

*Next Sunday - 1st January  
Solemnity of Mary, Holy Mother of God*

**First:** The book of Numbers 6:22-27    **PSALM:** 66  
**Second:** Letter to the Galatians 4:4-7    **Gospel:** LUKE 2:16-21

**PRAYER IN CHARITY WE PRAY FOR** Fr Martin Bugler, Fr Paddy Collins, Elise Margaret Gannon, Nathaniel Mancita, Lois Read *whose anniversaries occur during December and January*

**FOR THE SICK** Julie Fleming, Brendan Davison, Fran Meredith, John LeFeuvre, Chris Prajogo, Stephanie Barfoot, Tony Commissaris, Teadora Dinolan, Cassie Ilagan, Clive Auckram, Sue McHardy, Ken Derrick, Gerard & Jane McNaughten, Sonia Lewis, Jean Ulberg, Heather Gannon, Troy Angelo Madrigal, Celia McLoughlin, Annabelle Sia, Clara Jung-Hwang, Paige Donovan-Smith, Gladys Lloyd, Elizabeth Hennelly, Rima Bennett, Belinda Chamassian, Jesus Fernando

**ST. JOSEPH'S PARISH**

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**LINK FOR NEW PARISHIONER SIGN UP REGISTRATION FORM**

[New Parishioner Sign Up - St. Joseph's Church \(takapunacatholic.org.nz\)](http://www.takapunacatholic.org.nz)

**ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, 10 DOMINION ST, TAKAPUNA**

Sunday Mass Times: Saturday 5pm, Sunday 7.30am, 10.30am (live-streamed) and 6pm

Youth Mass: 3rd Sunday at 6pm

Weekday Masses: Monday to Friday 9.15am (live-streamed)

Saturday Mass 9.00am (live-streamed) Reconciliation Saturday 9.30am

Exposition and Holy Hour—every Saturday after 9am Mass

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHURCH, CNR FENWICK AVE & SHAKESPEARE RD, MILFORD**

**Mass** - Sunday at 9am

**Korean Community Mass** - every Saturday at 7.30pm

**Filipino Community Mass** - 4th Sunday - to resume when advised

**NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL MASS**

First Sunday of month: 11.00am - resumed when notified

**ST JOHN PAUL II - Holy Cross Anglican Church**

222 Dairy Flat Highway, Albany, (access via Oteha Valley Rd.

Extension) **Mass** - Sunday at 5.30pm



**ST JOSEPH'S PARISH EFTPOS MACHINE** We now have an Eftpos Machine in the Church foyer at weekend Masses and the Parish Office during the week. This can be used for donations to the church, NZ Catholic purchases, payments for calendars etc. It is set up for Eftpos and Paywave donations but not Planned Giving contributions.

*The Nativity of the Lord*

I walked through a store selling Christmas decorations at Milford mall, and found no stable or images of a newborn baby. Initially, I was disappointed. But then I realised that there were no lights or nativity scenes to announce the birth of Jesus 2000 years ago. He slipped into the world in a small town of Palestine, a remote colony of the Roman empire. The town was bustling with daily activities, commercial life, and with census-taking. Jesus was likely one of several babies born the same day. "Understated" is normally God's strange way of doing things. Mary and Joseph knew there was something extraordinary about their child. And shepherds quickly found out through a heavenly announcement: the child is the Saviour, the Messiah, the Lord (Luke 2:11).

But shepherds were not of the influential set – they were classed with the poor and the dishonest. How would the rest of the world come to know about God's extraordinary yet simple action of entering the world? People love to look at babies. Babies capture hearts and draw out of us a sense of wonder. Through the child of the Bethlehem stable, God knocks on our hearts. "May I come in?" Ever respectful of the freedom God has implanted in us, God asks, "Is there space for me in your Inn?" and awaits our invitation.

As we gaze on the Bethlehem baby, and reflect on what we have received from him during our years, we understand how he is our prince of peace, our mighty God, our Saviour, our Lord. Through him, we continue to receive love, and with his help we try to live love. We now become the angels who show others that God has entered the world through Jesus, and that holding the Bethlehem babe brings us fullness beyond expectation.

Finally, thanks to the many people, with hearts shaped by the Bethlehem baby, who offer so much to our parish. We have 2 churches and a parish school – all important segments of our community and all requiring much energy and commitment to sustain. Fr Nathaniel and Fr Mark join me in expressing our deep gratitude – and in praying a share in God's glory for you all.

