



St Theresa's Parish Plimmerton

Newsletter



Parish Priest

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Office Hours

Mon, Wed, Thurs, Fri - 11am-4pm

Reconciliation

By appointment

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

9 DECEMBER 2018

Readings

9 Dec

First Reading
Second Reading
Gospel

Baruch 5:1-9
Philippians 1:4-6, 8-11
Luke 3:1-6

16 Dec

First Reading
Second Reading
Gospel

Zephaniah 3:14-18
Philippians 4:4-7
Luke 3:10-18



PARISH EVENTS THIS WEEK

Monday 10	10am Liturgy of the Word with Communion followed by Adoration until 3:30pm
Tuesday 11	No Liturgy of the Word
Wednesday 12	9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion 7:30pm Prayer group meet in parish hall
Thursday 13	9:30am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion 11am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion at Harbourview Rest home
Friday 14	9:30am Eucharist
Saturday 15	6pm Vigil
Sunday 16	Third Sunday of Advent 9:30am Eucharist 1-4pm Faith and Light meet in the hall

Dear Parishioners,

Today we light the second of our Advent Candles on our wreath; a reminder that Christmas is drawing closer and an invitation to continue reflecting on the real meaning of our celebrations. Making time to stop, reflect and pray is an integral part of a truly Christian celebration of Christmas. In our reading from St Luke's gospel we are invited to imagine ourselves in the desert hearing John the Baptist's cry: "Prepare a way for the Lord!" Asking: "What does this mean for me?" "How can I be a better follower of Christ whose birth we shortly celebrate?" As one author puts it:



"The desert is the antithesis of the mall. No matter how much money you have, there is nothing to buy. Far from the city lights whose twinkling grabs our attention, the desert allows us to fix our gaze on the stars, on beauty that is beyond our reach and yet seems to have been created just for our delight. The desert is where our soul finds room to expand, where we can remember what we really thirst for. This is the experience of God's fertile desert. This is the desert we can choose when we want its blessing."

Retreat days, such as the one we celebrated yesterday, or the "Retreat in Daily Life", are ways of entering the desert but, so too, are the times we set aside for prayer, no matter how short or how long.

Fr John O'Connor's short Advent reflections are great for busy people. You can have them sent to you every day from www.foodforfaith.org.nz.

In the desert we meet the Lord. May your Advent prayer be truly inspiring.

God bless,

Fr Maurice

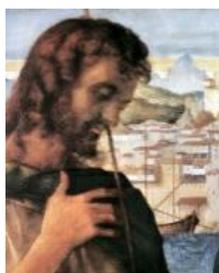
Advent

*A Season of Hope
& Expectation*

We are all familiar with the idea of preparation during the season of Advent, a time when we prepare for the arrival and birth of Jesus Christ our Saviour. We pray with hope and joy and we are also preparing our hearts and minds for the hope and joy of Christ's second coming at the end of time. These are the common themes of the Advent season -- hope, love, joy and peace.

This Advent we invite you to reflect on the significant people in the Advent story, people we have heard so many times in the readings of the season. Each week we have a character to look at with fresh eyes through the readings, to reflect on their roles and the messages they each have for us in how to live as people of faith in our communities.

Based on reflection material found at <http://www.oremus.org/liturgy/pohg/s3e.html> and <https://www.english.op.org/godzdogz/characters-of-advent-joseph>



Week Two – John the Baptist

John the Baptist is a central character in the Advent story. John was the last of the prophets who prepared for the coming of Christ, he was to proclaim the word of salvation to all the people

of Israel. He was a charismatic preacher and leader, sent to prepare us for the Saviour to come. In the desert of our hopelessness, John preached of forgiveness, of one who would be light to the nations, a Saviour who offers hope and salvation.

Prayer

Lord Jesus, Light of the world,
John told the people to prepare,
for you were very near:

As Christmas grows closer, we ask for the grace to have our doors open, to recognise you and be ready to welcome you now.

PARISH NEWS



Clergy Positions for 2019.

PHEW – HOW LUCKY ARE WE - to have Fr Maurice as our Parish Priest for 2019. Fr will continue to have Monday and Tuesday's off and will say Eucharist on Wed morning and then have a quiet day for the rest of the day. If you want to see more information about Clergy positions for next year, please see the notice board.



NATIVITY PLAY CHRISTMAS UNWRAPPED

Calling all school aged children (year 1-6) who are keen to be part of our Christmas Eve liturgy this year (6pm Bishop Viard College Hall). We need enthusiastic participants for our little play. You will need to be available to come to rehearsals in the days leading up to Christmas.

Parents and caregivers of children wanting to take part please email me so that I can contact you about our rehearsals and other details.

Thank you

Janet McClean - janetsmcclean@gmail.com



2019 SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME

(First Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Eucharist) is open for enrolment. Children who are in Year 4 (next year) and older are welcome to join the programme. The programme will run in the first three terms of the school year. Please have enrolments into the office by Dec 20th. Please contact Jocelyn at the office if you need more information.



SERVICE OF RECONCILIATION. Sunday 16th at 4pm we will have a community celebration of Reconciliation as a special preparation for Christmas. All encouraged to attend.



Those who are sick: Anna Capewell, Mary-Rose Royal, Madeleine (Red) Capewell

Remember: Ora Kearns, Judy Kerr, Graham Davis, Bruce Bishop



**Go you are sent –Week 12
Parish Synod Review**

This week the topic is “Go, you are sent” to build community.

As a Parish, do work together to build an open and welcoming faith community? What do you think we can do better?

Please take the time to have your say on the enclosed leaflet.



