Your Parish, Your Home.

Te Whare Karakia o Hato,
Maaka, Pakuranga

St Mark's Catholic Mission Parish

Year A | 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time | The Bridegroom is Here! | 8 November 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
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
faustin@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: Wisdom 6: 12-16 Wisdom is found by those who look for her.
Psalm: **62: 2-8** For you my soul is thirsting, O God, my God.
2ND Reading: Thessalonians 4: 13-18 God will bring with him those who have died in Jesus.
Gospel: **Matthew 25: 1-13** The bridegroom is here! Go out and meet him.

Reflection

Jesus gives us a most powerful warning in the Gospel to "*keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour*" but we will have to wait until the end of the Gospel to hear this warning.

Jesus prepares us for his coming with the parable of the ten bridesmaids, five wise and five foolish, who go out to wait for the arrival of the bridegroom (Jesus). When the bridegroom arrives unexpectedly, the foolish bridesmaid find themselves unready, without enough oil for their lamps. The wise bridesmaids, with their lamps burning brightly, then enter the wedding feast with the bridegroom and the foolish bridesmaids are locked out. We note that the wise bridesmaids were not willing to share their spare oil with the foolish bridesmaids which speaks of our personal responsibility to be prepared.

Indeed, we do not know "the day nor the hour", so what if your last day was to be tomorrow. Would you be ready to meet Jesus if it was? Because nobody wants to hear Jesus say those most chilling of words, "*Truly I tell you, I do not know you*", that were made to the foolish bridesmaids, that were locked out of the wedding feast. The news is not all bad though as the parable also assures us that Jesus will come and for those who are prepared, a great reward will await them.

So how do we prepare for the coming of Jesus? Not something I feel qualified to speak to, so I looked to CatholicAnswers.com and this is what they suggest:

- Frequent the sacraments, especially the Eucharist and Confession.
- Pray the Holy Rosary and read Sacred Scripture daily.
- Practice charity and evangelize.
- Trust in God; do not live in fear.

So please pray for one another that we will all be like the wise bridesmaids and when Jesus comes in his glory, he will find us with our lamps burning brightly so we too may follow Him into the wedding banquet.

Alan Chant

Important Notices

VOLUNTEERS END OF YEAR DINNER

Dear Parishioners of St Mark's, On behalf of Fr Austin and the St Mark's Parish Council, we warmly invite all our Church **Volunteers to an End of Year Thanksgiving Dinner on Saturday 5th December at 7pm.**
It will be a chance to come together, share a meal, celebrate the year and give thanks for all that God has done through our parish community. This is also our opportunity to say a heartfelt thank you for the time, energy and love you have given to the parish through your service this year. We truly appreciate everything you do.
Please note that a separate event for our Youth and Altar Servers will be held on Saturday 12th December.
For catering purposes, please sign up on the clipboard in the foyer, noting the number of people attending and your dietary preference (vegetarian or non-vegetarian). **Please note**: sign-ups close on **Sunday 29th November.**

- **Raffle Tickets** will be on Sale after all Mass' and can also be bought from the Parish Office during the week - $10.00 large hamper & $5.00 small hamper – please support our Youth & Young Adults.
- **All Souls** – Please write the names of your loved ones who have passed and place into the box on the Altar

NO CLAPPING after the announcements and after Mass.

NOT FORGOTTEN. Around the world Christians face violence, imprisonment, and persecution for their faith. This November, join us in prayer and solidarity.

Red November 2026
Pray. Support. Act.

Resources, registration and donations open now.
rednovember.org

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

- **Rosters** – Please collect these from the foyer or click on this link Altar - St. Mark
- **2027 Columban Calendars** now available in the Parish Office @ $15.00
- **Christmas Cards** for sale in the Parish Office @ $5.00
- **2027 Bible Diaries** for sale from the Parish Office @ $20.00

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) to register

YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

Raffle Tickets Small Hamper $5-00 Large Hamper - $10-00 Thank you for your support! All proceeds towards Life Teen Camp 2027 & WYD Korea Pilgrimage

Café Markiato Fundraiser – 14th November after the 5.30pm Mass & 15th November after all Mass'.

EVANGELISATION

Mission of Compassion – every second Saturday of the month in the Parish Hall – after the Healing Mass – **14 November 2026 @ 9.00am**

Discover the Roots of our Catholic Faith : **Tuesday Nights at 7.00pm** in the Parish Hall . The next meeting will be held on the **10 November 2026** Dinner will be served.

