

The following deaths and Anniversaries are about this time

- 19 Mary Ann Michie
Ana-Maria Frances Wawatai (mother of Maui Tate)
- 21 Paul Stanislaus Louis
- 22 Marcella Weir
Aileen Stratford (auntie of Clare Williams)
- 23 William George Beals

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

Saints of the week

Monday, 17th of May :- Saint Paschal Baylon

Tuesday, 18th of May :- Saint Felix of Cantalice

*Wednesday, 19th of May :- Saint Celestine V
Saint Yves*

Thursday, 20th of May :- Saint Bernardino of Siena

Friday, 21st of May :- Saint Constantine

Saturday, 22nd of May :- Saint Rita of Cascia

Sunday, 23rd of May :- Servant of God Girolamo Savonarola



Follow Our Parish on Facebook

Our Facebook page is active again! Follow our parish on Facebook for regular updates:
StAndrewsCatholicChurchTuakau

Support for Families

If any family in our community needs help or support, please feel free to contact **Litia Lockington** – 021 0832 9971 or **Clare Williams** – 021 178 0667

We kindly invite those who are able to contribute to our food basket as a simple act of generosity and care for families in need. Your kindness can bring comfort and support to those who may be struggling.

Volunteers

We are also looking for volunteers to assist as **Ministers of the Word** and **Eucharistic Ministers**.

If you're able to help, please contact:

Litia Lockington – 021 0832 9971

Clare Williams – 021 178 0667

Church Cleaning Notice: We are also looking for volunteers to assist with church cleaning, which is scheduled for Saturday, 23rd May, from 10:00 AM to 11:30 AM. **Your support is greatly appreciated!**

Welcome to St. Andrew's Catholic Church, Tuakau

The Ascension of the Lord, Cycle A, May 17 2026



Physical Address

186 George Street, Tuakau

Postal Address

24 Domain Street, Waiuku 2123

Website:

www.tuakaucatholic.org.nz

Parish Priest

Fr. Robert Steele

office@pukekohecatholic.org.nz

Mobile: 021 1133840

Assistant Priest:

Fr Joseph Doan

Mass Times:

Saturday Vigil, 5:00 pm

Wed & Fri, 11:00 am

Reconciliation:

Saturday: 4:30 to 4:45 pm or by appointment

Anointing of the sick:

First Friday, during Mass at 11:00 am

Facebook:

StAndrewsCatholicChurch-Tuakau

Introduction: God Goes Up with Shouts of Joy

Entrance Antiphon Acts 1:11

Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking in the sky? The Lord will return, just as you have seen him ascend, alleluia

Readings from Sacred Scripture:

First Reading: Acts 1:1-11

Jesus is taken up to heaven in the presence of the apostles.

Responsorial Psalm: Ps 47:2-3, 6-9

R/. God goes up with shouts of joy; the Lord goes up with trumpet blast.

Second Reading: Ephesians 1:17-23

Be ready to give explanation for your hope in Christ.

Gospel Acclamation:- John 10:14 Alleluia, Alleluia!

Go, make disciples of all the nations; I am with you always; yes, to the end of time' Alleluia!

Gospel Reading: Matthew 28:16-20

Jesus charges his disciples to make disciples of all nations and promises to be with them forever.

WEEKLY INSPIRATION –GOD WITH US



“Go, therefore, and make disciples of all nations, baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.”

Matthew 28:19

Go with faith and courage, knowing God has called you for a purpose. Your words, actions, and kindness can inspire and touch the lives of others.

CATHOLIC NEWS IN YOUR INBOX:

What's happening in the Catholic Church in New Zealand? What is Pope Leo doing and saying? What are the big stories affecting people of faith in our country? Get Catholic headlines delivered to your inbox each Tuesday and Friday. Sign up today at: <http://cathnewsnz.com/>

SCRIPTURE NOTE

Today's Gospel is taken from the conclusion of the Gospel of Matthew. Matthew's Gospel quickly moves from the disciples' discovery of Jesus' empty tomb, to Jesus' appearance to Mary Magdalene and the other Mary, to the commission that Jesus gives his disciples in today's Gospel.

The Final Commission, as this Gospel is sometimes called, is given on the mountaintop. Throughout Scripture, the most important events happen on the mountaintop, and Matthew has used this motif throughout his Gospel. Earlier in Matthew's Gospel, Peter, James, and John had seen Jesus transfigured on the mountaintop (Matthew 17:1-8). Also in the Gospel of Matthew, Jesus taught the crowds from the mountaintop in what we now call the Sermon on the Mount.

