

# MASS TIMES AND PARISH DIARY

<b>SUNDAY MASS TIMES:</b>	<b>Miha Maori</b>	<b>Patea</b>	<b>Waverley</b>	<b>RECONCILIATION:</b>
St. Anne's Sun 5.30pm	Sun. 1 Kaiwhaiki 11.00am	Wed 2 & 4 9.30am	Wed 1 & 3 9.30am	St Annes Sat. 9.00—9.20am
St Marys Sun 9.30am	Sun. 3 St Mary's 9.30am	Sun 1 & 3 9.30am	Sun 2 & 4 9.30am	St Mary's Fri 11.00—11.40am
Holy Family Sat. Vigil: 5.30	Sun. 4 Jerusalem/Ranana 10.00am (Hiruharama)			Holy Family Sat. 5.00-5.20pm

# WHANGANUI PARISH BULLETIN 9 DECEMBER 2018 2ND SUNDAY OF ADVENT



	ST MARY'S	HOLY FAMILY	ST ANNE'S/OTHERS
<b>MONDAY 10 Dec</b>	<b>NO MASSES</b> 7.00pm Pro Life Rosary	9.00am Liturgy 7.30pm Faith Exploration	
<b>TUESDAY 11 Dec</b>	No Mass 7.00pm Choir Practice	10.00am Mass @ School Chapel 4.00pm Legion of Mary	9.30am Cullinane Junior Leavers Mass 10.30am Kowhainui Mass 11.30am St Annes Mass
<b>WEDNESDAY 12 Dec</b>	12.05pm Mass	9.00am Mass 6.30pm Choir Practice	9.30am Patea Mass
<b>THURSDAY 13 Dec</b>	12.05pm Mass 6.30pm St Marys School Prizegiving @ St Marys Church	9.00am Mass 9.30am Craft 6.00pm St Marcellin School Prizegiving	
<b>FRIDAY 14 Dec</b>	11.00am Reconciliation 12.05pm Mass	9.00am Mass	
<b>SATURDAY 15 Dec</b>	<b>NO MASS</b>	5.00pm Reconciliation 5.30pm Vigil Mass	9.00am Reconciliation 9.30am Mass

## Readings for this week: Bar 5:1-9; Phil 1:3-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

This rather grand announcement of the ministry of John the Baptist, given in the Gospel for today, I imagine, is like a movie camera, directed by St Luke, zooming in from a wide angle, through the clouds.

It starts with the whole of the Roman Empire and continues descending to focus on the Middle East, then Israel until finally on the person of John the Baptist preaching by the Jordan River. This is the drama of salvation. The fullness of time has come and the Messiah is about to be revealed to the people. This does not happen in the glittering grandeur of Rome or the Temple but in the wilderness

It is in the desert that a road is to be prepared for the Messiah to "make his paths straight." (Luke 3: 4) Where and how can I find God in my life this Advent and Christmas? Is it in the hustle and bustle of festive preparation? Is it in the cheery greetings of friends? Is it in the giving of gifts?

Rather, I suspect, it is in the desert - those quiet moments of reflection and sometimes grief and sadness. The Holy Spirit prompts us to prepare the way of the Lord through reflection, repentance and reconciliation. Let us open our hearts to the Holy Spirit so that we may allow God's love to strengthen and heal us in ways beyond our power.

Fr Marcus

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

### Next weeks readings: Zephaniah 3:14-18a; Philippians 4:4-7; Luke 3:10-18

As we continue our preparation for Christmas and the celebration of Christ's human presence in our world history, the sentiments that dominate the first two readings are sentiments of joy and peace - "*sing aloud.... rejoice.....exult with all your heart..... let your gentleness be known..... do not worry about anything.....*" It's a call to joyful anticipation of what is to come and, yet, is already with us.

Zephaniah says, "*The Lord, your God, is in your midst*" while Paul proclaims, "*The Lord is near.*"

In the person of John, recorded in Luke's gospel, people could see something of God which is why they came asking, "*What must we do?*" (That's the same question we're invited to ask and act on as we look to celebrating the coming of Jesus.) John's answer to each group that came to him was both clear and simple: Be generous and compassionate ("*share with anyone who has none...*"), be honest ("*collect no more than the amount prescribed for you....*") be just ("*do not extort money from anyone....*").

