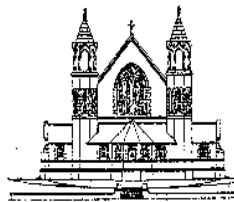




**DEVONPORT CATHOLIC  
PARISH**  
**St Francis de Sales & All Souls**  
2a Albert Road, Devonport, Auckland, 0624



**3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT - 11TH DECEMBER 2022**

Today is traditionally called *Gaudete Sunday*, from the Latin word for *Rejoice*, which opens the entrance antiphon for today. The candle we light is rose coloured, rather than penitential purple - there is a sense of active, joyful waiting.

This is illustrated in today's readings—the blossoming of joy in Isaiah as the Israelites take possession of their own land after years of exile, the patient waiting of the farmer in the letter of James, for his precious crop, and the prefect waiting of John the Baptist, whose whole life was spent in active waiting for the promised Messiah.

Jesus was not the Messiah John expected, not the powerful figure who would overthrow the Romans and establish the Kingdom of God. When asked point-blank by John's disciples if he is the Messiah, Jesus does not give a straightforward yes or no answer, but points to the fruits of his ministry - the blind see, the lame

walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised. We today are invited to "see and hear" the signs of this surprising Jesus. The signs may confound our expectations, but the possibilities of encounter are all around us.



**CHOIR PRACTICE**

**Tuesday, 13 Dec 7.00pm**, in the church.  
Rehearsal for the Christmas Eve 'Night Mass' (9pm) and Carols.

All voices (and their owners) are welcome to join in.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation Rite II during Advent:**

- Tues. 13 Dec.** 7pm St John the Evangelist OREWA
- Thurs. 15 Dec.** 7pm St Thomas More, GLENFIELD
- Fri. 16 Dec.** 7pm St Mary's, NORTHCOTE
- Sun. 18 Dec.** 7pm **St Francis de Sales & All Souls, DEVONPORT**
- Tues. 20 Dec.** 7pm Maria Assumpta, BEACH HAVEN

**Mass Times for Christmas:**

- This year Christmas Day coincides with Sunday -
- Christmas Eve: 5.30pm** (Carol singing from 5pm)
- 9.00pm** (Carol singing from 8.30pm)
- Christmas Day: 9.30am**

Christmas is a time to reach out to friends—bring them along with you to celebrate joyfully the birth of Jesus.

**Change to Weekday Mass times from Dec 8th**

Attendance at the Thursday 9 a.m. Mass has been dwindling for some time—sometimes to only 1. Last Thursday, the feast of the Immaculate Conception of Mary, was the last Thursday Mass for the year. Mass times will be reviewed in February.

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\*  
\* **Christmas Flowers** \*  
\* Parishioners are invited to offer donations \*  
\* toward the cost of fresh flowers for our \*  
\* church for Christmas. Please place your \*  
\* donation in the box at church door, or \*  
\* direct credit to: Parish a/c 020100 \*  
\* 0120958 16 (Ref: Flowers) \*  
\* Thank you. \*  
\*  
\*\*\*\*\*

The joy that is such a distinctive feature of the Advent season comes to the fore on this third Sunday. In some parishes this is evident in the presider's rose coloured vestments. It is certainly manifest in the word of God. Isaiah's joyous vision of a new creation is echoed in Jesus' response to the disciples of John the Baptist — "the blind see again, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the Good News is proclaimed to the poor.

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

*The Joy Of Expectancy*

**Isaiah 35:1-6,10** God himself is coming to save you.

**Psalm 146: Lord, come and save us.**

**James 5:7-10** Do not lose heart, because the Lord's coming will be soon.

**Matthew 11:2-11** Are you the one who is to come, or have we got to wait for someone else?

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

*18 December Mary's Child: The Emmanuel*

**Isaiah 7:10-14** The maiden is with child.

**Psalm 24: Let the Lord enter! He is the king of glory.**

**Rom 1:1-7** Jesus Christ, descendant of David, Son of God.

**Matthew 1:18-24** Jesus is born of Mary who was betrothed to Joseph, son of David.

<b>Ministries</b>	<b>Sat 10th December</b>	<b>Sun 11th December</b>
Welcome:	Shawn Pearce-Blom	Linda Lampen-Smith
Readers:	Robert Mannion Nicky Witham-Blackwell	Gerard Dobbs Kate Kearins
Communion:	Lisa Mannion	Iain Gillies
<b>Ministries</b>	<b>Sat 17th December</b>	<b>Sun 18th December</b>
Welcome:	Kath Petrie	Anne Gibson
Readers:	Steve Burke Judith Priddy	John Knight Yem Braid
Communion:	Mila Burke	Maryanne Offner

**Rosary Prayer Group** meet 6pm Mondays in the Church.  
**Meditation /Contemplative Prayer Group** 6.30pm Mondays Parish Meeting Room.