Here we are told that the eleven disciples go the mountaintop in Galilee, as Jesus had instructed through Mary Magdalene and the other Mary (cf. Matthew 28:9-10). They see Jesus, and both worship and doubt at the same time. Jesus approaches them and commissions them to baptize and teach, "to make disciples of all nations." It is a task which Jesus had previously prepared his disciples for; recall that Jesus had sent the twelve apostles to preach the Kingdom of God and to heal (cf. Matthew 10:1-15). However, earlier the Twelve were sent only to the House of Israel; in this Final Commission, the eleven are told to go to "all nations." The mission of Jesus is now to be taken to all people; the task now is to baptize and to teach.

Jesus commissions his disciples to baptize in the name of the Trinity, one of the clearest attestations found in Scripture for baptism in the name of the Trinity. In the Acts of the Apostles and in the Letters of Paul, baptism is more frequently offered "in the name of Jesus."

The ending of Matthew's Gospel can be understood as the beginning of the Church. Jesus commissions his disciples to continue to teach in his name and to bring others into the community of disciples through baptism. The Gospel ends, as it had begun, with the promise that Jesus will continue to be Emmanuel, "God with us" (cf. Matthew 1:23), for all eternity.

Dove Catholic Fellowship for Women is moving to small parish-based groups called Dovecotes, where women may experience the warmth of fellowship, the power of prayer and the joy of worship. If you feel a need for a Dovecote in your area, please contact Gloria: dovenational.leader@gmail.com or Ph 0272456742. website: www.dove.org.nz

Altar Flower Donations

We sincerely thank everyone for their generous donations towards the altar flowers. Your support is truly appreciated!
A donation box for Church altar flowers will be available at the back of the church and collected after each weekend Mass. Your contributions help keep our altar beautiful and welcoming. Any donations or assistance are deeply valued—thank you for your continued support.

Mothers Group: All mothers and their children under the age of 5 are invited to "St Gianna's Mothers and Children Group". The morning starts with an element of formation and group discussions while your children enjoy a safe area to play, followed by Mass and lunch (provided). Join us on the **second and fourth Tuesdays** of the month from **10am - 1pm**. This group is run by Family Life International at their 'St Gianna's Home for Mothers and Babies' in Pukekohe Auckland. First session will be on Tuesday 29th of April.

Contact Amie for the address: 027 350 8227; werthenextgen@gmail.com

Pentecost Sunday, Cycle A 24th May 2026

Theme:- Father, Glorify Your Son.

First Reading: Acts 2:1-11

The Holy Spirit descends upon the apostles gathered in Jerusalem.

Responsorial Psalm: 104:1,24,29-31,34

R/. I am sure I shall see the Lord's goodness in the land of the living.

Second Reading: 1 Corinthians 12:3b-7,12-13

We are all one in Christ Jesus.

Gospel Acclamation:- John 10:14 Alleluia, Alleluia! ***I will not leave you orphans, says the Lord; I will come back to you and your hearts will be full of joy. Alleluia!***

Gospel Reading: John 20:19-23

Jesus appears to his disciples and gives them the gift of the Holy Spirit.

Literacy Aotearoa (RYALT) seeking a tutor

- Training is provided online and is free.
- Face-to-Face coaching takes place in a public place like the Library, or maybe a Hub if the community has one. Some of our students don't have devices to use to be online.
- Coaching sessions are one on one - no groups or classes.
- It's up to the coach and student to come to an agreement on how often they meet and for how long.
- The average session lasts about an hour.
- We don't have a curriculum - instead we focus on what the student feels they need to work on. It could be filling in forms, trying to pass a drivers licence, learning to read (some of our students are beginners), becoming more confident with writing especially in spelling.

For more information please contact

Rowena Bonne <krmbonne@gmail.com> 021 1789 508

Engaged / Planning a wedding? Catholic Diocese of Auckland – Approved Marriage Preparation Course

Book your Marriage Preparation Course early 1 year for NZ and 18months for overseas weddings. Register & Book here: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/our-courses/> For more information contact: Gerry at gerrys@cda.org.nz M: 021 02247442
Please contact Father Robert as soon as possible in planning your marriage.

Notices & Remembrances Please email items for the newsletter or Memorial book to minu_mathew@hotmail.com or text to 021 926 935 – Minu Mathew