These people were, of course, looking for a Messiah who would solve their political problems - "*all were questioning ....concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah.*" But John obviously presumed that, even when the Messiah arrived, he'd continue with the same message that John himself was already preaching - generous and compassionate love, honesty and justice.

And that leaves us with our own Advent question - are we able to "*sing aloud.... rejoice.... exult with all [our] hearts* as we prepare for Christmas because Jesus' values are the values we live by and so we know that the "*the peace of God which surpasses all understanding, will guard [our] hearts and [our] minds in Christ Jesus.*"

JB Kendall rsj

GENERAL BUSINESS

### WANTED-FLOWERS:

Anybody with excess flowers, especially red or white gladioli or lilies would be most welcome to leave them at Holy Family Church on Saturday 22<sup>nd</sup> or Monday 24<sup>th</sup> to help with the flower arrangement for the Christmas season. Please see Marie Knuth for further details.

### REMEMBERING MERTON

December 10 marks 50 years since the death of Thomas Merton, one of the most influential Catholic authors of the 20th century.

Although Merton was born in France and lived most of his life as a monk in the USA, his father was a Kiwi. His influence continues today and if you are interested in reading his works contact David Scoullar who has nearly 20 of his books. Ph 343 2836.

*Please keep in your prayers those of our parish and school community who are sick, lonely or going through hard times and need our help and comfort.*

Please pray for the happy repose of the souls of:

### RECENTLY DECEASED:

Anne Connors, Mae Ahern; Kevin Quin, Glenn Quayle, Sr. Marlene Dunn RSJ; Sr. Helena Hart DOLC, Steve Fouhy

### CONDOLENCES: ANNIVERSARIES:

Brian Frost (2/12), Helen Kennedy (12/12), Michael Davies (30/12) Tom Cresswell (22/12), .Bryce Orsborn (20/12)

### MASS OFFERINGS:

Anne Connors, Kevin Quinn, Mass 'D' Souls Wilson Family, Reyes, Secretaria and the rest who departed this world, Mike Davies, Deceased benefactors, friends and Sisters of Compassion, for a successful operation and recovery, Eileen Hoskin (18/12), Pat O'Leary (4/12), Tom Manson (16/12), Faith Haddock (18/12) Sr Helena Hart, deceased Sisters of Our Lady of Compassion

MASS OFFERINGS

**St. Mary's**  
1 Campbell St, Ph. 345 3872  
Office hours: 8.30am—3pm  
Jo Boulton Parish Secretary

**Holy Family**  
22 Tawhero St,  
✉holyfamily@extra.co.nz  
**St. Anne's**  
47 Raine Street

**Fr. Marcus Francis**  
PP 021 02283349

**Norma O'Connor**  
Hospital Chaplain  
027 2334557

**Fr. Adonis Rancho (Fr. Don Don)**  
021 02735829

**Jane O'Connell**  
Convener of Care & Concern  
Team 348 9303

**Father John Roberts**

**Kevin Foley**  
Chairperson of Liturgy  
345 0542

**FAITHSHARING GROUPS**

**WOMEN'S FAITHSHARING**

The next meeting will resume in the New Year. Any new ladies are most welcome

**MOTHER'S COMBINED PARISHES PRAYER GROUP**

Fridays 1-2pm. 17 Lindsay Crescent. All ages welcome

**MEN'S FAITHSHARING**

Fri. 7.00am. Contact Peter ph. 342 5812 for venue.

**LEGION OF MARY**

Holy Family Church Tuesdays @ 4pm. For more info contact Paul Daws, 344 4828

**EXPLORING FAITH GROUPS**

**EVENING:** Monday 7.30pm - 9pm Holy Family Meeting Room

**MORNING:** Tuesday 10.00am - 11.45am St Mary's Meeting Room

**We will "Celebrate an Advent Liturgy, followed by a shared supper"**

Hosts: Mary Wood 344 3552 Nancie & Brian Quigley 347 8177

Jo Smillie 345 0609 (Morning Group)

Led by Sr John Bosco Kendall rsj

You're all welcome to attend.

For more information ring one of the above numbers.



