

St. Theresa's Parish

210 St. Andrew's Road Plimmerton Cell: 027 328 9911

email: st.theresas@xtra.co.nz | Phone: 04 233 1279

Office hours: Mon, Thurs, Fri 11-4pm, Wed 9am-2pm

Parish Priest: Father Andrew Kim

3 December 2023 | 1st Sunday of Advent – Year B



In our Parish this week

Reconciliation

Is available by appointment or after weekday Mass

Monday 4 December

10am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion followed by Adoration until 1:30pm

Tuesday 5 December

9:30am Mass

Wednesday 6 December

9:30am Mass

10am Prayer group meet in the Reconciliation Room

Thursday 7 December

9:30am Mass

Friday 8 December - The Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary

9:30am Mass

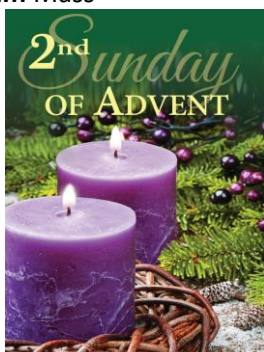
Saturday 9 December

6pm Vigil Mass

11am Rosary and Adoration in the Church

Sunday 10 December – 2nd Sunday of Advent – Year B

9:30am Mass



GOSPEL MEDITATION - 1st Sunday of Advent

Lately I've been listening to a science-based podcast on healthy daily living. The host frequently discusses the wide range of health benefits of sleep. So, each night I'm trying to get more, and better, slumber, and it's helping me feel energized. So, why in the world should we follow Christ's advice this week? "Watch therefore, for you do not know when the master of the house will come ... lest he find you asleep." Isn't sleep, especially at midnight and cockcrow, a good thing?

Of course, it is. But the wakefulness the Lord calls us to is a deep, personal orientation to Him. A nightly vigil is therefore a metaphor for this, but it's not just that. We should give up real sleep in order to pray, too. This difficult practice is a time-tested way to foster wakefulness of heart. When we give up sleep to pray, it focuses us. We learn that life is not an endless series of days. You and I belong to the Lord — awake or asleep, in life and in death. Sooner or later, even our need for our physical sleep will pass away. And our attentiveness to God — that is, whether we are awaiting Him to meet us — will be all that matters.

May I challenge us this week and this Advent to intentionally give up at least one hour of sleep each week for prayer? Stay up later, wake up in the middle of the night, or an hour earlier, and pray. Will we be a bit more tired the next day? Yes. But we'll be amazed at the spiritual wakefulness that results, too.

— Father John Muir

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We are organising the Christmas Hamper Weekend for 16th/17th December to help those that are not as fortunate as us. Thank you to those who have donated so far. We are looking for any Christmas treat this week - chocolates, special biscuits, jelly, Christmas cakes, Christmas puddings, YUM! We try to give each family the basics and a \$20 Preston's card so they have the chance to free up some money to make this day special for their families.

We currently have 55 Preston vouchers and we need about 20 more. We do appreciate your support and ask again that you give generously. You can leave goods in the foyer of the Church and drop vouchers either into the office or in the offertory basket from now till 17 December. →→ Also looking for anyone who is available to pick up and deliver Christmas Hampers Mon 18th December 10-3pm or 6-7pm. Please let us know at: st.theresas@xtra.co.nz



Upcoming Events



ST. THERESA'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL will be selling Christmas

raffles in the foyer after Sunday Mass. Please support this fundraiser by bringing along some cash to support them.

10th December – Parish Shared morning tea .

Pauline and Errol Eastgate are moving to Levin and on December 10th Pauline will be playing with the choir for the last time. We invite you to the hall after Mass to share morning tea and to thank Pauline for sharing her musical talents with us for so many years. Please bring a plate to share with Pauline and others.

St Joseph's Church

We are now in Advent.. we're looking forward to Christmas Carols at **4 PM on Sunday 17 December.**

Please join us to sing, share your musical talents, and enjoy afternoon tea.

In preparation, we will have a working bee from **1PM this Sunday 3 December** to tidy up the grounds and clean the church. Ph: Susan on 0212974445 Hope to see you there!



Sacramental Programme 2024. We are taking enrolments for the 2024 programme. Enrolment forms are in the foyer for children Year 4 or older. The programme will run in Term 1, 2 and 3.



St Vincent de Paul members will be handing out stamped grocery bags before and after this weekend's Masses - PLEASE return the bag next week with either Christmas treats or food products for our families who are struggling to

provide enough for their household. Your generosity will then be put towards our Christmas Hampers or stock the Pantry shelves for the January Food Parcels.

Our Christmas Cards are all sold; but there are a few Columban Calendars still available at \$15 each.

We thank you for your support and prayers throughout the year, and may Christ be the centre of your Christmas celebration. Sincerely, Margaret Baker, President, Plimmerton StVdP Conference 0276 551 511



A big thank you goes out to Summerset at Aotea for Preston vouchers & lollies!

Your generosity is always much appreciated.



