



Your Parish, *Your Home.*

Te Whare Karakia o Hato,
Maaka, Pakuranga

St Mark's Catholic Mission Parish

Year A Fourth Sunday of Advent Mary's Child: The Emmanuel 21 December 2025

Mass Times:
Tuesday – Saturday:
9.00am
Wednesday: 7.00pm
Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm
Sunday: 8.30am, 10.30am,
6.30pm

Rosary:
Tuesday – Friday: 8.30am
Saturday: 8.00am

Exposition & Holy Hour:
Monday to Saturday:
8.00am – 9.00am
1st Friday: 7.30pm – 9.00am

Liturgy of the Word:
Monday 9.00am

Divine Mercy Devotion:
Tuesday – Friday: 9.30am

Confession: On request
Saturday: 9.30am &
4.30pm – 5.15pm

Email:
admin@stmark.org.nz
Website: stmark.org.nz
Instagram: [stmarkpakuranga](https://www.instagram.com/stmarkpakuranga)
Facebook:
www.facebook.com/groups/stmarkpakuranga/

Phone: (09) 572 0489
Address: 334 Pakuranga Rd, PO Box 51184: Pakuranga

Office Hours:
Mon to Fri:
8.30am – 3.00pm

Parish Priest
Fr Austin Fernandes
fraustin@stmark.org.nz

Assistant Priest
Fr Alain Fares
alain@stmark.org.nz

Pastoral Co-Ordinator
Deacon Mannix Lopez
mannix@stmark.org.nz

Parish Secretary
Evie Green-Thompson
evie@stmark.org.nz

Accounts
Besky Fernando
accounts@stmark.org.nz

Deacon Chris Sullivan
admin@stmark.org.nz

St Mark's Mission Statement
To promote a loving, caring, Christlike Community which accepts all people. And inspired by the Holy Spirit to spread the good news of Jesus Christ.

1ST Reading: Isaiah 7: 10-14 *The maiden is with child.*
Psalm: 23: 1-6 *Let the Lord enter! He is the King of glory.*
2ND Reading: Romans 1: 1-7 *Jesus Christ, descendant of David, Son of God*
Gospel: Matthew 1: 18-24 *Jesus is born of Mary who was betrothed to Joseph, son of David*

Reflection

“Do the right thing”

How many times in our life have we heard people telling us or someone else, “Just do the right thing”. In today’s gospel reading we find Joseph struggling to understand his situation and do the right thing. Joseph was a righteous man, therefore, doing the right thing should not be very difficult for him. To be righteous means to have a very clear definition of what is right and wrong, and a righteous man follows the right path.

Mary’s unexplained pregnancy left him in a dilemma. Speculating that she had been unfaithful, Joseph found himself torn between what he understood to be what God’s law required him to do, i.e., divorce Mary, and let her face the consequences, and his own concern for her. In this confusing situation, the gospel tells us that Joseph received guidance from the Lord, a guidance he promptly followed.

The dilemma in which Joseph found himself happens to us many times in our life. In most times, the best way forward is not always immediately clear. Like Joseph, we find ourselves torn between what our head is telling us and what our heart is saying to us. Sometimes, we are torn between family and friends. Between opinions and other influences.

The gospel today invites us to be open to the prompting of the Lord. In a lot of circumstances, the Lord use different people, events or signs to guide us. Joseph received the Lord’s guidance through an angel. We don’t have to wait for an angel to appear to us when we are in such situation before we act. The Lord’s guidance will come to us through more ordinary means. Perhaps the people around us, our spouse, our friends, siblings or through those in whom we confide. Their perspective of the situation we are struggling with, can often bring a new and a fresh outlook. We can also experience the Lord’s guidance through prayer. In prayer, we allow the Lord to enlighten our mind and heart so we can move forward and respond to His promptings.

Christmas is coming very fast, and soon, the new year. Let us spend time in prayer and ask God what He is calling us to do. Let us also pray to have the courage, like Joseph, to take that “leap of faith” because that is exactly the meaning of Christmas. Christmas is when God took that leap of faith in us and be like us, except sin, because we are worth doing it. Perhaps, moments before the birth of Jesus, God must have smiled and said, “ it is the right thing to do”.

