



Rā Whānau **SUZANNE AUBERT!**

'Let us have courage on the journey'



19 June 2019 is Suzanne Aubert's 184th Birthday

You are invited to join the celebration!

How are you inspired to walk in the footsteps of Suzanne Aubert?

Make a footprint with your school, church, or community group, then decorate your church or school in time for Suzanne's birthday.

Send some footsteps to the Sisters of Compassion to represent your school or group at the Birthday Mass in Wellington.



compassion *te pūaroha*

www.compassion.org.nz/schools



CREATE YOUR FOOTSTEP

1

LEARN about Suzanne Aubert's life and work

Share what you already know about Suzanne with your class or group. What questions do you have?

Read "Suzanne's Footsteps" to find out where Suzanne's feet took her. Explore videos, books, and other resources at <http://compassion.org.nz/schools/suzanne-aubert/>

2

THINK, REFLECT, GO How does Suzanne inspire you?

Use the activity pages to help you reflect on how you might follow in Suzanne's footsteps.

3

MAKE your footprint

You can cut out the template provided or trace around your own foot on plain or decorative paper.

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

Sign your first name and write the name of your school, church, or community group.

On the back of the footprint, write or draw how Suzanne inspires you to walk with her today, and carry on her work helping others and serving God.

Decorate your footprint with a picture of Suzanne, or other images and symbols that remind you of her.

SUZANNE'S FOOTSTEPS

SUZANNE AUBERT'S FOOTSTEPS TOOK HER AROUND THE GLOBE AND THROUGHOUT AOTEAROA-NEW ZEALAND



Suzanne was born in Saint-Symphorien-de-Lay in France in 1835. She took her first steps there.

Suzanne's footsteps took her around her home town of Lyon. She prayed in the churches of Saint-Nizier and Notre-Dame de Fourvière. With her mother and grandmother she cared for pregnant women and babies.



In 1860, Suzanne stepped onto a whaling ship and travelled almost four months across stormy seas to reach Aotearoa.



Suzanne landed in Auckland. She began a school for Māori girls and met Peata who mentored her in tikanga, rongoā and te reo. Suzanne walked out 'on the Auckland hills in the early morning' and with with her students to Freeman's Bay on educational outings.



Suzanne's next stop was Hawke's Bay. Suzanne walked all over the district, tending to anyone who needed her help with her nursing skills. She developed herbal remedies and wrote books translating between Māori and English and Māori and French.



In 1883 a waka took Suzanne to Hiruhārama-Jerusalem on the Whanganui River. At Hiruhārama, she lived with the local iwi and looked after Pākehā babies and children. In 1892 she founded the Sisters of Compassion.



When the church at Hiruhārama burnt down, Suzanne and Sister Magdalen set off on a year-long collecting tour around Aotearoa to raise money for a new church and convent.

SUZANNE'S FOOTSTEPS

SUZANNE AUBERT'S FOOTSTEPS TOOK HER AROUND THE GLOBE AND THROUGHOUT AOTEAROA-NEW ZEALAND



Suzanne and three sister stepped off a train and arrived in Wellington in 1899. They established New Zealand's first home for permanently disabled people, and a crèche for the young children of working parents, as well as the Soup Kitchen.



Suzanne and the Sisters became a familiar sight around Wellington, pushing wicker-collecting prams, their hob-nail boots clattering on the ground, as they collected food and clothing for people in need.



In 1913, when she was 78, Suzanne's footsteps once more took her half-way round the world, this time to Rome. Suzanne sought a Decree of Praise from the pope to protect the work of the Sisters of Compassion.

World War I kept Suzanne in Europe until 1920.



When she returned to Wellington, Suzanne focused on the hospital at Island Bay and nursing training for the Sisters. Although frail, Suzanne continued to be seen around Wellington, leaning on the arm of one of the Sisters and using her umbrella as a walking stick.



Suzanne Aubert died in 1926. The feet of thousands people lined the streets of Wellington as they paid their respects at the largest funeral held for a woman in Aotearoa.

