



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



CHRISTMAS BULLETIN 2024



Our Parish Mission is to help build the reign of God, working towards the wellbeing of all people, and of the earth.



Meri Kirimihete ki te katoa.  
Merry Christmas Everyone  
especially people visiting our  
church or new to the area!  
Read on for a glimpse of our  
parish life.



We gather as a faith community for Mass each weekend and during the week, but there are also prayer groups for Rosary, Meditative Prayer, and Bible Study.— with home baking!

Our Gardening Guild meets every Monday to weed, plant, trim and rake, and every so often catch a rat in the traps set on the mauga to preserve native flora and fauna. This year they have completely replaced the lavender hedge with heritage cuttings.

## TUESDAY PLAYGROUP

A GREAT WAY TO FILL A WINTER'S MORNING.  
ENJOY A WARM CUPPA WHILE THE LITTLE ONES PLAY!  
MUMS, DADS, GRANDPARENTS AND  
PRESCHOOLERS (0-5yrs) ALL WELCOME!

Starts  
Tuesday  
18th June



Questions? Call/text Julia on 022 016 0050

We welcome families in our parish. Recognising that for parents at home with small children, help is always needed, we now support Julia and Anna who run a parish playgroup in the Hall during school terms. 50 years ago the Marian Mothers used to meet regularly, Elizabeth, a parishioner, writes: "I joined as a young mother and it gave me a chance to socialise in a child-friendly and relaxed setting." It's good to know the tradition has continued, in a different format.

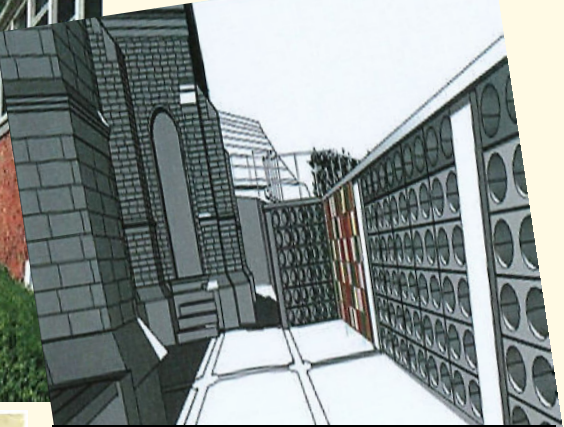
St Leo's Catholic School is a very important part of our parish, and Family Masses are held each term in which the students play a large part. The Nativity Play this year featured every student in the school, celebrating the season with song, dance and drama.



The Parish Choir joined the St Leo's students in their Choral Fundraiser in November. We are a group of enthusiastic singers who love making music together. "To sing is to pray twice" said St Augustine. We would dearly love to find an accompanist or choir leader who lives locally and could help us to sing/pray even more beautifully



So we're building a Columbarium...  
What's a Columbarium?



### MASS IX. "Cum jubilo."

*Explanations. 1. Place of the bookcase? which shall place on  
2. Example? in that note? 3. One had note? into the next note.  
4. System. Keep the music. Drawing or action, in consequence  
The music, whether will be shown in many places  
by means of arrows, thus  
The least hand more frequent? position of the note suggest  
- small notes, sometimes - and, however, the small notes of the  
THE POSITION of the previous note or note in ALWAYS TOWARDS the next note.  
When - a delay, longer, rather than (deliberately).  
Tone - inflection. In addition to the usual signs, p, m, f, &c.  
The longer note - hands imply slightly stronger tone than the smaller  
Small notes? with a longer but are Unaccented (hummed) notes.  
C - Caesura; / - a breath; = - take a breath, if you must, but  
do not step the, raised line of the music. Elsewhere do not take breath.*

The Sisters of Mercy were a significant presence in Devonport from the very early days, rowing across the harbour to begin teaching at St Leo's, called after the convent they had left behind in Carlow, Ireland. The Parish Hall was the original school building, housing several classes. They supported themselves by giving private music lessons; the music above was transcribed by hand by Sister Mary Hilary, and played by Mrs Beryl Grant, mother of Judith, a present parishioner, for a solemn sung Mass. Note the stricter instructions then: take a breath at a comma if you must. Elsewhere do not breathe!

A Columbarium is a place where the ashes of those who have been cremated may be placed in perpetuity.

More and more Catholics are choosing to be cremated, and in the 2016 Vatican document it states "the ashes of the faithful must be laid to rest in a sacred place, that is, in a cemetery or, in certain cases, in a church or an area, which has been set aside for this purpose." We already have a graveyard on church land here, and a crypt built into the back wall of the church where a small number of ashes are contained. For several years, the project of a permanent Columbarium—a sacred, prayerful, beautiful space where the remains of loved ones can be safely stored - has been underway, thanks to the gift of a generous donor. We are ready to commence building early next year on the western side of the Church.

For further information, please contact the Parish Secretary.

We've come a long way ....



A Catholic church was sailed across the harbour from Auckland in 1881 by a Portuguese contractor Antonio Martin, whose relative Monica still lives in the parish and finds everything she could ever want here! The present church was built around the smaller wooden chapel and opened in 1919.

Fr Michael Furlong was our first resident priest, an Irishman who came to NZ the year he was ordained, 1902. For the first 14 years his parish took in the whole of the North Shore—travelled by horse and cart! He stayed in Devonport for 57 years, and brought the sacraments to many generations. On his right in the photo above is Kay McKellar, who was baptised, confirmed and married by Fr Furlong. Her sister Jane -Mary Menzies is below left. Kay's eldest son Hugh is one of the altar boys in the procession to re-dedicate the church in 1969.



Want to know more?

Visit our website [www.devonportcatholic.org.nz](http://www.devonportcatholic.org.nz) or Facebook page [St Francis de Sales and All Souls](#)

You can contact the Parish Priest, Fr Neil Darragh, the Pastoral Assistant Stephen Bell, or the Parish Secretary, Kath Petrie on the office phone 445 0078 or by email : [office@devonportcatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@devonportcatholic.org.nz)

We look forward to getting to know you better!