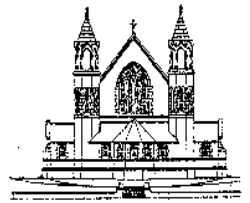




DEVONPORT CATHOLIC  
PARISH  
St Francis de Sales & All Souls  
2a Albert Road, Devonport, Auckland, 0624



1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT 1ST DECEMBER 2024



Stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near... Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength ...to stand before the Son of Man. Luke 21: 28

### Eucharistic Adoration

Monday 9th December 2024

From 10.30am--12.30pm

Evening - 5.30 –7.30 pm

Come and spend time with God in stillness and silence.



### Many hands make light work!

Can you help clean the Hall on Saturday, December 7th 10-11.30?

School parents and parishioners working together can make it look sparkling to finish the year, with St Leo's Christmas Show on Thurs 12th..

Bring your own mops, and buckets. Many thanks.



## Wonderful News on the Columbarium.

This week we received a letter from the Diocese to say that we can go ahead with the detailed planning and consent processes for the Columbarium, which finally gives some certainty to those who want their remains to stay on this hallowed ground, part of a prayer community and completing the circle of the Communion of Saints. From the letter: "It is almost two years to the day since the first letter from Devonport Parish seeking to proceed with the first stages of planning for a columbarium. Thank you to the Columbarium Project Group for your diligence in responding to the most recent request from the Bishop for further information. The documents you supplied were reviewed at a recent meeting of the College of Consultors.

**Based on this review, their recommendation and the Bishop's further consideration, the Bishop has approved in principle your application to install a Columbarium as proposed."**

The Parish Council has approved a Columbarium Committee - Mike Simpson, Alan Light and Kath Petrie - to carry on with the next steps, and co-opt others as needed. We acknowledge with great gratitude the generosity of the donor who has met his undertaking to cover all of the costs to this point.

**Watch this space for the next steps!!!**

The Advent readings form a rich tapestry of images centred on the truth that God has come among us. In Advent we are invited to become aware of the all-pervading presence of the risen Jesus as Emmanuel — God among us.

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

*Our Liberation From Fear*

**Jeremiah 33:14-16** I will make a virtuous branch grow for David.

**Psalms 25: To you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.**

**1Thessalonians 3:12—4:2** May the Lord confirm your hearts in holiness when Christ comes.

**Luke 21:25-28;34-36** Your liberation is near at hand.

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

*8 Dec*

*The Joy of Salvation*

**Baruch 5:1-9** God means to show your splendour to every nation.

**Psalms 126: The Lord has done great things for us; we are filled with joy**

**Philippians 1:3-6,8-11** Be pure and blameless for the day of Christ.

**Luke 3:1-6** All people shall see the salvation of God.

| <b>Ministries</b> | <b>Sat 30 November</b>                    | <b>Sun 1 December</b>                                 |
|-------------------|-------------------------------------------|-------------------------------------------------------|
| <b>Welcome:</b>   | Shawn Pearce-Blom                         | Karen Rawlinson                                       |
| <b>Readers:</b>   | Riaan Blom<br>Robert Mannion              | John Knight<br>Denise O'Shaughnessy                   |
| <b>Communion:</b> | Denise Ross                               | Iain Gillies                                          |
| <b>Ministries</b> | <b>Sat 7 December</b>                     | <b>Sun 8 December</b>                                 |
| <b>Welcome:</b>   | Shawn Pearce-Blom                         | Greg Shanahan                                         |
| <b>Readers:</b>   | Damian Wallis<br>Kath Petrie              | Nevil Gibson<br>Ben Upton                             |
| <b>Communion:</b> | Denise Ross, Kitt Isidro,<br>Lisa Mannion | Kate Casey, Maryanne<br>Öffner, Gabriel<br>Sagrapanti |

**Prayer during the Week**

**Mondays:** Rosary at 6 pm in the Church,  
Meditative Prayer 6.30 pm in Meeting Room

**Wednesdays: Please note—  
Scripture Group is now taking a break until Jan 29, 2025.**

**We pray for all those who whose anniversaries occur at this time:**

**Dec 01:** Mario Isidro 1934, Patricia Bolger 1952, Kathleen Dolan 1996, Patrick Baker 2000, Patricia Vieyra 2003

**Dec 02:** Victor (Vic) Clarke 2020

**Dec 03:** Tony Pearce 1984, Kathleen Sandford 1994

**Dec 04:** Msgr Alfred Huia Hyde 1985, Keith Hooper 2020; Nola Hendry 2021

**Dec 05:** Valda Murphy 2002, Alvin Josef 2008

**Dec 07:** Charles Old 1985, Gwendolyn Brown 2004

**Liturgy News**

After a hiatus of more than four years, **Holy Communion** from the Chalice (Precious Blood) will again be offered as an option at weekend Masses, beginning 7/8 December.

**Commissioning of Liturgical Ministers** for the coming year will take place at each Mass this weekend.

**Advent Reconciliation Devonport  
7PM 15 December**

The Second Rite of Reconciliation respects the privacy of each penitent, while also acknowledging the sacrament's communal nature. It can be a moving experience to pray for one another in this way as we seek forgiveness.

