

Catholic Parish of the Good Shepherd

Hurunui District, Catholic Diocese of Christchurch



Twenty Eighth Sunday in Ordinary Time

9 October 2016

Mother Mary Joseph Aubert - the canonisation process in the church

from the website www.suzanneaubert.co.nz

The process of becoming a Saint in the Catholic Church is called a Cause. Lots of ordinary people are saints because they do their best to lead Christian lives. A person becomes a saint by her life, but some are named so, as well. The process to follow if people think someone is worthy of being named a saint was modernized in 1983, and greater emphasis was placed on what happens in the local church. If the work is done carefully and accurately at this level, it helps the process to move swiftly when it goes to Rome.

According to the procedure, the bishop has to give permission for the cause to start. Sisters of Compassion approached Cardinal Williams early in 1990. A postulator was then appointed and it was her task to help to "Conduct thoroughly the investigations into the life of Suzanne Aubert", in order to "establish her reputation of sanctity, the importance of the cause for the Church and the importance of Suzanne Aubert as a role model of holiness for the people of Wellington and New Zealand". At this stage, nothing could be done until an authentic biography had been written about Suzanne Aubert.

In 1992, the Centenary Year of the Sisters of Compassion, Jessie Munro was appointed to write the biography of Suzanne Aubert, which she called *The Story of Suzanne Aubert*. The book was completed in 1996, and received the Montana book Award of the year in 1997.

At the New Zealand Catholic Bishops' Conference in 1997 the bishops all agreed to support the first part of the process – The Introduction of the Cause of Suzanne Aubert. A special prayer was composed for people to recite, that through her intercession graces, favours, or special help would be received. The bishops have to be asked before any Cause can proceed, because the person has to have relevance for the whole country. Suzanne's work for those who were most in need, regardless of their religion first in Auckland and later in Wellington, her efforts for Maori people in Hawkes Bay and on the Whanganui River and her healthcare provisions and research into herbal medicine, make her such a person.

All relevant material accumulated since the time of Suzanne Aubert was sorted and a brief summary of this was sent to the cardinal during 2001. Because Suzanne Aubert spent seven years in Rome, the Cardinal asked the Vatican if they had any material about Suzanne Aubert. They did, and this was sent to him on the 14 May 2003.

On May 14, 2003 permission was received to proceed with a Diocesan Inquiry. Theologians were appointed to examine published works of Suzanne Aubert and state that these were in accord with the Christian faith.

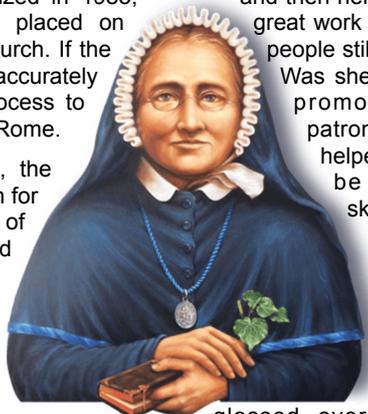
Historians were appointed to examine her life, works and unpublished writings in the context of her time and write a report on this. Her letters were examined to see what they revealed of her personality, her actions to assist the needy, and how other people at the time wrote about her and then her relevance for today. Yes, she did great work in her time, but nowadays, would people still consider her actions to be good.

Was she just a do-gooder? Was she just promoting herself? Was she patronising to the people she helped? All those things had to be researched by those skilled to do so.

A promoter of justice was appointed and it was this person's task to see that any failings in the proposed saint's character were not glossed over. The process is very thorough to prevent abuse from happening. It would be terrible to name someone a saint and then discover they had a murky past.

Some people whose families had a special connection with Mother Aubert during her lifetime were spoken with and also others whose work has meant that they have useful knowledge of her. There have been cures during the last seventy years that those concerned attributed to Suzanne Aubert's intercession with God. Whether these can be called miracles or not will be decided by the Vatican. Doctors checked existing medical records, to help the inquiry. Because Suzanne Aubert spent a great deal of time working with Maoris in Pakipaki and along the Wanganui River, it was really helpful to the inquiry that their opinion of her life and work be obtained and that representatives of both groups thought so much of her they made the time to come to Wellington to say so. One kaumatua confronted the Church officials, wanting to know why calling Suzanne a saint had taken so long!

There is some great material online on the life of Suzanne Aubert and the process of her canonisation. Try a Google or Youtube search or the official website at www.suzanneaubert.co.nz



Weekday Mass Timetable

Amberley Church

Mon, Tues, Thurs & Fri at 9.00am

Community of the Beatitudes

Wednesday at 12noon

Confessions

Tuesday 8.40am at Amberley

Wednesday 11.30am at Beatitudes

Friday 8.40 at Amberley

Saturday 10.00am - 10.30 at Amberley
& anytime by arrangement with a priest.

