

# St. Theresa's Parish

210 St. Andrew's Road Plimmerton

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Cell: 027 328 9911 Phone: 04 233 1279

Office hours: Mon, Thurs, Fri 10am-3pm, Wed 9am-2pm

Parish Priest: Cardinal John Dew & Visiting Priest: Fr David Dowling

1 December 2024 | 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent - Year C



## In our Parish this week

### Reconciliation

Is available by appointment

#### Monday 2 December

**10am** Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion followed by Adoration until 1.30pm

**7pm** Alpha in the hall

#### Tuesday 3 December

**9.30am No** Liturgy of the Word

**7:30pm** RCIA meeting in the office

#### Wednesday 4 December

**9.30am** Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

**10am** Prayer Group in the Reconciliation room

#### Thursday 5 December

**9.30am** Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

#### Friday 6 December

**9.30am** Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion.

#### Saturday 7 December

**6.00pm** Vigil Mass

#### Sunday 8 December- 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

**9:30am** Mass

Christmas food parcels being assembled in the hall.



Please welcome Fr David Dowling who will be celebrating Mass with us for the next two weekends.

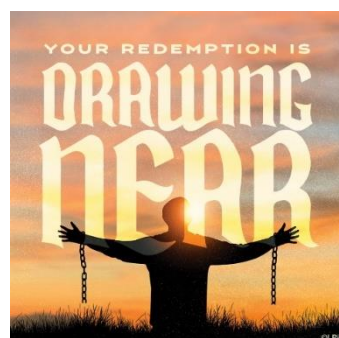
### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

When I was a young priest, about one year after ordination, I was called to the hospital to anoint a dying mother of three young children. She had a painful, terminal cancer. After celebrating Last Rites with her, I said, "Don't be afraid." She looked me square in the eye from her hospital bed and said, "Oh Father, I am in a lot of pain, but I am not afraid. Something wonderful is about to happen." A few days later she died.

Christians face the ending of our personal various "worlds" in a totally unique way. This first Sunday of Advent, Jesus says that when people see their world falling apart, they find themselves "fainting with fear and with foreboding of what is coming on the world" (Luke 21:26). In our fear, our natural response is to check out, to hide our heads in drunkenness, distraction, and false securities. But Jesus commands us to "look up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near." He then compares what's coming to a lovely summer in full bloom. That's what the cross and resurrection empower us to do, as strange as it may seem.

Advent challenge: What world in your life is collapsing? A relationship, a dream, a work opportunity? Maybe you're troubled by a crumbling world in the political or economic sphere. Or maybe someone you love is seriously ill or dying. Name that world or worlds. Then pray: "Lord, help me to not faint with fear. Help me to raise my head and see your redemption coming."

- Father John Muir ©LPi





# SACRAMENT OF RECONCILIATION

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is one of healing. The life we received at Baptism, strengthened in Confirmation, and nourished in the Eucharist is sometimes lost or severely threatened by our sinfulness and needs healing. And Jesus, in his great mercy, has given us a sacrament whereby we are restored both to our loving God and to the Church. And as a result of receiving this gift, we are restored to our baptismal state of innocence. We are truly forgiven and recreated. But even with this understanding and assurance, going to confession is hard.

We are masters at making excuses. “What will Father think of me if I confess what I did?” Or, “Why can’t I just tell God I’m sorry? Why do I have to go to a priest?” “Why confess, I’m just going to sin again anyway?” “It’s no big deal.” “What’s wrong with that?” The list goes on and on.

The **Sacrament of Reconciliation** is not about our sins; it’s about God’s forgiveness. If a sacrament is an effective sign which does what it says that it does, then the acknowledgement of sin (our confession) and the words of absolution truly bring about the forgiveness of our sins and a return to baptismal innocence.

While confession may be hard—and it probably always will be—the consoling words of absolution make it all worthwhile. “I absolve you [set you free from all guilt and blame] from your sins, in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit. Amen.”