*David Tonks*



*25 December 2022*

*LITURGY OF THE WORD*

THE PROPHET ISAIAH 9:2-4,6-7

PSALM 95

*O sing a new song to the Lord,  
sing to the Lord all the earth..  
O sing to the Lord, bless his name.*

*Proclaim his help day by day,  
tell among the nations his glory  
and his wonders among all the peoples.*

*Let the heavens rejoice and earth be glad,  
let the sea and all within it thunder  
praise,  
let the land and all it bears rejoice,  
all the trees of the wood shout for joy.  
At the presence of the Lord for he comes,  
He comes to rule the earth.*

*With justice He will rule the world,  
He will judge the peoples with his truth.*

Letter to Titus 2:11-14

LUKE 2:1-16



To get involved in the Synodal Process:

Go to: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/synod-participation>



WISHING YOU ALL A VERY BLESSED CHRISTMAS, AND A SAFE AND REWARDING NEW YEAR. OUR THANKS TO ALL WHO HAVE DONE SO MUCH THIS YEAR IN THE PARISH AND IN THE NAME OF THE PARISH, AND ALL THOSE WHO HAVE GIVEN OF THEIR TIME AND TALENTS VOLUNTARILY.



THE PARISH OFFICE WILL CLOSE AT NOON FRIDAY 23 DECEMBER AND WILL RE-OPEN ON MONDAY 9 JANUARY BETWEEN 10AM TO 12 NOON DURING THE WEEK.

NEWSLETTERS WILL RESUME ON SUNDAY 22 JANUARY 2023 AND THE OFFICE WILL RETURN TO NORMAL HOURS MONDAY 23 JANUARY FROM 9.45AM—3.30PM.

NOTICES FROM THE DIOCESE

SHINE TV MASS – the broadcast of Christmas Day Mass with Bishop Steve will be at the usual time of 2pm on 25 December. Shine Mass can be viewed on SHINE TV Free-to-air TV Channel 25 and Sky TV Channel 201. That will be the last Mass on Shine until February.

DATES FOR RCIA DIOCESAN EVENTS 2023

Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion Sunday 26 February Cathedral of St Patrick and St Joseph at 1.45pm. Registration due 17 February.

Mass of the Neophytes Sunday 28 May at the Cathedral of St Patrick and St Joseph at 4.30pm.

RESOURCES FROM THE LITURGY CENTRE – the Diocesan Liturgy Centre holds a number of resources for our liturgical life and has recently created an online ordering form. It is also linked from the resources section of the website <https://form.jotform.com/220655497381867>

Please note that the Solemnity of Mary the Mother of God falls on a Sunday this upcoming January 1st, and therefore takes priority over the Feast of the Holy Family (to be celebrated on December 30th).

Attached is the latest Liturgy magazine, which may be of interest to you as summer holiday reading. January 2023 resources for the following areas are all updated on the diocesan website: [Liturgy of the Word with Children](#) [Prayer of the Faithful](#) [Waiata | Music](#) [Te Reo in the Liturgy](#)

Nāku noa, nā Randall Ramos, Liturgy and Ministry Coordinator Te Kawe Ritenga Tapu – The Liturgy Centre Catholic Diocese of Auckland

CHRISTMAS MASSES 2022 ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH, TAKAPUNA CHRISTMAS VIGIL 7.00PM PRECEDED BY CAROLS AT 6.30PM MIDNIGHT MASS PRECEDED BY CAROLS AT 11.30PM CHRISTMAS DAY 7.30AM & 10.30AM

NEW YEAR'S EVE SATURDAY VIGIL - 5.00PM NEW YEAR'S DAY 7.30AM, 10.30AM & 6.00PM

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHURCH, MILFORD CHRISTMAS DAY 9.00AM NEW YEAR'S DAY 9.00AM



Changes in Parish for 2023

The Office Hours during the week will be 9.45am to 3.30pm from 23 January 2023.

The Parish Hall charge, which is a flat rate, will be \$250 plus a \$100 bond to be paid into the parish account before the function. The Flanagan Lounge rate will be \$125.



We are so grateful to the St Vincent de Paul Society who work tirelessly in our parish. Their willingness to help those in need is very much appreciated.

The direct line for Foodbank requests is 0210 8867844.



Thank you to everyone who gave and helped towards the Angel Tree this year. 45 families received Christmas gifts and food items for Monte Cecilia last week. Your contributions were greatly appreciated.



Sue Fraser with youth who helped package items last Tuesday.

Important reminder to stay safe around COVID-19 which is still spreading in the community and has been detected at St Joseph's Church over the past few weeks. Message from Public Health to help stop COVID-19 spreading:

- 1. Stay home if you are unwell
2. Get tested for COVID-19 if you have cold or flu like symptoms or have been exposed to COVID-19 (How to get a COVID-19 test)
3. Wash your hands or use hand sanitiser
4. Face masks are a way we can protect ourselves and others. Improve ventilation at your gathering. More information on these and other messages are on the Unite Against COVID-19 website, which includes information translated in several languages.

VINNIES SHOPS THANK YOU

For supporting our Vinnies shops and the SVDP Society. The revenue we get from selling your generously-donated goods goes directly towards providing resources for families in desperate need. Pop by, drop off your donations, pick up a bargain and see what we do at our shops at 8/75 Ellice Road, Glenfield and 106 Beach Haven Road. We close for the year on Saturday 24 December and reopen on Thursday 5 January 2023. We would love you to join our Volunteer team next year. Merry Christmas everyone!

