



Your Parish, *Your Home.*

Te Whare Karakia o Hato,
Maaka, Pakuranga

St Mark's Catholic Mission Parish

Year A 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time Peter the Rock 23 August 2026

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 Administrator

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 22: 19-23 *I place the key of the House of David on his shoulder.*

Psalm: 137: 1-3. 6. 8. *Your love, O Lord, is eternal, discard not the work of your hands.*

2nd Reading: Romans 11: 33-36 *All that exists comes from him; all is by him and from him.*

Gospel: Matthew 16: 13-20 You are Peter, and I will give you the keys to the kingdom of heaven.

Reflection

"Greetings fellow parishioners. It's always a pleasure to write this column and keep in touch with the parish vibe.

I am flying with my eyes open here, when I say that God does not need us to complete tasks. Yet he chooses to use us to help him build up St Marks to be a place of worship, acceptance and healing. The question is how do we fit in?

It's easy for the extroverted but hard for others. Do I join The Legion of Mary or St. Vincent de Paul Society or the Thursday prayer group or volunteer as a Communion Minister or Reader?

The answer lies in our heart. This parish has always been proactive in using and nurturing talent. My question is are we ready to be an active participant?

This Sunday readings are a mixture of God's Authority and Man's understanding of who God is

"he is the Christ the son of the living God, I say he is the Christ. The Son of the Living God"

Who do you say I am? At St Mark's? Am I a cleaner, an encourager, a worker, a school parent, a collector, a reader, OR SIMPLY A parishioner.

Is it time to rethink our participation here. St Marks is our spiritual home, and a home needs each one of us. Are you with us in the different challenges we face in being a good and responsible parish? If you like to engage in a ministry see the office.

We read, in the first reading an officer being stripped off his title and a new person appointed in his place. Is that us ascending or descending in the ladder of our relationship with God? Are we ready to take our relationship with God to the next level?

Lots of questions in my mind. Can the doer of deeds do better or worse at St Marks.? Please examine your heart. The answer lies within.

I have a question my brothers and sisters, which I like to pose before each one of you. Does your heart know God and his ways?

Reflection time challenge. Spend an hour in front of the blessed sacrament this week. He will speak to your heart. He says do not worry about your problems. Just come to me. Sit at my feet and I will give you rest."

Mike Lobo

Important Notices

- There will be a **Second Collection after Communion at all Mass'** this week-end - **Māori Pastoral Care Collection** this money is used to fund initiatives, schools and projects of the Auckland Diocesan Māori community.
- Wedding Anniversary Mass – Wednesday, 26th August 2026 @ 7.00pm**

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

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

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

Cafe Markiato Fundraiser round two this weekend after all Mass' **22nd & 23rd August!!** Funds for Life Teen & WYD Korea. Home made cookies & brownies for sale, along with hot chocolate, coffee & tea.

- **RAFFLE FUNDRAISER:** will be drawn on Friday, 21st August – Check our Socials for the raffle winners.

Life Teen Summer Camp 2027 Summer Missions applications 18+: https://docs.google.com/forms/d/e/1FAIpQLSe_984GBswfn-eDD34QvPMfZkp3v57VZs596tUqjLvFcgRiZQ/viewform

All fundraiser proceeds go toward WYD Korea Pilgrimage & Life Teen Camp 2027 for our youth & young adults attending!

Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College Is holding its 4th session for the **WYD Seoul 2027** webinar series. Join us for this session, "Witnessing: A Call for Young People to Evangelise" with the Auckland Diocese NET Team. This will be on **Tuesday, 1st of September 2026, 5:00 6:00pm** on Zoom online platform. Register through <https://www.tekupenga.ac.nz/uncategorized/online-webinars-2026/>. Fee discounts apply.

EVANGELISATION

✨ Curious about faith? **Come and try Alpha!** ✨ We'd love to invite you to our **Alpha Film Series**, starting **Fri 11 Sep at 7pm**. Dinner will be served! 🍽️

Alpha is a relaxed and welcoming space to be fed and nourished, to explore your faith, connect with others, and ask life's big questions. There's no pressure and no question is off limits. Come as you are, share your thoughts, or simply listen. It's also a wonderful opportunity to invite a friend, family member or loved one who may be curious about faith or would like to explore a deeper relationship with Jesus. Everyone is welcome.

📅 Every **2nd and 4th Friday** of the month (**starting Fri 11 Sep 2026**) ⌚ **7pm to 8.30pm** 📍 **St. Mark's Pakuranga Parish Hall** 🍽️ **Dinner will be served**

👥 Watch this short teaser to discover what Alpha is all about: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DCck-cySK7I>

⚠️ Spaces are limited so please register by emailing mannix@stmark.org.nz. Registration also helps us plan for catering.