**9 Dec at 5pm (this Sun) – Carols at St. Joseph’s Church, Pauatahanui 5 – 6pm
16th Dec – Reconciliation Service 4pm
24th Dec – **Family Christmas Vigil Mass**
6pm Bishop Viard College
25th Dec – 9:30am Christmas Mass – St Theresa’s.**



THANK YOU to Emily, Teuaine, Alfie, Teddy Lachie, Sophia, Poppy, Noah, Ethan, Chloe, Isaac, Ella, Emma, Jakson & Kezia from Rm’s 1 & 9, for the delicious vege soup and devilled sausages they have made for the foodbank.



RUSTY’S CHRISTMAS HAM TIME.

If you are looking for a Christmas ham, steaks, lambs or bacon for Christmas please see the notice board. You can also email [Rusty Norris on Christmas.hams@hotmail.co.nz](mailto:Rusty_Norris_on_Christmas.hams@hotmail.co.nz) and place an order or you can fill in the order sheet in the foyer. Orders must be in by 10 December and will need to be picked up on Monday 17 Dec from 2a James Street Plimmerton (Rusty’s house, opposite St. Theresa’s).



Charismatic Mass Naenae

There will be a Charismatic Mass at St Bernadette’s Church Naenae this Tuesday 11 December at 7.30 pm. A time of prayer ministry for healing will follow this Mass.

Fr John Rea’s latest book, ‘Wonders Still Abounding’ will be available to buy. Everyone welcome.



Advent Action

Challenge 2000 is a charitable trust that this year celebrated 30 years of service to those on the peripheries of our society. On 23rd December 2018 we will be delivering 120 hampers filled with fresh produce, meat, and gifts that our children and young people really need and will enjoy. If you would like to sponsor a child, young person or family and make a direct difference, then please donate to Challenge 2000, ANZ, 01-0519-0057660-00 and reference **Advent Action**. Alternatively, you could drop items off to our premises at 1 Wanaka Street Johnsonville or call Megan on 04 4776827 and we will come and collect them! Thank you in anticipation.

OASIS COMMUNITY CAFE-Waitangirua. The Oasis ministry has been reaching out to the marginalised in our society for the past 18 years. Please continue to keep us in prayer and if you can support us financially, we would be so grateful. Donations to Oasis Ministry can be made to ANZ Bank 06-0569-0183390-00 (Tax receipts available); or contact Josephine 027367445



New Influenza Pandemic exhibition opens 11 November.

This special temporary exhibition commemorates the 100th anniversary of the 1918 Influenza Pandemic and the response of the Sisters of Compassion nursing in a stricken city. As city officials mobilised, the Sisters of Compassion responded to the call for volunteers, nursing the sick in Island Bay, Berhampore and at the temporary hospital at St Patrick’s College. Our Lady’s Home of Compassion, 2 Rhine Street (off Murray Street), Island Bay. Open from 11 November 2018 – 31 March 2019. Tue-Sat 10am-3pm; Sun 12noon-3pm. Contact heritagecentre@compassion.org.nz or 04 282 1953 for more information.

Contemplative prayer. As Christmas approaches take time out in Advent for contemplative reflection and prayer. Series led by Sr Sue Cosgrove. 12th December, 10am sessions are repeated at 7pm, Our Lady’s Home of Compassion, 2 Rhine Street, Island Bay, Wellington. Ph. 04 383 7769.



Festive Roast Lunch at Home of Compassion.

Grab a friend and enjoy a festive roast lunch this December at the Home of Compassion. A hot roast lunch including roast chicken and vegetables, green salad and dessert Friday 14 or Saturday 15 December. Lunch served at 12:30pm in the Cloister Café at Our Lady’s Home of Compassion. Only \$25 –

Bookings essential (no walk ins). Email islandbay@compassion.org.nz or phone 383 7769 to book.

Service Rosters for Dec 15/16			
Mass Time:	6:00 pm		9:30 am
Sacristan	Ruth Dobbs		Geoff Shirkey
Greeters	Larsen Family		Frances & Brian Collins
Data Projectionist	TBC		Aidan Dodds
Welcomer /Prayers of Faithful	Youth Team		Matthew O'Meagher
Altar Servers	Zara Lyne Danielle Hockings		Caelan & Eilidh Davidson Ana Sarniak-Thomson
Karanga	Zara Lyne		Libby
Children's Liturgy			Rosa
Proclaimer of The Word	Jude McKee		Maurice Foote
Offertory Procession	Margaret Warmington		TBC
Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Maryanne McKennie Klara Noldan Laurie Smith TBC George Ichim		Laurie Smith Hamish Baker Jocelyn Bryant Kevin Bryant Paul Geoghan
Communion to the Sick			Mike Montgomery
Hospitality			Jude McKee & Trish Forde
Flowers	Dorothy / Krystyna		Altar Society Klara Noldan
Church Cleaning	Tracey Williams		Rosary Statue (wk fm)

E	D	U	J	O	N	H	E	A	E	TIBERIUS	
I	O	A	S	N	P	R	E	E	S	PILATE	
P	R	S	U	H	J	D	N	L	S	JUDEA	
L	E	Y	I	O	U	E	Y	A	A	HEROD	
I	H	L	R	J	L	S	N	E	E	PHILIP	
H	I	A	E	I	A	N	S	T	A	ITURAEA	
P	I	L	B	N	A	N	A	L	R	LYSANIAS	
I	S	A	I	A	H	L	N	I	U	ABILENE	
E	T	A	T	R	I	U	N	P	T	ANNAS	
M	S	A	H	P	A	I	A	C	I	CAIAPHAS	
										JOHN	
										ISAIAH	