



Your Parish, *Your Home.*

Te Whare Karakia o Hato,
Maaka, Pakuranga

St Mark's Catholic Mission Parish

Year A 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time Christ Obedient Unto Death 27 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: Ezekiel 18: 25-28 *When the sinner renounces sin, he shall certainly live.*

Psalm: 24: 4-9 *Remember your mercy, Lord.*

2nd Reading: Philippians 2: 1-11 *In your minds you must be the same as Christ Jesus*

Gospel: Matthew 21: 28-32 He thought better of it and went. Tax collectors and prostitutes are making their way into the Kingdom of God before you.

Reflection

The readings from Ezekiel and Matthew share an important message: God gives us the opportunity to change, and our actions show the sincerity of our faith.

In Ezekiel 18, God reminds the people that they are responsible for their own choices. A person who has done wrong can turn away from sin and choose to do what is right. God does not want us to remain trapped by our past mistakes. Instead, He gives us the opportunity to change our lives and return to Him.

This same message appears in the Gospel of Matthew. Jesus tells the story of two sons who are asked by their father to work in the vineyard. One son initially says no but later changes his mind and goes. The other says yes but does not go. Jesus shows that the first son's actions demonstrate a genuine change of heart.

Both readings remind me that what we do is more important than simply what we say. It is easy to say that we believe in God or that we will do the right thing, but our faith is shown through our choices and actions. We may sometimes make mistakes, make poor decisions or turn away from God. However, these readings remind us that we can always choose to change direction.

As a Catholic, I am encouraged to examine my own life and ask whether my actions reflect my faith. Do I take responsibility for my mistakes? Am I willing to apologise and change? Do I show God's love through the way I treat others?

These readings give me hope because they show that God welcomes a sincere change of heart. It is never too late to turn back to God and choose what is right.

Lord, help me to have the courage to recognise my mistakes, change my ways and put my faith into action. Amen.

Gavin Lambert

Important Notices

- The Youth & Young Adults will be running their **Café Markiato Fundraiser this weekend 26th & 27th September 2026** Please support our Youth & Young Adults. All proceeds raised help financially support our youth and young adults attending Life Teen Camp and WYD South Korea 2027!
- Discover the Foundations of our Catholic Faith** on **Tuesday, 29th September 2026 @ 7.00pm**
- First Friday Mass & Adoration – 2nd October 2026 @ 7pm – 9am**
- Rosters** – please email evie@stmark.org.nz if you will be away in **December 2026 & January 2027**
- 2027 Columban Calendars** now available in the Parish Office @ **\$15.00**
- Daylight Saving starts Sunday, 27th September 2026** – don't forget to turn your clocks forward an hour.

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

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

EVANGELISATION



OCTOBER 2026 –MONTH OF THE ROSARY St Mark's Catholic Mission Church, Pakuranga.

The month of October is dedicated to the Holy Rosary. We will be having an additional Rosary prayer in the evenings (time specified in the table below).

Monday 6pm	Tuesday 6pm	Wednesday 6pm	Thursday 6pm	Friday 6pm	Saturday 4pm	Sunday 5:30pm
Joyful mystery	Sorrowful mystery	Glorious mystery	Luminous mystery	Sorrowful mystery	Joyful mystery	Glorious mystery
			1	2	3	4
5	6	7	8	9	10	11
12	13	14	15	16	17	18
19	20	21	22	23	24	25
16	27	28	29	30	31	

Main intensions:

- Peace in the world
- NZ General Elections 2026
- For the leaders of this nation and the world

"The Rosary is a powerful weapon to put the demons to flight and to keep oneself from sin...If you desire peace in your hearts, in your homes, and in your country, assemble each evening to recite the Rosary..." – Pope Pius XI

Discover the Roots of our Catholic Faith! 29th September 2026 @ 7.00pm in the Parish Hall 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!

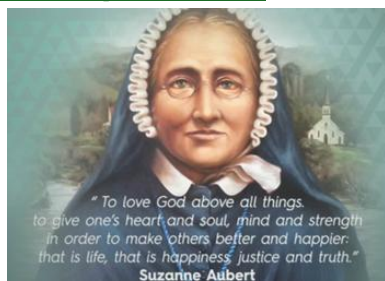
Ministry of Compassion

To celebrate the Centennial Year of Compassion in memory of **Meri Hōhepa Suzanne Aubert** and inspire us to reflect her spirit of service in our own lives, St Mark's parish will launch

St Mark's Ministry of Compassion.