Saturday 23rd December

- ❖ 6:00pm Vigil Mass for 4th Sunday of Advent

Sunday 24th December - 4th Sunday of Advent

- ❖ 9:30 am Mass
- ❖ 6:00pm Christmas Eve Family Mass
- ❖ 9:00pm Christmas Eve Mass (with Carols starting at 8:30pm)

Monday 25th December

- ❖ 9:30am Christmas Morning Mass

Please note there will be no Mass or Liturgy of the Word at St Theresa's on Tuesday 26th December

Daily Mass resumes Wednesday 27th December through Friday 29th December at 9:30am

Saturday 30th December

- ❖ 6:00pm Vigil Mass

Sunday 31st December – The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph

- ❖ 9:30am Mass

Monday 1st January - Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God

- ❖ 9:30am Mass



Calling all children for the Christmas Eve Play

With Christmas coming up quickly, we are looking for any children that want to help be in our play for the Christmas Eve Family Mass. There is a part for everyone. Even if you don't want to be on stage, we would love to have your help! If your child/children would like to be part of this play, please contact Wendy Gan at: wendy.gan84@yahoo.co.nz



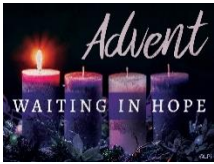
Anniversaries –

May they RIP:

Constance Shakesby,
Paul Trischler, Neville Key, Ora Kearns,

Garry Conway, and Augustine Anthony

Those who are sick: Richard Gibbs, Sr Trish Hanaray, Arthur O'Leary, John Angelica, Ian Dick and all parishioners who have Covid or are sick.

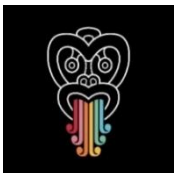


ADVENT WREATH - WHAT'S THE STORY BEHIND THE ADVENT WREATH?

The Advent wreath is full of symbolism about Christ and his coming at Christmas. The wreath is made of evergreen boughs, reminding us that the life of grace doesn't falter with the changing seasons. Similarly, a circular wreath reminds us of the eternal, never-ending nature of God's love. Candles remind us that Christ is the light of the world, the One who "shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it." We use four candles to represent each week of Advent. Traditionally they come in the liturgical colours of the season. Purple has historically represented penance and sacrifice. We see the same colour for the season of Lent. On the third Sunday of Advent, however, we light a rose colour. The priest will wear rose vestments at Mass. This is Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete means "rejoice" in Latin. On the third Sunday of Advent, we're roughly halfway through the season. The Church chooses the midpoint to remind us to celebrate in the midst of our anticipation!

WHAT DO WE REMEMBER EACH WEEK OF ADVENT?

 <p>FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT: HOPE</p> <p>It is sometimes called the "Prophecy Candle" in remembrance of the prophets, especially Isaiah, who foretold the birth of Christ. It represents the expectation felt in anticipation of the coming Messiah.</p>	 <p>SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT: PEACE</p> <p>The second candle, also purple, represents peace. It is called the "Bethlehem Candle" as a reminder of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.</p>
 <p>THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT: JOY</p> <p>It is called the "Shepherd's Candle," and is pink because rose is a liturgical color for joy. The third Sunday of Advent is Gaudete Sunday and is meant to remind us of the joy that the world experienced at the birth of Jesus, as well as the joy that the faithful have reached the midpoint of Advent.</p>	 <p>FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT: LOVE</p> <p>On the fourth week of Advent, we light the final purple candle to mark the final week of prayer and penance as we wait for the birth of our Savior. This final candle, the "Angel's Candle," symbolizes love. It reminds us that God is love.</p>



Te Reo Māori in the Mass: We are discussing a phrase used in *The Mystery of Faith: I mate a Hehu / I ara a Hehu / Ka hoki mai ano a Hehu, Karaiti. This week we will discuss the concluding clause *Ka hoki mai ano a Hehu, Karaiti. Hoki*, in this context, is a*

verb which means to **return**. *Mai* tells the listener to do the returning in the direction of the speaker; *ano* denotes repetition: 'do it again'. The word *ka* which precedes *hoki mai ano* is a tense marker: it puts the time of the coming again into the future. This is the opposite of *I*, the past-tense marker which begins the first two clauses. We see again the word *a* preceding a person's name. The name is *Hehu*: Jesus. In this phrase *Hehu* is elaborated with the word *Karaiti*: Christ. Taken together, the words *Ka hoki mai ano a Hehu, Karaiti* mean: **Christ will come again**. Next week we will begin a discussion of *Te Aroha ...* . If you have suggestions or questions about various Māori words and phrases that you hear as part of the Mass, feel free to send them to the parish office using st.theresas@xtra.co.nz



The Feast of the Immaculate Conception 8th December As has been the custom for many years now an Archdiocesan Mass will be celebrated on our Diocesan feast day at St Teresa's Pro-Cathedral, Karori at 7.00pm Friday 8th December.