**2023 Columban Calendars \$12 each**  
On sale now from church door or available from parish office.

**Update from PPC: A/V project.** We are still in the process of obtaining quotes from 2 firms for either 1 or 2 TV screens. Because we took the time to explore options it is unlikely to be completed by Christmas, but it is important to spend the money on the best solution. Money donated is reserved for this purpose. Watch this space!

**Community Carols: Thurs 15 December**  
The Christian Churches of Devonport invite everyone to a celebration at the Methodist Church, Owens Road. There will be family time with activities from 6pm, and our parish will be providing icecreams. See Stephen if you can help with distribution.  
Carols commence at 7pm. All welcome.

**Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy Online Sessions (Evening):**  
**Stories, Films & the Bible: The Father** (2020) with Fr Kevin Waldie SM.  
Monday, 12 December, 7-8.30pm. Koha/Donation. ZOOM.  
<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2022/11/15/stories-films-the-bible-2/>  
**The Infancy Narratives in the Gospel of Matthew** with Kieran Fenn fms.  
Monday, 19 December, 7-8.30pm. Koha/Donation. ZOOM.  
<https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/the-infancy-narratives-in-the-gospels/>

**November Parish Collections**

	Nov-22	Nov-21
	Act	Act
	NZ\$	NZ\$
<b>Collections</b>		
Cash	948	
Envelopes	715	
AP	7,629	8,268
Eftpos	320	
	9,613	8,268

## **Diocesan News**

### **MASS & TAONGA BLESSING TODAY SUNDAY DECEMBER 11, 2022 at 2PM at HĀTO PETERA CHAPEL and TE KAMAKA WHARENUI**

You are invited as a member of our community of faith and Hato Petera Whānau to celebrate Mass and in recognition of the return of taonga – relics and images of Hāto Petera formerly held in the school administration block. Whare Karakia, 103 College Road, Northcote | Celebrated by Bishop Steven Lowe and assisted by Auckland Diocese Vicar for Māori Manuel Beazley

The Mass unites our community from across the motu and will be an opportunity to mark the end of a year ahead of Christmas.

The recently launched autobiography of the late Tā Toby Curtis will also be available.

For any further questions or discussions contact:  
Manuel Beazley – Diocesan Vicar for Māori: 027 808 8969, [ManuelB@cda.org.nz](mailto:ManuelB@cda.org.nz) | Lance O’Sullivan – [lance@maihealth.nz](mailto:lance@maihealth.nz)

### **WYD23 Fundraiser: Private Screening of Avatar 2**

(Rated M), 18th December 2022 2pm, Midcity Hoyts Cinemas \$20 per ticket includes entry, ice-cream, popcorn, drink and sweets. Email [mdmwydmovie@gmail.com](mailto:mdmwydmovie@gmail.com) or ph Paula 021827225. You’ve seen the trailers on TV of this amazing NZ-made movie. Now is your chance to experience the magic while helping to raise funds for young Catholics to attend World Youth Day 2023 in Lisbon.

### **CARING FOUNDATION CHRISTMAS APPEAL**

Give a more impactful gift this Christmas with a donation to the Caring Foundation.  
Give a gift of joy to our most vulnerable.  
[www.caringfoundation.org.nz](http://www.caringfoundation.org.nz)

**Marriage & Family Life** would like to invite you to consider becoming Marriage Educators. If you have 2 hours a fortnight and are passionate about helping engaged couples prepare for marriage and have been married for 5 years or more, please contact Gerry on 021 02247442.

## **St Leo’s news from Vimi Chandra, Principal**

We are close to the last days of the school year now. Last Friday the year 6 children attended Rainbow's End as their end of year treat. Despite the weather they had a lovely time.

On Tuesday 13 December we will be holding our Christmas show. The children have been working hard towards this. This will be followed up with a fun day of water and other activities for the children.