RCIA : All parishioners who know anyone who is interested in knowing about the Catholic Faith with a view to becoming a Catholic to come along on **Wednesday Evenings** in the Lyon's Den from **7.30pm – 8.30pm** For more information please contact **Rosemary Palmer – 021 163 9141**



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

Joshua Men's Fellowship St Marks Invites you to an evening of purpose and prayer. Come along and bring a friend. Next Meeting **14 September 2026 @ 7.00pm** **Guest Speaker** The Bulay Brothers **Topic:** Staying Catholic - All Welcome – Supper will be served and don't forget to bring a friend. For more information contact **Chris Mayhew –**

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/>

The Life in the Spirit Prayer Group meets each **Thursday** in the parish centre from **7.30 -9pm** for praise and prayer. All welcome. [Contacts: Mary – 021 468 015, Joanne - 0211143374, smlisspg@gmail.com] Life in the Spirit Seminar every Thursday

St Mark's Padre Pio Prayer Group meet **every First Friday** of the month. Mass at **7pm**, followed by Adoration in Church and at **8pm** prayer meeting in the Parish Centre. All are welcome to join and be a part of St Pio's legacy.



CGS – Catechesis of the Good Shepherd **Saturday during School Term** Level 1: 3 – 6 years old : 9.30am to 11.00am. 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

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!

Catechumen class or catechumenate, Chinese is 慕道班 in the Lyon's Den **Monday, 9.00am – 10.30am.** **Mandarin & Cantonese** For information contact **John Ko – 022 031 7755**



A Gift from our Parish to You! You can now log onto formed <https://signup.formed.org> Type your **email address** – Click **"sign up"** – Type Parish Code **"2010"** – **St Mark will appear** – Click – You are done!



ALTAR

Recently Deceased

Beatrice La yougan, Rufie Manuel, Oliver Averion, Yongjoo Yohan Lee, Ivor Anthony Pane, Pamata Tau, George Urban, Henry Yumul, Isabelle Keylock, Isabelita Balingit, Mary Ellen McCaughan, Natividad Aquino, Isabelita Balingit

Anniversary of Death

Moises Villaluz Sr, Rodulfo Deloy, Myrene Deloy, Eunela Capangpangan, Rolki Lagnas. Filiza Olalo, Leodegario Deloy, Huan Lie Zeng, Anthonysamy Francis, Selvan Rasiah, Rosario Falzon, Mervin De Rozario, May Chong, Paul See Yit Ho, Rose Cheah Chon Peng, Emelita Velayo, Zenaida Dayanan, Arsenia, Diosdado Sr, Evelyn, Romana, Golwin, Arnold, Cleofas, Samuel, Jose, Teresita, Mariano, Angela Beatice, Roldan Tan, Mary Jane Daoang, Shirley Francis, Frank Dewar, Kathleen Rose, Nihal, Shirani, Chrisantha, Alfred, Sumana, Marcus, Hilario & William Marinas, Augusto Vaimintuan, Teresita Labrador, Maria Tseng, Audrey Quadro, Krugar Hillary, Eliza Mascarenhas, Violet Pires

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

Marilyn Gabas, Wendy van Breda, Richard Shirley, Thea & Isla Lucas, Ricky Dobb, Andy Tan, Suzie Xu, Richard Dobbs, Leo Champion, Owen Fey, Marlene Gabas, Arnold Goh, Bernard Plan, Juda, Romaine, Adelaida Valencia, Paul Shirley, Radlyn Stuart, Ronald Banezuela, Ernesto Rodan Jr, Lorraine Anderson, Beverley Mary Rout, Sarah Marion O'Connor, Edgar, Julie Prince, Swee Han Lim, Mary Rongo-Kea, Priscilla Cefre, Aiko Cefre, Bernard Plan, Adonis Nispecos, Christine Gonzaga, Sheila Cray, Barbara Bury, Marie Bury, Paul Bury, Paul Oliver, Clarence Noth

Happy Anniversary to all couples celebrating their Wedding Anniversary in August. The Anniversary Mass will be held on **Wednesday, 26th August 2026** – for all couples whose anniversary falls in **July/August 2026**. Please contact Hazel hderozario@gmail.com or Yasmira mynsr8@gmail.com if you will attend the Anniversary Mass

Michael & Rosalie Atos, Colin & Marjorie Crisp, Zosimo & Jesley Cruz, Bobby & Cheryl Divinagracia, Nera & Rukshan Fernando, Christine & Jason Gustilo
Philip & Grace Heng, Johannes & Loreta Klaessens, Andrea & Justin Petch, Samuella & Lea Saludes, Rommel & Arlene Villadiego, Keith & Jan Woollerton

