

Maria Assumpta Parish Bulletin

MARIA ASSUMPTA CATHOLIC CHURCH
198 Beach Haven Road, Auckland 0626
www.beachhavencatholic.org.nz

SUNDAY MASS: 8am, 10am
RECONCILIATION: Saturday 10am-12pm
WEEKDAY MASS: 9am - Tuesday to Saturday

MARRIAGE PREPARATION:
Contact Parish priest
BAPTISM PREPARATION: Contact Parish priest

Parish Priest: Fr Aleki Piula
Email: alekipiula@yahoo.co.nz
Presbytery Phone: 483 7919

Parish Secretary: Marc Theron
Email: secretary@mariaassumpta.org.nz
Parish Office: 09 483 5919

PARISH OFFICE HOURS: Mon, Thurs, Friday 9am-1pm

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time
15 August 2021

First Reading: Apoc 11:19;12:1-6,10
Psalm: 45B
Second Reading: 1Corinthians 15:20-26
Gospel: Luke 1:39-56

Reflection by Fr Aleki Piula

**The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary into
Heaven both Body and Soul**



Today is a very special day for our parish is our feast day and second, we renew our rededication with all New Zealanders, our country to Mary Our Lady Assumed into Heaven since Bishop Pompallier celebrated in 1838.

What do we mean as a Catholic when we express our conviction that at the end of her earthly life, Mary was taken up body and soul into heavenly glory, so we are heaping praise upon Mary for her specialness? Is there anything deeper at stake? In fact, like all Marian teachings, the Assumption speaks of the saving love of Christ that envelops our human lives. For the mystery that for His Son of God became human, so that we might become God's children.

The Father of the Church said, 'Mary, the first disciple' of Jesus walks with and before us in our own path of Christian discipleship. Her singular participation in her Son's resurrection is an anticipation of our resurrection. So, who Mary is, we are becoming. One day we, too, will live forever with God in heavenly glory. The Assumption is a compelling celebration of Christian hope, an affirmation of the human body, and deep-down encouragement in our earthly struggles. At the feast of the Ascension, we celebrate the crowning of Jesus, so on the feast of the Assumption we celebrate the crowning of Mary, his mother. We owe our salvation to Jesus, but under God. We owe Jesus to Mary.

Today we celebrate the glorification of Mary. She who shared intimately in the joyful and sorrowful mysteries of Jesus' earthly life, now shares his glory in heaven. We too, are called to share in the glory of Jesus. Mary, our mother, will help us in moments of discouragement and failure. For Mary's Assumption into heaven means that she shares in her Son's victory over death and enjoys the fullness of eternal glory. During her earthly life, Mary was a humble person, who sought to always do the will of God. In this way she shows us the way we must go to share her glory.

***Welcome - Malo e lelei - Bula Vinaka - Talofa lava - Mabuhay - Bienvenue
Nei hou ma - Anneunghaseyo - Ayu Bowan - Willkommen - Welkom
Haere mai! Nau mai! Whakatau mai!***

In today's first reading we hear the description about the battle between God and evil, with the ultimate triumph of God. The child Jesus was taken into Heaven and even the mother, Mary follows her son. It is the ultimate battle between God and evil, represented by the dragon (the serpent of Genesis). The woman represents the church, and the child represents Christ, the Messiah. Like the woman in the vision. The church was undergoing suffering and persecution at the time of the writing of the vision. The dragon confronts the woman to devour her child. But the child is taken up to God, a reference to the ascension of Jesus. Jesus defeated the dragon and was exalted to God's right hand. The woman (the church) flees to the desert to escape the persecution. There she is nourished by God, just as were the Israelites of old. The final verse praises the triumph of God and Christ. This reading was meant to encourage the early Christians by assuring them that God would finally triumph. It should do the same for us. Even though the figure of the woman in the first place represents the Church, it can also be seen as representing Mary. As the mother of Jesus, she was at the heart of the battle between God and the powers of evil. Therefore, it is entirely fitting that through her Assumption she should share in the spoils of victory.

Psalm 45 sings, 'The queen stands at your right hand, arrayed in gold'.

In the second reading Christ is the new Adam who undoes all the harm done by the old Adam. The Church sees Mary as the new Eve who by her obedience to God undoes the harm done by the old Eve.

In today's gospel we hear from Luke the story of Mary visiting to her old cousin Elizabeth and contains her hymn of praise to God for his goodness to her and to his chosen people. The encounter of the two mother that God's action in the lives of Zechariah and his wife who will have a son in her old age and the life of Mary of Nazareth who will have a son as a virgin mother. The mother of John, the Precursor, meet the Mother of Jesus, the Christ, the Son of God. So, Mary greets her cousin and Elizabeth fills with the Holy Spirit. The child quickens, and Elizabeth cries out her joy. She salutes Mary as the most blessed of all women and blessed also is the fruit of her womb. How could she have known that her unmarried younger cousin was pregnant?