Deacon Mannix Lopez



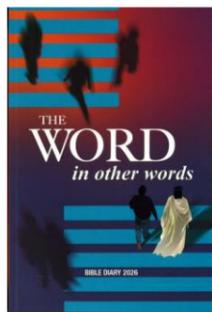
IMPORTANT NOTICES

- **The Hospitality Corner** will be **closed** from **Friday, 19th December 2025** – cups will be left out for water.
- There will be **NO Wednesday evening Mass in January 2026**
- There will be **NO Sunday 6.30pm Mass** from the **28th December 2025 to the 31st January 2026**
- There will be **NO Liturgy of the Word** from the **29th December 2025 to the 12th January 2026**
- There will be **NO First Friday Mass and Adoration** in the month of **January 2026**

Our Vision: “To be a vibrant missionary parish, empowered by the Holy Spirit to share the light Christ to all.”

- **SVDP Foodbank** will be closed from **Friday, 19th December 2025** and reopens on the **16 January 2026**
- **Parish Office** will be closed from **Tuesday, 23rd December 2025 to Monday, 12 January 2026**
- **Daily Mass Calendar's** available in the Parish office @ **\$5.00**
- **SVDP Christmas Cards** for sale from the Parish office @ **\$5.00**
- **2026 Columban Calendars** available in the Parish Office @ **\$15-00**

New to our Parish - Welcome to the Family of St Mark's Catholic Mission Parish, follow this link [New Parishioner Registration - St. Mark \(stmark.org.nz\)](http://stmark.org.nz) to register. New Parishioner Record Forms are also available in the church foyer.



The Word in Other Words Bible Diary
\$25.00
Bank Account ANZ
 06 0581 0167131 02
 B. Espiritu



Bible Diary 2026 @ \$20.00
 You may pay by cash or EFTPOS and also online via internet banking. **Account Details:-**
Name: Jaya Somu –
Account No.: 02-1258-0104207-00 – **Reference:** Bible121
 proof of payment needed when picking up the diary if you have paid online.

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS



LET'S CREATE A COMMUNITY OF
FUN FAITH FRIENDSHIP





'Hi Saints!
 Follow our social media to stay up-to-date with all the latest news and updates from the youth and young adult space at St Mark's. We hope to keep you inspired and encouraged in your journey of faith!
 Be disciples and join the mission! 😊

EVANGELISATION



Legion of Mary – **Tuesday @ 6.00pm – 7.30pm** in the Lyon's Den. New members are always welcome. Contact **Hata – 021 0220 4171** Email **Hata – Akuhata.nahi@gmail.com** Please contact the following members if you would like the statues of Our Lady or the Sacred Heart visiting your homes.
Our Lady of Fatima Statue – Tui Peasmeno – 021 0820 9880
Big Our Lady of Fatima Statue – Dong Dela Cruz – 021 165 9471.
Small Our Lady of Fatima Statue – Tina Payne – 027 405 3968.
Sacred Heart Statue – Hata Nahi – 021 0220 4171

The Life in the Spirit Prayer Group meetings will resume on the **Thursday, 5 February 2026 @ 7.30pm** .

St Mark's Padre Pio Prayer Group next prayer meeting will be on the **First Friday in February (6th February 2026)**.

Chinese RCIA Class in the Lyon's Den **Monday, 9.00am – 10.30am**. **Mandarin** For information contact **John Ko – 022 031 7755** **Cantonese** For information contact **Thomas Wong thomas_tkwong2@hotmail.com**



CGS – Catechesis of the Good Shepherd **Saturday during School Term**
 Level 1: 3 – 6 years old : 9.30am to 11.00am
 Enrolment is now opened for children born in the year 2021 & 2022 to start in 2025. Enrolment form is available at the foyer. Session is on Saturdays during school term. For more information, contact Mary-Anne via email stmarkatrium@gmail.com

Joshua Men's Fellowship St Marks Invites you to an evening of purpose and prayer. Come along and bring a friend. Next Meeting **12 Jan 2026 @ 7.00pm** **Guest Speaker** TBC, **Topic:** TBA All Welcome – Supper will be served and don't forget to bring a friend. For more information contact **Dakshi – 022 039 7212**

Engaged / Planning a wedding? Catholic Diocese of Auckland – Approved Marriage Preparation Course Book your Marriage Preparation Course early 1 year for NZ and 18 months for overseas weddings For information contact Gerry 021 0224 7442 gerrys@cda.org.nz Register Book: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/our-courses/>

Formed - The Catholic Faith. On Demand. We have a parish registration for Formed. This means that all **parishioners** can gain access to Formed from any device for **free**. Email admin@stmark.org.nz for instructions on how to get Formed today!