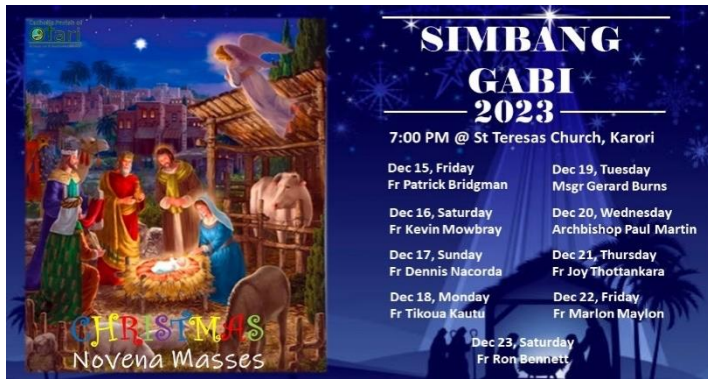


The Bach Choir of Wellington and the Wellington Brass Band present, *Tidings of Comfort and Joy*, **2pm Sat 16 December at St Mary of the Angels** Tickets on Eventfinda: \$35/\$40; school children free



ROSA MYSTICA CELEBRATION
Friday, 8 December 12.10-1.45pm at Our Lady of Fatima Church, Tawa Holy Mass will be celebrated at 12.30pm by Fr Kevin Connors. For any enquiries, please phone Stephen: 027 243 5119 or Mary 027 555 6333 or Lucia 021 022 89544. **Carols in**

Parliament on Sunday 10 December at 7pm (arrive 6:20pm to be seated by 6:50pm). Music by Wellington Regional Maori Choir, the Choir of the Wellington Cathedral of St Paul and the Salvation Army Band. RSVPs to carolparliament@gmail.com are essential by 1 December 2023.



Join the Filipino Community in their traditional **Simbang Gabi**, which translates to "Night Mass". It is a 9-day Novena culminating in the Christmas Eve Mass. This year, the Filipino Community is holding Simbang Gabi at 7:00pm at St Teresa's Church, Karori from December 15th to December 23rd.

Carol singing on Christmas Eve in Wellington Regional Hospital

An old tradition once undertaken by the nurses. It has great meaning to patients unable to be home with family and friends. Hearing carols and knowing that a group of people have given up their time to come and sing on Christmas Eve can touch them deeply. Its also a treat to staff who go the extra mile for patients at Christmas. Please come to the Hospital Atrium at 6.45pm on Christmas Eve. We divide into 2 groups. Spend about an hour singing in various wards, conclude with a light supper.

Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy

St Nicholas - History, Legend & Culture with Beate Matthies. Monday, 4 December, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM. Free. Donations/Koha are appreciated. <https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/st-nicholas/>

Vacancy - Executive Assistant to the Archbishop

The Archdiocese of Wellington is seeking an Executive Assistant to Archbishop Paul. To obtain a role description, they should contact Ngan Nguyen from McLaren Associates on 04 472 8095 <https://mclaren.co.nz/vacancies/?ja-job=4175443>

Vacancy: Safeguarding Coordinator, Archdiocese of Wellington (0.6-0.8 FTE position)

The Safeguarding Coordinator takes the lead in instituting a culture of safeguarding of children, young people and vulnerable adults in the Archdiocese. For position description and details on how to apply visit the ADW website: www.wn.catholic.org.nz/vacancies Applications close 7 January, we will review applications and arrange interviews immediately.

L	O	C	U	S	T	S	S	M	E		
R	E	I	E	G	A	S	S	E	M		JOHN PREACHED WILDERNESS MESSAGE
E	E	O	R	N	I	T	E	S	D		REPENT
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Y	L	A	P	R	A	E	E	G	C		LOCUSTS
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E	R	N	B	I	R	I	L	N	E		SANDALS
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I	O	V	I	H	I	S	W	S	P		

Service Rosters 2 / 3 December – 1st Sunday of Advent

Mass Time:	6:00 pm	9:30 am
Sacristan	Mike Montgomery	Russell Plume
Greeters	Frances & Brian Collins	Kay & Richard Barraclough
Welcomer /Prayers of Faithful	Carmel Keane	Anne Dodds
Altar Servers	Gabriel Anthony	Colin Feng & Michael Bastian
Kaikaranga		Phoebe McClean
Children's Liturgy		Tom Fanning
Proclaimer of The Word	Margaret Baker	Youth Team
Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Alan Fleming and Rosaleen Larsen	Dorothy Gibbs and Sef Truyens
Hospitality		Rosaleen & Jeff Larsen
Flowers	Dorothy/Kay	Altar Society Maureen Barber

Service Rosters 9 / 10 December – 2nd Sunday of Advent

Mass Time:	6:00 pm	9:30 am
Sacristan	Kelly Ross	Veronica Young
Greeters	Angela Reiher	Isabelle & Cristine
Welcomer /Prayers of Faithful	Audrey Hinder	Linda Wordsworth
Altar Servers	Gabriel Anthony	Sammy Cato, Josh & Noah Kerr
Kaikaranga		Margriet Lynch
Children's Liturgy		Paul & Chantelle Keane
Proclaimer of The Word	Annemaree Deed	Julian Howard
Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion	Mike Montgomery & Kelly Ross	Richard Barraclough, Paul Kerr, & Jude McKee
Hospitality		Dilran & Peter
Flowers	Dorothy/Kay	Altar Society Maureen Barber