We'd love to invite you to our **Alpha Film Series** Every 2nd and 4th Friday of the month (**Next Fri 13 November 2026**) 27 November 2026 & 11 December 2026 7pm to 8.30pm St. Mark's Pakuranga Parish Hall

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 **9 November 2026 @ 7.00pm Guest Speaker** TBC **Topic**: TBC - 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

Rosters – 14th & 15th November 2026

	5.30pm	8.30am	10.30am	6.30pm	Flowers
Music	Gospel Choir	Cheryl & Choir	Children's Choir	Patrick Malden	Charmain Cloete
Data Projector	Hayden Kwan	Zita D'Souza	Madeline Wu	Khyle Porquez	**Cleaning**
Altar Servers	Christian Tan Victoria Tan Aleena Soni	Aziz Tapelu Aden Karl	Victoria Chimremje Minadi Weerapurage Sandina Weerapurge Yuvin Weerapurage	Caleb Ensil Euan Lacay	Paul & Theresa Siao Don Santosa Don Rey Vargas Joseph Abasolo Sela Takataka
Commentators	Hazel De Rozario	Colin Pratt	Coradel Gulla	Donamae Porquez	
Readers	Ross Lehmann Alvino Sooriyakoon	Maureen Kearns Kurt Meyer	Sarah Gulla Gabrielle Coutinho	Ethan Karl Annika Tigley	
Gifts	Haigh Family	Request a Family	Children to take up Offertory	Youth & Young Adults	**Recording /Counting**
Communion Ministers	Ramille Guiang Imelda Guiang Catherine Rivers Nicholas Tan Henny Gussenhoven	Grace Rowland Jane Tan Henry Tan Alan Baino Joan Baino Kim D'Souza Sr Geraldine	Carmel Gaabucayan Kirk Gaabucayan Kaylee Ong Vince Ocampo Johnathan Pang Patrick Sih Genevieve Tham Charmaine Serre	Alecis Dela Cruz Ethan Karl Andrea Jurgens Julian Valerio Paul Dela Cruz	Grace Cheah Divine Dumlao Sanjay Macwan

Recently Deceased
Doreen Gardiner, Angela Marais, Stella Tongue, Peter Lee

Anniversary of Death
Rodolfo Dayanan, Zenaida Dayanan, Colin Schmidt, Vasi Javis, Virgelio & Evangeline Trumta, Felicidad Yumul, Rael Sagun, Nemisio Paulino, Angelita Valmoja, Robert Paulino, Lucy Chen, Peggy Champion, Nicholas Champion, Matthew Champion, Rebecca Baugalan, Heejoo Seraphina Kim, Recardo 'Carding' Talato Sr

For the Sick: **Prayer requests for the sick whose names appear here, will be replaced on a monthly basis.**
Janine Marie Agpuldo, Suzie Xu, Leo Champion, Liz Bauld, Philip Heng, Isaiah Albao, Anne Talbot, Bernard Plan, Benjamin Plan, Marilyn Jordon, Leskin Lambert, George van Niekerk, Darcy Elgar, Beverley Mary Rout, Grace Rowland, Henry Pook, George van Niekerk, Julie Prince, Aiko, Charlie, Alicia, Jasmin, Bernard Plan, Bagusia Bakula, Loliso Fidow, Cecil Ryan, Desmond Culbert, Neil Dewar, Jean, Joe Falzon, Stan O'Brien, Aileen Hillary, Sabina Song-hy Lee, Adrian Cefre, Paul Oliver, Clarence Noth, Ferdinand Ramos, Marilyn Gabas, Wendy van Breda

Happy Anniversary to all couples celebrating their **Wedding Anniversary in November.** The next Anniversary Mass will be held on **Wednesday, 2nd December 2026 –** for all couples whose anniversary falls in **November & December 2026.** Please contact Hazel hderozario@gmail.com or Yasmina mynsr8@gmail.com if you will attend

Telesia & Tommy Aiono, Ana & Jackie Chan , Cynthia & Francis Coutinho, Lynette & Joseph Gomes, April Wong & Keith Kwan, Mary & Philip Lenton , Charlene & Karoon Moodley, Martin & Jacintha Moses, Ofaligi & Hata Nahi , Michelle & Leo Puthur, Megan & Martin Ryan, Linda Chan & Paul Tan, Sue Liow & Gerald Tan, Tiana Boyer & Michael Trathen, Betty & Jefferson Valdez, Ivory & Don Vargas, Ramon & Rowen Vasquez, Eva & Joseph Wong, Wendy & Jeffery Wu, Vivienne & Allan Yee