The platform is suitable for all ages and includes Catholic movies, TV programmes, audiobooks, e-books, online masses and catechesis (we recommend 'The Search' as a starter). These programmes make a great alternative to watching TV and are extremely informative and engaging, teaching us more about our faith and helping us on our journey and relationship with God.

ALTAR

Recently Deceased

Oliver Averion, Maria Cardoza, Ivy Lavas, Genaro Empuerto, Marcia Bahrends

Anniversary of Death

Annette Petersen, Anne Sullivan, Kelly Blenkinsop, Michael Ashby, Selvan Rasiah, Colette Bury, Lilian Wright, Jumer Cosme, Lourdes Dejos, Eric Quadra, Krugar Hillary, A.S. Joseph, Cyril De Rozario, Victoria Joseph, Denis Green-Thompson, Delores Enriquez, Zenaida Dayanan

For the Sick: **Prayer requests for the sick whose names appear here, will be replaced on a monthly basis.**

Margaretha Lia Jrawaty, Petros Setigono, Paul Bury, Marie Bury, Barbara Bury, Sheila Cray, Brian Singer, Lael Lambert, Jerome Maragh, Cecila Lee, Jhun Negrigo, Kaiden Eeson, Paul Oliver, Rosario Nemenzo, Nahid, Pacita Santos, Caleb Santos, Philip Lenton, Mathew Koshy, Malcolm Dobbs, Julie Prince, Veronica White, Ella Donald, Julianna Noranha, Pam Moriris, George Peterson, Pam Morris, Ramille Guiang, George Yeow, Arnold Goh, Graeme Kearns, Leo De Guzman, Brodie, Wong Shui Ling, Annika Wolfkamp, George Yeow, Lawrence Falzon, Nirmala & Shirani, Suisami Tauiva, Arnold Goh, Fr Magdala Maria, Rose Kainzer, Joseph Chan

Happy Anniversary to all couples celebrating their **Wedding Anniversary in November and December.**

Elizabeth & Stuart Bauld , Pearl & Pravin D'Silva, Bryan & Jeramie Dela Cruz, Christine & Kyle Donnelly, Imelda & Ramille Guiang, Patrick & Julie Hee, Carmelita & Lloyd Kyd, Jose & Nicole Lachica, Alfonco & Ethaleen Lanuza, Errol & Iona Lazrado, Margaret & Michael Li, Mike & Philomena Lobo, Stella & Mannix Lopez, Carolyn & Llewellyn McGivern, Suzana & Michael Noth, Mary & Rob Pepping, Cecelia & Noel Saquin, Jane & Henry Tan, Danilo & Lolita Tolentino, Angus & Adlin Gomes, Jeremy & Michelle Youmans, Adelyn Wong & Vincent Soh, Horace & Vivien Wong, Paul Lim & Angela Ng, Ana Veitoyaki & Llai Waqa, Candice & Wesley Simmers, Shanti & Desmond Barboza, Josefina & Harvey Rush, Monica & Raj Churi, Noella & Sai Krishnamurthy, Charmaine & Russel D'Lima, Juliet & Malcolm Martis, Coradele & Magno Gulle,

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St Mark's Parish - Christmas Time Table 2025

DAY	DATE	MASS	TIME
Friday	19 December 2025	Christmas Novena	7.00pm
Saturday	20 December 2025	Vigil Mass	5.30pm
Sunday	21 December 2025	Sunday Mass	6.30pm
Monday	22 December 2025	Christmas Novena	7.00pm
Tuesday	23 December 2025	Christmas Novena	7.00pm
Wednesday	24 December 2025	Carols	7.00pm
		Christmas Family Vigil	7.30pm
		Carols	10.00pm
		Mass	10.30pm
Thursday	25 December 2025	Christmas Day	8.30am
			10.30am
Sunday	28 December 2025	Holy Family Sunday	8.30am
			10.30am
Thursday	1 January 2026	Mass	9.00am
Tuesday - Saturday		Daily Morning Mass	9.00am