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

Rosters – 29th & 30th August 2026

	Music	Data Projector	Altar Servers	Commentator	Readers	Gifts	Communion Ministers
5.30pm	Cheryl & Choir	Thomas Haigh	Harper Ybanez Mia Kwan Sophie Kwan	Juliet Martis	Anika Haigh Cherise Didier Serre	Request a Family	Udesha Mihindukulasuriya Denis D'Souza Alan Chant Joseph D'Silva Ramille Guiang
8.30am	Pasifika Choir	Allen Dumdum	Chloe Lau Bridie Ryan	Kurt Meyer	Xena Lasam Maria Belinario	Request a Family	Alan & Joan Baino Henry & Jane Tan Andrea Jurgens Kim D'Souza Mary Lenton
10.30am	Youth Choir	Madeline Wu	Login Ensil Jenalee Perera Winter Lovich-Mair Conaghan Lovich	Patrick Sih	Suzana Noth Ana Bea Alacantara	Request a Family	Francis Coutinho Kaylee Ong Florinda Petterson Aaron William Sulochana Gamage Michelle See Renuka Anthony
6.30pm	Gospel Choir	Paul Dela Cruz	Nicko Bulanadi Miguel Bulanadi Samson Eiram Robaldo	Joanne van Heerden	Maricar Gonzales Alma Dela Cruz	Peter Binnie	Dong Dela Cruz Alecis Dela Cruz Inji Hwang Karen Masilamini Julian Valerio
Flowers	Charmain Cloete	Cleaning	Aloysius Ranatunga, Bernadine De Silva, Rea Mae Montoya, Mark Allen Garcia, Erly Magnaye-Balbuena			Recording/ Counting	Catherine Gillen, Thomas Gillen, Damien Gillen

SOCIAL

SVDP Thank you for your ongoing support of their foodbank. **To ensure the safety and well-being of the people we serve, we kindly request that you donate only non-expired and unopened/undamaged food items.** Please email your request for a food parcel to svdpfoodbank@stmark.org.nz before Friday. Please call SVDP Otahuhu when donating clothing, blankets, or furniture **09 270 4088**. **SVDP Food Bank** Baked beans, Spaghetti, Noodles, Tinned Veges. **Please email svdpfoodbank@stmark.org.nz to Request a Tax Receipt.**



St Mark's SVDP bank account details have changed. If you make donations by automatic payment/direct credit, please update your records with the new bank account details with immediate effect. Please include your name under Reference.

Bank: BNZ **Account Name:** SVDP South Auckland Area Council **Account Number:** 02-0506-0381891-005

Note that this account is managed by St Mark's SVDP, which sit under the wider group of SVDP South Auckland Area Council. Thank you for your continuous support. If you have any query, please contact [Grace Cheah](#) at **021 0257 3441**

 **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, 12 September 2026**.

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

Next Special Collection – Māori Pastoral Care – 22nd August 2026

Collection 15th & 16th August 2026

Envelopes & Loose Collection \$2,392.50

Electronic Payments \$4,189.00

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

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.

OTHER

All men are invited to **Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship** - North Shore meeting **Date: Wed 26 August 2026** **Venue:** St Thomas More Church, 336 Wairau Road, Glenfield **Time: 7.00pm** Fellowship & Light Meal **7.30pm** Meeting with prayer, praise & worship followed by presentation. **Presentation:** Introduction to the New Testament Part 2 For more information contact Dominic Manuel **021 0265 1151** Tet-Woo Lee **021 0487 767**

Ministries to Young People An Evening with St Pier Giorgio Frassati | **Wednesday 9th September 6:30pm-8:30pm** at St Michael's Catholic Church Remuera. Join us for an evening exploring the life, faith, and witness of St Pier Giorgio Frassati, one of the Church's inspiring young saints. The evening will feature a talk by guest speaker Fr Dominic Murphy OP, Prior Provincial for the Dominican Friars of Australasia. This is a free event. All are welcome. Register here: <https://events.humanitix.com/evening-with-frassati> Email: samuelb@cda.org.nz for any queries

Administration Assistant Wanted! Marriage & Family Life Ministry is looking for a highly capable Administration Assistant to contribute to a ministry that supports marriage and family life. We are looking for someone who combines excellent administrative skills with a genuine pastoral sensitivity and a commitment to serving others. This is a Part-time role of 16 hours, working Mon, Tue, Wed and Fri 10am -2pm (with some evening and weekend work) at the Pompallier Diocesan Centre. For full details and to apply please visit please visit: www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/. **Closing date Friday 4 September.**

