

Rā Whānau **SUZANNE AUBERT!**



You are invited to join the celebration!



19 June 2017 is Suzanne Aubert's 182nd Birthday.
Suzanne Aubert was born in 1835 and died in 1926 aged 91.

Make birthday bunting for Suzanne Aubert with your school, church or other community group.

Get in touch with your parish Suzanne Coordinator or Parish Priest and decorate your school or church with bunting garlands.

Send one of your bunting hearts to the Sisters of Compassion and it will represent your class or group at the Birthday Mass. Cardinal John will be the celebrant at the Mass. See more details on the Posting Form.

After the Mass, some bunting hearts will be kept at Our Lady's Home of Compassion, while others will be sent to the Soup Kitchen, and Sisters living in other centres in New Zealand, Fiji, and Australia.



compassion *te pūaro*ha

www.compassion.org.nz

Create your Birthday Bunting



1. Read "Suzanne Aubert is an inspiring person for us today."

Learn more about her life and work--explore videos, books, and other resources at <http://compassion.org.nz/schools/suzanne-aubert/>

2. Make your heart bunting using the template.

3. On the front of your heart, write "Happy Birthday Suzanne Aubert" in your chosen language and with your favourite name for Suzanne (check out the information pages).

Decorate your heart with a picture of Suzanne Aubert, a scene from her life or use other images or symbols you associate with her.

3. On the back of the bunting write a message. This can be a thank you, a reflection, or anything else appropriate.

4. Say who it is from. Write your first name and the school, church or other community you belong to.

SUZANNE AUBERT IS AN INSPIRING PERSON FOR US TODAY



Suzanne loved God and always thought about what he wanted her to do, not what she wanted, even when that wasn't easy.

Suzanne left her home in France and came to Aotearoa to support the Māori people. Suzanne honoured Māori people, their culture, language and medicine.

Suzanne saw Christ in everyone she met and always helped people most in need.

Suzanne looked after the sick, people with disabilities, children whose families couldn't care for them, and the elderly. The work she started continues to this day in places like Wellington's Soup Kitchen.

Suzanne established New Zealand's only home-grown congregation, the Daughters of Our Lady of Compassion, who are now known as the Sisters of Compassion.

Suzanne worked in and visited many places in New Zealand and the Sisters continued her work here, in Australia and the Pacific.

What is your local connection?

Suzanne is buried at Our Lady's Home of Compassion in Island Bay, the home she built, which has cared for many people and which is the mother house for the Sisters of Compassion.

We are praying that the Church will recognise Suzanne as New Zealand's first saint. In December 2016 she was declared Venerable.

CHOOSE A LANGUAGE TO SAY HAPPY BIRTHDAY IN



Joyeux Anniversaire

Say it in French, the country of Suzanne's birth.

Rā Whānau

Say it in Māori. Suzanne spoke Māori fluently.

Happy Birthday

Say it in English.

Or say it in your language!

What is your first language? What are the first languages in your school, parish, local community?

CHOOSE THE NAME YOU WOULD LIKE TO GREET SUZANNE AUBERT WITH

Suzanne Aubert

Suzanne's full name was Marie Henriette Suzanne Aubert. She was born in France. When she was about two, she fell through an icy pond and became temporarily crippled and blind.



We don't have any photos of Suzanne as a young girl.
This is a photo of the house her family lived in.



Peata (seated left) and Suzanne Aubert (right)

Meri Hōhepa

Many people know Suzanne as Meri Hōhepa. Suzanne learnt Māori (before she learnt English) on the whaling ship that brought her to New Zealand. When she arrived in New Zealand Peata taught Suzanne tikanga and rongoā. Suzanne lived and worked with Māori people in Auckland, Hawke's Bay and Hiruhārama.

Sr Mary Joseph

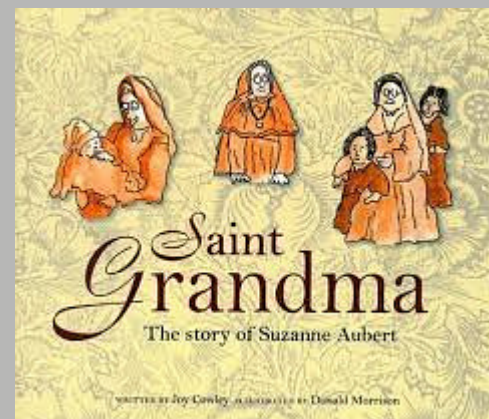
Suzanne took the name Sr Mary Joseph as her religious name. Mary and Joseph are special names because they are the names of Jesus' parents.

Mother Aubert



When Suzanne began the Daughters of Our Lady of Compassion, she was known as Mother Aubert because she was the Mother Superior (the head sister). Many simply called her "Mother".

Saint Grandma



Suzanne loved children and especially those who had no parents to look after them. Hundreds of children knew Suzanne by the name "Grandma". Joy Cowley has written a book called "Saint Grandma".

New Zealand's First Saint in the Making



In this icon of Suzanne Aubert we see:

Suzanne in her full habit and wearing the medal of the Sisters of Compassion.