THE STORY DOESN'T END HERE!

The Sisters of Compassion have continued to walk in Suzanne Aubert's footsteps. The Sisters' work has taken them through New Zealand, the Pacific, and Australia as they respond to the greatest needs of the times. The Sisters have touched the lives of people across cultures and generations.

Today more and more people are learning about the story of Suzanne Aubert and the Sisters of Compassion and living out compassion in their own lives.



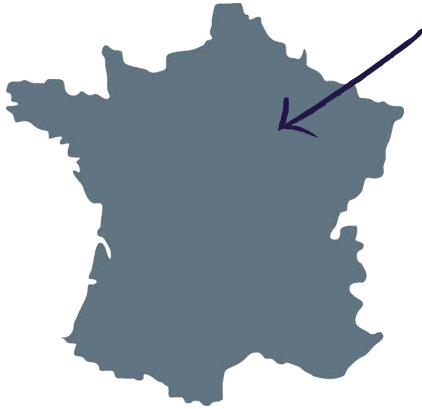
How do Suzanne's footsteps inspire you?

2

THINK

SUZANNE'S FOOTSTEPS

USE THE FACT SHEETS AND YOUR RESEARCH TO ANSWER THE QUESTIONS...



What is the name of this country?

Why is it important in Suzanne's story?

How did Suzanne travel to Aotearoa in 1860?

a) by plane b) she walked c) on a whaling ship

SUZANNE AUBERT TRAVELLED THE LENGTH AND BREADTH OF AOTEAROA

Put your mark on the map!

Locate and name the places on the map:

- Where did Suzanne first step onto land?
- Where was Suzanne in 1882?
- Which awa is important in the story?
- Where did Suzanne die in 1926? How old was she?
- What place in Suzanne's story is closest to where you live?
- Which places in Suzanne's story have you visited?



Now you have learnt some more about Suzanne Aubert, what is a question would you like to explore further?

Life is a journey by road. On the way we travel the dust is thick and shade is scarce--let us know how to select the best place to halt to bathe our eyes, to shake off the dust that covers us, and to wash our sore feet.

2

REFLECT

SUZANNE'S FOOTSTEPS

HOW DOES SUZANNE AUBERT INSPIRE ME?

WHAT WILL I DO? *Ponder ideas, discuss with others, record your responses***SUZANNE KNEW THAT SIMPLE, EVERYDAY ACTIONS CAN MAKE A DIFFERENCE. SHE SAID:***"Nothing is little in the service of God."**"Let us be kind, and we will give happiness for nothing gives more happiness than kindness."**Like these quotes? Search out some more of Suzanne Aubert's wise sayings!**"Help one another and make use of the many little occasions to lighten a little, when possible, the burden of others."*

WE WALK IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF THOSE WHO HAVE GONE BEFORE US. WHAT WILL I LEAVE FOR THOSE WHO FOLLOW IN MY FOOTSTEPS?

WHAT DOES IT MEAN "TO WALK A MILE IN SOMEONE ELSE'S SHOES"? HOW WILL I TREAT OTHERS IF I DO THIS? AS I TRAVEL, CLOSE TO HOME AND FARTHER AFIELD, HOW WILL I TREAD LIGHTLY ON THE EARTH?

The qualities Suzanne Aubert demonstrated in her life and work that I admire the most are

because _____

The action Suzanne took that inspires me the most is.... (draw it or write it)

because _____

SUZANNE'S FOOTSTEPS INSPIRE ME*In the spirit of Suzanne Aubert*

Something I will do to show compassion to myself and be the best that I can be is:

A small action I will take to help someone in my family, school, or community, or the environment, is:

A goal I have to help others in the future is:

Write or draw one of your actions on the footstep you make.

SUZANNE'S FOOTSTEPS

YOU ARE INVITED TO GO ON PILGRIMAGE FOLLOWING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF SUZANNE AUBERT

THE PATH TO SAINTHOOD

When Suzanne Aubert died in 1926, people knew she had lived a good and holy life. The Cause for her sainthood started then but began in earnest in 2004 when an official Diocesan Enquiry was held. In 2016 Suzanne was declared venerable and we continue to pray that Suzanne will be declared Aotearoa-New Zealand's first saint.

