



Your Parish, *Your Home.*

Te Whare Karakia o Hato,  
Maaka, Pakuranga

# St Mark's Catholic Mission Parish

5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter

Christ The True Vine

28 April 2024

**1<sup>ST</sup> Reading:** Acts 9: 26-31 [Barnabas explained how the Lord had appeared to Saul on his journey.](#)

**Psalm: 21: 26-28. 30-32** [You, Lord, are my praise in the great assembly.](#)

**2<sup>ND</sup> Reading:** John 3: 18-24 [His commandments are these: that we believe in His Son and that we love one another.](#)

**Gospel:** John 15: 1-8 [Whoever remains in me, with me in him, bears fruit in plenty.](#)

## Reflection

In today's Gospel, Jesus says that he is the true vine, and that God is the vine grower. When applying this to our lives, we are the branches. As human beings, we were all created by God. I find it easier to understand if we imagine a fruit tree. God planted the seed, nurtured it and watered the tree. He gave it life, just as he gave us life. The root of the tree and its foundation is Jesus. He is the connection from the heavens to the earth and from him we can see God in the flesh.

As branches of the tree, our purpose is to bear fruit. Now not all of the branches will serve their purpose, and some will have to be pruned. As I wrote this reflection, I wanted to understand why we prune trees.

The definition on Google states that the reason why is because dead branches hinder the growth of healthy components. God, our vine grower, is removing all the negativity from our lives because he wants us to grow and live fruitful lives without being affected by 'dead branches' and people/influences that will prevent us from serving our true purpose – to bear fruit.

To bear fruit is to share the good news. This can be taken in the literal context as preaching the Word of the Lord to those we meet but it can also be something as simple as spreading love and positivity to those around us. What Jesus says to his disciples is that the only way to God is through him. If we follow God he will be in us and work through us. And even though we can still live our lives without our faith, it wouldn't nearly be as good as if we had God by our side.

Adam Martis

## Important Notices

- **2024 Bishop's Appeal.** Please support our seminarians as they follow Christ the Good Shepherd in their priestly vocations [www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/donate](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/donate). Thanks all those who have already supported the appeal. Please continue to pray for our seminarians and vocations to the priesthood. **Attached is a QR Code which directs to the appeal website. Envelopes are available in the church foyer.**



**St Mark's Catholic School**

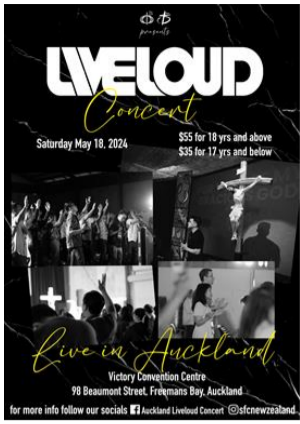
The school will provide the best possible education  
in a Catholic environment

**FAMILY MASS - SUNDAY 5<sup>th</sup> MAY @ 10.30am**

- St Mark's Catholic school will be having a bake sale after Mass in the Parish centre with all items priced at \$1 or \$2. Proceeds will go towards the Year 5 and 6 camp to Lakewood Lodge in November. Cash sales only please. Do come along and support our school.
- **Gifted Envelopes** – Please collect these from the parish office if you are still using the envelopes.
- **Tax Receipts** – Please email Priscilla if you are wanting a tax receipt – [accounts@stmark.org.nz](mailto:accounts@stmark.org.nz)
- **First Friday Mass and Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** – **Friday, 3<sup>rd</sup> May @ 7.00pm**
- **Christian Family Life Program** – **Saturday, 4 May 2024 @ 2.00pm – 4.00pm** Venue: St Mark's Parish Centre

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

## YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS



One of the bands that played in World Youth Day Lisbon, **LIVELOUD**, is coming to New Zealand.

**Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> May 2024**      **Gates open at 3:00PM.**

**Tickets are on SALE:** <http://couplesforchrist.nz/registration/2024LiveloudAKL.html>

Come and immerse yourself in an atmosphere filled with the spirit of worship, where hearts unite in adoration and voices blend in praise. Together, let us lift our souls to the heavens and rejoice in the boundless love of our Savior. Whether you're a devoted Christian, a passionate worshiper, or a faithful Catholic, this event is for you. Let's come together as one family in Christ, embracing our shared identity as children of God.

## EVANGELISATION

**Chinese Catholic Bible Study** **Monday, 9.30am – 10.30am** in the Lyon's Den. For more information contact **John Ko – 022 031 7755**

**Chinese RCIA Class** **Tuesday @ 9.00am – 11.00am** in the Lyon's Den. For more information contact **Thomas Wong – thomas\_tkwong2@hotmail.com**

**Joshua Men's Fellowship St Marks** invites you to an evening of purpose and prayer. This month's speaker is Dr Ethan Breinhorst who will speak on Mens Health. Come along and bring a friend. Please join us for a sumptuous supper. **Monday, 13<sup>th</sup> May 2024 @ 7.30pm – 9.30pm** in the Parish Centre. For more information contact **Mike Lobo - 09 390 0048**

**Life in the Spirit Prayer Group – Thursday @ 7.30pm – 9.00pm** in the Parish Centre. A warm welcome to all Parishioners to come and spend time in prayer, praise and fellowship with the Lord and each other. Enquires: call **Mary – 09 576 3657** or **Joanne – 021 114 374**.

**Legion of Mary – Thursday @ 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](mailto:Akuhata.nahi@gmail.com) or **Divine – 021 0832 5400** email: [divine\\_dumlao@yahoo.com](mailto:divine_dumlao@yahoo.com)

“**The Marian Centre, CATHOLIC KINDERGARTEN**” is located in Panmure beside St. Patrick's Church. The Centre operates **Monday to Friday from 8:00 am to 4:30 pm** for children 2-5 years old. We follow the Catholic Early Childhood Religious Education Curriculum Statement, and is guided by the Catholic Liturgical Calendar and focuses on Catholic values and virtues. **Please phone: 5705690 or visit Abigail at 19A Sunset View Road, Panmure**

**Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College** is offering a lecture series called A Taste of Theology. Topic 2 is entitled “Celebrating Christian identity, life and mission rooted in the Word of God”, revisiting *Dei Verbum*, the Dogmatic Constitution on divine revelation. Speaker is Rev Dr Kevin Waldie, sm. This is on **Tuesday, 07 May 2024 from 5:30-6:30pm** on Zoom. For a fee of \$60 you get access to all 9 courses in this lecture series. Go to [www.tekupenga.ac.nz/tasteoftheology](http://www.tekupenga.ac.nz/tasteoftheology) to register.

## ALTAR

**Thinking about the priesthood?** Come and meet with seminarians and priests exploring your vocation in a warm and welcoming atmosphere. This is a great opportunity to connect, share experiences, and support one another on your journey of faith. **4 May at noon – [www.aucklandvocations.org.nz](http://www.aucklandvocations.org.nz)** for more details.

**Anniversary Mass** will be on **Wednesday, 29<sup>th</sup> May 2024**. Please contact Hazel [hdezario@gmail.com](mailto:hdezario@gmail.com) or Yasmina [mynsr8@gmail.com](mailto:mynsr8@gmail.com) if you will be attending the Mass..