Christmas Eve & Christmas Day – 24th & 25th December 2025

	7.30pm	10.30pm	8.30am	10.30am
Mass Co-Ordinator	Grace Rowland	Kirk & Carmel Gaabucayan	Zita, Myra & Kim D'Souza	Patrick Sih
Music	Gospel Choir	Nicole Tan	CFC	Musica Christi
Data Projector	Thomas Haigh	Andrew Jurgens	Matt Lopez	Madeline Wu
Altar Servers	Keshiya Perera Evelyn Haigh Logan Ensil Nicko Bulanadi Miguel Bulanadi Ethan D'Silva	Aden Karl Gabriel Divinagracia Gabriella Coutinho Yehan Jayawardena Sofhia Lorraine Solis	Aden Karl Aziz Tapelu Sophia Zhang	Leonna Chivasa Lessley Chivasa Sofhia Lorraine Solis Ethan D'Silva Oneshi
Commentators	Sydney Causer	Francis Coutinho	Ted Loughman	Jean Garcia
Readers	Cherise Didier Serre Cyprus Causer	Suzana Noth Averille Schmidt	Stela Lopez Andre van Heerden	Andrea Jurgens Snjenjeza Brkan
Gifts	Anika Haigh	Gaabucayan Family	Josef and Ina Lopez and family	Request a Family
Communion Ministers	Imelda Guiang Ramille Guiang Lorraine Anderson Dakshita Perera Philomena Lobo Jonathan Pang	Sanjay Macwan Alfred Pushpakumar Aaron William Kelly William Harini Pushpakumar Kirk Gaabucayan	Puaina Teo Vaelua-Karl Cheryl van Heerdan Brian FitzPatrick Dong Dela Cruz Alma Dela Cruz Kim D'Souza	Gloria Lai Catherine Rivers Jozy Cutaran Genevieve Tham Patrick Sih Jessie Lo

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Rosters – 27th & 28th December 2025

	5.30pm	8.30am	10.30am	6.30pm	Flowers
Music	Joanne van Heerden	Ethan Karl	Gospel Choir	No Mass	Lami Falefeta
Data Projector	Thomas Haigh	Zita D'Souza	Madeline Wu		
Altar Servers	Miguel Bulanadi Nicko Bulanadi	Aden Karl Cady Lim	Victoria Chimremje Alvino Sooriyakoon		Recording/Counting
Commentators	Cherise Didier Serre	Ted Loughman	Florinda Petterson		Lucy Yap Theresa Cerrette
Readers	Adam Martis Juliet Martis	Myra D'Souza Zita D'Souza	Keshiya Perera Francis Coutinho		
Gifts	Martis Family	Request a Family	Request a Family		Cleaning
Communion Ministers	Hazel De Rozario Catherine Rivers Denis D'Souza Irwin Green-Thompson Evie Green-Thompson	Pola Dell Sanjay Macwan Michael Earl Melania Jurgens Sr Geraldine Cheryl van Heerden Mary Lenton	Carmelita Kyd Michelle See Jeb Agulan Brenda Causer Dakshita Perera Kaylee Ong Emmanuel Tsang Jonathan Pang		Aloysius Ranatunga Bernadine De Silva Rea Mae Montoya Mark Allen Garcia Erly Magnaye-Balbuena

New Years Day – 1st January 2026 @ 9.00am

Music	Data Projector	Altar Servers	Commentator	Readers	Communion Ministers
	Swee Han Lim	Gabrielle Coutinho Yehan Jayawardena Bozidar Ban	Jean Garcia	Francis Coutinho Patrisia Vuicakau	Lorraine Anderson Henny Gussenhoven Sr Geraldine

Rosters – 3rd & 4th January 2026

	5.30pm	8.30am	10.30am	6.30pm	Flowers
Music	Gospel Choir	Ethan & Choir	CFC	NO MASS	Charmaine Cloete
Data Projector	Jannine Eeson	Swee Han Lim	Andrew Jurgens		
Altar Servers	Thomas Haigh Evie Haigh	Octavia Saunders Bridie Ryan	Rithika Lordon Sarah Gulla		Recording/Counting
Commentators	Juliet Martis	Aden Karl	Patrick Sih		Malcolm Martis Wilma Fernandes
Readers	Ross Lehmann Elisa Moses	Jeffrey Wu Maureen Kearns	Erica Lim Averille Schmidt		
Gifts	Hazel & Henny	Maureen Kearns	Request a Family		Cleaning
Communion Ministers	Philomena Lobo Joseph D'Silva Alan Chant Gloria Lia Malcom Martis	Grace Rowland Kim D'Souza Andre van Heerden Cheryl van Heerden Alan Baino Joan Baino Mary Lenton	Gordalem Padayogdog Kelly Willaim Aaron William Christopher Mayhew Dakshita Perera Alfred Pushpakumar Vince Ocampo Charmaine Sierre		Francis Lim Varma & Rita Furivai Sanjay Macwan & Family Maria Sarabia Wilma Fernandes

