

FIRST WEEK OF LENT
Deuteronomy 26:4-10; Romans 10:8-13; Luke 4:1-13
9th March 2025

Welcome / Intercessions	Saturday 5:00 pm	Sunday 8:30 am	Sunday 10:30 am
	Georgina Lautua	Mohanri Auva'a	Ofu Schmidt
Ministers of the Word	Margrette Soo Choon Lumepa Soo Choon	Jovina Auva'a Mavicle Auva'a	Siatua Gabriel Cyrila Asseervathan
Extra-Ordinary Ministers of the Holy Communion	Jovita Parker Apaula & Martin Lautua, John Pranks Aran Silverio Sahlee Cortez	Falaniko Malaki Telesia Tuala Tea Venu, Tea Sharp Atelina Hunt, James Obeng Fuli Vaasili	Jane Castrillo, Ana Silva Aurora Almario, Christian Sison Jennifer Anacleto, Fakalelu Paseka Miriam & Arnel Mantes Filimoni Feagaiga
Altar Servers	Albertus Lautua, Ethan Clarito Frankie Aita	Oliver Kiutau, Luke Kiutau James Soo Choon	John Paul Feagaiga, Kiean Platón Skyler Fonseca
Sacred Vessel	Aran Silverio, Apaula Lautua	Tea Venu, Atelina Hunt Noue	Miriam Mantes, Jennifer Anacleto
Projector	Georgina Lautua	Lusia Koloamatangi	Chris Kiutau

PARISH SITE DEVELOPMENT

"Building A Vibrant Faith Community"



Online Donations:

For Building Fund:

Account Name: ST MARY'S PAPAKURA
 Account # 02-0108-0707147-004
 REF: Pledge Number or Name

For automatic pledge giving:

Account Name: ST MARY'S PAPAKURA
 Account # 02-0108-0707147-000
 REF: Pledge Number or Name

Your support is most appreciated!

Please contact Parish office for receipts.

Please Note
 (Email or call parish office to include the names for the item below)

2nd - 8th March

SICK PARISHIONERS

We pray for those who are sick, especially:
 Audrea Warner, Arthur Solomon, Terry Brunton,
 Lisa Matt, Judge Carpio, Bryan Wannell, Brian O'Leary,
 Rosario Tamin, John Ram Krishna, Rodolfo Tolentino,
 Graham Reed, Anne Wallbank, Margaret Fairweather,
 Morris Pele, Brian Goldfinch and 'Ofa Soakai

DEATH ANNIVERSARIES

We pray for our dearly departed with anniversaries of death
 Joyce Holley, Gordon Frederick Spragg, Lawrence Henwood,
 Colleen Ellen Young

May they rest in peace. Amen

New to the Parish? Welcome to St. Mary's Catholic Church. Please visit our website at www.papakuracatholic.org.nz and register online or you are very welcome to visit us at the parish office. (Office hours 9am- 3pm, Mon-Fri) Thank you

Locals Supporting Locals

HARVEYS REAL ESTATE EST. 1918

Thinking about selling?

We can help you get your home sold or rented!

Kelly, Darren and their family have been part of our parish and the school for over 20 years.

We offer a full real estate service to our fellow parishioners and when successful not only do you get rewarded, so does the parish. We look forward to being of service to you.



Newsletter proudly sponsored by Harveys Papakura

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St Mary's Catholic Church

A listening, praying, servant community

46 East Street, Papakura 2110

www.papakuracatholic.org.nz

Facebook: St Mary's Parish Catholic Church Papakura

Parish Priest: Fr Mathew Vadakkevettuvazhiyil
 Email: parishpriest@stmaryspapakura.org.nz
 Presbytery: 09 298 5134
 Fr. Mathew: 021 2090210 (Preferably text messages)

Parish Secretary: Roleta Aranda 09 299 6056
 Email: office@stmaryspapakura.org.nz

Pastoral Associate: Benita Kiutau 09 2996056
 Email: pastoral@stmaryspapakura.org.nz



St Mary's Catholic School
 Principal: Audrey Kippen
 Ph 09 298 4450

Holy Trinity Catholic Primary School
 Principal: Peta Lindstrom
 Ph 09 296 9039

St Ignatius of Loyola Catholic College
 Principal: Dean Wearmouth

2ND MARCH 2025 - EIGHT WEEK ORDINARY TIME

1 Ecclesiasticus 27:4-7; 1Corinthians 15:54-58; Luke 6:39-45

World Teen Mental Health Day: A Call to Care for the Young Mind

Dear Sisters and Brothers,

Every year on March 2, the world observes World Teen Mental Health Day, a day dedicated to raising awareness about the mental health challenges faced by teenagers. Adolescence is a critical stage of human development, marked by rapid emotional, psychological, and social changes. As the world recognizes the struggles young people face, the Church calls upon us to support, guide, and nurture the mental well-being of teenagers, grounded in faith and love.

