

Dates for your Diary: Monday 29th April - Sunday 5th May 2024

Wed, 1 May	Parish Youth Choir, 6pm – 8pm, Church
Thu, 2 May	Friendly Choir, 6pm – 8pm, Church
Thu, 2 May	Samoan Community, 6pm – 8pm, Meeting Room 1
Thu, 2 May	Tongan Community, 7pm – 9pm, Fr McGrath Room
Sat, 4 May	Legion of Mary meeting, 9.45am – 11.30am, Whare Iti
Sat, 4 May	** Church Cleaning, 9.30am – 12.00pm: Samoan Sunday School
Sat, 4 May	** Church Flowers, 9.30am – 12.00pm: Tongan Community **
Sat, 4 May	Samoan Community Choir, 3pm – 5pm, Meeting Room 1
Sat, 4 May	Divine Mercy Prayer Group, 3pm – 5pm, Te Whau Iti
Sat, 4 May	Tongan Community Choir, 5pm – 7pm, Fr McGrath Room
Sun, 4 May	Samoan Sunday School, 8.30am – 10.30am, Meeting Room 1, Fr McGrath Room & Whare Iti
Sun, 4 May	Tongan Community 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 / Whaingā

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

FIFTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ 28th April 2024

Readings: Acts 9: 26-31 | Ps 22 | 1John 3: 18-24 | John 15: 1-8

Gospel Reflection

Today's reading from the Gospel of John is part of Jesus' discourse at the Last Supper. Recall that John tells the story of Jesus' Last Supper differently from the other Evangelists. In John's Gospel, the Last Supper begins with Jesus washing His disciples' feet. Jesus then provides them with a series of instructions. We call this section the Last Supper discourse or Jesus' farewell discourse. In these chapters of John's Gospel, Jesus instructs His disciples about the importance of following his example of love and service, about the gift they will receive when Jesus sends them the Holy Spirit, and about their relationship with Jesus and with the world. The Last Supper discourse concludes with Jesus' prayer for his disciples.

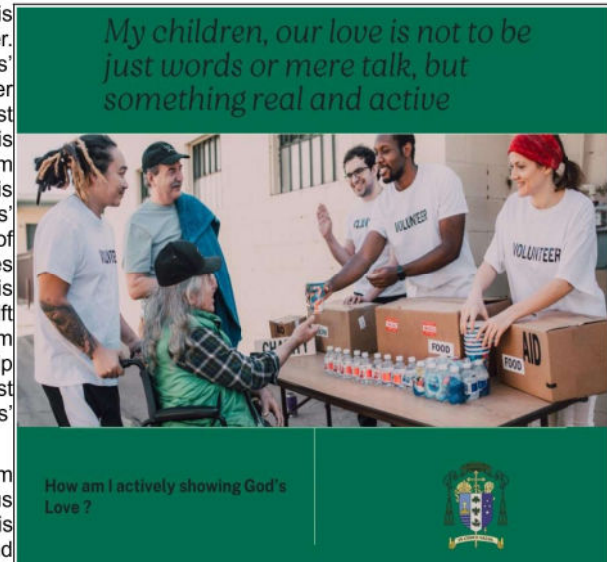
Today's Gospel reading is taken from middle of the Last Supper discourse. Jesus speaks about His relationship to His disciples. In his metaphor of the vine and the branches, Jesus is referencing the Hebrew Scriptures. In the Hebrew Scriptures, Israel is the vineyard, and Yahweh Himself tends the vineyard. One of the primary themes of John's Gospel is to show Jesus to be the fulfilment of God's promises to Israel.

In this passage, Jesus teaches His disciples that His relationship with them will not end after His death; He will remain with them always. This unity between Jesus and His disciples is the basis for their ability to continue to do the work that He began. Similarly, Jesus' presence with us through the Gift of the Holy Spirit enables us to continue the work of love and reconciliation that He began.

Jesus also teaches His disciples about the importance of the words He has taught to them. Just as Jesus will remain in the disciples, so too will His words. We come to know Jesus through the Scriptures, the living Word of God. Our commitment to be Christ's disciples is sustained through God's Word. This commitment is also strengthened by our life of prayer and nourished by the Eucharist. Through the Eucharist, Jesus dwells in us, remains with us, and transforms us so that we might bear fruit in His name.

We observe many people who act in ways that show their commitment to serve their neighbour. Christians and non-Christians feed the hungry, care for the sick, shelter the homeless, and give alms to the poor. These actions become acts of Christian discipleship when they are motivated by our relationship with Jesus. Whatever the immediate results, Jesus promises us that these actions will bear fruit when we undertake them in His name.

Excerpt from www.loyolapress.com – Sunday Connection – Fifth Sunday of Easter (Year B) 28 April 2024



My children, our love is not to be just words or mere talk, but something real and active

How am I actively showing God's Love?



An Afternoon Concert with Chris Skinner sm



Chris will once again provide a concert for us at Mary MacKillop Centre. He will sing many of his well-loved songs for our enjoyment. Come along for a feast of uplifting musical entertainment. You won't be disappointed!

