



Your Parish, *Your Home.*

Te Whare Karakia o Hato,
Maaka, Pakuranga

St Mark's Catholic Mission Parish

Year A 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time The Generous Love of God 20 September 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 55: 6-9 *My thoughts are not your thoughts.*

Psalm: 144: 2-3. 8-9. 17-18 *The Lord is close to all who call him.*

2ND Reading: Philippians 1: 20-24. 27 *Life to me is Christ.*

Gospel: Matthew 20: 1-16 *Why be envious because I am generous.*

Reflection

The last will be first, and the first will be last

When I was invited to write this reflection, my first thought was: how can I possibly write a newsletter reflection on the Gospel? I am not a theologian, nor do I consider myself particularly worthy. There are so, so many people who have walked the journey of faith much more deeply and for longer than I have.

But then I sat with these words from today's Gospel: *"The last will be first, and the first will be last"*. The workers hired at the end of the day received the same generous payment as those who had laboured since morning. From our narrow, human perspective, it seems rather unfair. We naturally measure things by effort, physical time and merit. We compare our efforts and rewards with those of others.

But God's ways are not the same as our ways. God's "economy" is not the same as our economy. Perhaps the Gospel is gently inviting us to let go of our own calculations of worthiness. The kingdom of God is not a reward that we earn by being more knowledgeable, experienced or deserving than someone else. God's generosity does not become smaller when it is also given to another person.

We may feel that we have arrived late, that others have more faith or experience. We may measure our lives by human standards - how long we have been on the journey, how much we have done, or how much we think we deserve. But perhaps God sees time and worth differently. In God's economy, five o'clock is not too late. It is never too late.

Maybe a more appropriate wondering, then, is not *when* we arrived or *how worthy* we are, but whether we are *willing to hear the invitation and respond* when God calls.

Smaranda Toca



Important Notices

- There will be a **Second Collection** after Communion at all Mass' this weekend – Cathedral Appeal
- There will be **NO Morning Tea** after the morning Mass' next week, **27th September 2026**
- The **Youth & Young Adults** will be running their **Café Markiato Fundraiser on the 26th & 27th September 2026** and would appreciate baking donations of cupcakes, muffins, carrot cakes or banana loaves. All baked donations to please be handed into the office by **Friday, 25 September 2026**. All proceeds raised help financially support our youth and young adults attending Life Teen Camp and WYD South Korea 2027!
- Please sign the Clipboard in the foyer if you will be attending **Discover the Roots of our Catholic Faith** on **Tuesday, 29th September 2026 @ 7.00pm**
- **Rosters** – please email evie@stmark.org.nz if you will be away in **December 2026 & January 2027**

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."*



CAFE MARKIATO



SATURDAY 26TH SEPTEMBER
AFTER 5:30PM VIGIL MASS

SUNDAY 27TH SEPTEMBER
AFTER 8:30AM & 10:30AM MASS
AND 6:30PM VIGIL MASS

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

EVANGELISATION

Discover the Roots of our Catholic Faith! 29th September 2026 @ 7.00pm in the Parish Hall. Please Register on the clipboard in the Church foyer. **EPIC:** the Early Church will lead you on a powerful, fast-paced journey through the first 500 years of Church history. You'll meet courageous saints, eloquent theologians, ruthless emperors and heroic martyrs. This dynamic 10-Part study program presents the origins of the Faith from a truly Catholic perspective! **You will... Discover the major people,** places and events of the first 500 years of Church History ... **Recognise that the early Christian Church** was truly the Catholic Church ... **Discover that many of the challenges** facing the Church today are the same ones boldly confronted by the early Church fathers ... **Learn how the heroic stories** of the saints can challenge and affirm your own walk of faith ... and much more!

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**

We'd love to invite you to our **Alpha Film Series** 📅 Every **2nd and 4th Friday** of the month (**Next Fri 25 Sep 2026**) 🕒 **7pm to 8.30pm**
📍 St. Mark's Pakuranqa Parish Hall 🍽️ Dinner will be served

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.

