

Dates for your Diary: Monday 26th – Sunday 3rd March 2024

Wed, 28 Feb	Parish Youth Choir, 6pm – 8pm, Fr McGrath Room
Thu, 29 Feb	Samoan Community Choir, 6pm – 8pm, Meeting Room 1 (classroom)
Thu, 29 Feb	Tongan Community Choir, 7pm – 9pm, Fr McGrath Room
Thu, 29 Feb	Friendly Choir, 6pm – 8pm, Church
Sat, 2 Mar	Legion of Mary meeting, 9.45am – 11.30am, Whare Iti
Sat, 2 Mar	** Church Cleaning 9.30am – 12.00pm: Parish Youth Group **
Sat, 2 Mar	Samoan Community Choir, 3pm – 5pm, Meeting Room 1 (classroom)
Sat, 2 Mar	Divine Mercy Prayer Group, 3pm – 5pm, Te Whau Iti
Sat, 2 Mar	Tongan Community Choir, 5pm – 7pm, Fr McGrath Room
Sun, 3 Mar	Samoan Sunday School, 8.30am – 10.30am, Fr McGrath Room
Sun, 3 Mar	Samoan Sunday School, 8.30am – 10.30am, Meeting Room 1 (classroom)
Sun, 3 Mar	Samoan Sunday School, 8.30am – 10.30am, Whare Iti
Sun, 3 Mar	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*

~ SECOND SUNDAY OF LENT ~ 25th February 2024 ~

Readings: Genesis 22: 1-2, 9-13, 15-18 | Ps 116B | Romans 8: 31-34 | Mark 9: 2-10

Gospel Reflection

Time for Encounter | Te Wā mō te Tūtaki



Encountering God and Times of Transformation...

Jesus led Peter, James, and John up a high mountain. Mountains and cloud often signify the presence of God with His people. For example, God was present to Elijah on a mountain (1 Kings 19:8). God revealed Himself to Moses and gave the Ten Commandments on top of a mountain (Exodus 19:20). The Israelites were guided by pillars of cloud and fire in the wilderness (Exodus 13:17-22).

God continues to turn up in the lives of His people. From a cloud God spoke in a voice saying that Jesus was God's Son "The Beloved" and urging the disciples to listen to Jesus. God continues to speak to His people. The question is whether we are listening for God's voice.

Peter did not know what to say because the disciples were terrified. As we follow Jesus, we should not be surprised that as we encounter God there are times of confusion. At times God seems close to us and His purposes seem to be clear. But at other times He seems distant, and His purposes are not clear to us. At these times we are called to have faith in God. In a similar way while they were on the mountain, the disciples encountered Jesus in a new way – He was linked to the Divine. But their understanding was still limited and confused. Transformation always involves passing through darkness and the storms of life. Each day we have the invitation to rely on God for what we need through prayer and reading the Gospel message.

Excerpt from Caritas Lent Reflection Programme 2024 – Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand

Wings.Ngā Parirau

**Know your faith
Share your faith**

**Meet Jesus -
in his Word
in others
in yourself**

Are you
involved with:
• Ministry of Word
or Eucharist,
• Sacramental
preparation, RCIA,
• Children's Liturgy
• living your faith
This is for you!

New Starting Date!

2nd March - 6th April - 4th May

Pompallier Diocesan Centre 10-3pm
30 New St. St. Mary's Bay, Ponsonby
attend all three days for WNP Year One certificate
register: Dianna - dianna@cdca.org.nz

NZCatholic

The national Catholic newspaper Feb. 25 - Mar. 5, 2024 • No. 619

Campaign for living
wage for lowest-paid
school workers 2 Pounamu taonga
for national shrine
in Wellington 3

New college blessed



Six times judged Australasia's leading Catholic newspaper

Thank You

To Our Volunteers

Church Cleaning Roster

Sat 2 Mar 2024

Parish Youth Group

Sat 9 Mar 2024

Legion of Mary Group

Flower Arrangement Roster

Please note that there are
NO FLOWERS DURING LENT.

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 ~

STATIONS OF THE CROSS are every Friday during Lent at 6.00pm, here at St. Mary's, Avondale. All are welcome to attend.

The Lenten Seminar for Children led by the Missionaries of Charity Sisters (and helpers) | Saturday 23rd March 2023 | 10.00am to 1.00pm | Light Lunch provided | Fr. McGrath Meeting Room, St. Mary's Parish, Avondale: Dear Parents, We invite your children (aged from 9-15years old) to participate in this free seminar and be spiritually nourished. This seminar is designed to prepare children to experience a meaningful Lent and to build a personal relationship with Jesus. Children will engage with Bible based activities which includes creativity, Gospel music and interaction with other children of their own age group. To register, please email the Parish Office at office@avondalecatholic.org.nz to obtain the Lenten Seminar Registration form. (Please note that all adults involved in this Seminar have been Police-vetted).