After the **9 AM Mass**
on **Saturday 17 Oct 2026**,

you are invited for a
morning tea at the Parish
Hall.



Let us come together to reflect and share moments of listening and reflecting on the healing journey of people in the parish. It is a time to share and listen to stories and testimonies of personal healing or being Ministers of Compassion (healing) for others.

The reason behind this ministry is Imago Dei (The Image of God): that every human being possesses inherent dignity, value, and worth. It aims to **restore the image of God** in individuals.

The Latin roots of compassion—**cum (with) and pati (to suffer)**—mean **"to suffer with."** The framework shifts the paradigm from doing things to or for the other, toward **walking alongside them.**

You don't have to be alone in this journey

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 Pakuranga 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

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

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

Recently Deceased

Michael Lopez, Adelaida Valencia, Stezen Israel Carlos, Peter McPhillips

Anniversary of Death

Maria Rivera Venzon, Leticia Corazon Buendia, Rex, Dannister, Clarence, Hema, Wally, Eva, Bernie, Stanley, Eunice, Rosalio, Antonia, Lorna, Lilia, Moises, Andresa, Pablo, Herminia, Blessie Maria, Alyssa Paula, Justine Philipp, Nihal, Shirani, Chrisantha, Alfred, Sumana, Berty, Oliver Averion, Ricardo Falzon, 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, Fredie Koun, Felipe Ramos

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

Loliso Fidow, Cecil Ryan, Desmond Culbert, Neil Dewar, Andre van Heerden, Jean, Joe Falzon, Stan O'Brien, 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, Paul Shirley, Radlyn Stuart, Ronald Banezuela, Ernesto Rodan Jr, Beverley Mary Rout

Rosters – 3 rd & 4 th October 2026					
	5.30pm	8.30am	10.30am	6.30pm	Flowers
Music	Gospel Choir	Cheryl & Choir	CFC	Joyce Adiwinata	Community of the Risen Lord
Data Projector	Jannine Eeson	Andrew Jurgens	Leonna Chivasa	Jessie Lo	Cleaning
Altar Servers	Ethan D'Silva Evie Haigh Thomas Haigh	Chloe Lau Bridie Ryan	Annika Tigley Zayna Manipol	Fiona Sheng Sarah Ernstzen	Colin Didier'Serre & Family Gladys Chivasa
Commentators	Juliet Martis	Ethan Karl	Carmel Gaabucayan	Joanne van Heerden	Tigley Family Jimbo Manago
Readers	Cherise Didier'Serre Adam Martis	Zita D'Souza Myra D'Souza	Suzana Noth Ana Bea Alacantara	Alma Dela Cruz Joshua Ernstzen	
Gifits	Genevieve & Family	Ysabel Guiang	Request a Family	Callistus Family	Recording /Counting
Communion Ministers	Philomena Lobo Udesha Mihindukulasuriya Denis D'Souza Catherine Rivers Malcolm Martis	Henny Gussenhoven Andre van Heerden Cheryl van Heerden Grace Rowland Mary Lenton Sr Geraldine Grace Cheah	Gorclalem Padayogdog Gladys Chivasa Lessley Chivasa Sulochana Gamage Cady Lim Francis Coutinho Kaylee Ong Florinda Petterson	Brennan Ernstzen Nazley Ernstzen Hannah Ernstzen Karen Masilamini Jomel Bulandi	Catherine Gillen Thomas Gillen Damien Gillen

Funeral Notice – The Funeral of Ruby Chang will be held on **Tuesday, 29th September 2026 @ 11.00am**

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 Time** 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 to use. 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

Next Special Collection – World Mission

Sunday – 18 October 2026

Collection 19th & 20th September 2026

Envelopes & Loose Collection \$2,177.50

Electronic Payments \$5,614.50

Cathedral Appeal – \$416.00

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

 **A HEART LIKE MARY**  On this Feast day of the Holy Rosary, let's celebrate an evening of Marian Talk & Reflection: a journey into the Immaculate Heart of Mary towards the Sacred Heart of Jesus. **Wednesday, 7 OCTOBER 2026:** Join the 7pm Mass at St Mark's Parish. Come along for dinner, talk, fellowship, & worship at St Mark's Hall from **8pm-9:30pm**. Register: <https://forms.gle/PqxMfW5PZRBuwuodA> or contact Elly **028 4628 930**

