

Next Sunday 5 January 2025 - The Epiphany of the Lord

FIRST: ISAIAH 60:1-6

PSALM: 72

SECOND: EPHESIANS 3:2-3, 5-6

GOSPEL: MATTHEW 2:1-12

PRAYER In charity we pray for those who died recently, Ligy Abraham & Kika Neville and for Mary McGuigan whose anniversary occurs.

PRAYER FOR THE SICK Jim Newfield, Francis De Leon, Corazon Andales, Marcia Healy, Maria Wang, Maria Jia, Jon Cruz, John Yu, Francis Lionnet, Tony Ryan, Denis Trotman, John Slaven, Ken Sharkey, Liz Smith, Aurora Madrigal, Michael Dobbyn, Raphael Ponce, Rosemary Allardice, Mal Green, Ken Derrick, Gerard & Jane McNaughten, Sonia Lewis, Jean Ulberg, Heather Gannon, Troy Angelo Madrigal, Celia McLoughlin, Clara Jung-Hwang, Paige Donovan-Smith, Gladys Lloyd, Elizabeth Hennelly, Rima Bennett, Belinda Chamassian, Jane Barrita, & Joanne LeFort.

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NEW PARISHIONER SIGN UP

<https://takapunacatholic.org.nz/new-parishioner/>

St Joseph's Takapuna Parish Bank
Account No. 02 - 0108 - 0706814 - 000



MORNING TEA after 10.30am
Mass in the Parish Hall hosted by St Vincent de Paul.

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

Monday to Saturday 10am, Sunday at 9am

NORTH SHORE HOSPITAL MASS - First Sunday of month: 11.00am

KOREAN COMMUNITY MASS - every Saturday at 7.30pm

ST JOHN PAUL II - HOLY CROSS ANGLICAN CHURCH

222 Dairy Flat Highway, Albany, (access via Oteha Valley Rd. Extension) **Mass** - Sunday at 5.30pm



Wishing all our parishioners a safe festive season and peaceful New Year. Our Parish office is closed from Tuesday 24th December 2024 — Friday 10th January 2025. We will reopen on Monday 13th January 2024. Reminder: All morning masses will be held in the Church Hall 6th - 10th January 2025 due to the scaffolding.

The Christmas 2024 Mass Times have been published on the CDA website. You can view them here: [Christmas Masses 2024 - Catholic Diocese of Auckland](#)



www.takapunacatholic.org.nz



10 Dominion Street Takapuna 0622



Parish Office: 09 489 6486

Presbytery: 09 489 6338



ea@stjoseph.org.nz



10am to 3.30pm Monday to Friday



SAINT JOSEPHS

ST JOSEPHS CATHOLIC CHURCH TAKAPUNA

*The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary & Joseph -
29th December 2024*

LITURGY OF THE WORD

1 Samuel 1:20-22, 24-28

"I have asked him of the Lord."

PSALM 83

How lovely is your dwelling place,
O Lord of hosts!

My soul longs, indeed it faints for the courts
of the Lord;

My heart and my flesh sing for joy to the living
God.

Blessed are those who live in your house,
Ever singing your praise.

Blessed are those whose strength is in you,
In whose heart are the highways to Zion.

O Lord God of hosts, hear my prayer;

Give ear, O God of Jacob!

Behold our shield, O God;

Look on the face of your anointed.

For a day in your courts is better

Than a thousand elsewhere.

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house
of my God, than live in the tents of wicked-
ness.

1 John 3:1-2, 21-24

See what love the Father has given us

LUKE 2:41-52

He said to them, "Why were you searching
for me?"

AS WE LOOK BACK ON 2024 - we might consider the way we, our families, and our parish community has changed. I started this year as a seminarian, and now I am blessed to serve you as a priest- quite the change for me! Additionally, Monsignor David took a long walk on the Camino, and Fr Mark Napa had his first taste of parish administration, so lots of changes all around. At the same time, we have seen the passing of certain friends and family members; we have farewelled parishioners and long-time staff members such as Morna; we've enjoyed the presence of new staff; and we have had some parishioners leave (or prepare to leave) for overseas adventures. You might have changes within your own life that have impacted you and your family this year. But as the gospel this weekend reminds us, we should also keep in mind life's constants, life's foundations.

Just as the boy Jesus returned to Nazareth and lived under the authority of Mary and Joseph for the next twenty or so years, we too must "return" to the foundations of our relationship with God and with one another, even if they seem repetitive, old, or even boring! We experience many ups and downs in this life, and I'm sure you all have had your share of both in 2024. But even as we reflect on these changes, we take comfort in the fact that 2025, and us, are both held by a God who does not change, and who is always watching, and loving, and waiting. May this coming year bring an abundance of God's blessings upon you and your families, and no matter how many "ups and downs" come your way, may you find peace and stability in the ever-constant presence of God.

God bless,
Father Mark Bond

TAKAPUNA SUMMER CAMP 2025: YOUR HOME AWAY FROM HOME!

Calling all Year 9-13 students! From 19-23 **January 2025**, Takapuna Summer Camp returns for its fourth year at Sonshine Ranch, Clevedon – and it's going to be bigger and better than ever!



Get ready for epic outdoor challenges, messy games, and friendships that will last a lifetime. Each day brings something new, from bold activities to deep conversations that will shape your experience.

The moment you step onto camp, you'll feel the energy of our home away from home. Connect with teens from our parish and beyond as you experience powerful prayer moments and the sacraments in a truly meaningful way, all while deepening your faith. Come as you are – you're always welcome here!