Reconciliation will be available on:

**Saturday 14<sup>th</sup> December 10am-12pm and 3pm-5pm;**

**Saturday 21<sup>st</sup> December 10am-12pm & 3pm -5pm.**

Please note there will be no Rite II Reconciliation this year.



### Passionist family and St. Vincent de Paul Christmas Hamper time:

Next weekend on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December we will be putting the hampers together.

### Please can you donate treats for families or \$20 Preston’s Meat

**vouchers?** We think we will be looking at 100 hampers again this year and as always, we very much appreciate your support. Cards can be put into the baskets, posted in the office postal box or if you prefer you can deposit to the parish bank account and we will buy them for you. Our bank details are 02 0536 0003250 29. Please use your surname as a reference.



Volunteers needed to deliver Christmas hampers on Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December from 5pm & Monday 9<sup>th</sup> time 11am. Can you help?

Please email the office: [st.theresas1940@gmail.com](mailto:st.theresas1940@gmail.com)

In the first 2 weeks of December the *only weekday Mass* will be **Friday 13<sup>th</sup> December** at 9.30am.

On Saturday 30<sup>th</sup> November Vigil, Sunday 1<sup>st</sup> December morning Mass, Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> Vigil and Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> December morning Mass will be celebrated by Father David Dowling. Fr David is a Priest of the Archdiocese of Wellington and is the Rector of Holy Cross Seminary, our National Seminary.



Christmas is more than just a miracle birth story. It is about hope, and peace, and joy, and love.

Join our young people as they share a special Advent prayer service on Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December at 7:00 pm

The Advent candles we light are not like our birthday cake candles! Come and rekindle the flame that burns inside of you.

Friday 6<sup>th</sup> December – 7:00 pm



# REMEMBER in your prayers

## Anniversaries – May they RIP:

Christina Carrie, Thomas O'Brien, Shirley Tierney, Constance Shakesby, Paul Trischler, Michaela White.

**Those who are sick:** Richard Gibbs, Arthur O'Leary, Sr Trish Hanaray, David Wootton, Jocelyn Bryant, Luca Ashworth, Cristina Fleming, Patricia Maher, John Montgomery, and all parishioners who have Covid or are sick.

476-6131

## CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

23 <sup>rd</sup> December:	9:30am Mass
24 <sup>th</sup> December:	6:00pm Christmas Eve family Mass 9pm Christmas Eve Mass
25 <sup>th</sup> December:	9:30am Christmas Mass
26 <sup>th</sup> /27 <sup>th</sup> December:	No Mass or Liturgy of the Word
28 <sup>th</sup> December:	6pm Vigil Mass
29 <sup>th</sup> December:	9:30am Mass
30/31 <sup>st</sup> December:	No Mass or Liturgy of the Word
1 <sup>st</sup> January 2025:	9:30am Mass
2 <sup>nd</sup> /3 <sup>rd</sup> January:	No Mass or Liturgy of the Word
4 <sup>th</sup> January:	6pm Vigil Mass
5 <sup>th</sup> January:	9:30am Mass

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**St. Joseph's Church, Pauatahanui – This Saturday!**  
(wet weather alternative Saturday 7 December) Please bring any cleaning and outdoor tools you may need. Thanks in advance for your continued support.



Every Monday we have **Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament** in the Church preceded by the 10am Liturgy of the Word and Holy Communion. Adoration is from 10.30am until 1.30pm. During this time people come and go and one can stay for a short time or a little bit longer. It is a time of prayer, of listening, a two way exchange with Jesus. Just being in His company nourishes the soul and being with Jesus is what He desires.

## COME & SEE VOCATIONS MORNING

Exploring the vocation to the priesthood with Fr David Dowling, Rector of Holy Cross Seminary.

Saturday 7<sup>th</sup> December 9am - 1pm at the Archdiocesan Offices, 204/2 Thorndon Quay Wellington.

