

SUZANNE AUBERT RESOURCES for Year 9 and 10

These tasks are purposefully written as activities – not worksheets – so that teachers can implement them according to the needs of their own students.

These activities to be used in conjunction with reference material available on various Suzanne Aubert web-sites but primarily www.suzanneaubert.co.nz

Year level: Year 9

Topic: 9F: Beginnings of the Church in Aotearoa New Zealand

Part 3 – Aotearoa’s First Catholics

Part 5 – Missionary Life and Work

Part 8 – Early Religious Congregations in Aotearoa New Zealand

Missionary Journeys - Prediction

Write a paragraph predicting what Suzanne Aubert’s journey and future might entail.

- Who might she meet?
- Where might she go?
- What situations might she find herself in?

Missionary Journeys - Saying Goodbye

In 1869 Suzanne Aubert wrote this in a letter to Fr Poupinel...

“So now you are leaving for Lyon, for Fourvière... You’ll see my father, mother and brother. I won’t be seeing them again in this world; tell them everything your kind heart may prompt you to say – nothing can possibly be too loving...”

Imagine you are Suzanne Aubert on the precipice of her new life. Write a letter to your family expressing your thoughts, explaining your reasons for leaving, and saying goodbye for the last time. How might she be feeling? Excited? Terrified? Determined? Create your letter in the style of Suzanne Aubert.

Missionary Journeys - The Journey Across the Sea – What’s in my backpack?

What would Suzanne need to bring with her for her new Missionary life? Choose 10 items you might find in Suzanne’s Backpack. Describe each item in detail and explain how the item would be helpful for her.

Missionary Work - Journey of New Zealand 1

Find a map of New Zealand and use the Skitch app to annotate the map showing Suzanne’s journeys around New Zealand. Identify cities and towns Suzanne lived and worked in. Show her journeys from place to place.

Missionary Work - Journey of New Zealand 2

In groups, students create a giant puzzle of the story of Suzanne's journeys around New Zealand, outlining what she accomplished in each area.

Missionary Work – Journey of New Zealand 3

Story board Suzanne's mission journeys around New Zealand using the web app StoryboardThat.

Joining the Sisters of Compassion

- Research the work of the Sisters of Compassion in New Zealand.
- Storyboard an advertisement for joining the Order of the Sisters of Compassion.
- Film the advertisement and edit it using iMovie

Missionary Life and Work

Mother Suzanne Aubert was a living Saint in New Zealand. She worked as a Missionary in New Zealand for 66 years from 1860– 1926. Read about her life on www.suzanneaubert.co.nz Using the information on the Suzanne Aubert website, about her missionary work in Jerusalem, complete the diagram below. You can illustrate/write your answers in the boxes provided.

Suzanne Aubert's Challenge

How would she have been feeling?

What would she have heard from day-to-day?

What are some of the things she might have seen?

What would have been her day-to-day activities?

What are some of the things she might have said?

How would she have responded to these challenges and why?

From Au Revoir to Kia Ora

Suzanne Aubert was the only daughter of a middle class family from St-Symphorien-de-Lay, near Lyon, France. At aged 25 her parents thought it was time for her to marry and they had a nice respectable young man in mind. If God blessed them there would be babies and a comfortable life of dinner parties, charity work, family celebrations and parties with friends. More importantly, her parents felt she would have a husband to care for her and grow old with. Her comfortable life was mapped out for her.

However, Suzanne was no ordinary girl of her times. She knew God wanted more from her. Her dreams were not of wedding gowns and baby clothes. Her heart knew God had a different plan. She had to say No to her family, to say Yes to God. She wanted to be a Missionary and after hearing Bishop Pompallier speak of New Zealand, she knew her destiny.

The young Suzanne ran away from her family and boarded the General Teste a small whaling ship. This was no place for a lady of her breeding. They lived in cramped quarters with the constant stench of rotting and burning whale fat oozing from each plank of wood. The tough men of the sea had no use for pretty young girls. These men were on the ship to go to the other side of the world to kill giant Sperm Whales to provide oil for lamps and soap.