Teenagers today grapple with many pressures – academic expectations, social challenges, family issues, and the influence of digital media. Anxiety, depression, and stress have become increasingly common among young people. According to studies, many teens suffer in silence due to stigma, lack of understanding, or fear of judgment.

The Catholic faith teaches that every human being is created in the image and likeness of God (Genesis 1:27). This means that each person, including teenagers, has inherent dignity and worth. Mental health struggles do not diminish a person's value in God's eyes. The Church encourages us to support those who suffer, following the example of Christ, who healed the broken-hearted and consoled the afflicted.

The Bible offers profound wisdom and encouragement for those struggling with mental health challenges. In Matthew 11:28, Jesus says, "Come to me, all you who labour and are burdened, and I will give you rest." Similarly, Psalm 34:18 affirms, "The Lord is close to the broken-hearted, saves those whose spirit is crushed."

We may ask, "What can we do? As every teen is unique, I propose a few points for our consideration as we need to accompany them in their uniqueness:

Encourage open conversations: Parents, teachers, and Church leaders should create safe spaces where teenagers can express their emotions without fear of judgment

Offer spiritual and emotional support: Prayer, the Sacraments – especially Reconciliation and the Eucharist – and pastoral care provide strength and healing

Promote professional help when needed: Just as we seek medical help for physical illnesses, professional counselling and therapy should be encouraged for mental health concerns

Teach teens their value in Christ: Remind them that their worth is not based on achievements, social status, or appearances but on being beloved children of God.

Practice acts of kindness and inclusion: A small act of kindness can make a big difference in the life of a struggling teen.

The Church, rooted in Christ's love, has the responsibility to accompany teenagers through their struggles with compassion and care. By integrating faith, Scripture, and Church teaching, we can help young people navigate life's challenges with hope, strength, and the knowledge that they are never alone.

God bless.

Fr, Mathew Vadakkevettuvazhiyil

MASS TIMES

WEEKEND MASS

Saturday
8:30am & Vigil 5:00pm

Sunday
8:30am & 10:30am

BAPTISM

Second Sunday of the month
during 10:30am mass

WEEKDAY MASS

Monday - 9:00am

Tuesday - 6:30pm

Wednesday - 6:30pm

Thursday - 9:30am

Friday - 9:00am

FIRST FRIDAY OF THE MONTH
Mass - 10:00am

Adoration - 10:30am - 12:00pm

FIRST SATURDAYS OF THE MONTH
Anointings of the Sick - 8:30am

ETHNIC MASSES

Filipino language 1st Sunday,
2:00pm

Samoan Language 3rd Sunday of
March then every other month at
12:00pm

Tongan Language 4th Sunday of
Mar, Jun, Sep & Nov at 2:00pm

RECONCILIATION

Saturdays 9:00 - 10:00am

Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament
Fridays 9:30am - 12:00pm

PRAYER OF THE CHURCH

Evening Prayer (VESPER)
Tuesday & Wednesday - 6:00pm

Morning Prayer (LAUDS)
Sunday - 8:00am

RETIREMENT VILLAGE MASS

Longford - 2nd Tuesday, 11:00am
Summerset - 3rd Tue, 10:30am

Welcome to St Mary's Parish

Holy Rosary: 8:30, 5:30p.m. Monday to Friday
Stations of the Cross: 5pm Fridays. Michael 298 9295
The statue of Our Lady is available for families, add your name to the list in the foyer or ph Jean 027 2982327
SMYFs (St Mary's Youth Family)- Bringing Youth Closer to Christ. We welcome all youth aged 10 & up to join us for our monthly youth sessions. We delve into scripture while growing closer with our brothers and sisters in Christ. Contact 021 084 04602, smarys-youthfamily@gmail.com for more info, or check out our Facebook Smyfs Papakura and Instagram @smyfs_.
 Next youth session is: **Fridays of March 7-9pm.** All welcome
Legion of Mary Senior Presidium: Mondays 6:15pm, hall committee room.
Legion of Mary Junior Presidium: Fridays 5-6pm, Ryder room. Celerina 298 4080
Medjugorje prayer meetings: Mondays, @ 2/1 Clark Rd, Joseph 298 2297
Meditation Groups: Tuesdays 9.30am Fr Ryder Rm. (St Anne's Manurewa every Monday 5-6pm in the Chapel.)
Knitting group: each 2nd & 4th Tuesday: 1- 3 pm Ryder Rm. Jenny 297 7292
St Vincent de Paul Foodbank Office: Food parcels please phone for an appointment. Mob: 021 026 71430
St Vincent de Paul Shop: Mon—Fri 10:00-3:00pm Sat 10:00-1:00pm 275 Great South Rd, 296 5052
The Knights Of The Southern Cross—Richard Power
Lay Camillian Family NZ Ministry to the sick—Dennis Sanga dtbsanga@gmail.com
Music Ministry Team - Singing and music practice for our Sunday Masses - Wednesday at 7:15pm. All welcome.
St. Mary's Women's Group - Friday, 1:00-2:30pm, Ryder room - Brigid 021 02345439 or Jackie 021 02358939. No meeting during school holidays. All welcome

