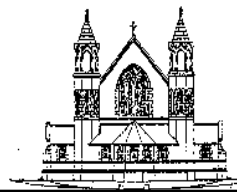
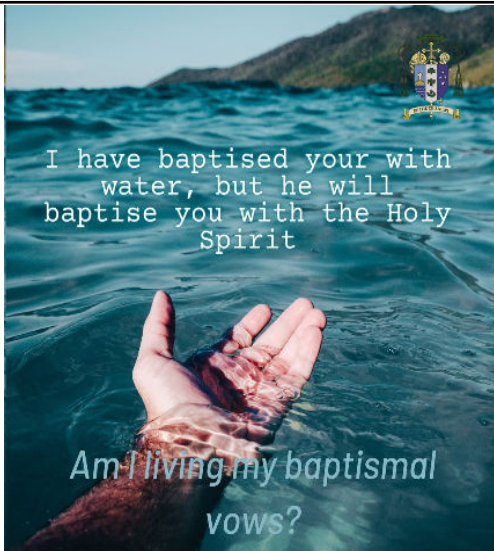




DEVONPORT CATHOLIC
PARISH
St Francis de Sales & All Souls
2a Albert Road, Devonport, Auckland, 0624



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT DECEMBER 10TH 2023



Parish Christmas/End of Year Dinner

Let's celebrate together! All welcome—potluck at **1 Eton Avenue 6pm Sunday 17 December**. Bring a small plate of food to share (not too big as we don't want to waste food) and something you'd like to drink. Come along and enjoy one another's company. Children and any visiting family members are also welcome. No RSVP needed.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES:

There will be the usual Sunday Mass times for the Fourth Sunday of Advent (23/24 December) The Solemn Feast of Christmas will be celebrated at the following times:

Sunday 24th December ...

Christmas Eve: 5.30pm (Carol singing from 5pm)
9.00pm (Carol singing from 8.30pm)

Monday 25th December ...

Christmas Day: 9.30am

COMMUNITY CAROLS

At Holy Trinity Church, Devonport
Thursday 14th December, 7.00pm

Begins at **6.00pm** with Picnic, Sausage Sizzle, Bouncy Castle, Ice-Creams. Bring the family.

This is an ecumenical event hosted by the Combined Churches of Devonport & Belmont.

Our parish is responsible for selling ice-creams from 6.00pm. We need volunteers for this. Young people, please apply (or any age). Contact Stephen 0210608561, or email the parish office

office@devonportcatholic.org.nz

Notes from the Liturgy Committee

The Liturgy Committee is currently preparing for the Christmas Season and beginning to look forward to Lent and Easter.

The Saturday morning Mass will no longer be offered after the 30th December. The sacrament of Reconciliation Rite 1 (the 'Private Rite') which has been available at 9.30am on Saturdays will be transferred to **5.00pm on Saturday evenings**, beginning 6th January.

There are two times each year when Rite 2 of the Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated in the parish: once during Advent, and once during Lent. This is the Communal form of the sacrament where we pray and support one another in seeking absolution.

The committee is considering some ways that we as a parish can celebrate our patron, St Francis de Sales. His feast day is 24th January, a time when many are away on holiday. Perhaps at another time during the year? Any suggestions would be gratefully received and given due consideration.

**RITE 2 RECONCILIATION FOR
ADVENT. 7 PM HERE THIS SUNDAY,
DECEMBER 10th**

Mark's 'good news' begins with John the Baptist: 'a voice cries in the wilderness' ... 'prepare' ... 'make straight' ... 'repent'. People went to hear John not in the temple but in the desert, and what they heard challenged them to 'repent' and act justly. Only in this way could they recognise the one who was to come.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

The Good News

Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11 Prepare a way for the Lord.

Psalm 85: O Lord, let us see your mercy.

2Peter 3:8-14 We are waiting for the new heavens and new earth.

Mark 1:1-8 Make his paths straight.

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

17 Dec

Our Joy In Christ

Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11 I exult for joy in the Lord.

Psalm: Lk 1:46-54 My soul rejoices in my God (Magnificat)

Thessalonians 5:16-24 May you all be kept safe, spirit, soul and body, for the coming of the Lord.

John 1:6-8,19-28 There stands among you - unknown to you - the one who is coming after me.

Ministries	Sat 9 December	Sun 10 December
Welcome:	Shawn Pearce-Blom	Anne Gibson
Readers:	Nicky Witham-Blackwell Steve Burke	Nevil Gibson Sarah Sparks
Communion:	Riaan Blom	Pauline Baker
Ministries	Sat 16 December	Sun 17 December
Welcome:	Natalie Williams	Emma Mackie-Watts
Readers:	Robert Mannion Damian Wallis	Gerard Dobbs Kate Kearins
Communion:	Denise Ross	Adrienne Ramskill

Praying through the week

Mondays Rosary 6pm

Meditation 6.30

Tuesdays Choir Practice 7pm

Wednesdays 7pm

Scripture Group, reflecting on next week's Readings.

RITE 2 RECONCILIATION

Dec 10, DEVONPORT, St Francis and All Souls

Dec 12, TAKAPUNA, St Joseph's

Dec 13, OREWA, St John's

Dec 14, GLENFIELD, St Thomas More

Dec 15, Fri - BEACHHAVEN, Maria Assumpta

Let us remember those whose whom we remember in this month of All Souls, for those who have died recently or whose anniversaries occur at this time:

Dec 11: Eileen Light 2008, Martha Jones, 2013

Dec 12: Angus McKenzie 1978, Patricia Lennan 2005

Dec 16: Velma Swann 2018

Thanks to everyone who supported the stall and raffle last weekend. Your generosity has helped the little care home for poor elderly in Uganda to remain up and running. Sale of table items, donations and raffle tickets **amounted to \$475.50.**

Raffle results: 1st Prize : Morris & James Plate - Linda Ann , daughter of W.S. residents Lorraine & Peter Louw.