The year long voyage was challenging. Apart from the dangers of the whale hunt, life on the ship could be unpleasant for the 23 missionaries heading for New Zealand. The sea was at times so treacherous that the mountainous waves nearly sank the ship. During one storm a sailor fell from the mast overboard but was saved by the crew. Suzanne shared quarters with two other women. Her friend 19 year old Antoinette Deloncle, who had also run away from home without her parents blessing, threw herself off the ship into the shark infested waters. She was saved by sailors but caused Suzanne a great deal of worry for her friend.

One thing French speaking Suzanne did have time for was to learn another language. Bishop Pompallier and Father McDonald held Maori and English lessons on board. The most important lesson from Bishop Pompallier was to “have respect for the Maori culture”. Something which Suzanne held true until the day she died.

The ship landed in Auckland in 1860 and her work began.

Task: Read the above story. List five key ideas that interested you about this story. (Research topics)

Points for further research

- A life of a lady in 1800s France
- A whalers life
- Whaling – <http://www.eyewitnesstohistory.com/whaling.htm>
- http://www.nps.gov/safr/learn/education/upload/Sailor_intercept.pdf lesson on whaling

When Suzanne Aubert left for New Zealand from France her parents thought they would never see her again. Put yourself in her shoes.

Think: The Catholic Church wants to spread the Good News to Mars.

You have heard about a Mission to Mars. The year is 2050. There is a place for you on board the spaceship. However, your parents do not want you to go. Once you leave Earth you may never come home. However, you want to do God's work, live with the Martians and walk in the footsteps of Suzanne Aubert.

DRAW: What do you think Suzanne Aubert packed for her new life in New Zealand? (Draw five things)

DRAW: What would you take from home that would remind you of Aotearoa for your trip to Mars (Draw five things)

Similarities: Compare your two lists. Are any of the items similar? If so - why do you think? If not - why do you think?

Write: Think about Suzanne Aubert's challenging journey to New Zealand. What are some of the obstacles you might overcome during your long trip to Mars? (NOTES: It can take between six to eight months depending on the distance between the two planets which constantly change as they travel around the sun. In 2007 a Russian-European project saw six human volunteers confined in a capsule for 120 days to simulate a Mars mission.)

Write your own prayer for a safe journey for Missionaries who still travel all over the world.

Topic: **9G: Recognising Signs of God**

Part 4 – The Sign of Christ

Pg 20 of student textbook looks at the work of the St Vincent de Paul Society. In NZ, starting in the late 1800s there was another group like the St Vincent de Paul Society. They were the Sisters of Compassion. Under the leadership of Suzanne Aubert, they worked for the poor and neglected in NZ society. They set up homes for abandoned children, looked after young unmarried mothers, set up day-care centres and soup kitchens, and homes for the disabled and elderly. Read about Suzanne's story on www.suzanneaubert.co.nz and using the diagram draw 3 images of how the Sisters of Compassion were a sign of Christ to people in NZ. Next to it, draw an example of how, like the Sisters of Compassion, you can be a sign of Christ to others.

The form consists of three identical horizontal ovals stacked vertically. Each oval is divided into two equal halves by a vertical line running down its center. These ovals are intended for drawing, as per the instructions in the text above.

Year level: Year 10

Topic: 10B: Journey Stories

Part 1 – Journey and Stories

Suzanne's Journey

Sister Suzanne Aubert was a living Saint in New Zealand. She worked as a Missionary in New Zealand for 66 years from 1860– 1926. Read about her Early years and Calling on www.suzanneaubert.co.nz and other web-sites.

Do the following:

1. Apply the Journey of Suzanne's Aubert's to NZ to the 'Some features of Journey Stories' on pg 3 of the textbook. E.g. – Traveller – who she was, source – where she was going etc
2. Create Suzanne Aubert's Journey in a visual form. Use the 'Map of a Journey' on page 3 of the textbook as a guide. Your journey must include 2 obstacles, 1 companion and 2 tools. Note: you can do this digitally if you would like to.
3. Imagine you are Suzanne Aubert. Write a journal entry which includes the following:
 - a. How would you have felt on the journey to NZ?
 - b. Why would you have felt this way?
 - c. What challenges did you face on your journey?
 - d. How did you overcome these challenges?