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



Congratulations to all those couples who Attended the Anniversary Mass for those who celebrated their Anniversaries in September & October

Owen & Celeste
Paulo & Viviane
Jim & Ella
Neville & Jenny
Martino & Tyla

SOCIAL

Strawberry Sale – The Social group will be selling Strawberries after the 10.30am Mass on Sunday, 22nd November 2026.
Parishioners who would like to contribute to the purchase of the strawberries, please contact Teresa Leung @ teresaleung713@gmail.com

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 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, 8th November 2026.

TEMPORALITIES

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

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

St Mark's Health & Safety Warden Training Video — Click here to watch Warden Video

St Mark's Health & Safety Video (If the fire alarm sounds) — Click here to watch H&S Video

Special Collection

Collection 31st October & 1st November 2026
Envelopes & Loose Collection $2,928.20
Electronic Payments $6,136.88

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 recuring 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

AUCKLAND COMMUNITY FOR CHRISTIAN MEDITATION COMMUNITY DAY - WHEN: Saturday, 21st November 2026 **TIME:** 10am to 2.00pm **WHERE:** St Patrick's Church, 119-129 Seddon Street, Pukekohe 2120 **TOPIC:** The Fulfilment of the Divine Will for the Family based on Matthew 12:46-50 **LED BY:** Fr James Mulligan Please bring your own lunch – tea & coffee provided. Please bring a friend. Please bring a koha. No need to book. There will be two periods of meditation in the Christian tradition. People new to meditation in the Christian tradition are most welcome to join us

World Day of the Poor

Sunday 15 November (33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time)

This year's World Day of the Poor theme, *"The Lord is the refuge of the poor" (Psalm 14:6),* invites us to stand with those experiencing poverty, exclusion, and injustice, and to work for a more just world. **Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand** works with communities in New Zealand and around the world to address poverty and injustice and promote human dignity.For resources, including children's liturgy resources and reflections on World Day of the Poor, visit: caritas.org.nz/world-day-of-the-poor

NZ Catholic The latest edition of the monthly diocesan newsletter NZ Catholic is now available on our website.

SCHOLARSHIP for Theological Study Bishop Stephen Lowe, the Catholic Bishop of Auckland, is pleased to call for applications for the Ruth Miller Scholarship for Theological Study. This scholarship will be available for those already teaching in a Catholic school, who intend to do one or more theology papers towards a Bachelor of Theology degree in 2027. For further information about this scholarship and to receive an application form, please email: scholarships@cda.org.nz. *The closing date for applications is 27 NOVEMBER 2026.*

Operations Manager - Mid-North Parishes The Diocese is seeking a part-time Operations Manager (20 hours per week, fixed-term for 12 months) to support the Mid-North Parishes and MSC Priests based in Northland. This varied role providing professional operational support includes parish administration, financial oversight, property coordination, communications, planned giving and health & safety. We are looking for an organised and proactive person with strong business/operations administration and relationship management skills. The position offers an opportunity to make a meaningful contribution by supporting vibrant parish communities and helping ensure the sustainability of parish operations across the Mid-North. For further information and to apply, please visit the Diocesan website https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/.

St Ignatius Catholic School St Heliers Centenary 2027 Planning is underway for our Centenary events next year! It will be a wonderful opportunity for us to celebrate the last 100 years in our school. Please register your interest click here or jump onto our website or email centenary@stignatius.school.nz

The Heart of Christian Spirituality Silent Retreat led by Fr Cyprian Consiglio, OSB Cam, at the University of Waikato, Hamilton, Tues 19 January to Fri 22 January. Fr Cyprian is a Camaldolese monk, musician, composer, author, and teacher. He is currently based in Rome and serves as the Secretary General for Monastic Interreligious Dialogue for the Benedictine Confederation. During the retreat there will be periods of meditation and liturgical prayer, presentations from Fr Cyprian and opportunities to explore the university gardens, talk with an experienced Christian meditator and visit the retreat bookshop. For details go to the Events page at www.christianmeditationnz.org.nz