Rosters – 10th & 11th January 2026

	5.30pm	8.30am	10.30am		Flowers
Music	Tawag-Awit	Cheryl & Choir	Gospel Choir	No Mass	Joanne Chang
Data Projector	Evie Haigh	Zita D'Souza	Jannine Eeson		
Altar Servers	Julian Wang Louie Guevarra	Seba Veitoyaki Ilisabeta Veitoyaki	Keshiya Perera Janella Perera		Recording/Counting
Commentators	Elisa Moses	Kim D'Souza	Francis Coutino		Melania Jurgens Perlyn Marcuelo
Readers	Paul Wong Anika Haigh	Xena Lasam Rosemary Grant	Gabrielle Puther Ezekiel Bulay		
Gifts	Genevieve & Family	Valentino Leafi	Request a Family		Cleaning
Communion Ministers	Abby Martis Juliet Martis Malcolm Martis Imelda Guiang Ramille Guiang	Ethan Karl Ina Karl Henry Tan Jane Tan Grace Rowland Mary Lenton Andrea Jurgens	John Bulay Jemima Bulay Catherine Rivers Kaylee Ong Emmanuel Tsang Jonathan Pang Florinda Petterson Cady Lim		Paul & Theresa Siao Don Santosa Don Rey Vargas Joseph Abasolo Sela Takataka

SOCIAL



Sewing With Friends

Join us while we all do our own mending and enjoy each other's company. Machines, scissors, threads, and needles, etc. all made available for you
And, of course, tea and cakes to keep us going. On the **second Saturday of every month** in the Lyons Den from **2pm to 4pm on Saturday, 13th December 2025**.

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The St Vincent de Paul Society would like to acknowledge the kindness of our parishioners who have given so generously to the Food Bank during 2025, and especially at Christmas. Your support gives families the help they need when times are hard. Please email your request for a food parcel to svdpfoodbank@stmark.org.nz if you or someone you know needs help. For All donations to SVDP please do a direct debit into their bank account: ASB Acc No: 12-3056-0661768-00. Please call SVDP Otahuhu when donating clothing, blankets, or furniture 09 270 4088.

TEMPORALITIES

Finance Ministry – Besky Fernando – Chairman, Fr. Austin Fernandes, Aaron William, Alice Sung

Facilities Ministry - Dean Saunders, Nicholas Tan, Alice Sung, Paresh Macwan, Michael Earl

We need your Help... Please support us via:

Collection 14 December 2025

Envelopes & Loose Collection \$2,122.00

Automatic Payments \$5,259.10

Direct Debit: **St Mark's Pakuranga Ecclesiastical Goods Trust**- BNZ Acc No.: **02-0108-0708684-00**

EFTPOS donations can be made when lighting candles



EFTPOS machine is on the right-hand side as you enter the church. Donations can be made using your credit or debit card. Set the amount to donate

Thank you for your continued support!

How to set up a recurring donation via online direct debit.

Login to your bank account

•Click on payments

Set up automatic payment

•Account Number - **02-0108-0708684-00**

•Reference – Your name e.g. (P.J. Banks)

Amount - How often – weekly, fortnightly or monthly

•Choose a date you would like the donation deducted.

KID'S CORNER

Gospel Mr 1 18-24- <https://youtu.be/a1yOY62GFKU> Christmas Story - https://youtu.be/v6aNYPEyz_Q?t=53 Christmas Story continued - <https://youtu.be/6LBRGtTkiWo>

Reflection from Catholic Kids Media: What is Christmas? Why Does it Matter? <https://youtu.be/rJlqfoFHI40?t=50>

Celebrating 4th SUNDAY of ADVENT <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/CELEBRATING-4th-SUNDAY-OF-ADVENT.pdf>