ST. VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY PAKAPURA FOOD BANK



Our current requirements are

Tin of Spaghetti, Baked Beans, Sugar 1.5 kg, Boxes of Tea Bags, Small Peanut Butter and Marmite.

To request food assistance please phone 021 02671430 to give your details and you will be given an appointment time for collecting a food parcel.

We ask parishioners of all ages, background and talents to write the stories of their faith journey. What does faith mean to you? How does your faith help you to live your life with its promises and hopes? What does your prayer life mean to you? It is for faith sharing and encouraging one another and to get to know the members of our parish family. The stories can be a maximum of 500 words. Please email it with a passport size photograph to office@stmaryspapakura.org.nz

Shared homily on 4th Sundays

Would you like to make a 3 minutes sharing of your faith journey? Contact Fr. Mathew

Signing of School Preference form

Every Wednesday between 8:00 - 9:00 am and 1:00 - 4:00 pm. Except First Wednesday of the month from 2:00 - 4:00 pm

Please call parish office to book an appointment or walk in are all welcome.

Announcements from Diocese

CATHNEWS NEW ZEALAND: The Bishops Conference has recently launched the renewed CathNews New Zealand project. This ministry supports Catholics and people interested in the Church in accessing news and other content of interest. It draws from material that has already been published and includes original content. The best way to receive CathNews New Zealand is by signing up to the newsletter, which is sent on Tuesday and Friday mornings. Visit the CathNews New Zealand website and sign up at <https://cathnews.co.nz/>

Rachel's Vineyard Retreat offer a beautiful opportunity for healing to anyone who has struggled with the emotional or spiritual pain of abortion. The next Retreat will be held at Mary McKillop Centre, **April 11-13, 2025.** For more information Contact Wendy Hill on 027 2549222 or email wendy@rachelvineyard.org.nz

Singles Ministry is holding a Meet & Connect for Single Roman Catholics looking to find a partner on **Saturday 29th March 2025.** For more information kindly contact: Clytie : 021836705, Reena 0278387151.

Pope Francis' Letter to us all on the Sacred Heart of Jesus. Wednesday Evenings 5th, 12th, 19th, 26th March 7-7.30pm on Zoom. Contact Dianna Fouhy, Faith Formation Team @ diannaf@cda.org.nz

Wake Up and Pray. Meditation Mornings in Lent through Easter 5th March – 20th of April, 6.15 – 6.45am on Zoom. Contact Dianna Fouhy, Faith Formation Team @ diannaf@cda.org.nz

Prepare Ponder Pray with the Gospels. Saturdays in Lent 7 – 7:30pm on Zoom. Contact Dianna Fouhy, Faith Formation Team @ diannaf@cda.org.nz

Bishop Steve Speaks tune into the diocesan YouTube channel playlist *Bishop Steve Speaks* to hear him reflecting on the readings of Sunday and other moments of conversation. https://www.youtube.com/playlist?list=PLYVVDh6gEBFpCzXcTLhpW_gsxny4e

CALLING ALL AUCKLAND UNIVERSITY STUDENTS!

There is a large, vibrant, Catholic student community in the Auckland CBD. Join us this year! To find out more please contact Daniel Story at dans@cda.org.nz and/or check out our socials. Search "aucklandcatholicchaplancy"

Ministers of the Word and Extra-ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

The parish is inviting you to serve the parish as ministers of the Word or as Extra-ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion. Training will be on **Thursday, 3rd April at 7:00pm in the church.** You will be commissioned on **Sunday, 5th April**. To register contact parish office or pastoral office.

St Mary's Parish Women's Group

This week we discussed the beautiful 'Sermon on the Mount.'

Following on from Jesus choosing his twelve disciples he descended to level ground amongst them and the large crowds, reinforcing the concept of the chosen twelve living and working amidst everyday people.

Jesus explained to them all the beatitudes which are the Christian attitudes to life or 'B Attitudes.' Jesus was teaching a new set of values to live by.

Come and join us for a lively chat and prayer time on Friday afternoon at 1pm in the Fr. Ryder room.

