

Dates for your Diary: Monday 27th November – Sunday 3rd December 2023

Wed, 29 Nov	Parish Youth Choir, 6pm – 8pm, Church
Thu, 30 Nov	Tongan Community Choir, 7pm – 9pm, Fr McGrath Room
Thu, 30 Nov	Samoa Community Choir, 6pm – 8pm, Meeting Room 1 (classroom)
Thu, 30 Nov	Friendly Choir, 6.30pm – 8pm, Church
Sat, 2 Dec	Legion of Mary meeting, 9.45am – 11.30am, Whare Iti
Sat, 2 Dec	** Church Cleaning 9.30am – 12.00pm: To be confirmed **
Sat, 2 Dec	** Church Flowers 9.30am – 12.00pm: Tongan Community **
Sat, 2 Dec	Samoa Community Choir, 3pm – 5pm, Meeting Room 1 (classroom)
Sat, 2 Dec	Divine Mercy Prayer Group, 3pm – 5pm, Te Whau Iti
Sat, 2 Dec	Tongan Community Choir, 5pm – 7pm, Fr McGrath Room
Sun, 3 Dec	Tongan Community monthly meeting, 12pm – 2pm, Fr McGrath Room

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

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*

~ The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King ~ 26th NOV 23 ~

Readings: Ezekiel 34: 11-12, 15-17 | Ps 23 | 1Corinthians 15: 20-26, 28 | Matthew 25: 31-46

Gospel Reflection

Today's Gospel passage is the conclusion of Jesus' discourse with His disciples. It is about the end of time, the coming of the Son of Man, and the final judgment. We hear this description of the final judgment at the conclusion of our liturgical year, the Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King. In the context of Matthew's Gospel, this passage might also be read as a conclusion of Matthew's report on Jesus' life and ministry; the remaining chapters report the events of Jesus' Passion and Resurrection.

In today's Gospel, Jesus describes to His disciples the scene of the judgment of the Son of Man. All the nations will be assembled before Him, and He will separate them as a shepherd separates sheep and goats upon their return from the pasture. The judgments made by the Son of Man will be based upon the acts of mercy shown to the least ones – the hungry, the thirsty, the naked, the ill, and the imprisoned. Indeed, Jesus, who suffered on the Cross, identifies Himself with the least ones.

Recall that last week's parable of the talents taught us that the gifts that we have been given are intended to be used for the service of others, especially the least among us. Our judgment before God will be based not only on how we have used these gifts and talents, but also on how we have extended ourselves in service to these least ones. Indeed, Jesus tells us that whenever we have served these least ones, we have served Christ himself.

When we read today's Gospel in the context of the chapters that follow in Matthew's Gospel, we learn the extent to which Jesus identifies with the least ones. In accepting death on the cross, Jesus shows Himself to be one of the hungry, the naked, the ill, and the imprisoned. To accept Jesus is to accept Him who suffered and died on the Cross as one of the least ones.

Excerpt from www.loyolapress.com – Sunday Connection – The Solemnity of Our Lord Jesus Christ the King (Year A)

**I was
hungry
and you
fed me**

Am I giving to the needy as I would the Lord?

NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE NEW ZEALAND

SATURDAY 2 DECEMBER 2023

- Wellington City
- Gather at Civic Square from 1pm.
- Marching to Parliament at 2pm.

www.marchforlife.nz

NZCatholic \$4

The national Catholic newspaper Nov. 19 - Dec. 3, 2023 • No. 674

Archbishop Martin receives the pallium in Wellington 3 The Catholic dating scene from the perspective of men 10

"We ask the Lord for peace"

Pope Francis marks the feast of All Souls pg 17

Six times judged Australasia's leading Catholic newspaper

Thank You

To Our Volunteers

Church Cleaning Roster

Sat 2 Dec 2023
To be confirmed

Sat 9 Dec 2023
Q Colaco, B Joseph Mary, Hoglund Family, L Rebello, N Dsouza, A Mothibe

Flower Arrangement Roster

Sat 2 Dec 2023
Tongan Community

Sat 9 Dec 2023
Friendly Flower Group

Parish Priest: Pa Peter Tipene
Email: ppriest@avondalecatholic.org.nz
Parish Secretary: Gwendoline Jessop
Email: office@avondalecatholic.org.nz
Website: www.avondalecatholic.org.nz
Facebook: www.facebook.com/stmarysavondale
School Principal: Kathryn Hira
Email: principal@stmarysavondale.school.nz

Parish Office:
Phone: (09) 828 9309
Tue – Fri: 9.15am – 3.30pm
Monday: Closed
School Office:
Phone: (09) 828 5599

Pledge Giving Account Number: 02-0108-0706996-000
Mass Offering Account Number: 02-0108-0706996-001
SMACC Building Fund Account Number: 02-0108-0706996-004

~ News and Updates from the Parish and Diocese ~

Christmas & New Year Timetable

As Christmas Day falls on a Monday, please note the following:

Saturday 23rd December 2023

Mass at 9.00am only

Sunday 24th December 2023 – Fourth Sunday of Advent | Christmas Eve

Masses at 8.30am & 10.30am only | No Mass at 6.00pm

Christmas Carols from 11.30pm

Christmas Eve Mass at 12.00am midnight

Monday 25th December 2023 – The Birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ | Christmas Day