Joshua Men's Fellowship St Marks Invites you to an evening of purpose and prayer. Come along and bring a friend. Next Meeting **12 October 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 – 027 568 7736**



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

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. **Sacred Heart Statue – Hata Nahi – 021 0220 4171**
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.



The Catholic Faith. On Demand. We have a parish registration for Formed. This means that all **parishioners** can gain access to Formed

any device for **free**. Email admin@stmark.org.nz for instructions on how to get Formed today!

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!

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/>

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**

ALTAR



Congratulations on your Baptism: **Madison-Rose Sami** & **Penelope Sami**

We wish you and your family all of God's grace and love during this special time.

Happy Anniversary to all couples celebrating their Wedding Anniversary in September. The next Anniversary Mass will be held on **Wednesday, 28th October 2026** – for all couples whose anniversary falls in **September & October 2026**. Please contact Hazel hderozario@gmail.com or Yasmina mynsr8@gmail.com if you will attend the Anniversary Mass

Melinda & Joseph Bonifacio, Vivianne & Paulo Barros, Annie & Ian D'Cruz, Genevieve & Patrick Sih, Marie Louise & Paul McElwee, Kamini & Colin Pillay, Mary & Withana Pituwala, Cecilia & Paul Wong, Celeste & Owen Ybanez, Renee & Neesham Rughoonandan, Rosanne & Malinda Gamamedaliyanage Don

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Recently Deceased

Stezen Israel Carlos, Peter McPhillips, Rusty Socorin, Jason Madanu, Hellen Musson, Ronnie Gram, Alan M'avoy, Kumari, Ignacio DeSouza, Mary Ann Pedroso

Anniversary of Death

Patrick Hallis, Manuja Samarasinha, Antonio Rebello, Clement & Eliza D'Silva, Isabell Morais, Ah Chow Joel Wong, Ann Radich, Manija Voykovich, Woo in Sook Sara, Walter Wellington, Ronnie Falzon, Freddie Koun, Felipe Ramos, Salim Salamoun, Edward Correia, Cecilia Dorai Raj, Hilario Pizon, Cornelio Lopes, John Tongue, Krugar Hillary, Eric & Idna Durand, Audrey Quadra, Walter Erceg, Joseph & Mary, Arsenia Yamomo

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

Michael Lopez, Aileen Hillary, Sabina Song-hy Lee, Adrian Cefre, Olu De Rozario, Stella Tongue, Nora Patangan, Liz Bauld, Paul Oliver, Clarence Noth, Ferdinand Ramos, 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, Beverley Mary Rout, Sarah Marion O'Connor, Edgar, Julie Prince

Rosters – 26th & 27th September 2026

	5.30pm	8.30am	10.30am	6.30pm	Flowers
Music	Patrick Malden	Ethan Karl	Gospel Choir	Carolyn McGivern	Victoria Nepomuceno
Data Projector	Thomas Haigh	Allen Dumdum	Madeline Wu	Jessie Lo	Cleaning
Altar Servers	Christian Tan Victoria Tan Harper Ybanez	Aziz Tapelu Timothy Dumdum	Victoria Chimremje Lakesh Karawodge Don Annelise Bruon Dayanya Andrahennedy	Leo Ryan Romuel Cabana Jr	Maria Domingo Joanne van Heerden Alice Sung Guang Li Yuan Li
Commentators	Cherise Didier'Serre	Aden Karl	Patrick Sih	Alma Dela Cruz	
Readers	Louie Guevarra Sylvia Tan	Kurt Meyer Woodylayne Dumdum	Averille Schmidt Andrea Jurgens	Angela Tarn Maricar Gonzales	
Gifits	Chris & Trudi Lynch, Linda Chan	Tyas & Francesa Adiwinata, Grace Cheah	Sulo Gamage & Family	Julius Osoyus	Recording /Counting
Communion Ministers	Hazel De Rozario Philomena Lobo Abby Martis Malcolm Martis Nicholas Tan	Pola Dell Sr Geraldine Melania Jurgens Andrew Jurgens Grace Rowland Cheryl van Heerden Michael Earl	Carmelita Kyd Christopher Mayhew Alfred Pushpakumar Emmanuel Tsang Sanjay Macwan Jeb Agulan Gladys Chivasa Jonathan Pang	Khyle Porquez Donamae Porquez Paul Dela Cruz Inji Hwang Alecis Dela Cruz	Malcolm Martis Melania Jurgens Henny Gussenhoven

