

A Word from Sister Margaret Anne

The Sisters of Compassion are grateful that the anniversary of the death of Suzanne Aubert has become a national day to celebrate the spirit and good works of Suzanne Aubert Meri Hōhepa. It is a wonderful opportunity to reflect and rejoice. Today Suzanne's words can encourage and inspire us.

For instance, "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."



Suzanne is reminding us to pause and rest from time to time.

"How happy would we be if we could accustom ourselves to answer to our hearts, when they are anxious about something, 'Our Lord will see after it.'"

Again Suzanne encourages us to let go of anxiety and to rely on God's Providence.

We are most fortunate to have Suzanne's words. We can learn so much and even say: "Ah that makes so much sense, how practical, how healthy and how uplifting for the spirit."

Iwi Leader invites Pope Francis to support Cause

While visiting Rome earlier this year, the chairman of Ngāti Kahungunu Iwi, Ngahiwi Tomoana, had a private audience with Pope Francis where he was able to ask him personally to support the Cause of Venerable Suzanne Aubert.

During this special meeting, Ngahiwi who happens to speak Italian, seized the opportunity to invite the Pope to visit New Zealand and also to support the Cause of Suzanne. While giving the Pope information about Venerable Suzanne Aubert, Ngahiwi said:

"Your Holiness I bring greetings from all the tribes of New Zealand. I extend an open invitation for you to come and visit our country, and to support the Cause for Sainthood for

Mother Mary Joseph Aubert. May God bless you and sanctify your ministry."

Afterwards, Ngahiwi who was accompanied by his wife Mere, (pictured) said that it was a wonderful



opportunity for our plea for help to be presented personally to Pope Francis.

Apparently after the presentation the pontiff made a point of asking for some more material to be made available for a number of the cardinals who were at the meeting.

We continue to pray for the Cause

of Venerable Suzanne Aubert – Te Kaupapa o te Kahurangi nei a Meri Hōhepa.

Who is Suzanne Aubert and why is she a candidate for Sainthood?

**Bishop Pat Dunn
Bishop of Auckland**

"I see Suzanne very much as a Mother Teresa figure in New Zealand society. Wherever there was a need she recognised it and tried to respond."



Sister Josephine Gorman

"She is one of our pioneers. She looked at all people as equals. It didn't matter what religion they were or what country they came from, she saw Christ in everyone."



**Bishop Steve Lowe
Bishop of Hamilton**

"Suzanne is certainly a great woman of faith who lived out her faith with a practical Christianity, a Christianity that had no boundaries."



Sister Mary Graham

"She was just so courageous and so brave and she loved everybody and anybody with any kind of need she never turned away."



**Bishop Colin Campbell
Bishop of Dunedin**

"I think she had remarkable vision in her life: a vision for compassion of others that went beyond the normal aspect of what we would understand care and compassion."



Sister Sue Cosgrove

"She had such great reverence for the people of the land. She knew where the Māori came from and the importance of their place as tangata whenua."



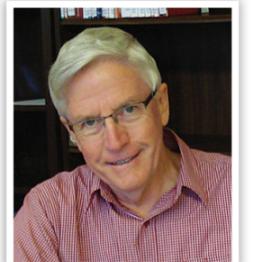
Cardinal John Dew

"Suzanne Aubert was driven by the gospel and what she believed was her response to what God had called her to do, to care for orphans, foundlings, the homeless, to feed the poor."



**Fr Maurice Carmody
Postulator for the Cause**

"Suzanne dedicated herself to the spiritual and temporal welfare of the Māori people wherever she met them. Her care for infants, young children, their mothers and families, and her practical concern for the incurably sick and unemployed was legendary."



**Bishop Charles Drennan
Bishop of Palmerston North**

"Suzanne Aubert's gutsy life focused solely and relentlessly on the needs of others. It helps us to celebrate a radical life of practical faith. Her life shifts holiness onto our streets and fields. Hers is a 'gumboots and sleeves rolled up' type of saintliness that resonates in this country."



**Janeita Hildalene
Wheturautau Wilson
Kaiako Māori (Teacher)**

"She is so revered by us as Māori because she was willing to share with our people, particularly my ancestors and ancestors from different parts of the country. Her faith was remarkable."