Date: Sunday 5 May @2pm
Venue: Mary MacKillop Centre Chapel
56 Selwyn Ave, Mission Bay.
Suggested Koha: \$10

Light refreshments will be served after the concert.

NZCatholic \$4

The national Catholic newspaper April 21 - May 4, 2024 - No. 833
Call to reduce rising cost pressures on state-integrated schools 3
Vatican dicastery defends human dignity in new document 11

Pope Prays for Peace

The Pope's Easter message and blessing 'urbi et orbi' - pg 9



Six times judged Australasia's leading Catholic newspaper

Thank You

To Our Volunteers Church Cleaning Roster

Sat 4 May 2024

Samoan Sunday School

Sat 11 May 2024

Parish Youth Group

Flower Arrangement Roster

Sat 4 May 2024

Tongan Community

Sat 11 May 2024

Friendly Flower Group

~ 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 ~

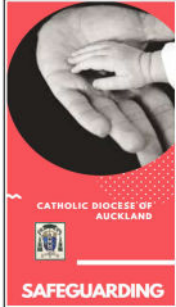
2024 Bishop's Appeal: Please support our seminarians as they follow Christ the Good Shepherd in their priestly vocations <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/donate>. Thanks to all those who have already supported the appeal. Please continue to pray for our seminarians and vocations to the priesthood.



Thinking about the priesthood? Come and meet with seminarians and priests exploring your vocation in a warm and welcoming atmosphere. This is a great opportunity to connect, share experiences, and support one another on your journey of faith. Saturday 4th May 2024 at noon – <https://www.aucklandvocations.org.nz> for more details.

“BUY A BRICK”: Our wall of bricks is now in place, honouring the names of many members of our parish – past and present. However, **we need 48 more bricks to complete our wall.** This is an opportunity for those of you who missed out previously to purchase a brick and choose the wording to be inscribed. A brick can be purchased for a donation of \$150. Your donation is eligible for the tax rebate. All proceeds from the sale of bricks goes towards the costs of relocating and refurbishing our hall. You can register your interest today in the Church foyer. Our revitalisation plan is progressing. An engineer has prepared a plan for the foundation to which the hall and library will be relocated. We are now waiting on building consent from Council to proceed. The next stage will be building the actual foundations before relocating the buildings. Once relocated, there will be further work and fundraising required to complete renovations to the buildings.

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.



Safeguarding Information Pamphlet: Have you seen this little pamphlet available in the Church foyer? Pick one up to learn more about Safeguarding, or check out: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/services/safeguarding/> for further information.

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/>



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/>

Let's Talk About Mary: Wednesday 8th May 2024, 7.30pm, Poynton Room, Pompallier Diocesan Centre and on Zoom. In May traditionally the month of Mary, join Sr. Sian for an opportunity to explore Mary, missionary disciple. Please register via email to pastoraloffice@cda.org.nz

Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass on Friday 3rd May 2024, 7.00pm at St. Mary's Parish, 20 Kiteui Avenue, Mt Albert. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Mercy (sung), Benediction, Mass, followed by Veneration of St. Faustina's relic. All are welcome.

CDA Connect: Catch up with happenings in the Diocese and get the heads-up on upcoming events. The latest edition of CDA Connect is now available: <https://aucklandcatholic.org.nz/services/cda-connect/>

~ Special Announcements ~

BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations to those who celebrated Birthdays recently, especially:

Sanele Katoa | Jeffery Nathan | Tavita Tagaloa

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to the following couples who celebrate their special milestone:

Mary and John Sherwood (62 years)

RECENT DEATHS

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

Rev. Fr. William (Bill) Hansell

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

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

Maria D'Souza | Pramod Rego | Fr. James McGrath



Jubilee Bursaries
For Theological and Religious Education

APPLICATIONS INVITED
for Semester 2, 2024

Applications close Thursday, 6 June 2024

Applicants must be Catholic and making a contribution to the mission of the Catholic Church in the Auckland Diocese
The Bursary is a contribution toward Degree and Post Grad Theology and RE courses

For information and an application pack please contact:
michelle@cda.org.nz
Auckland Catholic Diocese

TAMARIKI MATTER
CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

If you feel sad or worried it is OK to tell:

A parent A friend A teacher An adult you trust



We will always listen to you.

Special thanks to Archdiocese of Brisbane for sharing resources

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.

SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER ~ 5th May 2024

Readings: Acts: 10: 25-26, 34-35, 44-48 | Ps 98 | 1 John 4: 7-10 | John 15: 9-17

	Sunday, 8.30am	Sunday, 10.30am	Sunday, 6.00pm
Commentator	Ivory-Joan Peauvasa	Soanetai Tu'ima	Demelza Colaco
Word	1 st : Joe James 2 nd : Joseph Katoa	1 st : Tania Starr 2 nd : Marysiana Tauliili	1 st : Mike Vinkenvleugel 2 nd : Ruth Xavier
Holy Communion	Autu Isaia Jacinta James Richard Miranda Jarrod Peauvasa Maselina Suisala	'Otolata Tu'ima Leotisia Tu'ima Kefilini Tu'ima Fololina A'Costa Ausage Lata	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