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 No.:** 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, 10th October 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

Special Collection – Cathedral Appeal – 20th September 2026

Collection 12th & 13th September 2026

Envelopes & Loose Collection \$2,298.20

Electronic Payments \$3,449.00

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

Invitation to all: **Holy Cross Seminary**, Ponsonby would like to invite you to join in our celebration of the **Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross**. Bishop Richard Laurenson will be the principal celebrant. Mass will be celebrated at 7pm on Monday, 21 September 2026 at Sacred Heart Church, 16 Vermont Street, Ponsonby, Auckland. Light refreshments will be served at Holy Cross Seminary, 44 Vermont Street, Ponsonby, Auckland after Mass. Any Parishioners who wish to join us, are most welcome.

JOSHUA CATHOLIC MEN'S FELLOWSHIP – AUCKLAND Meeting date: Wed 23 Sep 2026 | 7.00pm: Fellowship | 7.30pm Meeting Venue: St Mark's Church, 334 Pakuranga Road, Pakuranga SPECIAL SPEAKER FROM THE USA: Fr Shenan Boquet, President Human Life International. In conjunction with Family Life International NZ, Fr Boquet will give a talk on Man's Vocation to Purity and Love. All men welcome. For more info, contact: Tet-Woo 021-0380196, Chris 027-5687736, or Dominic 021-1003694

Feast Day of Saint Vincent De Paul All Auckland Vincentians are invited to come and celebrate the Feast Day of Saint Vincent De Paul with a Shine Televised Mass. Saturday 19 September 2026 at 2.00pm at Sacred Heart Church, Vermont Street, Ponsonby. Celebrant: Fr Martin Wu. Mass will be followed by a shared afternoon tea in the St Columba Centre. Bring yourselves and food to share. Drinks will be provided. **Note:** Shine Masses are recorded before the weekend they will be screened, this mass will be aired on St Vincent's actual feast day - 27 September 2026

Monte Cecilia Thank you for helping our families through your generous donation of blankets. Your kindness and generosity have given warmth, comfort and care to many of our whānau, especially during these colder months. We are truly grateful for your support and for the difference you have made in the lives of families in need Your generosity is a wonderful reminder that small acts of kindness can bring great comfort and hope. Thank you for helping us keep our families warm and cared for. ❤️

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General Manager | Catholic Diocese of Auckland An exceptional leadership opportunity has arisen to join the Diocese of Auckland as General Manager. Reporting to the Bishop and Diocesan Administration Council, this influential role provides strategic and operational leadership across finance, property, people, IT, governance support, and organisational performance. Working alongside senior leaders across education, pastoral care, social services, and Māori ministry, the successful candidate will help shape and deliver a significant renewal agenda for New Zealand's oldest and largest Catholic diocese. We are seeking an experienced senior leader with strong commercial and financial acumen, excellent stakeholder management skills, and a genuine empathy for the Catholic faith, ethos, and mission. This is a rare opportunity to make a lasting impact in a values-driven organisation serving communities across Auckland and beyond. For more information and to apply, visit: <https://www.sheffield.co.nz/Job-Search?Id=729>

The Square Gift Store With grateful hearts and trust in God's providence, we are delighted to announce that The Square Gift Store (Catholic Shop) has now moved to a new location. 📍 **New Address:** Suite 2, Level 1/9 Teed Street. Newmarket, Auckland 1023, New Zealand We look forward to welcoming you all into our new home.

