



St. Mary of the Immaculate Conception

Catholic Parish, 2134 Great North Road, 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

SIXTH SUNDAY ORDINARY TIME ~ 15th February 2026

Readings: Ecclesiasticus 15: 15-20 | Ps. 119A | 1Corinthians 2: 6-10 | Matthew 5: 17-37

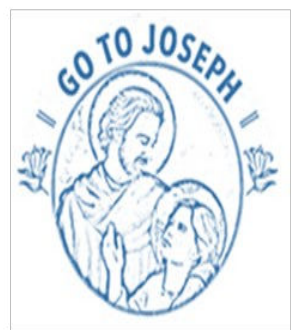
~ Gospel Reflection ~



Matthew continues the Sermon on the Mount with a three part instruction by Jesus on the Way of Life in the kingdom of Heaven. Today's reading is part one and deals with the Law. Part two deals with worship and religious practice and contains the Lord's Prayer. Part three deals with trusting God and deeds of loving service to our neighbour.

When Matthew speaks of "the Law and the prophets" he means the whole Scripture. When the Messiah brings the fullness of the kingdom none of scripture will be done away with. Instead it will be fulfilled. Matthew's Jesus does not overturn the Law of Moses, nor does He set His followers free from the Law. He requires His followers to go beyond the Law by doing more than the Law requires.

The Law condemned murder. Jesus condemns anger. The Law condemned adultery. Jesus condemns even lustful looks. As Jewish Christians who had always been faithful to the Law, Matthew's community need a way to understand the difference Jesus and the kingdom He brings have made. They affirmed that God had always been at work in history through "the Law and the prophets." But God's work goes beyond that to be embodied by the Messiah who reveals the definitive will of God. The written scriptures and their interpretation in tradition are surpassed by Jesus whose life and teaching are the definitive revelation of the will of God.



Prayer to St Joseph

O Saint Joseph, do assist us by your powerful intercession and obtain for us our parish Church.

And thus, having experienced your heavenly power here below may we praise God our Father in Heaven. Amen

~ News and Updates from our Parish and around the Diocese ~

ASH Wednesday: There will be distribution of ashes at the 9.00am Mass in the Chapel on ASH Wednesday 18th February 2026.

Welcome to Kids Korner – A Journey through the Bible! <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2026/01/CELEBRATING-The-SIXTH-SUNDAY-in-OT.pdf>

Reshaping in the Spirit of Synodality regional FORMATION sessions: Thursday 26th February 2026 at Christ the King Owairaka – Parish Hall from 7.00pm – 9.00pm. Registration is essential and will close three days prior to the session. <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/reshaping-in-the-spirit-of-synodality>