The Time is Now! Ko tenei tonu te Wā! The time is now to empower vulnerable families to thrive. Lenten Giving Envelopes for the Bishops' Lent Appeal 2024 are available from the Church foyer. This year, we are using a single giving envelope. By reducing costs, we ensure more of your donations go to those in need. You can give once or weekly, as is your preference. You may either return your donation envelopes during the parish offertory collection at Mass or send them to Caritas directly using the Freepost option with the envelope. NZ Post specifies that cash must not be sent through the post. Donations received by Caritas in these envelopes by 31 March 2024 will be sent receipts for the 2023/2024 tax year. Donations received by Caritas after April 1st will be sent receipts for the 2024/2025 tax year. **Thank you for your generous support.**

Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass on Friday 1st March 7.00pm at St. Mary's Parish, 20 Kitenui Ave, Mt Albert. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Mercy (sung), Benediction, Mass, followed by Veneration of St. Faustina's relic. All welcome.

Liturgical Ministry Workshops: The Liturgy Centre is offering Liturgical Ministry workshops across the Deaneries which will cover training (for new) and refreshers (for existing) **Ministers of the Word and Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion.** These workshops will consist of context, prayer, and practical formation in these areas. Participants will only need to attend **ONE** of these workshops. All will receive a certificate at completion, which will be posted to their parish and presented at Mass on a chosen date/time. Each session will be held on a specific Sunday at a parish within the designated Deanery, from 1pm – 3pm (with light lunch provided): **3rd March:** Central/City (Good Shepherd Parish) | **10th March:** West (Our Lady of Lourdes, Glen Eden) | **14th April:** East (St. Mark's Pakuranga) | **5th May:** South (St. Anne's Manurewa) | **19th May:** North Shore (St. Joseph's Takapuna). Register via the link: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/liturgy-prayer/formation/>. Once you have registered online, please let the Parish Office know via email: office@avondalecatholic.org.nz so that your name can be added to the list of those attending the workshop. Once the certificates arrive, they will be checked against our list of names prior to the presentation of certificates at Mass. Thank you.

NZ CATHOLIC: The latest issue of NZ Catholic is available in the Church foyer. Price \$4.00 each.

SUMMIT Young Leaders' Weekend: Young leaders, are you ready for an incredible weekend of FORMATION, FELLOWSHIP and being spiritually FILLED? We can't wait to see you at the SUMMIT | 22-24 March at Sonshine Ranch, Clevedon. Go to our Facebook page: <https://www.facebook.com/AKCYM> or email: felicity@cda.org.nz for details.

JOSHUA Catholic Men's Fellowship, North Shore: An open invitation to all men to join others in a spirit of learning, camaraderie, prayer and fellowship. And a special welcome to those who we have not seen for some time. We look forward to your presence on 28 February 2024 from 7.30pm – 9.30pm at the new venue – St. Thomas More Catholic Church, 336 Wairau Road, Glenfield, Auckland. Speaker: Fr. Carl Telford SM. Topic: Fostering a strong Prayer Habit. *Private Confession would be available on request.*

~ Special Announcements ~

BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations to those who celebrated Birthdays recently:

Caleb Laiman (21st Birthday), Laura Funaki, Calah Fonoti
Sr. Magdalen Sheahan DOLC (80th Birthday)

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to the following couples who celebrate their special milestone:

Bill and Betty Walsh – 64 years

RECENT DEATHS

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

Frances Macedo | Fa'anānā Efeso Collins

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

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

Mercy Francis | Lucia Furbino Oliveira | Dennis Brassey

Baby Nico Sherwood

Congratulations to two Auckland Mercy Sisters who celebrated their 70th Jubilee of Profession at the Mercy Sisters Motherhouse in Ponsonby yesterday:

Sr. Margaret Browne and Sr. Judith Leydon.

Congratulations to our newly appointed St. Mary's School Leaders for 2024:

Head Boy: Siao Si Tu'ima, **Head Girl:** Risindee Kulatunga

Prefects: Jaron Raagas, Dominic Colaco, Andrew Iosefo-Te'o, Alana Lehaul, Ameliya Viliani, Shania Kapao

"GO AND MAKE DISCIPLES"

MATTHEW 28:19

HOPE FOR PARISHES IN A POST-CHRISTIAN AGE

Monday, 11 March 2024
7PM - 8:30 PM

\$15 per person

St. Francis Friary and Retreat Centre
50 Hillsborough Road, Hillsborough, Auckland

For more info,
email cheryl.surrey@divinerenovation.org

Register at
divinerenovation.org/mission-tour

Fr. Chris Ryan MGL
Parish Priest - St Declan's, Sydney

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.

~ THIRD SUNDAY OF LENT: 3rd March 2024 ~

Readings: Exodus 20: 1-17 | Ps 19B | 1Corinthians 1: 22-25 | John 2: 13-25

	Sunday, 8.30am Mass	Sunday, 10.30am Mass	Sunday, 6.00pm Mass
Commentator	Maninoa Funaki	Kisina Halangahu	Hiruni Peiris
Word	1 st : Kapitania Funaki 2 nd : Malia Funaki	1 st : Maleta Fononga 2 nd : Rosalyn Fononga	1 st : Raisa Mathias 2 nd : Cynthia Paul
Holy Communion	Liston Colaco Tevita Funaki Agnes Gruijters Autu Isaia Jacinta James	'Otolata Tu'ima Leotisia Tu'ima Kefilini Tu'ima Fololina A'Costa Teresita Minerva Down	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