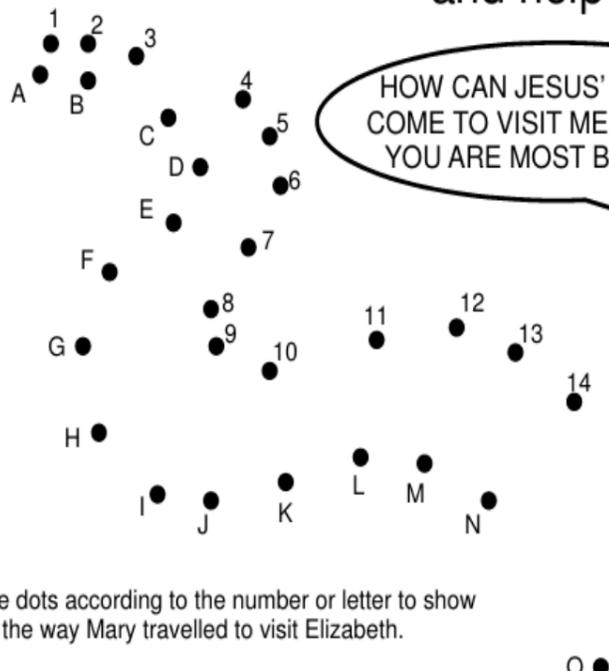
ADVENT: A GIFT OF THE HEART <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/Advent-A-Gift-of-the-heart.pdf>

Match the Word to the Meaning

1. Emmanuel ●	● The Son of God
2. Mary ●	● The season of waiting for Christmas
3. Joseph ●	● A person who tells us what God will do
4. Commanded ●	● Wrong things we do or say
5. Angel ●	● Told
6. Jesus ●	● A messenger from God
7. Holy Spirit ●	● Mary's husband
8. Sins ●	● The 3rd person of the Holy Trinity
9. Prophet ●	● God is with us
10. Advent ●	● Jesus' mother



Mary travelled to visit Elizabeth and help her



Join the dots according to the number or letter to show the way Mary travelled to visit Elizabeth.

HOW CAN JESUS' MOTHER COME TO VISIT ME? ... MARY YOU ARE MOST BLESSED.



Colour in the 4 candles and fill in the missing letters.



TODAY IS THE
F _ _ _ H
SUNDAY OF ADVENT

JESUS' BIRTH IS VERY NEAR

Our Vision: "To be a vibrant missionary parish, empowered by the Holy Spirit to share the light of Christ to all."

When Joseph awoke, he did as the angel of the Lord had commanded him and took his wife into his home. *Matthew 1:24*



P
 L S Z
 D T X M A
 Q S E S T Q A
 C A P M R O L S M
 L N C O M M A N D E D
 O S U H A A J O S E P H S
 E I M Y N V N D E D O S S G T
 S X Z B A E Q U G O J H T A O R T
 N R I H Z E X Y E U E C E W A H K C Y
 P Y F R N M F Z Z L T U L M F W B H I M T
 W W S O T G B R E
 W M Z S Y D I P W
 Q A P M B R R Z D
 L R E W Q E T P Q
 A Y O F K F W Y A G B U H J X
 V C P I R G G Z M K P E P E K
 L M L M T D L W F W I F E S E
 G N E P R U R P P W U P
 Z G N J G Y U L Z R S J
 M M D E V H N S A V E C
 G Q V I I O Y U B M B U
 T K I W Z M T C W B O Y
 G C O W U E Q D N P N N

ANGEL

EMMANUEL

MARY

SON

BIRTH

HOME

PEOPLE

WIFE

COMMANDED

JESUS

SAVE

DREAM

JOSEPH

SINS

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Mozart Church Sonatas at St. Mark's



Auckland Mozart Players will present Mozart's Church Sonatas to St. Mark's Catholic Mission Parish on the 24th of January, Saturday, at the conclusion of Vigil Mass. Originally intended to be played between the Epistle and the Gospel during Mass at Salzburg Cathedral, these sonatas will delight the audience with joyful spirit and festive air. Don't miss this concert to experience Mozart's wonderful contribution to the celebration of Mass!

Date Change | PRAISE IN THE PARK will now be held on Sunday, 15 Feb 2026 (4 – 6pm) following local event scheduling coordination. Rain date: Saturday, 21 Feb 2026. Venue: Selwyn Domain, 48-56 Tamaki Drive, Mission Bay, All are welcome to this two-hour Catholic event, featuring praise and worship music, personal testimonies, the Gospel message, and Eucharistic Adoration. We need help on the day, if you are available to assist, please email aucklandccr@gmail.com.

Wings.Nga Parirau Have you tried praying and meeting with others in small groups from the comfort of your own home and table? It's all good! **Daily Meditation 6.15am** on Zoom Reflection with Pope Leo XIV Dilexi Te, **Wednesday evenings 7pm** on Zoom Lectio Divina, pondering the Sunday Gospel, **Saturdays 7pm** on Zoom Contact Dianna Fouhy, Faith Formation Team, Catholic Diocese of Auckland diannaf@cda.org.nz

Catholic Enquiry Centre : Three Part-Time Roles: The Catholic Enquiry Centre (an agency of the NZ Catholic Bishops Conference) is expanding its digital outreach in 2026 and is seeking passionate, faith-filled people to join the team:

Digital Ministry Specialist (Content & Platform) – oversee CEC's website and social media, creating content that helps people explore faith.

