



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*

OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE ~ 24 Nov 2024

Readings: Daniel 7: 13-14 | Ps 93 | Revelations 1: 5-8 | John 18: 33-37

Gospel Reflection

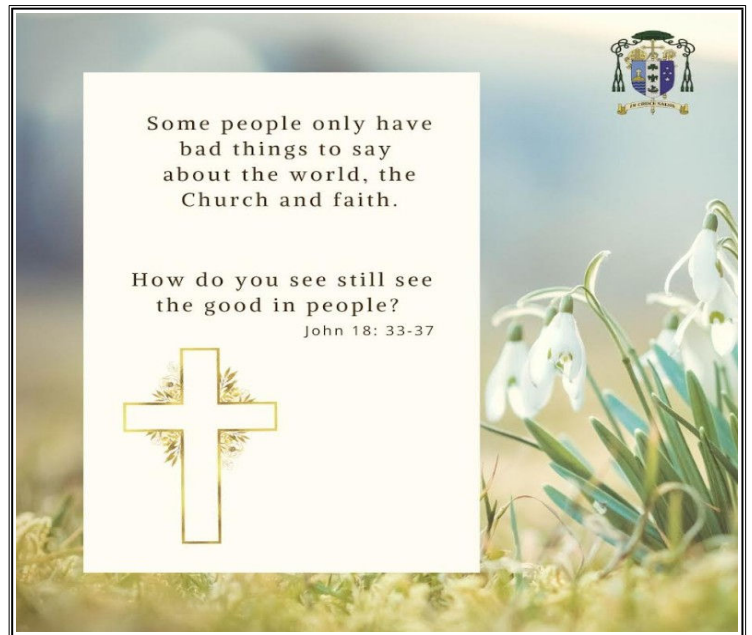
This Sunday is the last Sunday of the Church's liturgical year. On this Sunday we celebrate the Solemnity of Christ the King. Each year we set aside this Sunday to reflect upon this title that we have given to Jesus. In Lectionary Cycle C, we read a portion of the passion from the Gospel of John, which is also part of the Gospel reading proclaimed each year on Good Friday.

In John's Gospel, Pilate is shown in a more favourable light than in the other Gospels. In today's reading, we hear one of two dialogues between Jesus and Pilate that are reported in John's Gospel. Pilate questions Jesus about the charges brought against Him. Caiaphas and the high priests have charged Jesus with a political crime, one that would require a punishment of death. Pilate distances himself from the Jewish leaders who accuse Jesus; he is not a Jew, and he seems to want little to do with this Jewish affair.

In His responses to Pilate's questions, Jesus distinguishes His kingdom from the political powers of this world. King and kingdom may be appropriate terms for Jesus' mission and promise, but only by analogy. Jesus is King, but not the kind of king we imagine or expect. He was certainly not the kind of king Pilate feared He might be.

Jesus refers to a kingdom that does not belong to this world. This has been mentioned earlier in John's Gospel. Recall that in His prayer during the Last Supper discourse (see [John 17:6-18](#)), Jesus prayed for His disciples who are in the world but do not belong to the world. Yet like Jesus, they are sent into the world for the world's salvation. In today's reading, we see Jesus identify the final proof that His kingdom is not of this world: If His kingdom were of this world, then there would be people fighting to save Him. Again we hear echoes of John's theme – salvation is worked out through a cosmic battle. It is helpful to return to the first chapter of John's Gospel to understand the context for Jesus' words to Pilate. Jesus came into the world, but the world did not know Him. In John's language, the world prefers the darkness, and yet the light will not be overcome by the darkness.

Truth has been another important theme in John's Gospel. We see it emphasised in the conclusion of the dialogue between Jesus and Pilate. Those who know the truth will recognise Jesus as King and will know how to interpret this insight. Yet Jesus' kingship was hidden from many of His contemporaries. Only those chosen, those who have the eyes of faith, are able to see. As modern disciples of Jesus, we also struggle at times to recognise Jesus as King. Today's Gospel invites us to see with eyes of faith that we might recognise that Jesus, through His crucifixion and death, is indeed King and Saviour of all.



