

Dates for your Diary: Monday 15th – Sunday 21st April 2024

Wed, 17 Apr	Parish Youth Choir practice, 6pm – 8pm, Church
Thu, 18 Apr	Samoan Community, 6pm – 8pm, Meeting Room 1
Thu, 18 Apr	Tongan Community, 7pm – 9pm, Fr McGrath Room
Fri, 19 Apr	Tongan Community Mass, 7pm
Fri, 19 Apr	Tongan Community, 7pm – 9pm, Fr McGrath Room
Sat, 20 Apr	Legion of Mary meeting, 9.45am – 11.30am, Whare Iti
Sat, 20 Apr	** Church Cleaning, 9.30am – 12.00pm: MDM Youth Group **
Sat, 20 Apr	** Church Flowers, 9.30am – 12.00pm: Samoan Community **
Sat, 20 Apr	Samoan Community Choir, 3pm – 5pm, Meeting Room 1
Sat, 20 Apr	Divine Mercy Prayer Group, 3pm – 5pm, Te Whau Iti
Sat, 20 Apr	Tongan Community Choir, 5pm – 7pm, Fr McGrath Room
Sun, 21 Apr	Samoan Sunday School, 8.30am – 10.30am, Fr McGrath Room
Sun, 21 Apr	Samoan Sunday School, 8.30am – 10.30am, Meeting Room 1
Sun, 21 Apr	Samoan Sunday School, 8.30am – 10.30am, Whare Iti (M Tapusoa)
Sun, 21 Apr	Parish Youth Group session, 12pm – 3pm, 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 / Whaingā

To Grow in Awareness as One Parish Family / Kokiritia te Oranga Kotahitanga o te Whanau Whakapono

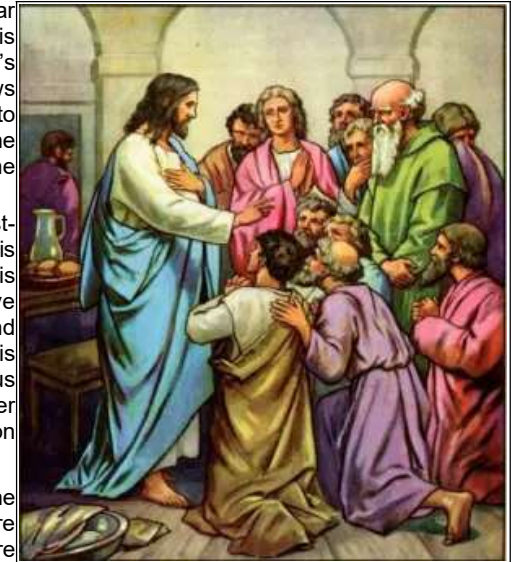
THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ 14th April 2024

Readings: Acts 3: 13-15, 17-19 | Ps 5 | 1John 2: 1-5 | Luke 24: 35-48

Gospel Reflection

On the third Sunday of Easter, we continue to hear Gospel accounts of Jesus' appearances to His disciples following His Resurrection. Today's reading, taken from the Gospel of Luke, follows immediately after the report of Jesus' appearance to His disciples on the road to Emmaus. This is the event being recounted by the disciples in the opening verse of today's Gospel.

Consistently in the reports of Jesus' post-Resurrection appearances, Jesus greets His disciples with the words, "Peace be with you." This is a most appropriate greeting. The disciples have witnessed the death of someone they loved, and they now fear for their own lives as well. Peace is what they need more than anything else. Jesus often connects this greeting of peace with another gift—forgiveness. In today's Gospel, this connection is made in the final verses.



Even as they hear Jesus' greeting of peace, the disciples are startled and terrified. They are uncertain about what to make of the figure before them and, quite understandably, they mistake Jesus for a ghost. Yet the figure before them is not a ghost; Jesus invites them to experience His resurrected body with their senses, to look and to touch. The figure before them is flesh and bone, still bearing the marks of crucifixion. Although the disciples cannot forget His suffering and death, peace begins to take root in their hearts, as their fears turn to joy and amazement.