Digital Ministry Specialist (Media Production) – create short videos, testimonies, and reels introducing Catholic faith and traditions.

Resource & Enquiry Support Officer – respond to enquirers and coordinate the dispatch of printed resources across Aotearoa.

All roles are **part-time (0.4 FTE)** and may be remote or Wellington-based. Expressions of interest to carly@catholicenquiry.nz by Friday 9 January 2026. Roles may be filled sooner for the right candidates.

Catholic Diocese of Christchurch: Chief Finance Officer The Diocese is looking to recruit a Chief Finance Officer (CFO) to lead a passionate and committed team and be a key strategic partner in shaping the future of the Catholic Diocese of Christchurch. The primary responsibility of the role is to safeguard and improve the financial position and performance of the Diocese, enabling the achievement of its pastoral and property objectives. The CFO drives risk management and ensures an excellent standard of reporting.

For a full Candidate Brief please email applications@cdoc.nz To apply, click on the following link <https://www.seek.co.nz/CFO-jobs/in-Christchurch-Central-Canterbury?jobId=89003868&type=promoted> or attach your cover letter and CV to applications@cdoc.nz with 'Chief Financial Officer Job Application' in the subject line.

Applications close 11.59pm Thursday 15 January 2026. For more information please phone Annette Pugh on 03 378 3647.

Tabernacles - where to place them? with Prof.em. Thomas O'Loughlin **The recording of the online presentation is now online at:**

www.studyjoy.nz/2025/12/03/tabernacles-in-the-catholic-church/

Interview on the Christmas Story - comparing the Gospel of Luke with the Gospel of Matthew. Snippet from a broadcast with the late Kieran Fenn fms

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2022/12/08/muffin-talk-with-kieran-fenn-fms/> For more information: www.studyjoy.nz

Join Our Mission to Serve Life and Family

Family Life International NZ is seeking an Operations Manager to support the daily operations of our pro-life, pro-family mission. Ideal for someone with strong organisational abilities, solid business skills, and a heart for service. To express interest contact Michelle Kaufman michelle@fli.org.nz or visit fli.org.nz/join-our-team

ST JOSEPH'S GIFT SHOP "Supplying quality Christian & Catholic products for every need" 253 Dairy Flat Highway, Albany, Auckland 0632 (Opposite Albany Toyota)

09 489 5613 | www.stjosephscentre.co.nz As the NZ distributor for **ST PAULS PUBLICATIONS AUSTRALIA**, we are pleased to inform you that the New updated version of the "ST PAULS SUNDAY MISSAL", as well as Pope Leo XIV's new Apostolic Exhortation to all Christians, "DILEXI TE", is now available. Bring in this newsletter before the end of January to get 10% off the above two books. Our last day of the year will be 24th December 10am-2pm, and we will re-open on Monday 12th January at 10am. To see our new arrivals from ST PAULS PUBLICATIONS please visit: <https://stjosephscentre.co.nz/collections/new-arrivals>

These are the upcoming 2026 retreats at **St Francis Retreat Centre**. For more info, please visit www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz or call 09 625 6651.

Time Out Days – For those who seek a day retreat in 2025- 9:30am – 2:30pm (\$35 includes lunch) | Wed 18 Feb | Tue 3 Mar | Wed 1 Apr

24-Hour Quietude - Friday with prayer and rest, continuing on to Saturday with a day of reflection, contemplation and prayer. | Fri 17 Apr 7:00pm to Sat 18 Apr 7:00pm | Fri 3 Jul 7:00pm to Sat 4 Jul 7:00pm

Women's Prayer Retreat - A reflective prayer retreat in the Catholic tradition for Women | Fri 17 Apr 6:00pm to Sun 19 Apr 3:00pm

Reflect & Renew Weekend Retreat - Spend some time to rest, pray, reflect and renew. | Fri 24 Jul 7:00pm to Sun 26 Jul 3:00pm

Bishop Steve invites everyone to celebrate the **Closing Mass of the Year of Jubilee. 4 January 2026** at the Cathedral of St Patrick and St Joseph. All welcome.

