers (Lent)

**Sat 18 Mar 2023**

No Flowers (Lent)

**NZCatholic** \$4  
The national Catholic newspaper Feb. 26 - Mar. 11, 2023 • No. 655

Oceania bishops reflect on mission 3 Pope in DR Congo and South Sudan 12

**Palestinian Plight**

Vice-chancellor talks in NZ dioceses - p4

Six times judged Australasia's leading Catholic newspaper

**YOUTH GROUP**

**St. Mary's Parish Youth are calling out to all our young people! Come and join us!**

*If you're interested or would like to know more, please call/text our Parish Youth Leader – Lemo 021 08904317 or email the Parish Office.*

**WEEK I: FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT**

*"Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him."*

*Women at Tutu Rural Training Centre in Fiji; working together to promote human dignity and building the common good.*

We journey with Jesus into the desert. As with Jesus, so with us. God speaks to us in times of hunger, trial, and challenge. How closely are we listening? It is easy to be tempted when things are difficult, but it can also be a time when we draw closer to God. The deepest truths can break through in times of severe struggle and pain – whether we are experiencing that as individuals, as families, as Church or society. The Church herself is currently going through key issues and challenges. It is important to stay focuses on God even in times of challenge and change.

In the desert, we encounter temptation and the devil. Perhaps we see the lowest depths of ourselves, and are tempted to despair. But if we lean on God, in true and honest understanding of Scripture, rather than twisting Scripture to suit our own ends, we will come through.

The "self-denial" we are called to in Lent is not so much about denying ourselves something, but to deny, or negate, one's self as the centre of our lives and preoccupations. In doing so, we struggle with our egos and self-importance. We need to "give up" not on things, but on the false images of who we are or of who God is; and respond instead to who God really is and who God is calling us to be. Love goes ever outwards, seeking the good of an "other".

And though the desert sounds bleak, hard and lonely, there is hope at the end. If we persevere in and through Jesus, by relying on him, we will win out in the end. And we may find angels on the journey. God's providence through or at the end of a trial is often God's way of assuring us we are following his way, walking in His will.

**FAITH IN ACTION:**

\* Who will I reach out to and listen to this week?

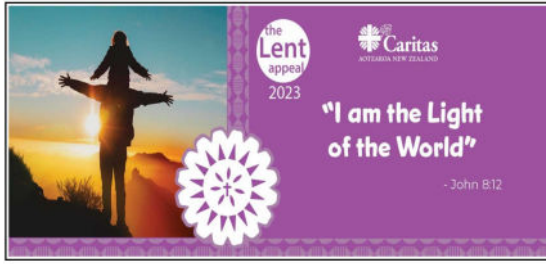
\* How will I be open to God's leading and providence this week?

*Excerpt from the Caritas Lenten Reflection Programme 2023 "I am the light of the world." First Sunday of Lent (Year A) - 26<sup>th</sup> February 2023*

<b>Parish Priest:</b>	Pa Peter Tipene	<b>Parish Office:</b>
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:ppriest@avondalecatholic.org.nz">ppriest@avondalecatholic.org.nz</a>	<b>Phone:</b> (09) 828 9309
<b>Parish Secretary:</b>	Gwendoline Jessop	<b>Tue – Fri:</b> 9.15am – 3.30pm
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:office@avondalecatholic.org.nz">office@avondalecatholic.org.nz</a>	<b>Monday:</b> Closed
<b>Website:</b>	<a href="http://www.avondalecatholic.org.nz">www.avondalecatholic.org.nz</a>	<b>School Office:</b>
<b>Facebook:</b>	<a href="http://www.facebook.com/stmarysavondale">www.facebook.com/stmarysavondale</a>	<b>Phone:</b> (09) 828 5599
<b>School Principal:</b>	Kathryn Hira	
<b>Email:</b>	<a href="mailto:principal@stmarysavondale.school.nz">principal@stmarysavondale.school.nz</a>	

**Pledge Giving Account Number:** 02-0100-0120958-04  
**Mass Offering Account Number:** 02-0100-0120958-05  
**SMACC Building Fund:** 02-0108-0339938-04

~ News and Updates from the Parish and Diocese ~



The Caritas Lenten Giving Envelope packs for the Bishops' 2023 Lenten Appeal are available in the Church foyer. 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 freepost envelope is available for this option. **NZ Post specifies that cash must not be sent through the post.** Donations received by Caritas in these



St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception  
2134 Great North Rd, Avondale

There will be **STATIONS OF THE CROSS** every Friday evening at 6.00pm during Lent, starting from Friday 24th February 2023.

All are welcome to attend.

envelopes by 31 March 2023 will be sent receipts for the 2022/2023 tax year. Donations received by Caritas after 1st April will be sent receipts for the 2023/2024 tax year. **Thank you for your generous support.**

The **St. Mary's Education Grant** has been providing financial assistance to poor students at our local St. Mary's School and overseas, especially in our Pacific neighbourhood. We are looking for new donors. Can you please help with a monthly contribution of just \$10? Yes just \$10 a month can make a difference in some student's life. You can set up automatic payments to the parish account 02-0100-0120958-04 through your bank. Please include the following details; **Reference:** Educ Grant. **Code:** Your phone number. **Particulars:** Your surname and initials. You can set this up yourself through internet banking or take the automatic payment forms to complete from one of us in the Church foyer. For more information, please contact Tony Rea (Email: [tonirea@xtra.co.nz](mailto:tonirea@xtra.co.nz)), Sumit Luis ([sumit.luis@gmail.com](mailto:sumit.luis@gmail.com)) or Joe James (Email: [joejames@yahoo.com](mailto:joejames@yahoo.com) / Phone: 09 8281577).

**Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass** on Friday 3rd March 7.00pm, St. Mary's Church, 20 Kitenui Ave, Mt Albert. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Mercy (sung), Benediction, Mass, followed by general blessing of St. Faustina's relic.

**World Day of Prayer Ecumenical Service: Friday 3rd March 2023 at 10.00am, followed by morning tea – Hosted by St. Mary's Catholic Parish, 2134 Great North Road, Avondale.** This year's World Day of Prayer has been prepared by the WDP Committee of Taiwan. *All are welcome to attend.*

**Training & Formation for Lay Leaders of Liturgical Prayer** offered by the Diocesan Liturgy Centre, to prepare people to lead the Liturgy of the Word in the absence of a priest. It will take place over five Saturdays... Day 1\*: 18th March | Day 2: 29th April | Day 3: 27th May | Day 4: 24th June | Day 5: 29th July. \* Day 1 will be held at Pompallier Diocesan Centre, 30 New St, St. Mary's Bay. Lunch is going to be provided – please bring a one-off koha of \$10 on the 1st Day session. Participants need to be present at all sessions. To register or for more information, please follow the link: [www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/layleaders-prayer](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/layleaders-prayer) or contact us: [liturgycentre@cda.org.nz](mailto:liturgycentre@cda.org.nz)

**DRCNZ – Lenten Retreat:** DRCNZ is organising a Lenten Retreat led by Fr. Joseph Edattu VC, Director, Divine (UK) from Sunday 19th March to Sunday 26th March. No registration fee. All are welcome. Retreat dates and venues: Sun 19 March: 2pm-7pm (includes Holy Mass) at Christ the King Church, Owairaka. Mon 20 to Thu 23 March: 7pm-9pm at Christ the King Church. Fri 24 March: 6pm-8pm Hamilton. Sat 25 March: 2pm-7pm (includes Holy Mass) St. Therese Church, Mt Albert Road. Sun 26 March: 2pm-7pm (includes Holy Mass) Christ the King Church, Owairaka. Contact: Brian 0210309144 / Cynthia 0210642157. Website: [www.drcnewzealand.org](http://www.drcnewzealand.org)

Holy Cross Seminary, Ponsonby warmly invites you to the **Blessing of the remediated Seminary Buildings** on Sat 11th March 2023, starting with Mass at 11am. Cardinal John Dew will preside over the celebrations. A special invitation is extended to all those who may be interested in vocation and religious life to priesthood. All are welcome!

~ Special Acknowledgments ~

**BIRTHDAYS**

Happy Birthday Blessings to the following parishioners:

Lenan Jessop – 1st March

**DEATH ANNIVERSARIES**

Please pray for our dearly departed loved ones whose anniversaries occur at this time

27th February:

Lucia Furbino Oliveira (2nd Anniversary)

28th February:

Dennis Brassey (2nd Anniversary)

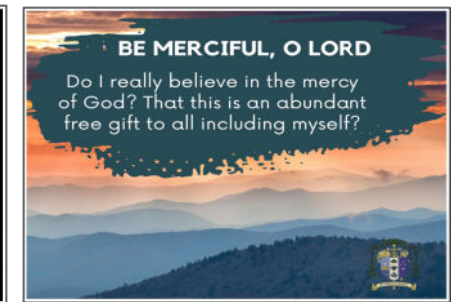
Baby Nico Sherwood (7th Anniversary)

1st March:

Cristalena Mascarenhas (Month's Mind) – Grandmother of Merwyn & Marian Lima

COME DOWN AND SUPPORT THE  
**ST MARY'S YOUTH AVONDALE**

**SUNDAY 5th MARCH 2023**  
We will be here from 9.30am - 3pm  
BUNNINGS, NEW LYNN  
2/12 Titirangi Road, New Lynn



**SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT – 5th March 2023**

Readings: Genesis 12: 1-4 / Ps 33 / 2Timothy 1: 8-10 / Matthew 17: 1-9

	Sunday, 8:30am	Sunday, 10:30am	Sunday, 6pm
<b>Commentator</b>	Joe James	Loutoa Tu'ima	Demelza Colaco
<b>Word</b>	1st: Joseph Katoa 2nd: Ivory-Joan Peauvasa	1st: Meleane Tu'ima 2nd: Seletute Tu'ima	1st: Celine George 2nd: Sifo Gisa
<b>Holy Communion</b>	Jarrold Peauvasa Maselina Suisala Paula Betham	Sr. Danielene MC Sr. Xenia MC Malia Tu'ima	Mariquinha Colaco
<b>Choir/Musicians</b>	Congregation / Choir (Joe James)	Tongan Community Choir	Congregation / Choir (Jeffery Nathan)

**Note:** If you are unable to read/serve on the date that you are rostered, please contact the Parish Office via email: [office@avondalecatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@avondalecatholic.org.nz)