Such questions are idle, as this is a question about the action of God in human affairs. Her own experience of the Spirit and the quickening of the child in her womb leads Elizabeth to recognise the dignity of Mary, and the dignity of the child she is bearing. Even though Jesus has not been born, he is given the title of 'Lord': 'Why should I be honoured with a visit from the mother of my Lord'(Luke 1:43). Of course it is wonder of Mary the first of all believers, that is acclaimed, Elizabeth sings Mary's praise in the light of her response to God's intervention in her life, known to the reader of the Gospel from the immediately previous account of the Annunciation: 'Blessed is she who believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled '(Luke 1: 45).

The Magnificat, Mary points herself towards the God who stands behind all that has been reported. So, Mary in her confession she claimed that she is his 'lowly handmaid' (Luke 1:48), that all the honour which will be given to her from that day forward through all generations in not really hers. She only shines forth the greatness of God, her Saviour (Luke 1:46-47), She rightly sees herself at the end of a long history of God's saving presence among his people, crushing the mighty and exalting the lowly (Luke 1:50-55), ;The Almighty has done great things for me, holy is his name '(Luke 1:49).

The Feast of the Assumption is recognition from the Church that the Almighty has done great things for his lowly handmaiden. It is an expression of hope that God will continue to do such great things for the rest of humankind.

Mary lived a life believing that the promise made of her by the Lord would be fulfilled. Her generous and never-failing trust and faith in God's word led to this final word. that she is taken up to heaven to be with her son forever. So, the meaning of the feast day sum up by the liturgy itself. Today, Mary, the mother of God was taken up into heaven to be the beginning and the pattern of the church in its perfection, and a sign of hope for us his people on our pilgrim way'. Therefore, we can look at Mary now in glory and say, 'That is how we will be one day'.

Happy feast day everyone.

God Bless
Fr Aleki

Announcements :

PLEASE SCAN in using QR CODE.

- Thank you to Pat Lythe for her help in the formation of the new PPC on 22 August.
- **TODAY** - Sacramental Programme - 9h30-10h30



Sign-in. Stop the virus.



Diocesan Vacancies:

Vacancy Auckland Catholic Diocese -
Tertiary Chaplaincy
Counsellor needed – Catholic
Social Services



For more information on vacancies, please
visit the Diocesan website [https://
www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/](https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/)

Holy Rosary Series

A six session series to learn about the history, the prayers
and the mysteries of the Rosary, with hands-on teaching
to make your own Rosary – Sunday 2pm – 4pm (\$15 pp
per session includes all rosary making materials and af-
ternoon tea)

Sun 12 Sep | Sun 3 Oct | Sun 14 Nov |
Sun 12 Dec

Come to one, some or all.

Contact rosaryworkshopnz@gmail.com
to register or for more info.



Life Teen Summer Camp

Auckland is happening from
14-18 January 2022 at YMCA
Camp Adair, Hunua. Inviting all

those 18+ years to join us for the best camp ever and
serve in a variety of roles as we lead teens
closer to Christ. If you have time or a heart
of service or a gift or talent to share, we
have a place for you.



Contact us: summercamp@cda.org.nz or
www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/acym/ltscak22



The Maria Assumpta conference of St Vin-
cent de Paul thanks parishioners for your
ongoing support. Will you help us to serve
the poor? **We need members** and volun-
teers who will deliver food parcels, collect
and drop off furniture, staff one of the two shops, and
listen to and help the poor. We also need some members
with good computer skills. If you are interested, speak to
Charles or Chris, or call one of the shops. You are also
welcome to come along to one of our meetings, which
happen after the 8 am Mass on the second and fourth
Sundays of the month.

You can leave food donations in the basket at the back of
the church before Mass on Sundays or you can contact
one of us and we will arrange to collect them from you.
Clothing and household items can be donated at the El-
lice Road or Beach Haven shops during shop hours. If you
wish to assist us more, or if you know of someone need-
ing assistance, please contact either Chris (020 4139
5170), Charles (022 0242 753), or the Beach Haven shop
(482 3017).



Thank You

A huge thank you from the Caring Foundation for your
generous support of their annual appeal on
Caring Sunday.

Website for Te Ara a Maria: Mary's Way project

A website has been created to help promote the bishops'
renewal of the dedication of the country to Our Lady As-
sumed into Heaven.

The renewal project has the title Te Ara a Maria: Mary's
Way and runs for 12 months from 15 August.

Go here for the website: www.tearaamaria.nz

The website contains details of the project. It will be up-
dated regularly to include the schedule of
the nationwide hikoi of the artwork created
for the project. The hikoi starts on August 18
in Invercargill.