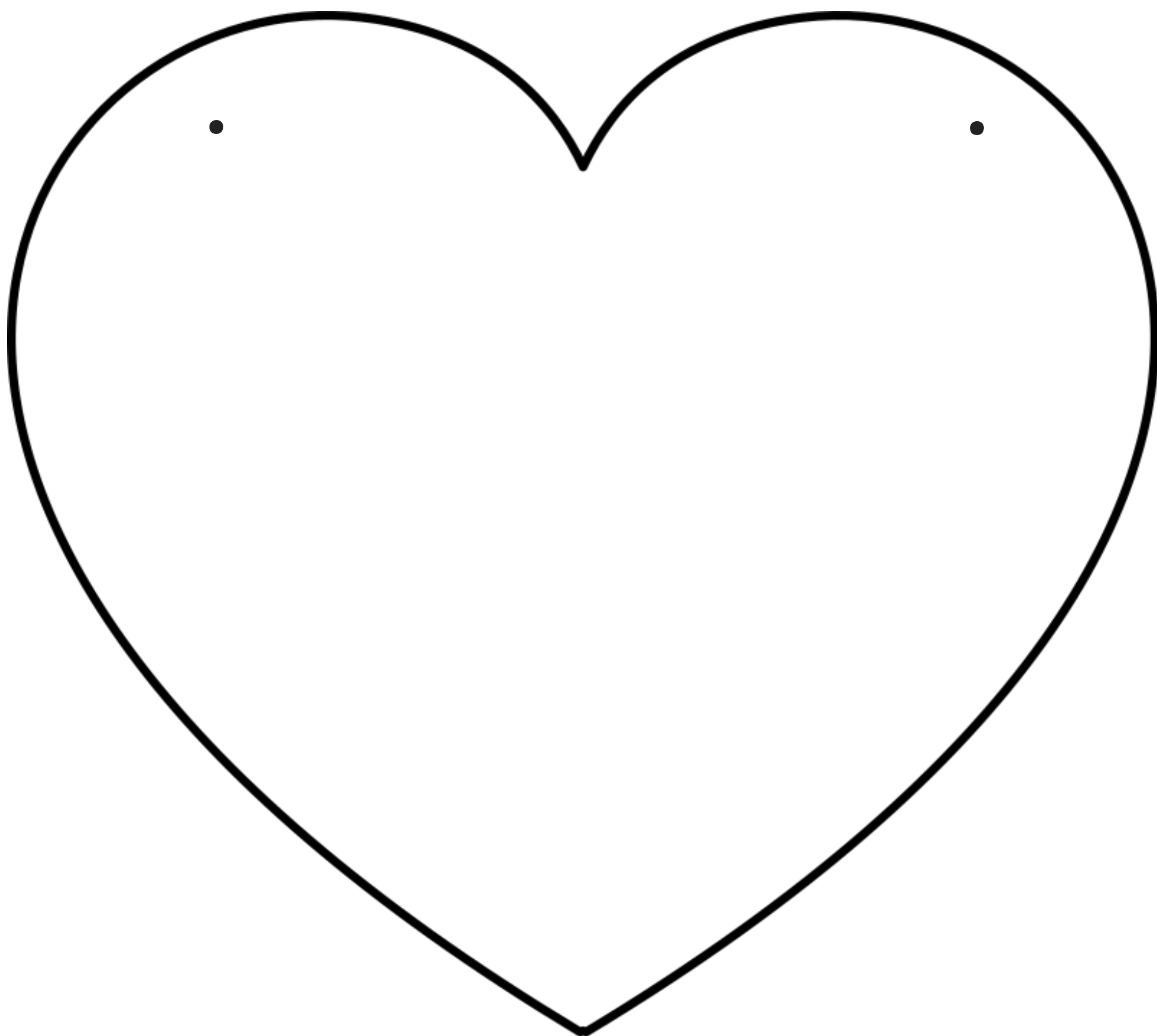
Kawakawa leaves symbolising Suzanne's knowledge of rongoā and European medicine which she combined in her herbal remedies.

Suzanne's prayer book--it is well-used because she prayed as she went about her work.

The Whanganui River and St Joseph's Church at Hiruhārama (Jerusalem)--Hiruhārama was always dear to her heart. This is where Suzanne founded the Sisters of Compassion.

BUNTING HEART TEMPLATE

- Cut out the heart shape.
- Use a punch to make holes where the dots are.
- Make your bunting using the "Create your Birthday Bunting" instruction sheet and the information pages.
- String up your class or group's bunting hearts and decorate your school or church.
- Fill in the posting form and send it with a bunting heart to the Sisters of Compassion for the Birthday Mass on 19 June to represent your class or group.



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POSTING FORM

Fill in and send this form with your bunting heart to:

The Sisters of Compassion
2 Rhine Street
PO Box 1474
Island Bay
Wellington 6021

The Birthday Mass is on 19 June and we will decorate the church with all the bunting received by that date. You can also send your bunting to us at other times. We love to receive Suzanne Aubert artwork.

Artist's preferred name:_____

Age or Year at school:_____

School, Church, or Group name:_____

Contact details for school or group:_____

☐ I give permission for the Sisters of Compassion to use my bunting heart for promotional purposes.

☐ I would like my name credited when my bunting heart is used for promotional purposes.

Signed:_____

For more information contact: schools@compassion.org.nz