BISHOPS' ELECTION STATEMENT The New Zealand bishops have published their statement for the 2026 General Election. Titled *Discerning our nation's future through a Gospel lens*, the document encourages Catholics and people of good will to consider voting as a moral and civic responsibility, not just a matter of personal preference. The bishops invite people to consider how they will cast their votes by reviewing candidates' and parties' positions across a range of key issues, and they also encourage people to pray for the country. Access the election statement at: <https://bit.ly/NZCBCElection26>

Mission Sunday 100th Celebration The Catholic Church around the world will mark the 100th Mission Sunday on October 18. The day is set aside to pray for the Church's mission and to support those who carry the Gospel to places where hope is fragile, where faith is young and where believers often face hardship or persecution. That support can be financial and through prayer. Find out more at: <https://missio.nz/>

Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass on **Friday 2nd October 7:00pm** at St Mary's Parish, 20 Kitenui Ave, Mt Albert. Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Mercy Sung, Benediction, Mass, followed by veneration of St Faustina's relic. All Welcome.

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Eastern Bays Coffee-Morning – Meet-Up for men & women Every third Wednesday of the month, at the Terraces Restaurant, 207 Ridell Road, Glendowie, in the grounds of St. Andrew's Village. Parking is available. Come along at **10am, on Wednesday, 21st October 2026**.

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.

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 and Prayers: The Parable of the Two Sons <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sqnpvSpBR4k&t=3s>
Song: [The Two Sons \(Matthew 21:28–32\) | Kids Christian Song with Moving Lyrics | Lighthouse Kids Family](#)

Thinking about
WHAT I DO

Jesus told this story:
A man had 2 sons. He asked them to go to work in his field.



No father.
I don't want to go.

Older son



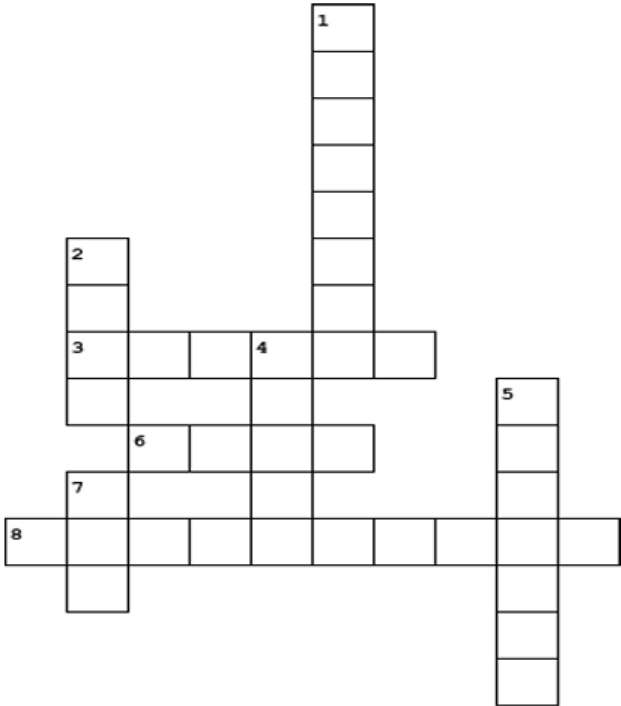
Sure father.
I will go soon.

Younger son

Later he changed his mind and went.

Later he changed his mind and did not go.

Jesus asked: Which son did what his father wanted?:



- Down

 - 1. be able to make a choice
 - 2. Jesus' cousin who came before Him
 - 4. to ask for a favor from God
 - 5. have confidence in
 - 7. great happiness
- Across

 - 3. not proud
 - 6. I do believe
 - 8. the 3rd person of the Trinity

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

PAKURANGA MONTESSORI LEARNING CENTRE

ENROL NOW

Pakuranga Montessori Learning Centre

Address: 71 Udys Road, Pakuranga – Behind St Peter’s Church
Phone: 09-2131866 / 0217110065 Email: pmontessori2014@gmail.com

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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!”

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 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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