

Celebration Sunday

Mother x Mary x Joseph x Aubert.

Her remedies bear...



... & CO., LIMITED, WELLINGTON.
BE HAD ALSO FROM ALL CHEMISTS.

SUNDAY 05 OCTOBER 2025

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL	4
PRAYER FOR BEATIFICATION	4
CLOSING PRAYER	5
NEWSLETTER NOTICE	5
REFLECTION	6
PRAYER TO SUZANNE AUBERT	7
CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES	8-11

OUR RESOURCES

We hope you find this pack useful. If you wish to receive physical copies of the content, please email our team at: communications@compassion.org.nz

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS:

The Sisters of Compassion would like to express their gratitude to the contributors to these resources:

Front Cover Photos: *Sisters of Compassion Photo Archive*

Children's resources: *From our new 'Little Pilgrim's Guide'*

Available to purchase – Contact mission@compassion.org.nz

Prayer to Suzanne Aubert Meri Hōhepa: *Father James Lyons*

Photography: *Kirsty Prentice*

Concept: *Felicity Giltrap*

Written by: *Rebecca Taylor-Hunt*

Welcome to our Celebration Sunday Parish Resources for 2025.
In this Jubilee year of Pilgrimage, Celebration Sunday falls on 5th October.

Nau mau haere mai, kia tau te rangimārie ki a koutou kātoa
– May peace be with you all!

Celebration Sunday was established to commemorate and celebrate the life, spirituality and good works of Venerable Meri Hōhepa Suzanne Aubert. The impact of Mother Aubert's kindness, wisdom and compassion is still felt across Aotearoa New Zealand, especially through the work of the Sisters of Compassion, and the wider Compassion Whanau, who strive to feed the hungry, give shelter to the poor, and take care of the vulnerable.

On this day, we are reminded of the legacy of this amazing woman and why we continue to pray for her beatification.

READINGS FOR THE 27TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME:

First Reading: Habakkuk 1:2-3,2:2-4

'The upright man will live by his faithfulness.'

Psalm: 94(95):1-2,6-9

'If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.'

Second Reading: 2 Timothy 1:6-8,13-14

'Never be ashamed of witnessing to our Lord.'

Alleluia verse: 1 Peter 1:25

'The word of the Lord stands forever; it is the word given to you, the Good News.'

Gospel: Luke 17:5-10

"We are merely servants."

As we find ourselves journeying together as Pilgrims of Hope, these resources are grounded in that sacred theme. Meri Hōhepa Suzanne Aubert spoke about both pilgrimage and hope, and we pray that you will hear her voice throughout these resources. The readings of Mass invite us into the virtues of duty and humility, reminding us that our faith in God strengthens and sustains us. Mother Aubert lived these truths with grace, and her life's journey stands as a powerful witness to the hope and purpose we find in walking with God.

You are invited to mark Celebration Sunday for Venerable Meri Hōhepa Suzanne Aubert on the 5th of October in a variety of ways. Firstly, a special Prayer of the Faithful could be included at Mass. You could publish an article or our reflection in newsletters, and you could make these resources and prayer materials available to your community.

On behalf of Sister Margaret Anne Mills, Congregational Leader, the Sisters of Compassion Congregation, and Te Pūaroha, the Compassion Whanau, we thank you for your ongoing support and would like to wish you a very happy Celebration Sunday!

PRAYER OF THE FAITHFUL

E te Atua o te Pūaroa - God of Compassion

As we unite in prayer across Aotearoa New Zealand on this Celebration Day, we pray in thanksgiving for the life of Venerable Meri Hōhepa Suzanne Aubert.

We pray that her faith, her courage, and compassionate love will live on in us all.

E te Ariki: Whakarongo mai rā ki a mātou

PRAYER FOR THE BEATIFICATION OF SUZANNE AUBERT

Lord Jesus Christ,

You taught us that as often as we show compassion to the least of our brothers and sisters, we show it to you.

Hear our prayer that Venerable Meri Hōhepa Suzanne Aubert, who came to Aotearoa New Zealand to be with Māori, and dedicated her life to caring for those in poverty and in need, may soon be recognised by the Church as a saint.

Amen.

