

# ✧ Suzanne Aubert ✧

New Zealand's Saint in the making  
NŌ AOTEAROA, HE TAONGA O TE HUNGA TAPU I RARANGAHIA

# ✧ Meri Hōhepa ✧

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## RESOURCES AVAILABLE

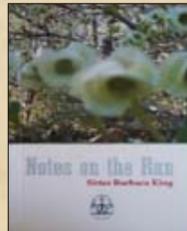
### Suzanne Aubert's Spiritual Tonics

A thoughtful selection of reflections and quotations by Suzanne Aubert. \$20



### Notes on the Run

A small, delightful book of reflections by Sister Barbara King. \$10



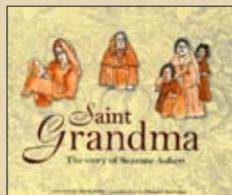
### Set Apart - Fibre Artworks by Merrilyn George

These stunning artworks by acclaimed New Zealand textile artist, Merrilyn George are inspired by the life of Suzanne Aubert. \$30



### Saint Grandma

The story of Suzanne Aubert is written for children by best-selling New Zealand writer, Joy Cowley. \$15



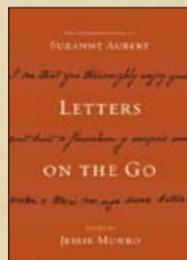
### Suzanne Aubert, New Zealand's Saint in the Making

This 20-page booklet and 5-minute DVD portrays the life and achievements of Suzanne Aubert. \$10 (Booklet and DVD)



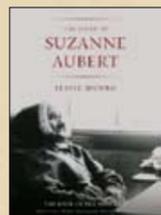
### Letters on the Go

This is the collected letters from Suzanne Aubert's eventful 91-year life, edited by award-winning writer, Jessie Munro. \$50



### The Story of Suzanne Aubert

This is a superb biography of Suzanne Aubert, written by Jessie Munro which was "Book of the Year" in the 1997 Montana Book Awards. \$50



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# SUZANNE AUBERT NEWS

October 2016

Issue 3

Welcome to the latest edition of our Suzanne Aubert News, which we hope will give you a taste of the stories available on the dedicated Suzanne Aubert website ([www.suzanneaubert.co.nz](http://www.suzanneaubert.co.nz)).



## The Journey towards sainthood continues slowly

An update from Fr Maurice Carmody, Roman Postulator

The case for Suzanne Aubert's canonisation is slowly moving ahead and we are now waiting for the Church's official recognition that she was truly a woman of heroic Christian virtue. This will come about when a meeting of Cardinals and Bishops associated with the Congregation for the Causes of Saints confirms the positive vote of the historians and theologians already enacted and Pope Francis issues a decree to that effect. When this happens she will be declared Venerable, the second stage on the four-stage journey to sainthood.

The recognition of Suzanne's virtues came soon after her death in 1926, when Cardinal Aidan Gasquet wrote: "Not only I, but many, have in the Eternal City regarded her as a true Servant of God and I hope I may be spared to see at least the initial stages of the process of her Beatification; that she will most certainly be

raised some day to the altar I feel confident."

Unfortunately, the Cardinal did not see the "initial stages" but his hope is still alive. One of the theologians who examined the Positio expressed his agreement with Cardinal Gasquet and continued: "I am more than happy to declare my conviction that the virtues of Suzanne Aubert were indeed of heroic character... she is, I am convinced, not only a great human being but also a truly wonderful saint."

Our challenge now, is to pray that a miracle will be granted through Suzanne's intercession, so that the Cause can continue towards her Beatification.

If you would like to pray the official prayer of intercession, please download the prayer from the website, or contact [kerry@suzanneaubert.co.nz](mailto:kerry@suzanneaubert.co.nz) and she will send you a copy.

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## Former Crèche has new life

*“The crèche here was one of the first infant day-care facilities in New Zealand, and initiative of Mother Aubert who was very much ahead of the times”*

With these words, the Governor-General Sir Jerry Mateparae opened the new Queen Elizabeth II Pukeahu Park Education Centre on the site of the former Home of Compassion Crèche run by the Sisters of Compassion.

Sir Jerry Mateparae noted in his speech that Suzanne Aubert’s “...example provides inspiration to this day. We remember her as a woman of compassion. Her social concern was channeled into areas as diverse as Maori mission work, and the care of sick children, the elderly and the infirm.” He also said, “In one of those serendipitous instances, it is poignant that the year of Mother Aubert’s death, 1926, was also the year of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth’s birth, which adds another layer to the connective story of this place.”

Sister Margaret Anne agreed with Sir Jerry Mateparae that the facility recognised the mana of both Suzanne Aubert and Queen Elizabeth as during their lifetime they have both cared about young people.

Hon Maggie Barry chatted with the sisters prior to the official opening. Her great aunt was Sister Baptiste Dillion who lived and worked in the Buckle Street Home of Compassion including collecting the leftover food of the city in the wicker baskets.