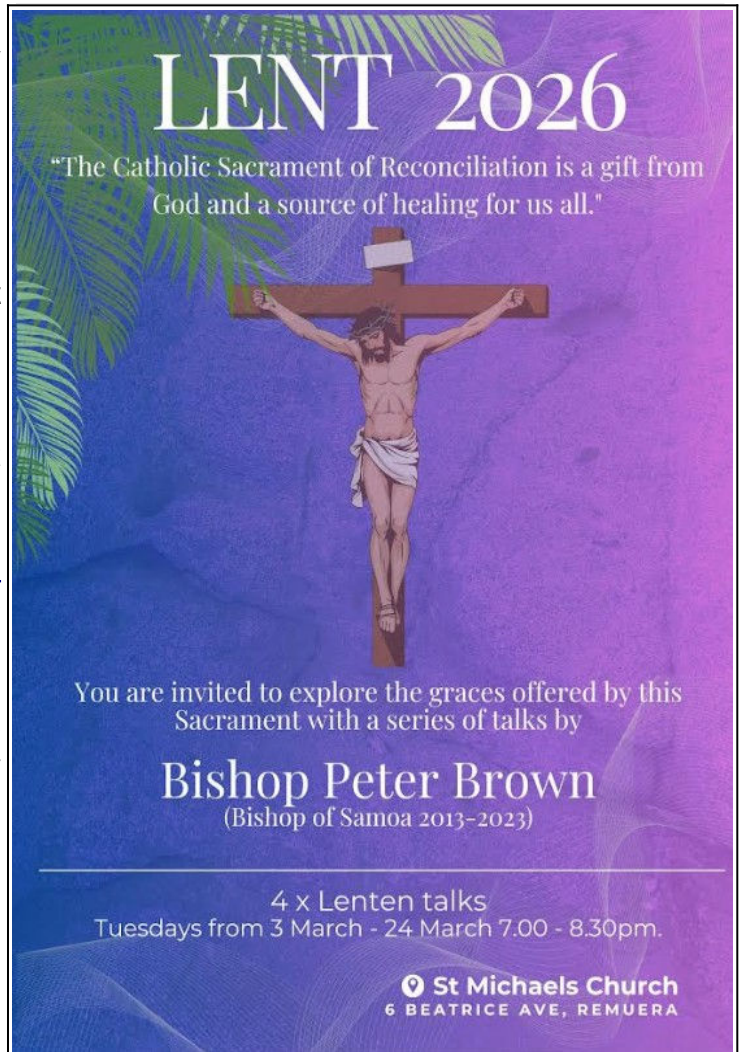
LENT 2026 with FOOD FOR FAITH: Visit <https://www.foodforfaith.org.nz>

CALLING ALL TERTIARY STUDENTS! There is a **large, vibrant, and rapidly growing** CATHOLIC STUDENT COMMUNITY present across University of Auckland and AUT campuses. **JOIN US in 2026!** To find out more, please contact Daniel Story at dans@cda.org.nz and/or check out the Auckland Catholic Tertiary Chaplaincy (ACTC) socials. Search “aucklandcatholicchaplaincy”.

Parish Pledge Giving via Online Banking: Due to our current situation and many of our parishioners having to attend Sunday Mass elsewhere or closer to home during this time, we kindly encourage you to change from using Pledge Envelopes to Online Banking instead. We will still be able to issue a tax receipt to you at the end of the current financial year. If you would like to change to online banking, please contact the Parish Office.

Young Leaders Commissioning Mass, 4.30pm, Sunday 22nd February at St Patrick’s Cathedral:

Join us as we begin another grace-filled year of youth ministry with our Young Leaders’ Commissioning Mass! Monsignor Bernard Kiely will be celebrating the Mass and commissioning our young leaders as they are sent out for ministry in 2026. If you’re a youth ministry leader or young adult ministry leader, you’re an essential part of this Mass! We want to pray with you and for you, as you begin your ministry year. Please invite your whānau, your friends, and your wider faith community to join us as well. Unite with our young leaders in faith, hope and joy as we commence another incredible year of youth ministry in the Diocese! More info here: <https://www.facebook.com/share/1BAAdQEMwXL/>



LENT 2026

“The Catholic Sacrament of Reconciliation is a gift from God and a source of healing for us all.”

You are invited to explore the graces offered by this Sacrament with a series of talks by

Bishop Peter Brown
(Bishop of Samoa 2013–2023)

4 x Lenten talks
Tuesdays from 3 March - 24 March 7.00 - 8.30pm.

St Michaels Church
6 BEATRICE AVE, REMUERA

Parish Priest:	Fr. Andrew Matthew Assistant Priest: Fr. Danko Bizjak
Email:	ppriest@avondalecatholic.org.nz
Parish Secretary:	Gwendoline Jessop Helg
Email:	office@avondalecatholic.org.nz
Website:	www.avondalecatholic.org.nz
Facebook:	www.facebook.com/stmarysavondale
School Principal:	Kathryn Hira
Email:	principal@stmarysavondale.school.nz

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

Parish Office:

Phone: (09) 828 9309

Tue – Fri: 9.30am – 3.30pm

Monday: Closed

School Office:

Phone: (09) 828 5599