Happy Anniversary and congratulations to all couples who attended the April Wedding Anniversary Mass

Ray & Lorraine  
Evie & Irwin  
Jamie & Ferosha  
Heather & David  
Ross & Ingrid

### Rosters – 4<sup>th</sup> & 5<sup>th</sup> May 2024

	Music	Data Projector	Altar Servers	Commentator	Readers	Communion Minister	Flowers
<b>5.30pm</b>	Gospel Choir	Cyprus Causer	Patrick Malden Mark Guevarra	Juliet Martis	Adam Martis Cyprus Causer	Nicholas Tan Mary Anne Low Philomena Lobo	
<b>8.30am</b>	Cheryl & Choir	Andrew Jurgens	Seba Veitoyaki Ilisabeta Veitoyaki	Kim D'Souza	Maureen Drum Ted Loughman	Andre van Heerden Cheryl van Heerden Mary Lenton	
<b>10.30am</b>	CFC	Swee Han Lim	Alvino Sooriyakoon Sarah Gulla	St Mark's School	St Mark's School	Jemima Bulay Teresa Leung Emmanuel Tsang	
<b>6.30pm</b>	Joyce Adiwinata	Isaac Sheng	Sarah Ernstzen Sophia Zhang	Donamae Dela Cruz	Angela Tarn Ross Lehmann	Brian FitzPatrick Jessie Lo Karen Masilamini	
<b>Recording/Counting</b>		Nadine van Niekerk Ensil, Divine Dumlao, Kurt Meyer		<b>Cleaning</b>	Francis Lim, Mary Rongakea, Vama & Rita Furivai, Sanjay Macwan & Family		

**Mass Live Streaming** – Saturday Vigil @ 5.30pm; Sunday @ 10.30am & Tuesday – Friday @ 9.00am.

St Mark's FB Page: [St. Mark's Pakuranga | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/St.Marks.Pakuranga) & YouTube – subscribe to: <https://www.youtube.com/@SaintMarkPakuranga>

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

**In the Celebration of the Eucharist and in your personal prayers, remember:**

**Recently Deceased**

Bruce Harrison, Philomena D'Souza, Bonifacio Capitulo, Kwa Kien Hong, Monique Peralta, Simon Trindade, Mike Miguel, Michael Ashby

**Anniversary of Death**

Onofre Vazquez, Maria Su, Joseph Rex Fernando, Ma. Nita Pastor, Antonio & Sabastiana De Souza, Betty Osuyos, Gene, Evan, Amy, Felix, Melissa, Tjan Bing Tjiang, Markus Tjandra, Iris D'Oliveira, Athol Munro, Krugar Hillary, Lorraine Wilkins, Patrick Hallis, Cielito, Gerard Champion, Nareddy Papulamma, Dias Family, Rozario Family, Maggie Martis, Floyd Fernandes, John Bury, Paul, Rosa, Vincent, Augustine,

**For the Sick: Prayer requests for the sick whose names appear here, will be replaced on a monthly basis.**

Jessica, Lina Bagsic, Cheryl Divinagracia, Baby Asher, Carolina Kwari, Stuart Bauld, Ian McEnteer, Paul Oliver, Evelyn Gillen, Charlie, Craig Lambert, Paul Bury, Barbara Bury, Marie Bury, Matthew Bury, Sheila Cray, Michelle Williams, Michael Cowan, Rowena & Mark MacKenzie, Lawrence Davis Jarvis, Susan Lagman, Farell Visser, Julia Francis

**SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY MINISTRY, EVENTS & COMMUNITY OUTREACH**



For sale in the church foyer @ \$4. Call to reduce pressure on costs for integrated schools. Gaza solidarity pilgrimage in Wellington. Universal safeguarding framework published. Feeling at home in a Christian 'ethos'.

As a promotion venture for this issue, the entire current edition is supplied. <https://indd.adobe.com/view/11d1d2cb-8032-42fc-a997-f5e77a1a32e0>

**SVDP & Foodbank**



Please email your request to [svdpfoodbank@stmark.org.nz](mailto:svdpfoodbank@stmark.org.nz) For All donations to SVDP please do a direct debit into their bank account:- **ASB Acc No.: 12-3056-0661768-00** Include your name as reference. **Please call SVDP Otahuhu when donating clothing, blankets, or furniture 09 270 4088.**

As you know the SVDP Society provides assistance to those in need through the Food Bank in our Parish and occasional help for individual families. This is only possible with the generosity of parishioners through donations and food items for which we are very grateful.