Marriage Preparation Course Getting married in early 2027? Don't leave your marriage preparation too late! Our final Marriage Preparation Courses for 2026 are filling quickly. If you're planning to marry in the first part of 2027, you'll need to complete your marriage preparation this year, so we encourage you to register as soon as possible to secure your place. Courses are offered at **St Michael's Parish, Remuera** on **Saturdays from 26 September (9.00am – 1.00pm)** and at **St Luke's Parish, Flat Bush** on **Saturdays from 10 October (10.00am – 4.30pm)**. For course dates, more information, and to register, visit: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/our-courses/>

Local Youth Ministers Wanted! The Catholic Diocese of Auckland is looking for self-motivated relationship-builders to become part-time Local Youth Ministers, working in a secondary school and/or parish. This is a unique opportunity to make a difference in the lives of young people! To learn more and to apply, please visit: www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/

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Part Time Catholic Chaplain for Auckland Regional Forensic Psychiatry Services The Diocese is seeking an experienced or suitably qualified Catholic Chaplain to join the chaplaincy team at the Auckland Regional Forensic Psychiatry Service (Mason Clinic), working 20 hours per week. The role involves providing spiritual, emotional and pastoral support to patients, families and staff, and working as part of a multidisciplinary healthcare team. Experience in chaplaincy, parish ministry, Clinical Pastoral Education (or willingness to undertake training), and mental health is desirable. The successful applicant will be able to support people from diverse cultural and religious backgrounds and work in a manner consistent with the principles of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. To view the full advert and position description, please visit our website www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/. Applications close **28 August 2026**

G.I.F.T. Special Needs Ministry "Saints and Angels DINNER DISCO". Saturday 29th August, 6pm to 9pm at the Pompallier Centre. Everyone is most welcome!

Hope for the World International Conference on Life, Faith and Family - Friday 25 to Sunday 27 September In Christ we can restore a culture where every life is protected from conception to natural death, and where marriage and the family are again seen as truly good for healthy, flourishing individuals and society. Join us in Auckland to hear inspiring local and international speakers. Find out more and register here: <https://fli.org.nz/prolifeconference2026/> Register before Thursday 20 August to enter draw to win a beautiful statue of the Holy Family. Enquiries to Simon Archer: 021 400 729 | simon@fli.org.nz



Prayer Retreat for Women: 'Prayer and the Interior Life' Friday 9th October 6pm to Sunday 11th October 3pm 2026 - with time for Holy Mass, Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation, Personal Prayer and Spiritual Direction. Location: Hillsborough, Auckland. Register: www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz

NEW Beginners Theology of the Body Course – Saturday 29th August 8am -5pm, Mission Bay, Auckland. Register: theologyofthebody.nz

81st Indonesia's Independence Day Celebration – Saturday, 29 August 2026, 9am – 2pm Mt Albert War Memorial Hall, Wairere Avenue, & New North Road Auckland. See poster for more details.

KID’S CORNER

Gospel: Mt16:13-20 and prayer- <https://youtu.be/dziRW-cLm30?t=16> Prayer video - The Apostle's Creed : <https://youtu.be/VRdZLbMhM2g?t=18>

**JESUS SAYS:
WHO DO YOU
SAY I AM ?**



Colour in the boxes with a star (*) to find out what Peter replied.

B	A	Y	O	U	K	A	R	E	M	S
J	T	H	E	L	C	H	R	I	S	T

Complete the following sentences using these words:

FRANCIS

ROCK

SIMON

POPE

- Peter's first name was _____.
- Jesus changed his name to Peter which means _____.
- Peter became the first _____, the leader of the Church.
- The name of the current Pope is _____.

St Mark Catholic Mission Parish Council – Email: missioncouncil@stmark.org.nz - Chair – Malcolm Martis, Council Secretary – Myra D'Souza, Youth & Young Adult Ministry –Raewyn Tan, Evangelisation Ministry – Andre Van Heerden, Altar Ministry – Muna Hallis, Ethan Karl Social Services Ministry –Melania Jurgens, Temporalities Ministry – Alice Sung, School Principal -Tracey Kopua School Representatives – Aaron William, Parish Priest – Fr Austin Fernandes, Parish Secretary -Evie Green-Thompson

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ENROL NOW

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SAFE CHURCH-SAFEGUARDING

Parents & 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.

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4cm x 12cm @ \$520 + GST

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 munnix@stmark.org.nz You can also report your complaint directly to the New Zealand Police or to Oranga Tamariki

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