Mass at 9.00am only

Tuesday 26th to Saturday 30th December 2023

Mass daily at 9.00am

Sunday 31st December 2023 | Feast of the Holy Family

Masses at 8.30am & 10.30am only | No 6.00pm Mass

Monday 1st January 2024 | Feast of Mary, the Mother of God: Mass at 9.00am only

Tuesday 2nd to Saturday 6th January 2024: Mass daily at 9.00am

Sunday 7th January 2024: Masses at 8.30am, 10.30am & 6.00pm

Monday 8th January 2024: No Mass or Liturgy of the Word

Tuesday 9th January 2024: Usual Mass Schedule resumes

“Welcome Fr. Tony!”: We welcome Fr. Tony O'Connor SM who is looking after the Parish from Friday 1st to Wednesday 13th December 2023 (inclusive), while Pa takes a short break away. Please note that there will be Liturgies of the Word with Holy Communion at 9.00am on: Tuesday 28th, Wednesday 29th and Thursday 30th November. THANK YOU to Colleen Lewis for leading these.

Prayer Cards for Peace in the Holy Land: The Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) Australia and New Zealand has produced 1.5 million prayer cards for distribution across Catholic parishes and schools in NZ and Australia. Pope Francis in a recent Angelus address encouraged prayer and fasting for the Holy Land; “Prayer is the meek and holy force to oppose the diabolical force of hatred, terrorism and war.” Prayer cards are available for you to take, in the Church foyer.

Witnesses of Faith Event – Thursday 30 November, 7-9pm. Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph, Auckland. The Pontifical Foundation, Aid to the Church in Need (ACN) invites you to a unique and inspirational event in support of the suffering and persecuted Church. As part of the “Witnesses of Faith Tour” across Australia and New Zealand, we will hear from 3 international guest speakers (including the Melkite Catholic Patriarch His Beatitude Joseph Absi from Syria) who will share their own personal testimonies of faith in the face of religious persecution. The evening will include a time to raise our hearts in prayer and solidarity with the more than 200,000,000 Christians globally, who today suffer for their faith. A light supper will be served afterwards where you can meet the speakers. More info and to register: www.aidtochurch.org/witnesses or email info@aidtochurch.org

Celebration Mass – 2 December, 4.30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral. This marks the end of our year-long journey with the young leaders of the Diocese of Auckland. At this Mass, we will present the Tu Kahikatea Awards. Bishop Steve Lowe will celebrate the Mass, present the Awards, and give a special blessing to all our youth and young adult ministry leaders. All are welcome at this celebration!

~ Special Announcements ~

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2023

Congratulations to the following 20 children receiving the Sacrament of Confirmation and First Communion at the 10.30am Mass today:

Levy Mae, Madden, Faith, Zhenkira, Nathan, Kendra, Sofeni, Gabriel, Paea, Joseph, Sitani, Kingston, Melechai, Zaiden-Iosefo, Ken, Daniella, Parker, Rebecca, Kitana, and Anamaria.

May the power of the Holy Spirit inspire and encourage you to live more fully the Gospel call to discipleship and may the Eucharist enrich and transform you more and more in the living Body and Blood of Christ.

BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations to those with Birthdays at this time:

Gloria Fononga | Margaret Thomas | Anita Jessop (21) |

Tony Laiman | Julius Siu

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to the following couples who celebrate their special milestone:

Wilfrid & Succurine Rodrigues - 33rd Anniversary

RECENT DEATHS

We pray for the loved ones of those who have died recently, especially:

Linda Escalera | Fr. Paul Shanahan SM

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for our dearly departed, whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially:

Frank Duff | Joe & Anne Franich | Sevieta Pereira

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St Mary's Catholic School Avondale

CULTURAL CONCERT 2023

WEDNESDAY 6TH DECEMBER 5.30PM

Approved Diocesan Marriage Preparation Course

Are you getting married?

Please book your Diocesan Marriage Preparation course here: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/our-courses/>

Please book 1 year (if getting married in NZ) or 18 months (if getting married overseas) in advance of your wedding date. The 3-part course takes about 30 hours to complete. This is usually spread over 3 months. For more information email: marriageandfamily@cda.org.nz or call Gerry on 021 02247442.

~ FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT (Year B) - 3rd December 2023 ~

Isaiah 63: 16-17, 64: 1, 3-8 | Ps 80 | 1Corinthians 1: 3-9 | Mark 13: 31-37

	Sunday, 8.30am	Sunday, 10.30am	Sunday, 6.00pm
Commentator	Ivory-Joan Peauvasa	Loutoa Tu'ima	Demelza Colaco
Word	1 st : Joseph Katoa 2 nd : Keith Simento	1 st : Soanetai Tu'ima 2 nd : Meleane Tu'ima	1 st : Ruth Xavier 2 nd : Sifo Gisa
Holy Communion	Richard Miranda Jarrod Peauvasa Maselina Suisala Otessa Ale Paula Betham	Sr. Josie MC Sr. Damielene MC Sr. Lucy Agnes MC Malia Tu'ima Otolata Tu'ima	Mariquinha Colaco
Choir/Musicians	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