Monte Cecilia Christmas Appeal This Christmas, Monte Cecilia Housing Trust is asking for your help to bring the magic of Christmas to our families and 1,200 children we support Christmas is a time of giving, sharing and bringing hope to those around us. For some families Christmas can be a challenging time If you wish to donate non-perishable food and new Christmas presents, these would be hugely appreciated. **They can be dropped off at our office at 30 Windrush Close, Mangere** during business hours before Tues 8 Dec (this gives us time to have them delivered to our children in time) or call our office 0800 6244848 or email elaine@montececilia.org.nz

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

Marriage Preparation Course - For course dates, more information, and to register, visit: https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/our-courses/

KID'S CORNER

Gospel and Reflection: Matthew 25:1-13 https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=t-FI48kGd-o

Hymnene: Walk in the Light of the Lord https://youtu.be/025ZmlcOPWk

ALWAYS BE READY

Jesus told the story of the

10 BRIDESMAIDS



The bridegroom was late.

5 of them were WISE

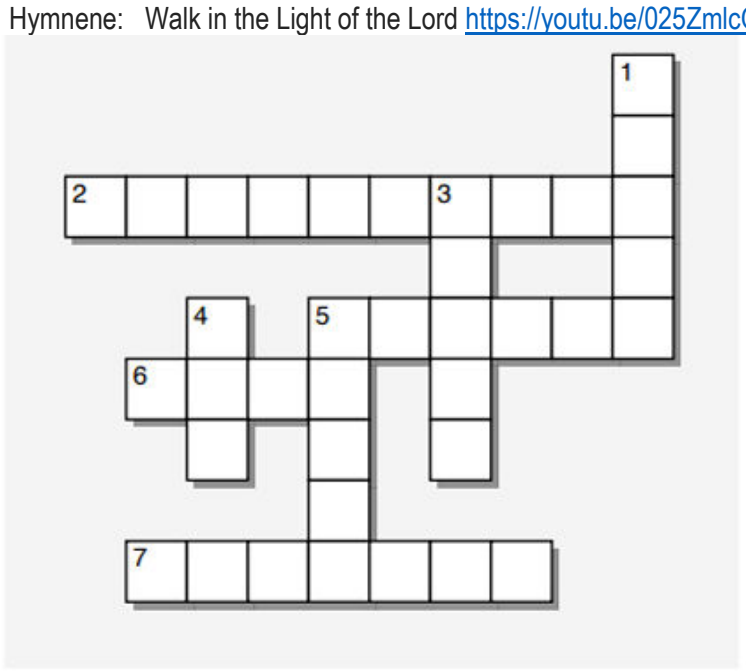
They had spare oil for their lamps. They could go to meet the bridegroom.

5 of them were FOOLISH

They did not have enough oil. Their lamps went out. They could not meet the bridegroom.

Draw 5 lit lamps and 5 unlit lamps in the spaces above.

YOU DO NOT KNOW THE DAY WHEN JESUS IS COMING



Across

2. The person who marries the bride is the _____.
5. The container where the oil was carried for the lamps is called _____.
6. Based on good reasoning or information: showing good sense or judgment
7. Today's Gospel reading is from the Gospel of _____.

Down

1. These were used to provide light.
3. When you have everything you need, you are _____ to go.
4. Lanterns needed _____ to burn to provide light.
5. A meal with lots of food! "It was a thanksgiving _____!

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



DAVIS
FUNERAL CARE

Branch Manager
Swee Han Lim

blessings

We sell catholic gifts for
baptism • first holy communion • confirmation
rosary beads • crucifixes • medals • statues •
bibles • books

JEAN LIM 021383080
TEXT FOR OPENING HOURS

RENOEDGE LIMITED
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.

PAINTING
INTERIOR & EXTERIOR
HOUSE WASHING
ROOF • DRIVEWAY • GUTTER
TILING & WATERPROOFING
BATHROOM • FLOOR
GARDENING
LAWN MOWING • HEDGE TRIMMING
GARDEN CARE
HOME REPAIRS
SMALL REPAIRS • RENOVATIONS
GENERAL MAINTENANCE

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 / 021710065 Email: pmontessori2014@gmail.com
Montessori Programme + NZ Early Childhood Curriculum
100% NZ Qualified teachers
special
Permanent 30 Hrs Free per for 2+ yrs old child
$100 per week for full time

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.

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

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