As further proof of His identity and of His resurrected body, Jesus eats with His disciples. The disciples have known Jesus best through the meals that he has shared with them. Descriptions of these meals are a defining element of Luke's Gospel. By eating with his disciples after his Resurrection, Jesus recalls all these meals, and most importantly, he recalls the Last Supper.

Luke's report of the Last Supper and the meals that Jesus shared after his Resurrection unveil for us the significance of the Eucharist. Having shared a meal with his disciples, Jesus now uncovers for them the significance of what was written about him in the Scriptures. So, too, our celebration of the Mass is an encounter with Jesus, through the Word and the Sacrament of the Eucharist. As Jesus commissions his disciples to be witnesses to what Scriptures foretold, our celebration of the Eucharist commissions us. Like the disciples, we are sent to announce the good news of Jesus' forgiveness of sins.

Excerpt from www.loyolapress.com – Sunday Connection – Third Sunday of Easter (Year B) 14 April 2024

THE STUDIO OF JOHN THE BAPTIST PRESENTS

DIVINE MYSTERIES

FOR OUR TIME



OPEN STUDIO & SACRED ART EXHIBITION

- Sacred Art for sale
- View a legacy of 20 year's work

10am – 4pm

8th–13th, 15th–20th April 2024

1 Fred Thomas Drive, Takapuna, Auckland.

NZCatholic \$4
The national Catholic newspaper April 7 - 20, 2024 - No. 632

Wellington's Sacred Heart Cathedral to open in June 3

From doubter to devotee: a conversion story 9

Saints' relics to visit NZ

Tour to deepen Eastern and Western Catholic Churches' bond - pg 2

Six times judged Australasia's leading Catholic newspaper

Thank You
To Our Volunteers
Church Cleaning Roster

Sat 20 Apr 2024

MDM Youth Group

Sat 27 Apr 2024

Q Colaco, B Joseph Mary, Hoglund Family, L Rebello, N Dsouza, A Mothibe

Flower Arrangement Roster

Sat 20 Apr 2024

Samoan Community

Sat 27 Apr 2024

Telesia & May

~ Please contact the Parish Office if you would like to join the volunteer rosters above. ~

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 ~

Pledge Giving Envelopes – SEMINARY COLLECTION: Vocations Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Easter) is a worldwide Day of Prayer for Vocations to the priesthood and religious life. This year Vocations Sunday is on the **28th April 2024**. The monies collected help towards the fees for the Auckland students studying for the priesthood.

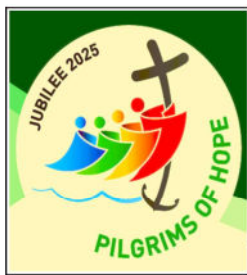
Tax Receipts for the Financial Year End 31st March 2024 are available in the Church foyer. As per IRD norms, you can get 33.33% of receipted donations as refund back once claimed on the IRD website: <https://www.ird.govt.nz/income-tax/income-tax-for-individuals/individual-tax-credits/tax-credits-for-donations>. If you donate by cash and need a set of pledge envelopes, please email the Parish Office or put your contact details and request in the collection basket. We will arrange to get these to you in the next couple of weeks when the new set of pledge envelopes will be available. Those paying through Bank Direct Credit – please remember to inform us of your contact details by email when the first payment is made.