Registrations now open. Contact youth@stjoseph.org.nz for more details.

NGA TAPUWAE JUBILEE HIKOI 2025: Registrations are open for Ngā Tapuwāe 10 - 12 Jan 2025

Come and join us in experiencing the footsteps of Bishop Pompallier, Kupe, and the Poynton's with other pilgrims together sharing our Catholic and Maori heritage. This will be a guided pilgrimage.

Accommodation at \$80.00 per night per person will be shared living, experience and eating on the Marae. Your own transport will be required. Contact Dcn Steve stephenf@cda.org.nz

DEAR PARISHIONERS OF ST JOSEPH'S, I was attracted by a Christmas crib in a church in Lyon, France - the city where Bishop Pompallier was born in 1801, and where the Marist priests, brothers and sisters had their origins. In the crib, gathered around Mary, Joseph and the newborn Jesus were shepherds and sheep. But instead of the Magi or Wise Men, there were local people - wine maker, baker, market gardener, farmer. Each brought their own produce as gift for the babe of Bethlehem.



It led me to question: **What would I have to offer**

Jesus this Christmas? Jesus does not ask us for gold, frankincense or myrrh. He does ask us for gifts that promote God's reign on earth - mercy, love, generosity, kindness, in our relationships. At Jesus' birth, the angels sang "Peace on Earth..." Could our gift this Christmas be peace - peace in the way we deal with others, and peace in our hearts? To be a person of peace, we have to continually undergo conversion: letting go of frustration, anger, self-righteousness. Otherwise, we yell at our children or spouses, we sulk in self-pity, we hold grudges, we try to prove ourselves right rather than acknowledging our failures. Being a person of peace also means laying bare our hearts to the Lord, so that his grace can shape us. Peace is a gift desperately needed in our world at present. In calling the Church live synodality, Pope Francis is asking us to be a people who walk together in love, despite our differences. He calls us to listen to each other, guided by the Holy Spirit to find common ground, so that we can journey together, rather than as opponents. This is a huge challenge! But Pope Francis is asking us to live synodality in the Church, so that we can witness to the world that walking together - peace - is a possibility. Bring the newborn Jesus your gift of peace this Christmas. And pray that the Holy Spirit will reshape the hearts of war leaders to seek understanding and reconciliation with their enemies. May peace - the angels' Christmas song and your gift to the Lord - grow in our world this Christmas. On behalf of the priests and staff of St Joseph's, I wish you a Christmas of joy and the Lord's blessing. David Tonks

NEW YEAR'S DAY MASS READINGS 2025
Wednesday 1st Jan 2025 7:30; 9:00 & 10:30
1st Reading Numbers 6:22-27
2nd Reading Galatians 4:4-7
Gospel Luke 2:16-21 PS 67

Young Catholic Family Seeking Rental

We are a young Catholic family looking for a 3-4 bedroom rental in Auckland, ready to move in before the end of January 2025. As responsible, community-minded tenants, we are ideally looking for a longer-term tenancy, within the \$600-\$700pw range. If you have a property available, please contact Sam at 027 1800 2238.

DOVE CATHOLIC FELLOWSHIP FOR WOMEN

is excited to be launching a new initiative called Dovecotes. We invite you to prayerfully consider joining us by forming a Dovecote in your parish. All it needs is for two or more women, to support each other to deepen their personal relationship with Jesus Christ, through regular shared prayer. Our leaflet called 'Welcome to Dovecotes' contains all the relevant information. Visit www.dove.org.nz or email Gloria Stafford: dovenational.leader@gmail.com

SCAFFOLDING IN OUR CHURCH - please take note that scaffolding will be going up in St. Joseph's Church for repairs to the ceiling wooden slates **from Monday 6th January 2025 and remain until approximately 22nd January 2025.** As such, all morning masses will be held in the Church Hall downstairs from 6th - 10th January 2025. Weekend masses will resume in the Church and will not be affected. For health & safety reasons - please be aware of your surroundings for the duration of this repair. We apologise for the inconvenience caused at this time.

HERE IS THIS WEEK'S KIDS KORNER AND PARENT PONDERING HOLY FAMILY FEAST: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2024/11/HOLY-FAMILY-FEAST-MASS.pdf>



St Joseph's Church

Christmas Eve, 6pm - preceded by carols at 5.30pm
Midnight Mass, 12am preceded by carols at 11.30pm
Christmas Day, 7.30am and 10.30am - Christmas Day Service

31 December – No Evening Mass

New Year's Day (Wednesday)
7:30am and 10:30am

St Vincent de Paul Church

Christmas Eve, 6pm – preceded by carols at 5.30pm
Christmas Day, 9am - preceded by carols at 8.30am -
Christmas Day Service

31 December – No Evening Mass

New Year's Day (Wednesday)
9.00am



FUNDRAISING FOR RENOVATIONS TO ST JOSEPH'S CHURCH

Planning is well underway for an upgrade to St Joseph's Church. Msgr David hopes his pilgrimage can be a fundraiser for the upgrade. **Have you sponsored him on his 1600km pilgrimage?**

Remember, donations are tax deductible. Clipboards at Church doors to make a donation pledge or you can make an EFT payment directly to St Joseph's Takapuna Parish Bank Account No. 02 - 0108 - 0706814 - 000 with the reference: Your name & Kamino. **A very big thank you to those who have so generously donated already.**



Mass Intentions Notice — We kindly ask that all Mass intentions be submitted directly to the parish office via email at ea@stjoseph.org.nz. Mass intentions cannot be given to the priest before Mass. Your understanding & cooperation are greatly appreciated. Thank you!