Topic: 10E: Inspiring Men and Women

Part 2 – Christian Lives

Part 6 – Saints and Patrons

We need Saints

The poem below was written by an anonymous Brazilian Catholic who was inspired by St John Paul II. It was read out to thousands of young people by Pope Francis at World Youth Day in Rio de Janeiro in 2013.

WE NEED SAINTS

We need saints without veil or cassock.

We need saints who wear jeans and sneakers.

We need saints who go to the movies, listen to music and hang out with friends.

We need saints who put God in first place, but who let go of their power.

We need saints who have time every day to pray and who know how to date in purity and chastity, or who consecrate their chastity.

We need modern saints, Saints of the 21st century with a spirituality that is part of our time.

We need saints committed to the poor and the necessary social changes.

We need saints who live in the world and who are sanctified in the world, who are not afraid to live in the world.

We need saints who drink Coke and eat hot dogs, who wear jeans, who are Internet-savvy, who listen to CDs.

We need saints who passionately love the Eucharist and who are not ashamed to drink a soda or eat pizza on weekends with friends.

We need saints who like movies, the theatre, music, dance, sports.

We need saints who are social, open, normal, friendly, happy and who are good companions.

We need saints who are in the world and know how to taste the pure and nice things of the world but who aren't of the world.

Sourced from: <http://www.catholicnewsagency.com/blog/the-poem-pope-francis-never-wrote/>

1. Mother Suzanne Aubert was a living Saint in New Zealand. She worked as a Missionary in New Zealand for 66 years from 1860– 1926. Read about her life on www.suzanneaubert.co.nz and complete the following activities:

- Explain in your own words how Suzanne Aubert lived this poem. Provide examples of how she did so.
- Explain in your own words how you can live this poem in your day-to-day lives. Look at how Suzanne Aubert did this to help you to write your answer.

2. In a group: choose a few lines from the poem. Create a skit showing your class-mates how they could implement these lines in their day-to-day lives. Include one reference to Suzanne Aubert's life (you could do a flashback scene within your skit to show this).

Topic: 10E Inspiring Men and Women

Part 6 – Saints and patrones

Journey to Canonization

Sister Suzanne Aubert to many was a wonderful example of a living Saint.

Your task is to plead her case for sainthood.

1. Look up the process for canonization by following the links.

<http://www.faithcentral.co.nz/wp-content/pdfs/10E-CEP1005.pdf> [https://](https://www.ewtn.com/johnpaul2/cause/process.asp)

www.ewtn.com/johnpaul2/cause/process.asp

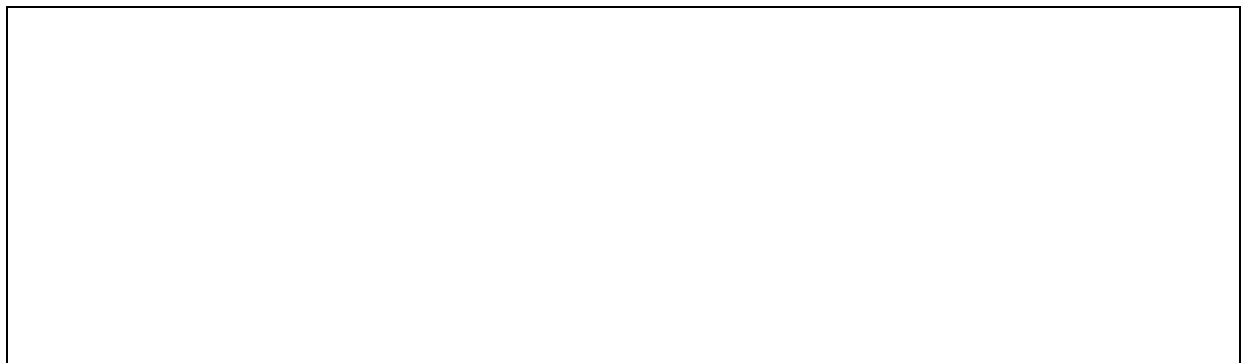


Three empty rounded rectangular boxes are arranged in a descending staircase pattern, intended for students to take notes during their research.

2. Put the research together and plead her case for canonization.

The following headings and links may help.

- Her witness and living of her Catholic Faith.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zk1uZSdo0-M>
Suzanne Aubert Website



A large empty rectangular box with a black border, intended for students to write their case for the canonization of Sister Suzanne Aubert.