A pilgrimage is a journey to a sacred place, often with others and traditionally by foot. A pilgrimage provides time away from daily life to reflect on God and on life. You are invited to make a personal pilgrimage by retracing Suzanne's own footsteps throughout Aotearoa-New Zealand.

Find out more:

youtu.be/nCld_Hell1g

www.suzanneaubert.co.nz/footsteps-through-aotearoa/

Jerusalem

Hiruharama

In 1993 the Sisters of Compassion went on pilgrimage to Hiruhārama-Jerusalem to mark the centenary (the previous year) of the founding of the Sisters by Suzanne Aubert.

In January 2017 Suzanne was reinterred in a specially built Resting Place at Our Lady's Home of Compassion in Island Bay. More and more people are making a pilgrimage to this place to pray in this sacred space where Suzanne is buried.

MY SUZANNE AUBERT PILGRIMAGE

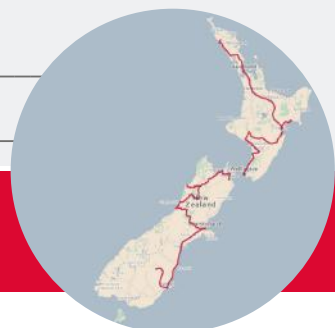
The place in Suzanne's story I would most like to visit is: _____

because _____

I would go with: _____

To plan my pilgrimage I would need to:

Let us go together – Me haere tahi tāua



YOUR FOOTSTEP

FOR SUZANNE AUBERT'S BIRTHDAY

INSTRUCTIONS TO MAKE & DELIVER YOUR FOOTSTEP

- Cut out a footprint using the template page OR make your own template by drawing around your foot.
- On the front write "Happy Birthday Suzanne Aubert" in your chosen language and with your favourite name for Suzanne. (See the "Happy Birthday" information sheet.)
- Sign your first name and write the name of your school, church, or community group.
- On the back, write or draw one of the actions you will take, inspired by Suzanne's footsteps.
- Decorate your footprint.
- Display your class or group's footsteps together and decorate your school or church. in time for Suzanne Aubert's birthday.
- Send one or more of your footsteps to the Sisters of Compassion for the Birthday Mass on 19 June to represent your school or group. See the posting form for details.

3

MAKE

YOUR FOOTSTEP

TEMPLATE--LEFT FOOT



3

MAKE

YOUR FOOTSTEP

TEMPLATE--RIGHT FOOT



compassion
te pūaroa

3

MAKE

YOUR FOOTSTEP

HAPPY BIRTHDAY!

CHOOSE A LANGUAGE AND NAME TO SEND YOUR GREETINGS

WHICH LANGUAGE WILL YOU SAY HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO SUZANNE AUBERT IN?

What is your first language?

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

What is a language you would like to learn?

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!

WHICH NAME WILL YOU GREET SUZANNE WITH?

Suzanne Aubert

Suzanne's full name was
Marie Henriette Suzanne Aubert.

Sister Mary Joseph

Sister Mary Joseph was Suzanne's religious name. Mary and Joseph are special names because they are the names of Jesus' parents.



Meri Hōhepa

Even today, many people know Suzanne as Meri Hōhepa--her Māori name.

Grandma

Suzanne loved children and especially those who had no parents to look after them. Hundreds of children knew Suzanne by the name "Grandma".

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".

POSTING FORM

Fill in and send this form with your footstep(s) to:



The Birthday Mass is on 19 June and we will decorate the church with all the footsteps received by this date. You can also send your Suzanne Aubert art to us at other times. We love to receive artwork and will display it in our school gallery at Our Lady's Home of Compassion.

Class / Artist : _____

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 footstep(s) for promotional purposes.

☐ I would like my school / name credited when using my footstep(s) for promotional purposes.

Signed: _____

For more information contact: Deirdre Hanlon at schools@compassion.org.nz