Please find attached the ninth edition of the **NZCBC Catholic Diocese of Auckland** newsletter, also available in the following link: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/NZ-Catholic-Issue-9.pdf>

Catholic Caring Foundation's Christmas Appeal Give a gift to help families and people in need. Please support the Caring Foundation's Christmas appeal through your donations and prayers. Your donation will have double the impact! "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God." Take home our newsletter, and donation card, or visit www.caringfoundation.org.nz or call (09) 360 3012.

CATHOLIC KIWI PODCAST: Six episodes of the New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference's new podcast series have now been released, sharing stories of faith, ministry and mission of Kiwis and visitors to our shores. Guests in the opening episodes include Carmelite Sister Lauren of the Cross, broadcaster and policy expert Tim Wilson and Wellington

Our Vision: "To be a vibrant missionary parish, empowered by the Holy Spirit to share the light of Christ to all."

Archbishop Paul Martin SM. More episodes will be released before Christmas to complete season 1, with season 2 set for 2026. Search "Catholic Kiwi Podcast" on YouTube or Spotify now.

SCRIPTURE FOCUS THIS ADVENT: You are invited to prepare for Sunday Mass by reading and reflecting on the Scripture we will hear that weekend. Marist priest Fr Frank Bird has for several years been helping people make those preparations through his Living the Word project. As the name suggests, Living the Word is an invitation for Catholics and others to allow the Word of God to shape their lives. You can download the resources, and access other rich content, at www.livingtheword.org.nz/pray

Food For Faith for Advent 2025. Daily reflections for those seeking greater maturity of Christian Faith in preparation for Christmas. Sign up to receive daily emails during Advent at www.foodforfaith.org.nz.

Musical Instruments for Samoa Students at Marist Brothers Primary in Apia are keen to learn music but lack musical instruments. If you have any spare ones at home - particularly recorders, ukuleles, guitars, keyboards and small speakers or anything brass please contact the parish office or Peter Garrick petergarrick20@gmail.com ph +64 22 1300 730 who will be visiting Auckland from Samoa from 6 December.

At Family Life Catholic Gifts, we have many lovely Christmas gifts as we begin the Advent Season and move closer to the birth of our Saviour. We have a good variety of Nativities and other Christmas gifts. In addition, we have a great new selection of Bibles and Books for both Children and Adults. All proceeds from sales, support our life-saving work defending Life, Faith and Family. Our last day of business for the year is 24th December, (9am-2pm).

Ponsonby/Herne Bay parish is looking for enthusiastic and organised individuals to fill two admin roles:

1. **Parish Administrator** - 15-20 hours per week - Monday, Wednesday, and Friday mornings
2. **Finance Administrator** - 5-8 hours per week - Flexible - work at a time that suits you. If you have strong administrative skills and a heart for supporting parish life, please contact the parish at: office@phbcatholic.org.nz

St Mark Catholic Mission Parish Council – Email: missioncouncil@stmark.org.nz - Chair – Malcolm Martis, **Council Secretary** – Myra D'Souza, **Youth & Young Adult Ministry** – Donamae dela Cruz & Raewyn Tan, **Evangelisation Ministry** – Andre Van Heerden, **Altar Ministry** – Kurt Meyer, Ethan Karl **Social Services Ministry** – Melania Jurgens, **Temporalities Ministry** – Alice Sung, **School Principal** - Tracey Kopua, **School Representatives** – Aaron William, **Pastoral Coordinator** - Mannix Lopez, **Parish Priest** – Fr Austin Fernandes

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A Christian Community Response

Parents and Caregivers

For the safety and well-being of your Tamariki, please ensure children are supervised by an adult at all times when they are visiting the Parish.

Concern/Complaint about Harm or Abuse

If you have a concern or complaint of harm involving someone within the church, please contact:

National office for Profession Standards: 0800 114 622 - email: prof_standards@nzcbc.org.nz

Deacon Mannix Lopez – Safeguarding Officer – Phone: 027 248 4232 - email mannix@stmark.org.nz

You can also report your complaint directly to the New Zealand Police or to Oranga Tamariki

BOTH INDIVIDUALLY AND COLLECTIVELY, WE HAVE A RESPONSIBILITY TO ENSURE

'THAT EVERY PERSON HAS A VALUE AND DIGNITY FROM HIS/HER CREATION IN THE IMAGE AND LIKENESS OF GOD'

SAFE CHURCH - SAFEGUARDING

Our Vision: "To be a vibrant missionary parish, empowered by the Holy Spirit to share the light of Christ to all."