Here are some of the activities for the 1st quarter:

- \* **Food parcel numbers from January to March:** 68 food parcels assisting 235 people
- \* Assistance with some school fees (working with St Marks School)
- \* 2024 Scholarship for five Year 12 Sancta Maria students

A rostered team of parish volunteers are in attendance at the Food Bank every Friday and the SVDP Committee have a meeting every six weeks to discuss, pray and review future activities to help those in need in our Parish area. A container for the food bank is in the Church foyer.

**Sewing Time**

The first session will be the **11<sup>th</sup> May 2024** Mending, hemming, beginning a small sewing project? Come and join us for Sewing Time in the Lion's Den from **2-4pm on the second Saturday every month**. All the equipment you need will be available for you to learn how to sew and mend things yourself, under the guidance of our team. Sewing Time is the perfect time to get all those little sewing jobs done.

# 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 Professional Standards: 0800 114 622 email: [prof.standards@nzcbc.org.nz](mailto:prof.standards@nzcbc.org.nz)**

or

**Mannix Lopez - Safeguarding Officer - Phone: 027 248 4232 email: [mannix@stmark.org.nz](mailto:mannix@stmark.org.nz)**

You can also report your complaint directly to the New Zealand Police or to Oranga Tamariki

## TEMPORALITIES

**We need your help... Please support us via: Direct Debit: BNZ Acc No.: 02-0108-0708684-00.**

How to set up a recurring 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.

**ST MARK PARISH APP! - To download:**

- ❖ Download **ChurchApps NZ**
- ❖ Search "St Mark" and it will pop up with our parish
- ❖ Choose your Groups to get alerts of events, rosters
- ❖ Stay updated and connected to St. Mark's

*Thank you for your continued support!*

**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

[Give to St Mark Pakuranga Catholic pushpay.com](https://pushpay.com)



**Push Pay** – link: <https://ppay.co/FPfSp-0wfYg> **Tap & Go** – donations can be made when lighting candles

**How to Give Using a QR Code - Open your phone's QR Scanner:**

- For **iOS**, use the built-in camera app. For **Android**, use [Google's official QR Scanner](#).
- Aim your camera at the QR Code and wait for the giving link to appear. Once it appears, tap the link.
- You will be routed to give through your organization's giving page.
- If you need additional help after this step, check out our article on giving through your organization's website [here](#)
- Then input the amount that you would like to donate.



St Mark Pakuranga Catholic

**Collection – 20<sup>th</sup> & 21<sup>st</sup> April 2024** Envelopes & Loose Collection \$2,245.50 Direct payment, Automatic Payment & Push Pay \$7,481.24

**Finance Ministry** - Alfred Pushpakumar – Chairman, Fr. Sherwin Lapaan, Aaron William, Alice Sung, Besky Fernando, Brian Bensan, Priscilla Cefre

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

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## OTHER

**Homestays for pre-seminary students** The Diocese has a few students from Vietnam discerning vocations to the priesthood. They are learning English with a view to entering our seminary at the start of 2025. They need homestay hosts for the next 8-10 months. The Diocese will cover the full cost of their board. If you can offer them a supportive home with a room of their own and would like to find out more, please email [alisonm@cda.org.nz](mailto:alisonm@cda.org.nz) or phone 09 360 3003.