HE ĪNOI MŌ TE HĀTOTANGA O MERI HŌHEPA

E te Ariki e Hēhu Karaiti,

Nāu mātou i whakaako mēnā ka puaki atu mātou i te pūaroa mō te iti, arā, ngā tēina, ngā tuākana, ngā tuāhine me ngā tungāne, kātahi ka whakaatu mātou i te pūaroa ki ā koe.

Whakarongo mai ki ā mātou īnoi mō Te Kahurangi nei a Meri Hōhepa, i haere mai ia ki Aotearoa, ki te iwi Māori, ā, i whakatapua tōna oranga ki te hunga rawakore me te hunga whai oranga, nā kia whakamanatia ia e te Hāhi hei hāto.

Āmene.



CLOSING PRAYER

Kia Īnoi tatou, Let us pray:

God of Compassion, may we be lead by you, and the example of the life of Venerable Meri Hōhepa Suzanne Aubert,

Take us to the ones who hurt,
May we see you in every face,
May we hear you in every voice,
May we welcome you in each relationship,
May we give freely with true generosity,
May we look upon ourselves with love and with a belief that we too need tending and care.
Loving God, move through us, that we may know the strength that comes from living united in your compassionate love.

We ask this prayer through Christ our Lord,

Amen.

NEWSLETTER NOTICE: CELEBRATION SUNDAY 2025

**“Jesus walks alongside us on the road of life.”
“E hīkoi ngātahi ana a Īhu me tātou i te huarahi o te ora.”**

-Meri Hōhepa Suzanne Aubert

This weekend at our Masses, we join with the Sisters of Compassion, and all the peoples of Aotearoa New Zealand, to celebrate the life of Venerable Suzanne Aubert Meri Hōhepa. Following her example, in this year of wpilgrimage, let us be aware of the presence of God in our life’s journey, and see Jesus in all who we encounter along the way.



REFLECTION

You are invited to sit in stillness with Meri Hōhepa Suzanne Aubert.

Me īnoi tatou / Let us pray

“Jesus walks alongside us on the road of life.”

As you pray and reflect on our theme of pilgrimage, bring to mind those journeys you have taken in your life.

Breathe in and breathe out, giving yourself time to relax into the memories and images that come to mind.

- Do you recall a journey that could be described as a pilgrimage?
- Was there a special purpose intended for the journey?
- Who journeyed with you?
- Did you have a sense that Jesus was walking by your side?
- Reflect upon the ways that God made Himself known to you along the way.
- What feelings or thoughts arise when you think about this pilgrimage?
- What did you learn on your journey – about God, yourself and others?
- How have the insights or experiences from that journey, shaped the way you walk your path today?

“Life is a journey by road. On the way we travel, the dust is thick and the 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.”

- *Venerable Meri Hōhepa Suzanne Aubert*



PRAYER TO SUZANNE AUBERT

E Meri Hōhepa te Kahurangi, tō tātou whaea
e Hūhana, e whakawhetai ana ahau
mō tōu ngākau pūaroa e whakatauria nei i te āhua
o te noho a Maria ki ngā rekereke o te Rīpeka.

Arahina ahau i ahau e whai ana i tōu tauira:
kia mākohakoha , te ngoikore nei,
kia taringa areare ki te reo karanga
o taumaha hārukiruki,
kia whakawhetai, kia hari, kia maioha.

Tohua mai te ara ora i whaia e koe,
i runga i te māhaki me te māia me te whakamanawa,
tuari hoki i tēnei taonganui o te pūaroa.
Mā te Karaiti tō mātou Ariki.

Āmene.

Venerable Meri Hōhepa, our mother Suzanne

I give thanks for your compassionate heart modelled
on Mary at the foot of the Cross.