St Patricks Cathedral Office Clear Out

The Cathedral Office is clearing out a range of office furniture, household items and more, and we'd love to see these items put to good use rather than go to waste. Office chairs, desks, book cases, fridges, washing machine, dryer, microwaves, books, religious items, Christmas decorations + so much more... You might find a hidden gem at a great price! WHEN: SUNDAY 4th OCT (10am - 6pm) WHERE: LISTON BUILDING (directly opposite St Patrick's Cathedral) Wilsons Car park options: **Hobson St (Old Farmers):** \$4.50 via the ParkMate App only. Promo code STPATS to receive discount. **Durham Lane (City Centre):** \$3 validate physical ticket in the parking machine located by the notice board

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

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/

2027 Pilgrimage from Fatima to Rome – including Salamanca, Lourdes, Paris, Venice and Assisi. [11 April to 3 May 2027](#). Chaplain: Monsignor David Tonks. For details contact Laura Yap laura.yap@travelmanagers.co.nz or 021 390 055

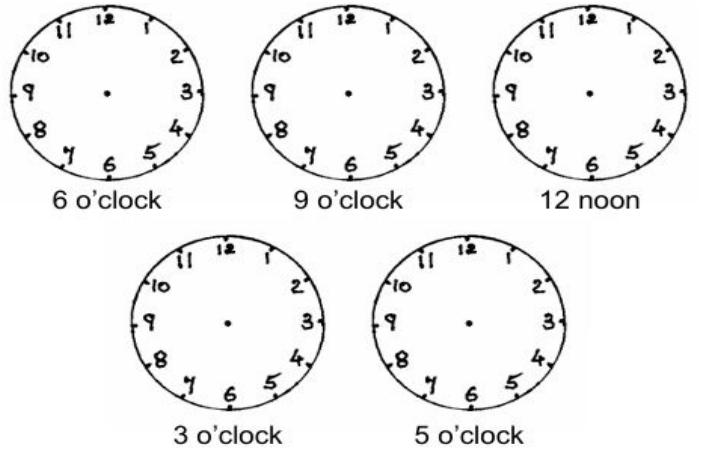
KID'S CORNER

Gospel: - Matthew 20: 1 -16a - <https://youtu.be/ZbrAeQpBGxw?t=51> (the gospel with a reflection) Looking at the Gospel differently - https://youtu.be/5oGyBXv6_eg A short film about being grateful and not cheating Hymene/song - Thankyou for this Blessed Day - <https://youtu.be/XTHDKxOL9cg>

GOD is KIND

Jesus tells the story of a man who went out to find workers to work in his field for the day. He went out five different times to find more workers. At the end he was kind and gave each of them 1 Denarius – even those who worked for only part of the day.

On the clock faces draw the hands showing the different times the man went out to find more workers.



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

DAVIS FUNERAL CARE

2A Udys Road, Pakuranga
09 576 7108
DAVISFUNERALS.CO.NZ

Branch Manager
Swee Han Lim

We sell catholic gifts for
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JEAN LIM 021383080
TEXT FOR OPENING HOURS

YOUR LOCAL
HOME RENOVATION
TEAM

HANNAH 021 036 7729
PETER DU 021 080 55143
info@renoedge.co.nz
renoedge.co.nz
We put heart into every service.

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GARDENING
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GARDEN CARE

HOME REPAIRS
SMALL REPAIRS • RENOVATIONS
GENERAL MAINTENANCE

ENROL NOW

Pakuranga Montessori Learning Centre

Address: 71 Udys Road, Pakuranga – Behind St Peter's Church

Phone: 09-2131866 / 0217110065 Email: pmontessori2014@gmail.com

☺ Montessori Programme + NZ Early Childhood Curriculum
☺ 100% NZ Qualified teachers

Permanent 30 Hrs Free per for 2+ yrs old child

\$100 per week for full time

Special

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!"

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.

LAWN CARE
— FREE QOUTE —
Denver
021 154 8848
dolawncares@gmail.com

Quality Care. Greener Lawns. Every Time.

Advertise Your Business Here! for 6 months in the Parish Newsletter [landscape](#): **Dimension**
4cm x 6 cm @ \$260 + GST
8cm x 6cm @ \$520 + GST
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 mannix@stmark.org.nz You can also report your complaint directly to the New Zealand Police or to Oranga Tamariki

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