

# St Columba's Parish Newsletter

4 December 2022

Second Sunday of Advent

Year A

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

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## Reflections on the Readings of the Day

*Isaiah 11:1-10 Romans 15:4-9 Matthew 3:1-12*

In today's Gospel, John the Baptist is inviting each of us to repentance and a radical change of life. Our commitment to the Gospel will bring about a new world of harmony and peace.

### 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

**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	
WEEKDAY MASSES			
Monday	9.00 am	<b>Communion Service</b>	
Tuesday	9.00 am	Hazel & Ted Bason RIP	
Wednesday	<i>St Ambrose</i>	9.00 am	Sturt Cuttonce sm RIP
Thursday	<i>Immaculate Conception</i>	9.00 am	
Friday	9.00 am		
Saturday	9.00 am		Dec'd Members of Dove & Knapp Families

**SCRIPTURE READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:** Third Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6.10

2nd Reading: James 5: 7-10

Gospel: Matthew 11:2-11

### THE ADVENT WREATH

The Advent wreath is rich in Christian symbolism. It is made of evergreen boughs formed in a circle, with no beginning or end. This reminds us of our God, who is eternal.

The four candles represent *light*: Jesus, the Light of the world, who shines in our darkness, and shows us the way to the Father. There are three purple candles for the first, second and fourth weeks of Advent. Purple is the symbol of *royalty* and *penance*. The pink candle is used on the third Sunday of Advent, to symbolise the coming joy of Christmas. Our Advent prayer, acts of kindness and self-denial help make our hearts ready to welcome Jesus our Lord, as he comes to us on Christmas Day.

**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

### 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.

### 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](mailto:marie.ian@xtra.co.nz)

Ph: (03) 359 5541

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

Charismatic Mass - Invitation for everyone, all women, 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/>

### Annual Christmas Community Dinner Saturday 17 December 2-8:30pm, Zeal Hamilton, 9 Ward Lane

*We are asking for monetary donations for our annual Christmas dinner for those in need in our community.* The money will go toward the food and small Christmas gifts for the day. If you would be interested in giving your support, please contact the office at 07 856 6989 and ask for Danielle ([daniellem@cdh.org.nz](mailto:daniellem@cdh.org.nz)) or Emma ([emmat@cdh.org.nz](mailto:emmat@cdh.org.nz))

*The Word in Other Words* Bible Diary is produced by the Divine Word Missionaries. It is a reflection on the daily Word of God in the light of contemporary missionary experiences. It is very helpful especially during these times of the covid pandemic where many still pray at home on Sundays. It is a good Christmas gift. Cost \$20.00. To order email [info@missio.nz](mailto:info@missio.nz).

### 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).

### 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](mailto:cgsaotearoa@gmail.com)

### 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](http://www.harvestjourneys.com)

### Diaconate News - New intake in 2023

Please contact Fr Aidan Mulholland, 07 863 8998, [office@waihicatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@waihicatholic.org.nz), or [peterr@cdh.org.nz](mailto:peterr@cdh.org.nz)