

St Columba's Parish Newsletter

25 December 2022

Christmas Day

Year A

www.catholicfrankton.org.nz

Ph 07 847 5688

Email: stcol.parish@xtra.co.nz

Reflections on the Readings of the Day

Isaiah 52:7-10 Hebrews 1:1-6 John 1:1-18

The birth of Jesus that we celebrate today reminds us the Word of God is no longer the message spoken by prophets, but rather a Person, the eternal Word begotten of the Father before time began.

WEEKEND MASS TIMES

Sunday 8 am & 10 am

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

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

Christmas Eve 8.00 pm St Columba's

Christmas Day 8.00 am Raglan

10.00 am St Columba's

Christmas greetings to you all, for a blessed and peace-filled Christmas and New Year.

Have a safe and festive holiday season!

The Parish Office will re-open **Monday 30 January 2023**.

CHURCH CLEANERS WANTED If anyone would like to join in one of the volunteer groups helping to keep our Church tidy, please contact the Parish Office: stcol.parish@xtra.co.nz Ph: 847 5688.

HOLIDAY MASS MINISTRY ROSTER For all January, would Readers and those who assist Father with Holy Communion please volunteer for any Sunday that you will be here at Mass, even if not your normal time. A roster for you to fill in will be in the sacristy along with a folder of each Sunday's Prayers and Readings Thank you!

CONGRATULATIONS to Year 8 student Anna Turingan who has been awarded Dux of St Columba's School for 2002 and has also been presented with the Special Character Award for 2022. Well done!

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

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			
Saturday	Christmas Eve	8.00 pm	
Sunday	Christmas Day	10.00 am	Parishioners
WEEKDAY MASSES			
Monday	<i>St Stephen</i>	9.00 am	Communion Service
Tuesday	<i>St John</i>	9.00 am	
Wednesday	<i>The Holy Innocents</i>	9.00 am	
Thursday		9.00 am	
Friday	<i>The Holy Family</i>	9.00 am	
Saturday		9.00 am	

SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK: Mary the Mother of God

1st Reading: Numbers 6:22-27

2nd Reading: Galatians 4:4-7

Gospel: Luke 2:16-21

NATIVITY LETTER FROM POPE FRANCIS

"In front of the crib we discover how important it is for our life, so often frenetic, to find moments of silence and prayer. The silence to behold the beauty of the face of the baby Jesus, the Son of God, born in a lowly stable."

"From the shepherd to the blacksmith, from the baker to the musicians, from the women carrying jugs of water to the children at play: all this speaks of the everyday holiness, the joy of doing ordinary things in an extraordinary way, born whenever Jesus shares his divine life with us."

"As we contemplate the Christmas story, we are invited to set out on a spiritual journey, drawn by the humility of the God who became man in order to encounter every man and woman. We come to realize that so great is his love for us that he became one of us, so that we in turn might become one with him,"

Diocesan Snippets

Christmas Mass Times 2022

A big welcome to everyone who may wish to attend any of the Christmas Masses within our Diocese. Click [here to view](#). Safe trip to those with travel plans. Have a Blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year.

Synod 21-24 consists of four phases:

1. Diocesan Phase, 2. National/Bishops Conference Phase, 3. Continental Phase, 4. Universal Phase
Visit cdh.org.nz/synod21-24 for Hamilton Diocese, NZ Catholic Bishops and Vatican documents.

Safeguarding | New Coordinator for Hamilton Diocese

Deacon Peter Richardson has retired from his role as Safeguarding officer for the Hamilton Diocese. For matters regarding Safeguarding please contact Robert Garan robertg@cdh.org.nz or 07 856 6989.

Holy Cross Seminary To read their December newsletter, please [CLICK HERE](#).

The Word in Other Words Bible Diary produced by the Divine Word Missionaries is a reflection on the daily Word of God in the light of contemporary missionary experiences. It is a very helpful Christmas gift. Cost \$20.00. To order email info@missio.nz.

Parish to Parish for Bed and Breakfast Catholic Hospitality in New Zealand and Australia.

September 2022 edition now available from Marie Anderson, email: marie.ian@xtra.co.nz
Ph: (03) 359 5541

2023 Catechesis of the Good Shepherd Level 1 Formation Course 19 – 22 January & 14 – 16 April, Sacred Heart Parish Centre, Ponsonby, Auckland. Contact cgsaotearoa@gmail.com

2023 Divine Renovation Australasia Conference 10-12 February Sydney, Australia.

Join Fr. James Mallon, Fr. Chris Ryan for a weekend of inspiring keynotes, impactful workshops, and uplifting liturgy, prayer, and worship. Register at divinerenovation.org/draus2023.

Journey to the Holy Land | 5th March 2023 with Bishop Steve Lowe

Download [here](#) for more information. Contact: Anastasia James, Travel Consultant, Harvest Journeys NZ Toll-Free: 0800 819 156 www.harvestjourneys.com

Receive Holy Spirit Power - Charis NZ Current of Grace Conference 24-26 March 2023

CHARIS, under the Dicastery of Family, Laity & Life, was initiated and inaugurated Pentecost 2019 by Pope Francis, as a Communion of Service and Holy Spirit led.

Registrations now open. www.currentofgraceconference.info Phone: Helen 027 294 1270.

Family Weekend | April 15-16, 2023 St Thomas More Church, Mt Maunganui.

Registration now open! Use "EARLYBIRD" as a promo code to get a discount - **Limited time only**

Click [this link](#) to sign up and book accommodation.