### Vacancies

**University Ministry Coordinator - Catholic Diocese of Auckland** Are you a self-motivated relationship-builder who can be the driving force behind a new project? We're looking for someone who answers "Yes!" to become our full-time University Ministry Coordinator. You'll be part of a tight-knit team implementing a bold new strategy for ministry to young people in the Diocese of Auckland. To learn more, please visit: [www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/)

**Marriage and Family Life Ministry** at the Diocese is seeking married couples of 5 years or more who would like to train as Marriage Educators to prepare engaged couples for marriage in the church. This is a very rewarding and significant role in the church. Enquiries Gerry on 021 02247442 or [gerrys@cda.org.nz](mailto:gerrys@cda.org.nz)

**Jubilee Bursary Semester 2, 2024 For Theology and RE courses at tertiary level.** Applications close **Thursday, 6 June 2024** please contact: [michellej@cda.org.nz](mailto:michellej@cda.org.nz)

**CDA Connect** Catch up with happenings in the diocese and get the heads-up on upcoming events. The latest edition of CDA connect is now available <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/services/cda-connect/>

**A Time for Every Season Series Pt 2 – AUTUMN** Mary MacKillop Retreat Centre Mission Bay Led by Sr Jill McLoughlin **Saturday 4 May 10am – 1pm \$35 waged/\$25 unwaged** Registrations by 2 May [MBSpirituality@sosj.org.au](mailto:MBSpirituality@sosj.org.au) MOB 021 0911 5260

**Let's Talk About Mary 8 May 7.30pm** Poynton Room, Pompallier Diocesan Centre and on zoom. In May traditionally the month of Mary join Sr Sian for an opportunity to explore **Mary**, missionary disciple. Please register [pastoraloffice@cda.org.nz](mailto:pastoraloffice@cda.org.nz)

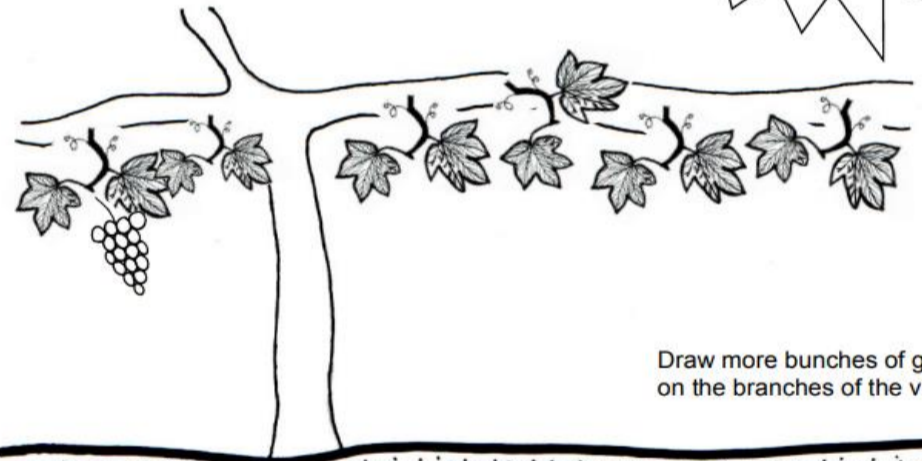
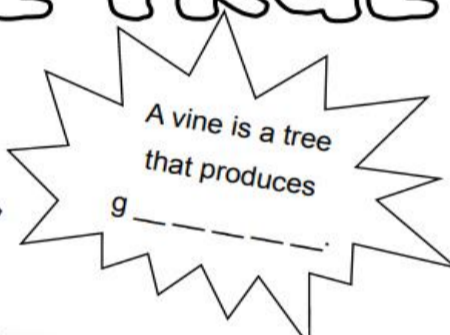
## KID'S CORNER

Gospel reflection John 15:1-8 <https://youtu.be/Gt5yNkqOtGU>

Hymene- Love One Another-[Love One Another \(Yancy/Body Worship\) - Kidspring Worship](#)