THANK YOU for your generosity for the Good Friday service for maintenance of places in the Holy Land. Amount collected was \$1570.00 (2023: \$1570.00)

St. Mary's School Newsletter: Check out the latest news from our wonderful School with this link: <https://www.stmarysavondale.school.nz/newsletters>

Towards October 2024: Local Churches are invited to contribute to the Synod on Synodality by deepening aspects of the Synthesis Report. These contributions are guided by the question: "HOW can we be a synodal Church in mission?" The diocese is offering sessions in the ten days post Easter for the Church of Auckland to participate in this phase of the consultation. For more details and to register (which is required) <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/towards-october-2024/>

Building a Thriving Parish is part 2 of the *Go Make Disciples* series of presentations on Parish Renewal. We will be sharing experiences, challenges, and practical tools and insights to help you as Lay Leaders to help your parish thrive. This will be held from 7pm – 9pm, Wednesday 24th April 2024 at St. Francis Retreat Centre, 50 Hillsborough Road, Hillsborough. Koha on the night. RSVP to stephenf@cda.org.nz



Pilgrims of Hope – Bishops create special webpage for Jubilee 2025: The NZ Catholic Bishops Conference has created a special online page of resources for parishes and individuals to use as we walk together towards Jubilee 2025 – Pilgrims of Hope: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/about-us/jubilee-year-2025/>

The Fifth Gospel Project: Father John O'Connor's Food For Faith forum is collecting and collating for publication stories of personal experience of God. Send an experience (up to 400 words – before the end of April) by email to john@fff.org.nz.

More information on this <https://foodforfaith.org.nz/2024/03/telling-the-story/>

Relics Tour: From 26th April to 5th May there is a unique and historic opportunity to welcome the relics of saints from both the Eastern and Western Catholic Churches. This promises to be a spiritually enriching experience. More details: www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/calendar/

University Ministry Coordinator – Catholic Diocese of Auckland: Are you a self-motivated relationship-building who can be the driving force behind a new project? We're looking for someone who answers "Yes!" to become our full-time University Ministry Coordinator. You'll be part of a tight-knit team implementing a bold new strategy for ministry to young people in the Diocese of Auckland. To learn more, please visit: www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/

The Sisters of St Joseph of the Sacred Heart have a new executive management position available, NZ Services and Property Manager. This role supports the Sisters throughout NZ and is a member of the executive team. It calls for an experienced manager in either business and/or philanthropy, with collaborative and genuine care for the Sisters values, services, and mission. Further information is available on the ad in Seek, under the heading "Community Services & Development: Management". Applications close 6th May 2024.

~ Special Announcements ~

BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations to those who celebrated Birthdays recently, especially:

Tarika Asthana | Bastiana Joseph Mary | Francis Katoa

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to the following couples who celebrate their special milestone, especially:

Harry & Marcianacolo Risale (1st year Anniversary)

RECENT DEATHS

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

Amalia Chi Parry | Rudy Thomsen | Lorna David

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

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

So'o Venise Ainuu Seiuli | Caitaninho Sequeira

Barbara Ranum



SAFEGUARDING

Safeguarding is making a safe space for all our people



SAFE CHURCH – SAFE GUARDING

As Catholics we believe that every person is created in the likeness and image of God. Therefore, we continue to ensure that our parish is a place where everyone is treated with respect and dignity. We foster an environment which is welcoming, and in which all our parish whanau, including our tamariki, rangatahi, kuia and kaumatua, feel safe. If you have any complaints or concerns, our Safeguarding Co-ordinator is Tania Starr and you can contact her via email: safeguardingrep@avondalecatholic.org.nz. You may also contact the National Office for Professional Standards 0800 114 662. You may also contact the Police 111.

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.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ 21st April 2024 (Vocations Sunday)

Readings: Acts 4: 8-12 | Ps 118 | 1 John 3: 1-2 | John 10: 11-18

	Sunday, 8.30am	Sunday, 10.30am	Sunday, 6.00pm
Commentator	MDM Youth Group	Parish Youth Mass	Don Perera
Word	MDM Youth Group	Parish Youth Mass	1 st : Raisa Mathias 2 nd : Cynthia Paul
Holy Communion	Tevita Funaki Autu Isaia Jacinta James Colleen Lewis Richard Miranda	Sr. Hedwina MC Fololina A'Costa Teresita Minerva Down Bastiana Joseph Mary Beatrice Nguninzira	Edmar Oliveira
Choir/Musicians	MDM Youth Group	Parish Youth Choir	Congregation / Choir (Colaco Family)

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