Also on Tuesday 13 December the Year 6’s will be celebrating their graduation dinner with their parents. The Year 5 parents will be helping to decorate the hall and serve the meals. It is always a special night and this year we have a surprise guest to speak to the children. Don’t forget to RSVP please to Renee.

Our Leavers Mass will happen on the last day of school, Wednesday 14 December at 10am in the church. Parishioners are very welcome to attend this celebration to farewell our Year 6 students and wish them well for the future.

We wish everyone a safe and happy, fun and family - filled Christmas and New Year.

## **Looking for summer holiday activities?**

Registrations are now open for **Ngā Tapuwāe - Sacred Footsteps 2023**. Our Northland pilgrimage will be from 6th January to 8th January 2023. All are welcome to hikoi with us to learn more of our Catholic heritage. We will explore, experience, and live the sacred places of Kupe, Bishop Pompallier, and the early missionaries. The pilgrimage will conclude with Mass at the place where the first Mass in NZ occurred.

Register <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/nga-tapuwa-e-pilgrimage/> or contact: Stephen Fraser 09 360 3052 or [stephenf@cda.org.nz](mailto:stephenf@cda.org.nz)

### Feast Days in the Third Week of Advent

- **Mon 12 Dec:** Optional for **Our Lady of Guadalupe**. Our Lady appeared to the peasant farmer Juan Diego, leaving a miraculous image of herself on his cloak.
- **Tue 13 Dec: Memorial for St Lucy, virgin and martyr.** Born in Syracuse, she lived her Christianity without concealment, and was martyred during the persecution of Diocletian.
- **Wed 14 Dec:** Memorial for **St John of the Cross, priest and doctor of the Church**. Born Spain 1542, became a Carmelite and ordained in 1567. St Teresa of Avila encouraged him to undertake a reform of his Order, but he was opposed and suffered many setbacks. His life of prayer bore fruit in writings that are classics of the mystical life. *The Ascent of Mt Carmel, The Dark Night of the Soul, The Spiritual Canticle, The Living Flame of Love.*

Let us pray for all those who have died, and especially for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:

**Dec 10:** John Molloy 1987, Jim McKay 2014

**Dec 11:** Eileen Light 2008, Martha Jones, 2013

**Dec 12:** Angus McKenzie 1978, Patricia Lennan 2005

**Dec 16:** Velma Swann 2018



### Kids' Corner and Parent Ponderings - Prayer Resources for this week

Third Week of Advent - <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/3RD-WEEK-OF-ADVENT.pdf>

Hope is a Blue Eyed Husky - <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2022/12/Hope-is-a-blue.pdf>

**Address:** 2a Albert Road, Devonport, Auckland, 0624

**Tel:** +64 (09) 445-0078

**Email:** [office@devonportcatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@devonportcatholic.org.nz)

**Website:** [www.devonportcatholic.org.nz](http://www.devonportcatholic.org.nz)

**Facebook:** [St Francis de Sales & All Souls](#)

**Parish Priest:** Rev Fr Neil Darragh

**Parish Priest Email:** [neil@devonportcatholic.org.nz](mailto:neil@devonportcatholic.org.nz)

**Pastoral Assistant:** Stephen Bell

**Parish Secretary:** Kathleen Petrie

**St Leo's Catholic School:** (09) 445-9339 [www.stleos.school.nz](http://www.stleos.school.nz)

**St Leo's Catholic School Principal:** Vimi Chandra

**Bishop's Reps:** Rachel Steele, Steven Albrecht, Anna Rumble

**Parish Office Hours:** Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9:00am to 1:00pm  
closed Wednesdays

**Parish Newsletter:** (*Publication Deadline 9am THURS.*)

**Mass Times next weekend**

19 Nov. Vigil Sat : 5.30pm, 20 Nov. Sun: 9.30am

**Weekday Masses this coming week**

Wednesday and Friday: 12 noon

Saturday 9 am

**Sacrament of Reconciliation:** Saturday after 9 am Mass

As well as Liturgical Ministers of Welcome, Word and Communion, **we are still looking for people** to add to the rosters below, beginning in February next year. Can you offer your time and talent in this way?

#### **Other Rosters**

##### **Flowers**

9/12 Margaret Pereira

16/12 Anne Gibson

##### **Church Cleaning**

16/12 Dobbs family

23/12 Anne Feeney

##### **Counters**

11/12 Maria & Jeremy

18/12 Shyrelle & Brian

##### **Hospitality**

11/12 Pauline

18/12 Karen