- Miracles along the way

<http://cathnews.co.nz/2014/02/21/sainthood-one-step-closer-suzanne-aubert/> <http://www.stuff.co.nz/national/3203830/Sainthood-in-sight-for-Kiwi-heroine>

- Based on the evidence you have put together create a closing address for her case.

Part 2: Christian Lives, Virtues

Creating Suzanne's Gospel Values

- Brainstorm on the whiteboard the Gospel Values Suzanne lived by, and the virtues she used to carry out God's work.
- Discuss and decide on the 5 most important values/virtues in Suzanne's work for God.
- Use playdough to create a symbol for each of the most important values/virtues.

Imaging Suzanne's Gospel Values

- Gather a collection of Suzanne's quotes and whakatoki.
- Find accompanying Scripture passages that may have inspired her work and life.
- Choose a song that represents her life's work.
- Use the collections to create an Animoto presentation (Animoto app)

10E – Inspiring Men and Women – Poster - can be used as a formative assessment task/in-class project.

Read about Suzann Aubert’s life on the website (please insert website here). Using A3 paper, create a poster based on her life.

Suzanne Aubert

Key Information:

Name, birthday, death, when she became a Religious, family, place of birth, where she ministered etc

Contribution to the Catholic Church:

What was her contribution to the Catholic Church? How did this impact the Catholic Church – then and now?
What is the significance of her contribution?

Inspiring woman

(Why was she inspiring? What qualities do you admire about her? How can you live like her?)

Topic: 10G: Teachings of Jesus

Part 8 – Follow Me

The song below is found on Pg 29 of the Yr 10 **Teachings of Jesus** textbook:

Building the Kingdom

C.Landry - © Oregon Catholic Press

True friends of Jesus, building the kingdom, Building the kingdom of God on earth.

True friends of Jesus, building the kingdom, Building the kingdom of God on earth.

Verse One:

Small acts of kindness, sharing and caring: Seeds of the kingdom of God on earth.

Showing respect and trusting each other: Seeds of the kingdom of God on earth.

Verse Two:

Helping a friend who's hurt and rejected: Granting forgiveness as makers of peace;

Growing in friendship, bringing compassion: Signs of the kingdom of God on earth.

Verse Three:

Led by the Spirit, praying together; Loving each other as Jesus loves us;

Speaking the truth and giving in service: These are some signs of God's kingdom on earth. Used with permission

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Sister Suzanne Aubert was a living Saint in New Zealand. She worked as a Missionary in New Zealand for 66 years from 1860– 1926. Read about her life on www.suzanneaubert.co.nz and then answer the following questions:

1. Which aspects of the 'Building the Kingdom' song did Sister Suzanne Aubert have?
2. How did she show these aspects?
3. On the brick you have been given – write down in bold letters (creative and colourful) an aspect of Suzanne Aubert's that you would like to have. Underneath explain why you would like to have that value –

An example: These could then be put up in a 'Build the Kingdom of God' wall display in the Classroom with an image of Suzanne Aubert beside it. The Values are done creatively and colourfully and the explanation below is 1-3 lines long.

E.g. 'Giving in service'

I would like the value of 'giving in service' because.....

Topic: 10H: Expressions of Catholic Life

Part 4 – Mission

To Live the Mission

Sister Suzanne Aubert was one of New Zealand’s earliest missionaries. She spent over 66 years in New Zealand and giving to and spreading the Gospel to the people.

Who was she? Build her story around her picture. The link is a good place to start.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Zk1uZSdo0-M>



Trust in the Lord with all your heart, and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways acknowledge him, and he shall direct your paths. (Proverbs 3:5-6)

What was Jesus’ Understanding of mission and how did he live this?

What is our understanding of Mission and can you give some examples of people who fit this description?

Mission was a key part of the way Sister Aubert lived her life.

How would you describe her understanding of mission?

Look at the link on the Suzanne Aubert Website on your call the mission 1850---1860.

How did Suzanne Aubert put her understanding of mission into action?
Use evidence from the Suzanne Aubert Website to back up your findings

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Can you see and show links between the missionary work of Suzanne Aubert and the teaching of Christ?

How does Suzanne Aubert help us with our understanding and witness to Christ's Call to mission?
