



CATHOLIC DIOCESE OF AUCKLAND

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August 2018

MESSAGE TO ALL THOSE PARTICIPATING IN ROSARY AOTEAROA 2018

On Sunday 29 April, Pope Francis invited the faithful to join him in praying the rosary for peace throughout the world, and many responded to his call. Our Holy Father extends this invitation to us anew each day: let us pray for peace.

As your shepherd in the Diocese of Auckland, I invite you to join in praying the Holy Rosary at 3.00 pm, or a time that works for you, on **Sunday 7 October**, the Feast of the Holy Rosary. In our prayer, let us be guided by the writings of Pope Francis:

- ❖ In the spirit of *Lumen Fidei: The Light of Faith* - let us pray for our Church, our Holy Father and the shepherds of the Church (Bishops, Priests, Religious and Vocations);
- ❖ In the spirit of *Amoris Laetitia: The Joy of Love* - let us pray for families and marriage;
- ❖ In the spirit of *Laudato Si': Care for our Common Home* - let us pray for the earth and its people;
- ❖ In the spirit of *Gaudete et Exsultate: The Call to Holiness* - let us pray for the culture of life;
- ❖ In the spirit of *Misericordiae Vultus: The Face of Mercy* - let us pray for our leaders.

Rosary Aotearoa is a wonderful opportunity to gather as one family and to pray as one nation. Let us meditate and reflect on the life of Mary, the Mother of Christ and the Mother of the Church. Like children who are seeking their mother's care and love, we too seek the motherly care and love of Mary. As Bishop Jean Baptiste Pompallier consecrated Aotearoa New Zealand to the care of Mary, we gather under her mantle and pray through her intercession.

Join with us, pray with us, celebrate with us.

Yours sincerely in Christ

+ *Patrick Dunn*

✠ Patrick Dunn
Bishop of Auckland

