

# St Columba's Parish Newsletter

27 November 2022

First Sunday of Advent

Year A

[www.catholicfrankton.org.nz](http://www.catholicfrankton.org.nz)

Ph 07 847 5688

Email: [stcol.parish@xtra.co.nz](mailto:stcol.parish@xtra.co.nz)

## Reflections on the Readings of the Day

*Isaiah 2:1-5 Romans 13:11-14 Matthew 24:37-44*

Today's readings centre on the truth that in Christ, God has come among us. The challenge of Advent is to meet our God in the successes and the failures, the struggles and the decisions of our daily lives, living each day in hope and faith.

### WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Sunday 8 am & 10 am

The Sacrament of Reconciliation is celebrated on Saturday morning at 9:30 am.

### ADVENT RECONCILIATION TIMES

St Joseph's Fairfield Tuesday 13 December 7.00 pm

St Columba's Thursday 15 December 7.00 pm

### CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve 8.00 pm St Columba's

Christmas Day 10.00 am St Columba's

### CONGRATULATIONS TO OUR SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME CANDIDATES

*Ethan Cabahug, Aina Crespo Gomariz, Monica Dal, Angelica Dalrymple, Adonaiah Filipo, Carlos Kapeli, Julian Pouafe, Uema Silao, Tinoi Utua'i Mau, Tabouea Burentarawa, Katelyn Cameron, Jed Duncan, Sky Iglesia, Markus Jaudo, Joshua Manalili, Natalia Newport, Enea Paretoa, Russell Utua'i Mau, Sera Burentarawa, Noah Crespo Gomariz, Leigh Dal, Kieran McIlroy-Brett, Meical Payumo, Jade Ramos, Bryant Siapo, Jovent Trinidad*

Special thanks to Fr Eamon and to the teachers who have helped prepare the candidates and made this day memorable for the children.

**Everyone is invited to the Mass of Confirmation on Sunday 27 November at 12 noon.**

**2023 COLUMBAN CALENDARS** Final copies available from the Parish office at \$12.00 each. Order by email and collect. Payment by Eftpos / correct change appreciated. If paying online, please use Ref CAL.

### INTERESTED IN BECOMING A CATHOLIC?

You are invited to come and learn about the Catholic Faith on Wednesday nights at 7.00 pm at the Parish Centre. For further enquiries, please email Fr. Eamon Kennedy at [freamonkennedy@gmail.com](mailto:freamonkennedy@gmail.com)

### EFTPOS / TAP N GO / INTERNET BANKING

We now have Eftpos in the Parish, also a Tap n Go donation system in the foyer of the church which allows donations of \$5.00. For those who may wish to make a contribution via Internet Banking:

Parish Bank Acct: 020342 0050016 03

Ref: PLGVNG

*Thank you to all who support the Parish financially.*

SUNDAY MASSES & INTENTIONS		
Sunday	8.00 am	
Sunday	10.00 am	Parishioners
Sunday	12.00 pm	Confirmation & Holy Communion
WEEKDAY MASSES		
Monday	9.00 am	Communion Service
Tuesday	9.00 am	Kelliher Family RIP
Wednesday	<i>St Andrew</i>	9.00 am Holy Souls esp FoSS Members
Thursday	9.00 am	Sr Verda RIP
Friday	9.00 am	Sr Raphael RIP

Saturday	St Francis Xavier	9.00 am	
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**SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:** Second Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Isaiah 11:1-10    2nd Reading: Romans 15:4-9    Gospel: Matthew 3:1-12

**ADVENT** has a twofold character—as a season to prepare for Christmas, when Christ’s first coming to us is remembered; and also when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ’s second coming at the end of time. Advent is thus a period for devout and joyful expectation.

*General Norms for the Liturgical Year and the Calendar 39*

## Diocesan Snippets

### Annual Mass for Deceased Bishops, Priests and Deacons of the Diocese

Mass will be held on **Tuesday 29th November** at 11am at Saint Patrick's Catholic Church, Te Awamutu, to be followed afterwards by blessing of graves at Ohaupo Catholic Cemetery. All welcome!

### History of our Catholic faith regarding our Care for our Ocean (Laudato si)

Registrations are still open for the Federation of Catholic Bishops Conferences of Oceania (FCBCO) Online Preparatory Event on **28, 29, 30 November**. Go to [acu.edu.au/ouroceanhome](http://acu.edu.au/ouroceanhome) to register.

### Food For Faith for Advent

Subscribe at [www.foodforfaith.org.nz](http://www.foodforfaith.org.nz) to receive daily email encouragements in preparation for Christmas. Also sign up for weekly Homily Studio & daily Lectio Divina podcasts at the same link.

**Mass for Life Friday 2 December**, 7 pm at St Mary of the Angels, 17 Boulcott Street, Wellington. For more information visit [fli.org.nz/prolifeevents](http://fli.org.nz/prolifeevents) or phone Clare 021 231 7954.

**National March for Life Saturday 3 December** Gather at Civic Square from 1 pm.

March to Parliament Grounds begins at 2 pm. Concludes at 4 pm. [www.marchforlife.nz](http://www.marchforlife.nz)

**The Diocese of Hamilton will be providing free transportation for those that need it (limited seats available) and also subsidised accommodation.**

**Click this link** in order to register and to find out more details about the trip!

**Dove Catholic Fellowship for Women Monday 5th December - 7:00 pm**

Charismatic Mass - Invitation for everyone, all women and their partners, family members, friends and children. Cathedral of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

**Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy Online Sessions (Evening):**

**\*Christmas Traditions – Advent Wreaths & Christmas Trees** with Beate Matthies

**Monday 5 December**, 7-8pm. Koha/Donation. ZOOM.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2022/11/20/christmas-traditions/>

**\*Stories, Films & the Bible** with Fr Kevin Waldie SM.

**Monday 12 December: The Father** (2020) Koha/Donation. ZOOM.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2022/11/15/stories-films-the-bible-2/>

### Religious Christmas Cards

St Vincent de Paul are again offering the opportunity to purchase cards which properly reflect the true meaning of Christmas at a very affordable price. Email [office@ryanpublications.co.nz](mailto:office@ryanpublications.co.nz) to order.

### Catholic Family Support Services | Christmas Hamper Appeal

You can make a difference today. Small Hamper - \$50 / Large Hamper - \$100. Contact (07) 856 3760 or direct deposit into their account: 02-0342-0008002-00 (with your name and contact details).

**Br Peter Bray Holy Land video message from Bethlehem to NZ**

Bethlehem University Vice-Chancellor, Br Peter Bray FSC, *Ordinary People in an Extraordinary Place; Palestinians in the Holy Land*: [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d2S\\_A4kBfeU](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d2S_A4kBfeU). Read more about the video project: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/palestine-video1/>