**Jesus said:**

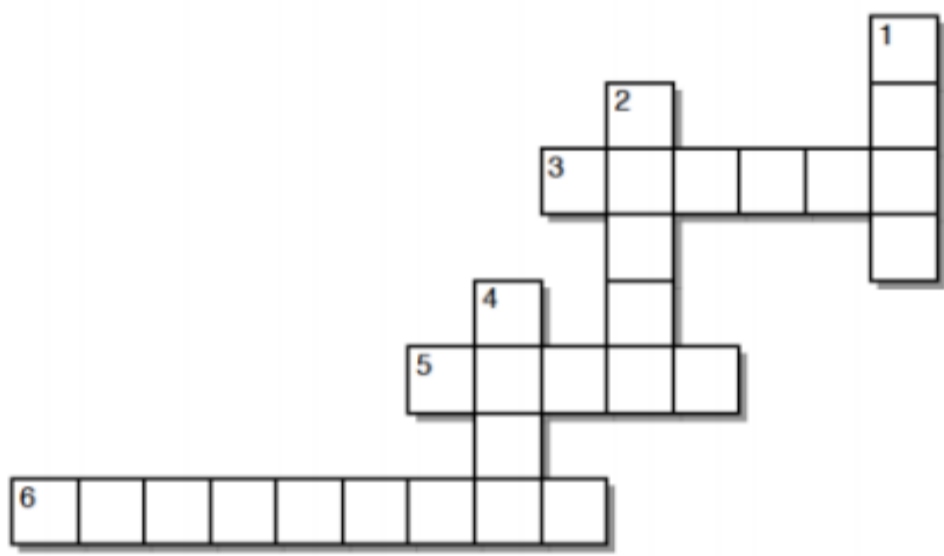
"I AM THE TRUE  
VINE  
YOU ARE THE BRANCHES"



Draw more bunches of grapes on the branches of the vine.

I can be a good branch and produce good fruit by ...

Draw or write about some good fruit you "produce".



### Across

- 3. Vines grow on this
- 5. Today is the \_\_\_\_\_ week of Easter
- 6. The followers of Jesus are his \_\_\_\_\_

### Down

- 1. This weeks Gospel is from the Gospel of \_\_\_\_\_
- 2. A kind of food; Jesus says the vines "will bear much \_\_\_\_\_"
- 4. Where grapes grow.

Parish Priest Fr Sherwin Lapaan <a href="mailto:sherwin@stmark.org.nz">sherwin@stmark.org.nz</a>	Pastoral Co-Ordinator Mannix Lopez <a href="mailto:mannix@stmark.org.nz">mannix@stmark.org.nz</a>	Parish Secretary Evie Green-Thompson <a href="mailto:evie@stmark.org.nz">evie@stmark.org.nz</a>	Accounts Priscilla Cefre <a href="mailto:accounts@stmark.org.nz">accounts@stmark.org.nz</a>	Deacon Chris Sullivan <a href="mailto:admin@stmark.org.nz">admin@stmark.org.nz</a>
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**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:** Saturday: 8.00am – 9.00am **1st Friday:** 7.30pm – 10.00pm **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](mailto:admin@stmark.org.nz) **Website:** [stmark.org.nz](http://stmark.org.nz) **Instagram:** [stmarkpakuranga](https://www.instagram.com/stmarkpakuranga) **Facebook:** [www.facebook.com/groups/stmarkpakuranga/](https://www.facebook.com/groups/stmarkpakuranga/)  
**Phone:** (09) 576 7959 **Address:** 334 Pakuranga Rd, PO Box 51184: Pakuranga **Office Hours:** Mon to Fri: 8.30am — 3.00pm **Sunday:** 9.30am — 1.00pm

### 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.

**St Mark Catholic Mission Parish Council** – Email: [missioncouncil@stmark.org.nz](mailto:missioncouncil@stmark.org.nz) - **Chair** – Malcolm Martis, **Council Secretary** – Myra D'Souza, **Youth & Young Adult Ministry** – Donamae dela Cruz & Raewyn Tan, **Evangelisation Ministry** – Andre Van Heerden, **Altar Ministry** – Kurt Meyer, **Social Services Ministry** –Melania Jurgens, **Temporalities Ministry** – Alice Sung, **School Principal** -Tracey Kopua, **Pastoral Coordinator**- Mannix Lopez, **Parish Priest** – Fr Sherwin Lapaan

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