**NS Parishes December: All @ 7.00pm**

|                        |            |                       |
|------------------------|------------|-----------------------|
| Tues 10 <sup>th</sup>  | Takapuna   | <i>St Joseph</i>      |
| Wed 11 <sup>th</sup>   | Torbay     | <i>St Francis</i>     |
| Thurs 12 <sup>th</sup> | Northcote  | <i>St Mary</i>        |
| Fri 13 <sup>th</sup>   | Orewa      | <i>St John</i>        |
| Tues 17 <sup>th</sup>  | Glenfield  | <i>St Thomas</i>      |
| Fri 20 <sup>th</sup>   | BeachHaven | <i>Maria Assumpta</i> |

## FROM THE DIOCESE

Ellerslie Parish **Advent Retreat** at Our Lady Of Our Immaculate Conception from Monday, **December 2nd to Friday, December 6<sup>th</sup>**. Preached by **Fr. Richard Shortall SJ** from Hamilton.

*Morning Session:*

8:00 AM - Mass & Novena

8:30 - 9:00 AM - Retreat Talk

*Evening Session:*

6:30 PM - Mass & Novena

7:15 - 7:45 PM - Retreat Talk

All welcome to any or all sessions.

**Local Youth Ministers Wanted!** The Catholic Diocese of Auckland is looking for self-motivated leaders to become paid Local Youth Ministers, working across both a secondary school and parish. This is a unique opportunity to make a difference in the lives of young people! To learn more and to apply, please visit:

[www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/)

**Food For Faith** for Advent. Sign up at [www.foodforfaith.org.nz](http://www.foodforfaith.org.nz) to prepare for Christmas receiving daily email encouragements from Fr. John O'Connor's Food For Faith website.

**Year of Jubilee** Pope Francis has proclaimed 2025 as a Year of Jubilee – Pilgrims of Hope. A calendar of **Jubilee Events**. At this stage they are presented as date claimers. Explore and return regularly to <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/jubilee2025/jubilee-calendar/>

## **From St Leo's Catholic School Special Character Review.**

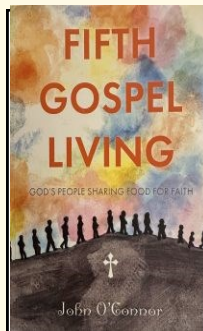
In both the external and internal reviews this year we have noted the collaboration between the school and the parish. "The Parish priest holds the school in high regard. Parishioners are visible in the kura, several are Board members and this is effective in strengthening the ongoing relationship."

## **What a Day at Athletics!**

We had an incredible time at our School Athletics Day! The sun was shining, the energy was high, and our students gave it their all in every event, from sprints to long jumps and everything in between. It was wonderful to see so much enthusiasm, teamwork, and sportsmanship on display. A massive thank you goes out to our amazing parent helpers who made the day run so smoothly.



**God Bless, Vimi Chandra, Principal**



Fr John O'Connor's new book - thoughtful reading for Advent, Christmas or any time at all. \$35 a copy. Available from [www.foodforfaith.org.nz](http://www.foodforfaith.org.nz) or see Kath in Parish Office to order a copy.

## Feast Days in the First Week of Advent

- **Sat 30 Nov: St Andrew, apostle.** A fisherman, like his brother St Peter. Born in Bethsaida, a disciple of John the Baptist at first. Mentioned several times in the gospels, he brought the Gentiles to Jesus. Is thought to have preached in Scythia, and to have been martyred at Patras in Achaia. Patron of fishermen.
- **Tues 3 Dec: St Francis Xavier, priest.** Born 1506 in Spain, an original member of the Society of Jesus with St Ignatius – he took vows of poverty and chastity, and committed himself to evangelize the pagans. He was a great missionary who preached in Goa, South East Asia, and Japan – where he landed in 1549. He learned Japanese and formed a church that endured long drawn-out persecution. Died while on his way from Goa to China, in 1552. Patron of foreign missions.
- **Wed 4 Dec: St John Damascene, priest & doctor of the Church.** Born about 675. After holding public office, he withdrew to the monastery of Sabos near Jerusalem. He wrote “The Fount of Wisdom”, a comprehensive teaching on Christian doctrine, which had great influence on later theology. He died about 750.
- **Fri 6 Dec: St Nicholas, bishop.** Bishop of Myra in Lycia in the 3<sup>rd</sup> century. Very little is known in fact of his life, though a great tradition has grown around him and popular devotion to him from early times. It’s said that his incorrupt body exuded the odour of myrrh with healing property. Stories of his generosity led to a tradition of giving gifts in his name at Christmas time, hence his association with the season.

**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**

[neil@devonportcatholic.org.nz](mailto: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. PFC projects)

**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**

**Proprietor’s Reps: Clare Wilde, Julia Strickett, Anna Rumble**

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

**Masses next weekend**

Sat : 5.30pm, Sun: 9.30am

**Masses during this coming week**

Wed.12 noon. Friday 12 noon

**Sacrament of Reconciliation: 5pm on Saturdays**

### **Ministry Reminders**

#### **Flowers**

24/11 Elizabeth Light

8/12 Leslee Burttton

#### **Church Cleaning**

30/11 Christopher Drake

15/12 Parish Clean

#### **Counters**

1/12 Alix & Bill Hooper

8/12 Denise & Karl

#### **Hospitality**

1/12 Pauline

8/12 Shyrelle & Norrene

#### **Altar Servers**

1/12 Ben & Rose Dobbs

8/12 Bella & Chiara  
Albrecht

#### **Children’s Liturgy Leaders**

1/12 Mary-Jane & Millie  
Lendich

8/12 Julia Strickett & Isla  
Gillies