The Home of Compassion Crèche began in a wooden building in 1903 until it became unsafe. The site was within the ‘brick area’ of the city and in the planning stages with Mr John Swan the architect, Suzanne Aubert insisted that the new building had to be constructed in that material. Opened in 1914, it was used as a crèche until 1973 when the land was required for transport development. However, the robust construction of the original provided an indoor teaching space for the new Pukeahu’s education programme.



Sisters Sue Cosgrove and Margaret Anne Mills with Sir Jerry Mateparae



Sisters Sue Cosgrove, Veronica Hurring, Hon Maggie Barry, Sisters Margaret Anne Mills and Josephine Gorman

Photos: Mark Tantrum

## More Places of Pilgrimage developed

Following on from the opening and blessing on the Place of Pilgrimage at St Patricks Cathedral in Auckland, two more Places of Pilgrimage are about to be created and opened to parishioners.

Bishop Charles Drennan of the Palmerston North Diocese has agreed to create a Place of Pilgrimage at the Cathedral in Palmerston and Fr Rick Loughnan (who is looking after the Christchurch diocese since the death of Bishop Barry Jones), has agreed to have a special place created at the pro-cathedral of St Mary’s in Christchurch.

It is hoped both places will be blessed and open by the end of October. The plan is to have a Place of Pilgrimage in each diocese by the end of this year.

We are also looking to create Places of Pilgrimage in certain regions of the country that were significant during Suzanne Aubert’s time. She visited several places and our hope is that each of these will have a site created. Watch this space and check out the website for more news.



Photo of Sisters Baptiste and De Sales – Archive

## Remembering Suzanne Aubert 90 years after her death

October 1st this year marks the 90th anniversary of the death of Suzanne Aubert. Did you know that when Suzanne died in Wellington in 1926 she was accorded the largest funeral ever given a woman? The whole city came to a standstill to honour her. It is said that the funeral cortege stretched 5 kilometres.

To mark this 90th anniversary, the Bishops of New Zealand approved the establishment of a day of celebration and promotion on the first Sunday of October and all parishes have been asked to mark



the day with special prayers and the playing of a message from Cardinal John Dew.

Apart from the message from the Cardinal, there will be a supply of intercessory cards made available plus information on some of the many resources that are now available to help all New Zealanders learn more about this remarkable woman and why we believe she should be declared a Saint.

Please do join us in praying for a miracle through the intercession of Suzanne, and also in spreading the word of this remarkable woman.

## More Parish Coordinators Needed

We are still looking for a number of Parish Coordinators to help promote NZ’s first saint in the making. There are just over 200 Parishes and pastoral regions in New Zealand and at the moment we are fortunate to have over 150 of those parishes covered by a coordinator. But we need to find the last 40-50 before the end of 2016. See the areas lacking coordinators on the website:

[www.http://suzanneaubert.co.nz/home/journey-to-sainthood/suzanne-aubert-coordinators/](http://www.suzanneaubert.co.nz/home/journey-to-sainthood/suzanne-aubert-coordinators/)

## Email and electronic communications

We are keen to keep in contact on a regular basis and the most cost effective way is by email. We currently produce an e-newsletter, which is emailed to those who give us their email address. Would you like to receive regular updates and news by email? Could you please give us your email address? You can do this by registering on-line at [www.suzanneaubert.co.nz](http://www.suzanneaubert.co.nz) or by emailing [kerry@suzanneaubert.co.nz](mailto:kerry@suzanneaubert.co.nz)

Thanks!

## The Bishops’ Questions and Answers

And in case you haven’t visited the website recently, remember you can see our Bishops answering key questions on the Cause for Sainthood of Suzanne Aubert in a special on-line presentation. In the coming months you will also be able to hear a number of Sisters sharing their thoughts on why Suzanne should be declared a Saint. Visit <http://suzanneaubert.co.nz/home/resources/questions-and-answers/>



## Would you like a copy of the Suzanne Aubert Icon?



Option 1 (Postage & Packaging \$3) Option 2 (Postage & Packaging \$12)



Option 3 (Postage & Packaging \$15) Option 4 (Postage & Packaging \$15)

There are three different sizes available and for a donation, you can choose the one that best suits:

Option 1 – A4 (210mm x 297mm) Suggested donation of \$5 or more  
This image is printed on a quality Satin/matt cardboard and easily fits a standard frame.

Option 2 – A3 (297mm x 420mm) Suggested donation of \$10 or more  
This image comes in both Satin and a Gloss finish and can be easily framed or mounted.

Option 3 – A1 Paper Poster (594mm x 841mm) Donation of \$30  
Printed on a 200gsm gloss paper.

Option 4 – A1+ Canvas Poster (594mm x 841mm) Donation of \$100 or more  
Printed on canvas.

Please note: Above illustrations are examples only. Prints do not include frames or mounting.  
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