Please email [l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz) or text 021 164 5800 if you would like to join us.



If you have any concerns or complaints about matters relating to the Archdiocese or your parish, regardless of how

minor or serious please call or email Elizabeth Berry the Complaints & Privacy Officer for the Archdiocese of Wellington. If necessary, Elizabeth can act on your behalf to refer a serious complaint to other agencies such as NOPS, Police or Oranga Tamariki if necessary.

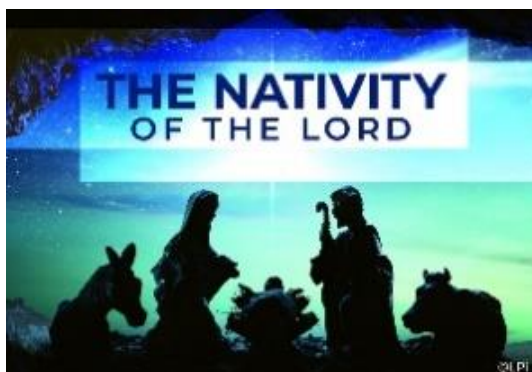
Phone: 021 567 143 or 0800 825 528



**Planned Giving.** We please ask that you consider joining our planned giving programme. The borer treatment alone this year cost the parish \$9660, plus our

insurance costs have nearly doubled. If you wish to join planned giving by automatic payment, you can set this up through your bank. We really need and appreciate your support.

Our details are ADW Plimmerton Account 02 0536 0003250



## Christmas Eve Nativity Play: We desperately need your help??

It would be a great shame if this does not happen this year, so please can someone volunteer to organise the childrens Christmas play – 6pm Mass on Christmas Eve. We have plays available, costumes, stunning hand painted backdrops and now we just need an enthusiastic organiser to take the lead or share the role with a friend. The kids love being part of this play and Mass. If you can help, please email the office: [st.theresas1940@gmail.com](mailto:st.theresas1940@gmail.com)

## Service Rosters for Saturday 30 November & Sunday 1 December

### 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday of Advent

Mass Time:	6:00 pm	9:30 am
<b>Sacristan</b>	Kelly Ross	Julian Howard
<b>Greeters</b>	Rosaleen & Jeff Larsen	Walter Dempsey
<b>Welcomer /Prayers of Faithful</b>	Mary Va'a	Youth
<b>Altar Servers</b>		Colin Feng, Josh Kerr
<b>Karanga</b>		Phoebe McClean
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>		Anne Dodds
<b>Proclaimer of The Word</b>	Jude McKee	Ray Wolken
<b>Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	Kelly Ross, Mary Cruz	Dorothy Gibbs, Julian Howard, Sef Truyens
<b>Hospitality</b>		James & Glenis Aubrey
<b>Altar Society</b>		Klara Noldan

## Service Rosters for Saturday 7 & Sunday 8 December

### 2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Advent

Mass Time:	6:00 pm	9:30 am
<b>Sacristan</b>	Angela Reiher	Russell Plume
<b>Greeters</b>	Frances & Brian Collins	Alwyn Kelly & Gary Calderwood
<b>Welcomer /Prayers of Faithful</b>	Cath Gardner	Naomi Bennett
<b>Altar Servers</b>		Michael Bastian, Josh & Noah Kerr
<b>Karanga</b>		Margriet Lynch
<b>Children's Liturgy</b>		Tandi McCarthy
<b>Proclaimer of The Word</b>	Audrey Hinder	Hamish Baker
<b>Extra-Ordinary Ministers of Holy Communion</b>	Grant Baker, Alan Fleming	Richard Barraclough, Jude McKee, Paul Kerr
<b>Hospitality</b>		Dilarn Perera & Peter Rawnsley
<b>Altar Society</b>		Klara Noldan

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FAITH	MUSTARD	SEED
MULBERRY	TREE	UPROOTED
EAT	SEA	SERVANT
SHEEP	FIELDS	MEAL