2nd Prize: Blunt Executive Umbrella - Coral O'Connor, W.S. Resident

3rd Prize: Rechargeable Shower Body Brush - Stephen Bell, Devonport Parish

4th Prize: Bottle of Gin- Sue Story, Devonport Parish

The last meeting for the year for the Senior coffee group will be at the Dulcie café, King Edward Parade at 10 am on the 14th December. Ring Kathy 4451645 for any questions.

2024 Columban Calendars \$12 each

On sale now from church door

FROM THE DIOCESE

Prepare the Way of the Lord: Advent is a special time to reflect, to ponder the Word, and to 'Be still' and silent in the presence of God. Please join a community on Zoom this Advent from the holiness of your home - **Saturday evenings** to ponder the Advent Sunday Gospels; **Wednesday mornings** in silent Meditation; **Wednesday evenings** to reflect on Pope Francis message for us that 'it is confidence that must lead to love". Register with diannaf@cda.org.nz

G.I.F.T. Christmas Mass Sunday 10th December at 4pm in Good Shepherd Church, Balmoral followed by a light meal. All disabled people and their whānau and support workers most **WELCOME!**

NGA TAPUWAE SELF DIRECTED

PILGRIMAGE Registrations are now open for Ngā Tapuwāe – A Self Directed Pilgrimage 2024. Our Northland pilgrimage sites will be attended by CDA staff to welcome you and share the stories at specific times on 12th and 13th January 2024, but you will travel independently having organised your transport, accommodation, and food. Your pilgrimage will end with the anniversary Mass at Totara Point on 14th January. To register email, Dcn Steve Fraser on stephenf@cda.org.nz or phone 021439407

Please support the Caring Foundation's Christmas Appeal – donations doubled!

Give an impactful gift this Christmas! Give a gift that changes lives! Every donation to the Caring Foundation's Christmas appeal will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$50,000. The Caring Foundation partners with over 60 local agencies to provide the right help at the right time for families and people in poverty and hardship. Pick up a postcard from the back of the church to donate or visit www.caringfoundation.org.nz

News from St Leo's.

Nga mihi nui kia koutou and a warm St Leo's greeting to you all.

Devonport Santa Parade

Despite the rainy and windy weather, it was great to see our beautiful tamariki lead the St Leo's float. A huge thank you to Renee and Ruth for organising this for us.



Nativity Show

The school is working very hard to put this show together. This will be held in the hall at 10am on the 13 December. Please join us to celebrate this special occasion.

* **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 02 0108 0706881 000 *
* (Ref: Flowers) *
* Thank you. *

The Parish Office will close from December 22nd and re-open on January 22nd. Special Collections will continue to be banked over this period.

The Wednesday Scripture Group will finish for the year this coming Wednesday and restart in February. Please watch this space for information about other mid-week devotions.

Feast Days in the Second Week of Advent

- **Tue 12 Dec: Our Lady of Guadalupe.** Our Lady appeared to the peasant farmer Juan Diego, leaving a miraculous image of herself on his cloak.
- **Wed 13 Dec: St Lucy, virgin and martyr.** Born in Syracuse, she lived her Christianity without concealment, and was martyred during the persecution of Diocletian.
- **Thurs 14 Dec: 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.*

When we slow down to truly appreciate the Advent season, it can be transformative. It's not just a passive waiting; it's a distinct liturgical season marked by unique traditions, such as the Advent Wreath and Candles, which our Flower Group will gradually enhance over the next weeks. Catholics all over the world have participated in special activities and traditions outside of the liturgy to embrace this season of waiting. These may include attending Mass on a weekday, to experience things you may overlook in a busier Sunday Eucharist, or taking part in family activities such as those at the link below.

Kidz Korner: [Celebrating ADVENT week Two](https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Celebrating-ADVENT-Week-two-PEACE.pdf)
<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Celebrating-ADVENT-Week-two-PEACE.pdf>

Address: 2A Albert Road, Devonport, Auckland, 0624

Tel: +64 (09) 445-0078

Email: office@devonportcatholic.org.nz

Website: www.devonportcatholic.org.nz

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

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Neil Darragh neil@devonportcatholic.org.nz

Pastoral Assistant: Stephen Bell

Parish Secretary: Kathleen Petrie

Parish Bank Account: BNZ 02-0108- 0706881-000

(If making a donation for a specific purpose, please note that as reference e.g. Winetasting)

St Leo's Catholic School: (09) 445-9339 www.stleos.school.nz

St Leo's Catholic School Principal: Vimi Chandra

Bishop's Reps: Clare Wilde, Julia Strickett, Anna Rumble

**Parish Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9:00am to 12 noon
closed Wednesdays**

Parish Newsletter: (Publication Deadline 9am THURS.)

Masses next weekend

Sat : 5.30pm, Sun: 9.30am

Masses during the week

Wednesday and Friday 12 noon, Saturday 9 am.

Sacrament of Reconciliation: after Mass on Saturday

SEE PAGE 1 FOR ADVENT RECONCILIATION

Ministry Reminders

Flowers

15/12 Gayle Kalaugher

22/12 Christmas Flowers

Church Cleaning

16/12 Cleaning Bee

Counters

10/12 Arthur Whelan &

Frances Downs

17/12 Alix and Bill Hooper

Hospitality

10/12 Yem

17/12 Shyrelle

Altar Servers

10/12 James Farrell & Maria

Branco

17/12 Joseph W and May U

Children's Liturgy Leaders

10/12 Anna R & Julia S