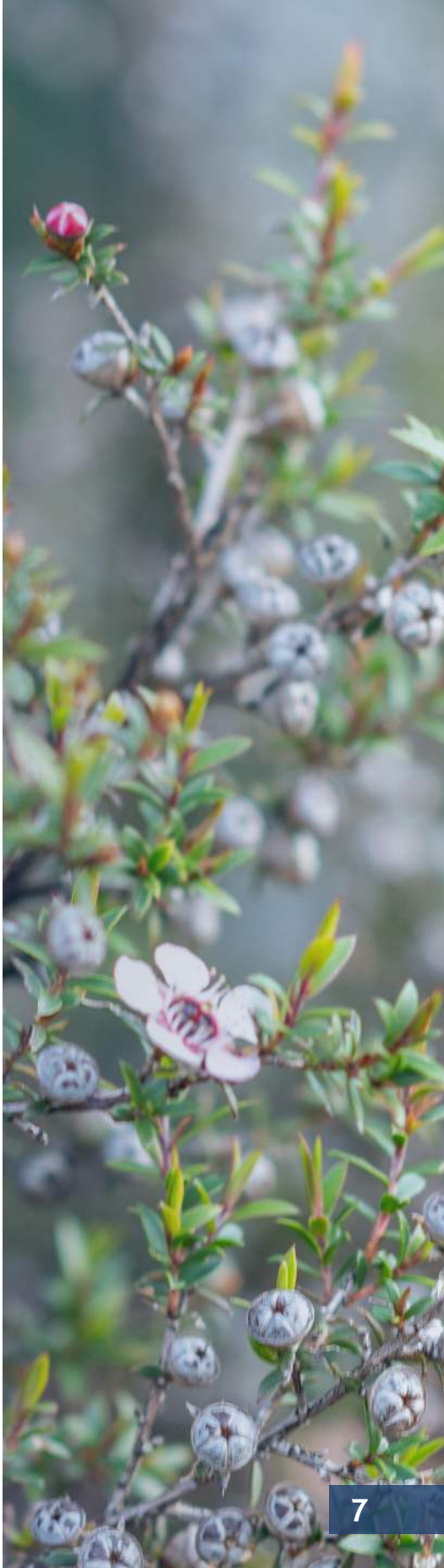
Guide me as I seek to follow your way:
to be kind without weakness,
to be open to the call of suffering,
to be gracious, joyful and welcoming.

Help me live as you lived, with humility and courage,
treasuring and sharing the gift of compassion te
pūaroa.

Through Christ our Lord.

Amen.

- *Written by Father James Lyons*



CHILDREN'S ACTIVITIES

WHAT IS PILGRIMAGE? IT CAN BE MANY THINGS!

A WALK IN
THE FOOTSTEPS
OF CHRIST OR
A SAINT

HE HIKOI
TAPU

A JOURNEY
TO A SACRED
PLACE

AN ADVENTURE
WITH GOD
AND PEOPLE

A SEARCH OF
THE HEART

A PRAYERFUL
WALK WITH
GOD

TRAVELLING TO
SOMEWHERE SPECIAL
TO PRAY

A TRIP TO
DISCOVER AN
ANSWER TO A
BIG QUESTION

A VISIT TO
A SPECIAL
PLACE



WHY DO WE GO ON PILGRIMAGE?

TO LEARN NEW THINGS

TO SEARCH

TO REMEMBER

TO LISTEN TO GOD AND CHANGE

TO LISTEN

TO RECEIVE THE GIFT OF MANAAKITANGA

FOR OUR WHAKAPAPA

TO JOURNEY WITH OTHER PEOPLE

TO SPEND TIME OUTDOORS AND SEE NEW PLACES

TO COLLECT TREASURES OF THE HEART

TO PRAY

A CHANCE FOR WHANAUNGATANGA

AN OPPORTUNITY TO SLOW DOWN





PRAYING KIA INOI

Everywhere Meri Hōhepa Suzanne Aubert went on pilgrimage, she prayed for the people and things that were important in her life. For example, she prayed for her friends, the Sisters of Compassion and the work that they were doing together.

"I HAVE VISITED 325 CHURCHES
OR HOLY PLACES IN ROME, AND
EVERYWHERE A LOVING MENTION
OF YOUR NAME WAS MADE."

Who will you pray for?
Write a prayer for them on a piece of paper.



HOPE

In death,
the hands of a mother
hold the body of her son
with tenderness and love.

Trembling at her loss
she holds onto hope.

With a deep knowing,
not fully understood,
she holds onto hope.

*By Sister Margaret
Anne Mills*