Mass times and other parish information is available on the parish website

The Holy Door



On Sunday 13 November the church around the world prepares for the end of the Extraordinary Jubilee Year of Mercy by closing the Holy Doors of Mercy that have been open for the year in nominated churches around the world. In our own Christchurch diocese there have been four Doors of Mercy: St Mary's pro-Cathedral, St Patrick's Akaroa, Sacred Heart Timaru and St. Patrick's Greymouth. Many parishes around the diocese have taken the opportunity to travel together to these Holy Doors to give parishioners the opportunity to receive the Jubilee Indulgence for themselves or for someone who has died.

Pope Francis said at his announcing of this Jubilee Year of Mercy:

I wish that the Jubilee Indulgence may reach each one as a genuine experience of God's mercy, which comes to meet each person in the Face of the Father who welcomes and forgives, forgetting completely the sin committed. To experience and obtain the Indulgence, the faithful are called to make a brief pilgrimage to the Holy Door, open in every Cathedral or in the churches designated by the Diocesan Bishop... as a sign of the deep desire for true conversion. ... It is important that this moment be linked, first and foremost, to the Sacrament of Reconciliation and to the celebration of the Holy Eucharist with a reflection on mercy. It will be necessary to accompany these celebrations with the profession of faith and with prayer for me and for the intentions that I bear in my heart for the good of the Church and of the entire world.

Next weekend: an announcement on how Good Shepherd Hurunui parishioners can receive this indulgence.

VINNIES are wanting to freshen up their Clothing Bins with new paint, new Logo's and some repairs. We would like to know if their is someone in the Parish community who has the skills to do this? We would also like to hear from anyone who can recommend a tradesman or business that could do this work, should we not find anyone from our Parish Community. All suggestions welcome. Please contact Ian Hunter on 358 2345 or 027 275 4342, or email ian.adrienne@xtra.co.nz

MEN'S GATHERING 12 OCTOBER 2016 hosted by **JOSHUA FELLOWSHIP** 7.15 pm Wednesday, 12th October 2016, **St Gregory's Church**, 30 Cotswold Road, Bishopdale. Come and join like-minded Catholic men to grow your faith and be encouraged in your walk with the Lord. Faith sharing, praise and worship, prayer and fellowship over a cuppa. This month Sr Kath Rushton will lead us through "**Biblical aspects of God's mercy**". More information? Phone Chris on 027-646-4138.

ON SUNDAY 16 October, the French Carmelite, Blessed Elizabeth of the Trinity will be canonised in Rome. To celebrate this great contemplative's life there will a talk the same day at the Carmelite Monastery at 7.00pm, given by Bishop Emeritus Basil Meeking. This will be followed by Night Prayer of the Church. All welcome

PRISON VOLUNTEERS It has always been a pastoral concern of our Diocese to care for those who are imprisoned and to offer them spiritual support. There is a need for volunteers to connect the Catholic chaplaincy team and their pastoral work. We seek an expression of interest of people to volunteer for occasional help with church services and prayer groups. Particular need for musicians. The Diocese will provide training and assistance to all those who volunteer for this ministry Contact Mike, mstopforth@chch.catholic.org.nz or 366 9869

ANNUAL MEN'S RETREAT 28-30 October 2016 hosted by **JOSHUA FELLOWSHIP**. Location: Mary Potter Community Centre, Christchurch. Speaker: Fr Michael Gielen. For more info and registration go to www.goshua.org.nz or contact Chris 027-646-4138

PRISON CHAPLAINCY SERVICE OF AOTEAROA New Zealand (PCSANZ) Volunteer Coordinator – volunteer role PCSANZ provides religious and spiritual support services to all NZ prisons through contracts with the Department of Corrections and Serco. We have a newly created and exciting Volunteer Coordinator position covering our three prisons in Christchurch. The position involves working with our chaplains to update and maintain our volunteer database, as well as coordinating the recruitment, training, recognition and exiting of faith-based volunteers at the prison. The position is a volunteer & 10 hours per week. Contact kristine.ford@pcsanz.org or 021 593 000 for information.

THINKING DIOCESAN PRIESTHOOD? Contact Vocations Director Fr. John O'Connor vocations.chch@gmail.com

LET US PRAY for those who are suffering uncertain or poor health especially Kate, Tony, Michael, Gabriel & Bob.