The Catholic Diocese of Auckland Commission for
Ecumenism 2021 Talk Series Promoting Christian Unity
invites you to a public lecture by Rev. Dr. Joseph
Zachariah, ecumenical scholar, of the Syrian Orthodox
Church, an Ecumenical response on the topic of
Intercommunion – a search for the parameters for
Eucharistic Communion **August 18 7:00PM** at St Peter's
Syrian Orthodox Church
15 Culperry Road, Glendene.
Light refreshments afterwards.

Time Out Days – For those who see a day retreat -
9:30am – 2:30pm (\$30 includes lunch) Tue 24 August |
Wed 15 September | Wed 20 October | Tue 16 November |
Wed 8 December
Bookings:
admin@stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz
Tel: 09 625 6651



TITIPOUNAMU Study & Joy

Titipounamu Study & Joy is celebrating 1 Year and gives
thanks with **FREE** August events:
Online Sessions (Evening):
The Eucharist with Kieran Fenn fms.
Monday, 16 August, 7-8.30pm. Free. ZOOM.
The Eucharist – a Gospel event and Sacrament with Prof
Thomas O'Loughlin and Kieran Fenn fms.
Monday, 23 August, 7-8.30pm. Free. ZOOM.
<https://bit.ly/3j16moA>

Info - registration: info@studyjoy.nz
Muffin Talk Radio Programme recordings
and video clips on religion, interfaith and
community available at
<https://bit.ly/3gEmtQB>



Next Week Ministries	8:00am Mass	10:00am Mass
Welcome/Notices	Liz Anthony	Youth
Ministers Of The Word	Rita Webster Therese Corpuz	Youth
Ministers of Communion	Vic Peters Mata'afa Elisaia Tulifau	Iulia Naititi Yeng Bernabe
Prayers Of The Faithful	Charles Grinter/W/R	Youth
Computer	Chris Simpson	Christiana Setu
Musicians	Filomena Filipo	Ausage Setu Dave Tusani
Counters	Team B	Anastasia Tusani Liz Antony

Next Week READINGS

22 August 2021

First Reading:
Joshua 24:1-2, 15-18

Psalm: 34

Second Reading:
Ephesians 5:21-32

Gospel:
John 6:60-69

SPECIAL MASSES

Filipino Mass: 1st Sunday of month - 4 pm

Samoan Mass: 2nd Sunday of month - 11:45 am

Tongan Mass: 3rd Sunday of the month - 1 pm

Multicultural Mass: 4th Sunday of every other month. Alternates with Youth Mass - 10 am

Youth Mass: 4th Sunday of every other month. Alternates with Multicultural Mass - 10 am

Maori Mass: 5th Sunday of month - 10 am

Note: Singing Practice: Saturdays after morning Mass. We will advise when this will resume again.

DEVOTIONS

Adoration of the Blessed Eucharist: First Friday mass at 9am follow by adoration up to 12pm

PARISH ACTIVITIES

Youth Group: To be advised

NSSCC Fono: 4th Sunday of the month, 11.30am – 3.00pm

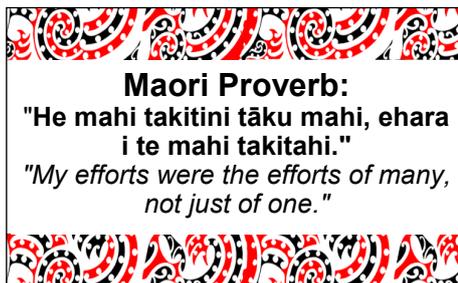
Enua Ola Group - Zumba : Every Tuesday, 6pm in parish hall.

Multicultural group meeting: To be advised

Finance Committee meeting: 2nd Tuesday of the month, 7:00 pm.

Liturgy Committee meeting: 2nd Wednesday of the month, 7:00 pm.

Parish Pastoral Council meeting: 3rd Thursday of the month 7.00pm.



NEWSLETTER:

Do you want the Newsletter via email ?

I send out emails every FRIDAY to the "Newsletter List" I have. If you do not receive these emails and would like too then please email me on secretary@mariaassumpta.org.nz



CDA Connect

Are you wanting to know what is happening in the diocese? CDA Connect is a monthly newsletter concerning happenings in the diocese.



HALL HIRE

All bookings can be made **ONLINE**

Should be made ONLINE at:

<https://beachhavencatholic.org.nz/venue-hall-hire-2/>

Hall Hire fee: \$150 Bond and \$30.00 per hour.
(Hall hire is for all time Hall is used- decorating included)



CHURCH MAINTENANCE

Please inform the parish office of any damages that need repairing on parish premises.

If you can assist with maintenance please contact, **David Sharkey -**
Ph:021 2940292 or email:
david.sharkey003@gmail.com

NOTICES FOR PARISH BULLETIN

These should be received by Thursday every week. Notices are approved by the Parish Priest and will be placed if there is room.

Email the wording to: secretary@mariaassumpta.org.nz