~ News and Updates from the Parish and Diocese ~

Annual Mass for Deceased Clergy: Wednesday 27th November 2024 at St. Patrick's Catholic Church, 19 Sunset View Road, Panmure at 11.00am. All are welcome.

Changes to the Mass Schedule for two weeks (Tuesday 3rd December to Tuesday 14th December 2024): No weekday Masses from Tuesday 3rd Dec to Saturday 7th Dec (inclusive). Sunday Masses as usual on 8th December at 8.30am, 10.30am and 6.00pm. No weekday Masses from Tuesday 10th December to Saturday 14th December (inclusive). Sunday Masses as usual on 15th December at 8.30am, 10.30am and 6.00pm. Weekday 9.00am Masses resume from Tuesday 17th December 2024. Please note that Parish Office hours remain the same during these two weeks.

St. Mary's School 'End of Year Thanksgiving Mass' will be at 10.00am on Monday 16th December 2024.

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



ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC CHURCH, AVONDALE
CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR TIMETABLE

Sunday 22nd December 2024
Masses at: 8.30am | 10.30am | 6.00pm

Monday 23rd December 2024
No Mass or Liturgy

Tuesday 24th December 2024 (Christmas Eve)
Mass at 9.00am
Carol singing from 11.30pm
Midnight Christmas Mass at: 12.00am

Wednesday 25th December 2024 - The Birth of Our Lord Jesus Christ
Christmas Day Mass at 9.00am ONLY

Thursday 26th to Saturday 28th December 2024
Mass at: 9.00am

Sunday 29th December 2024
Masses at: 8.30am | 10.30am (No 6.00pm Mass)

Monday 30th December 2024
No Mass or Liturgy

Tuesday 31st December 2024 - Feast of the Holy Family
Mass at 9.00am ONLY

Wednesday 1st January 2025 - Feast of Mary, the Holy Mother of God
Mass at 9.00am ONLY

Thursday 2nd to Saturday 4th January 2025
Mass at: 9.00am

Sunday 5th January 2025 - The Epiphany of the Lord
Masses at: 8.30am | 10.30am (No 6.00pm Mass)

Monday 6th January 2025
No Mass or Liturgy

Mass Timetable resumes as usual from the 7th January 2025

Tuesday 7th to Saturday 11th January 2025
Mass at: 9.00am

Sunday 12th January 2025 - The Baptism of the Lord
Masses at: 8.30am | 10.30am | 6.00pm

Weekday Masses at nearby Parishes:

St. Dominic's, Blockhouse Bay:

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday & Friday at 9.15am. Wednesday at 7pm.

Christ the King, Owairaka:

Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday & Saturday at 9am. Friday at 10am.

Our Lady of Lourdes, Glen Eden:

Monday & Friday at 9am. Tuesday, Wednesday & Thursday at 6.30pm.

St. Mary's, Mt Albert:

Tuesday at 6.30pm. Wednesday at 9am. Thursday at 10am. Friday & Saturday at 9am.

Calendars for next year - 2025:

The following calendars (limited stock) for next year 2025 are now available from the Church foyer after Mass...

Columban Calendar @ \$12.00 each

Divine Mercy Wall Calendar @ \$15.00 each.

You can either give your cash (exact amount) to Pa, or hand into the Parish Office (during office hours). Thank you.

Year of Jubilee:

Pope Francis has proclaimed 2025 as a **Year of Jubilee – Pilgrims of Hope**.

As well as local initiatives, the Diocese has a calendar of **Jubilee Events**.

At this stage they are presented as date claimers so that you can put them in your diaries so that when notification of registrations have been opened, your calendars are free. Explore and

return regularly to <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/jubilee2025/jubilee-calendar/>

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St. Michael's Advent Retreat with Dr. Robert Loretz: St. Michael's, Remuera is hosting a Retreat to prepare us for the Incarnation of Our Lord this Advent. When: Sat 30th Nov, 9am – 5.30pm (You're welcome to join our Saturday Mass 8.00am – 8.30am & Confession 8.30am). Where: St. Michael's Church, Beatrice Avenue, Remuera. Join us as we delve into the theme of 'Friendship & Virtue' enriching our understanding of hope, faith, joy and peace with Dr. Robert Loretz.