The prayer below is shared by the sisters of Suzanne Aubert requesting her intercession for someone who is sick. It is common practice among Christians to ask one another to pray for a particular need, "Please pray for me." Prayer is directed to God. So in the case of Suzanne Aubert, our friend, we are asking her to join us in praying for a particular need.

Statement of Faith

We believe in God's everlasting love for all, and that through faith and great confidence in that love our petitions will be granted. Therefore in the desire to promote God's greater honour and glory we gather together to pray through the intercession of Suzanne Aubert for the healing of _____

Prayer for the cure

God our creator,
The life of Suzanne Aubert powerfully expressed the compassion of Jesus for the sick.

Now we ask you to grant, through her intercession, the complete cure of _____

In gratitude we pray the prayer of Suzanne Aubert
THANKS BE TO GOD FOR ALL HE HAS DONE AND IS DOING FOR US.

Suzanne Aubert pray for us (x3).

AN EVENING ON PRAISE & WORSHIP The Renewal invites you to join with others to hear the personal witness of Kim Walker-Smith share her testimony on the difference praise and worship has made in her Christian walk. Wednesday 19th October, 7.30pm, Christ the King Parish Centre, 90 Greers Rd, Burnside, followed by BYO supper. An offering will be taken for the work of the Renewal. See the flyer in the parish foyer or find more details on the webpage: www.chch.catholic.org.nz/ccr

SELWYN TIMES OPEN DAY ANNOUNCEMENT St John The Evangelist Catholic Church Leeston, is proud to announce its long awaited reopening following the completion of phase one, earthquake strengthening works. The first mass will be held this Sunday 9th Of October at 10am. Followed by the open day which will take place from 2-4pm. The parish would like to welcome everyone along to the open day, as a thank you for the support that has been shown over the last 5years.

EMBROIDERY TREASURES FROM HIDDEN MONASTIC WOMEN (Beca Heritage Week ChCh 14-24 Oct) October 21st - 22nd, 9am - Midday, Carmelite Monastery, Guest Room, 52 Halswell Rd. You are invited to a free exhibition of exquisite embroidery and other crafts at Carmel. The Carmelite Sisters are very kindly putting these treasures on free display. The display will also feature beautiful works from the Sisters of the Community of the Sacred Name, Pontifical Regalia from St Mary's Pro-Cathedral and a priest's stole commissioned by the Sisters of Our Lady of Mercy, Poland, commemorating St Faustina Kowalska. Barbara Te Miha, 027 297 6107.

IF YOU GET A CHANCE THIS WEEK look online to find out more about the Year of Mercy Indulgence and how to receive this Plenary Indulgence. The parish Facebook page has some good links.

PARISH SUPPORT FOR CATHOLIC MARRIAGE. For some time I have been considering options for introducing practical faith support for parishioners who are married with children at home, but who for a variety of reasons feel distant from the church. In Australia there are often three-day seminars intended for couples (and others) who will be leaders in this field in their home parishes. I would like our parish to send a couple to one such course before the end of this year. Please keep this mission in your prayer.

AMBERLEY 150th CELEBRATIONS will be held at Amberley on Sunday 27 November. There will be only one Mass in the parish on this day at 10.45am at Amberley and all parishioners are encouraged to take part in this gathering, Mass, followed by visit to Breckenridge cemetery and lunch at the Community of the Beatitudes.

GOOD SHEPHERD HURUNUI CATHOLIC YOUTH GROUP. Calling all young people 10+ years of age (and their parents) who would like to participate in a Catholic youth group in our parish. We would like to know:

The names, ages and locations of your keen young people so we can establish a programme that suits everyone. Send email or text message with your child's: Name, Age, Location e.g. Amberley, Waiiau, Culverden, Hanmer, Cheviot, Hawarden and a day that suits best. simon@amuri.school.nz OR 027 422 0183

PARISH COUNCIL met last week. Minutes are available online.

VISITING AMBERLEY. It is great to see so many parishioners from all over the parish visiting the priests at Amberley. The carpark behind the church has plenty of room so drive right up to the presbytery. Also the front door-bell can be heard from anywhere in the house (even though you can't hear it when you push the button).

ST VINCENT DE PAUL has a great need for boys and mens clothing. Please drop off any clothing you might have to the porch of the Amberley church or contact Tina 03 314 8698 for delivery detail or to arrange pick-up.

Let us continue to pray
for the happy repose
of the soul of Bishop Barry Jones.
Pray too that all those involved
in the process of appointing his successor
will be open
to the guidance of the Holy Spirit.



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