Parish News and updates

THE PARISH NEEDS YOUR TIME

- ONE HOUR a week as Power point operator for each mass
- ONE HOUR a week as Eftpos operator for each mass
- ONE HOUR per week to count the mass collections
- ONE HOUR OR TWO to clean the Church, Hall or Ryder room (choose only one per group or family)
- ONE HOUR a week to take Holy Communion to the homebound.
- ONE HOUR a week to manage our car parks for each mass on the weekend.
- You may have talents which you want make known to parish. Contact us.

Building Inspection

The Finance Committee is seeking a volunteer(s) to inspect all the parish buildings and to submit a report. The report will enable the Finance Committee to budget and prioritize maintenance of all buildings. Kindly contact the parish office.

Catechists needed for the following:

- To lead the Liturgy of the Word for children during weekend masses
- To teach catechism for Students in State Schools every Wednesday, 5:00 - 6:00pm
- To teach and prepare children aged 7 - 12 yrs old for their Baptism. Their parents will be in attendance

We earnestly seek parishioners/parents to help the parish in Faith Formation. It is a ministry to proclaim the Word of God to children and teach them catechism. Those who come forward will be given help to get trained in this wonderful ministry. Kindly contact the parish office.



To host for our Parish Communi-Tea, please call parish office.



21st - 27th February 2025 Collection Report

Pledge - \$ 4, 839.70
Build. Fund - \$11,788.60

Want to become a Catholic?

Looking to deepen your faith or join the Catholic Church? Our Parish RCIA/RCIC program welcomes you on a journey of faith, learning, and community - come and discover the beauty of the Catholic life!

Registration for RCIC/RCIA 2025-2026 is now open. Please contact Parish Office or Pastoral office.

Enquiry dates:
Fridays, 9th & 16th May, 7:00pm
Saturdays, 24th & 31st May, 12:00pm

Weekday Readings, 3rd - 8th Mar

Monday	Ecclesiaticus 17:24-29; Ps.32; Mark 10:17-27
Tuesday	Ecclesiaticus 35:1-12; Ps.50; Mark 10:28-31
Ash Wednesday	Joel 2:12-18; 2Corinthians 5:20-6:2; Ps.51; Matthew 6:1-6.16-18
Thursday	Deut. 30:15-20; Ps.1; Luke 9:22-25
Friday	Isaiah 58:1-9; Ps.51; Matthew 9:14-15
Saturday	Isaiah 58:9-14; Ps.86; Luke 5:27-32

Dates for your Diary

Ash Wednesday 5 Mar	Marks the beginning of Lent, a sacred season of repentance, prayer, and renewal, reminding us to turn away from sin and believe in the Gospel. Would you like to mark it as a day of fasting (eating only one full meal for those aged 18 to 59) and abstinence (refraining from eating meat)? Mass at 7:00 am. Ecumenical Service at 7:00 pm in the Anglican Church, 40 Coles Cres, Papakura. No Mass at 6:30 pm
Thu, 6 Mar	Parish Liturgy Committee Meeting, 7:00pm, Ryder rm.
Fridays 7 & 14 Mar	Renewal, Synodality & Fellowship for all Parish Readers and Extra-Ordinary Ministers and Holy Communion, 7:00pm, Ryder rm.
Sat, 15 Mar	First day of class for Baptism Preparation for children aged 7-12 yrs old, 2:00-3:00pm, Ryder rm
Thu, 20 Mar	Parish Pastoral Council Meeting, 7:00pm, Ryder rm
Fri, 21 Mar	First Reconciliation of children on Sacramental Programme, 7:00pm
Thu, 27 Mar	Baptismal Preparation Course, 7:00pm, Ryder rm
Fri, 28 & Sat, 29 March	Parish Spiritual Retreat. Begins with Stations of the Cross, 6:30 pm on Friday, 28th March and concludes on Saturday 29th March, 5:00 pm with Vigil Mass
Sun, 6 Apr	Last date to submit nominations to Parish Pastoral Council.
Tue, 8 Apr	Parish Lenten Reconciliation Rite II, 7:00 pm
Sat, 12 Apr	Baptism Celebration. We move to 12 April, 11:00am, as Palm Sunday falls on April 13th this year.
Sat, 3 May	Parish Picnic at Waitawa Regional Park, after 8:30 am Mass—Details to follow

Parish Calendar of Event for 2025 is on the website.

ST. MARY'S PARISH Lenten Programme 2025

Friday Station of the Cross 6.30pm
Filipino Community (7th March)
Altar Sever/Youth (14th March)
Couples for Christ (21st March)
Samoan Community (28th March)
Tongan Community (4th April)
Legion of Mary (11th April)

Parish Car park

Since we have very limited availability for parking, we encourage all parishioners to leave the car park for the elderly, the sick and the mobility card holders.

Thank you for your understanding.