~ Special Announcements ~

BIRTHDAYS

Congratulations to those who celebrate Birthdays this week, especially:

Demelza Colaco | Emileah Meleisea | Julius Siu
Tama 'A Manu'a Fa'asolo

WEDDING ANNIVERSARIES

Congratulations to the following couples who celebrate their special milestone:

Wilfrid & Succurine Rodrigues (34 years)
Kevin & Kathryn Wood (50 years)

RECENT DEATHS

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

Christopher Guillemin

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

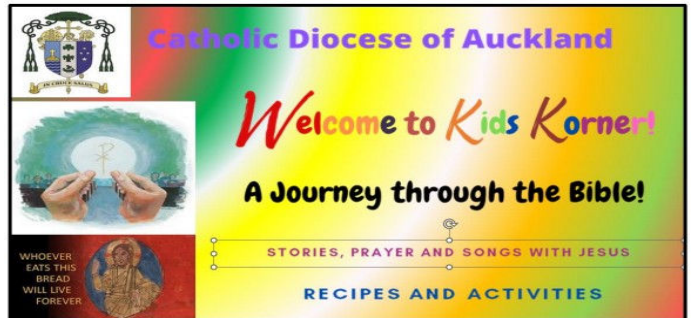
We pray for our dearly departed, whose anniversaries occur at this time, especially:

Amorin Peixoto | Joe Franich | Anne Franich
Serieta Pereira



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.



Click on above image to view activities or <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/10/Celebrating-CHRIST-the-KING-Solemnity.pdf>

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ 1st DECEMBER 2024

Readings: Jeremiah 33: 14-16 | Ps 25 | Thessalonians 3: 12 – 4: 2 | Luke 21: 25-28, 34-36

	Sunday, 8.30am	Sunday, 10.30am	Sunday, 6.00pm
Commentator	Kapitania Funaki	David Fa'alau-Solia	Demelza Colaco
Word	1 st : Malia Funaki 2 nd : Maninoa Funaki	1 st : Maleta Fononga 2 nd : Rosalyn Fononga	1 st : Sifo Gisa 2 nd : Neha Jaiju
Holy Communion	Otessa Ale Paula Betham Carla Carmody Liston Colaco Tevita Funaki	Sr. Josie MC Sr. Damielene MC Malia Tu'ima 'Otolata Tu'ima Leotisia Tu'ima	Edmar de Oliveira
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

Dates for your Diary: Monday 25th November – Sunday 1st December 2024

Wed, 27 Nov	CHURCH: Parish Youth Choir, 6pm – 8pm
Thu, 28 Nov	MEETING ROOM 1: Samoan Community Choir, 6pm – 8pm
Thu, 28 Nov	FR. McGRATH ROOM: Tongan Community Choir, 7pm – 9pm
Sat, 30 Nov	** Church Cleaning Roster: Samoan Sunday School, 9.30am – 12.00pm **
Sat, 30 Nov	** Church Flowers Roster: Tongan Community, 9.30am – 12.00pm **
Sat, 30 Nov	WHARE ITI: Legion of Mary meeting, 9.45am – 11.30am
Sat, 30 Nov	MEETING ROOM 1: Samoan Community Choir, 3pm – 5pm
Sat, 30 Nov	TE WHAU ITI: Divine Mercy Prayer Group, 3pm – 5pm
Sat, 30 Nov	FR. McGRATH ROOM: Tongan Community Choir, 5pm – 7pm
Sun, 1 Dec	FR. McGRATH ROOM: Tongan Community – Monthly meeting, 12pm – 2pm

MASS SCHEDULE 2024

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)

PARISH FUNDRAISING
CHRISTMAS
Raffle
5 DIFFERENT PRIZES TO BE WON
DRAWN
SUNDAY 22ND DECEMBER
AFTER THE 8:30AM MASS
\$5 per ticket



To Our Volunteers
Church Cleaning Roster

Sat 30 Nov 2024

Samoan Sunday School

Sat 7 Dec 2024

Parish Youth Group

Flower Arrangement Roster

Sat 30 Nov 2024

Tongan Community

Sat 7 Dec 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: 9.30am – 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