**SOCIAL GROUPS**

**ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY**

Our combined conference of Whanganui SVDP will be held on the 1st and 3rd Wednesday of the month at 5pm at Holy Family Church. Those interested in joining us phone Marianne Vine 3450281 or Kevin Foley 3450542.

**HOLY FAMILY CRAFT GROUP**

Meet weekly on Thursdays at 9.30am. For further information phone Shirley on 344 6365

**LADIES GUILD GROUPS**

**St. Anne's**  
Meet on the 2nd Tuesday of the month. Ring Kay Wilkinson Ph. 343 3367

**MAINLY MUSIC**

Contact Anne 3446569  
Facebook: Mainly music-st annes

**FOCOLARE**

Monthly meeting on 4th Sunday of month at 1.30 at Anne's Place, 58 Bedford Ave, Ph: 3454709  
All Welcome

**Daily Mass Calendars**

are now available at St Marys and Holy Family offices. \$3.50 each

**Christmas Mass Ministries**

The parish urgently requires individuals to take up ministries at the Christmas morning Mass at St Mary's.

If you can help please inform the Parish Office.

This is a significant time of year in which the parish through the liturgy gives hospitality not only to Catholics but to others who are drawn to prayer.

I encourage all existing parishioners on ministries and others who would like to start to step up and share the load not only at Christmas but through the year.

You can contact the Parish Office or Fr Marcus or Fr Dondon if you have any queries.



**Sunday Ministries**

All ministry rosters in the parish are starting to come under pressure. We are in particular need of individuals to assist with setting up for the 9.30am Mass at St Mary's on Sundays.

I encourage all parishioners to think about what they can do during the liturgy so as to use the gifts given them and to spread the load of ministries more evenly throughout the congregation.

Please approach Fr Marcus or Dondon or notify the Parish Office if you can assist with any of the ministries inside or outside of the liturgy.

Te Punanga o Hōhepa  
Josephite Retreat Centre  
14 Hillside Tce, Whanganui  
P (06) 345 5047 ext 3  
ssjoseph@xtra.co.nz  
www.ssj.org.nz

**Liturgy – Sacred Earth**  
Sunday 18 November, 4 – 5pm

**Advent Reflection**  
Saturday 1 December, 10am – 3pm \$20 with June Hickland rsj

To register please call Pam on 3455047 ext 3 or email [pam.hopper@sosj.org.au](mailto:pam.hopper@sosj.org.au)

**Music Practices for Christmas**

**Masses**

**Holy Family**

Wednesday 5th, 12th, 19th December at 6.30pm

**St Marys**

Tues 11th Dec and Thurs 20th December at 7pm



**OUR SCHOOLS AND YOUNG PEOPLE**

**WHAT'S UP?**

**Cullinane College**

**Principal:** Justin Harper

**DRS:** Helen Dougherty

15 Peat St., Wanganui  
Ph: (06) 349 0105

Email: [office@cullinane.school.nz](mailto:office@cullinane.school.nz)  
[www.cullinanecollege.school.nz](http://www.cullinanecollege.school.nz)

Week 8 was the final full academic week in the College calendar. Our Juniors concentrated on completing assignments in preparation for the holidays.

On Thursday 6<sup>th</sup> December our College Touch team left to travel to Auckland to take part in the New Zealand Secondary Schools Touch Nationals. This event will continue through to Monday 10<sup>th</sup> December and we wish them safe travels and the best of luck for their games.

Looking ahead to our last day of school for 2018 (Tuesday 11<sup>th</sup> December), our College will be celebrating the final day of term with a College Mass and Junior Prize Giving ceremony.

The staff and students would like to warmly welcome parents and parishioners to this final Mass for 2018, at 9.30am and join us for a morning tea afterwards. Junior Prize Giving will commence at 11am.

We anticipate a finish time of approximately 12.40pm. Students will be dismissed for the year after the Prize Giving Ceremony.

We have enjoyed connecting with the wider Catholic Community through this newsletter and the staff and students would like to wish you all a holy and happy Christmas.

**ST. MARCELLIN SCHOOL**

**Principal:** Maia Williams

**Acting DRS:** Maia Williams

Totara St. Wanganui.  
Ph: 349 0023

Email: [stmarcellin@welearn.school.nz](mailto:stmarcellin@welearn.school.nz)



**ST. MARY'S SCHOOL**

**Principal:** Jacqui Luxton

**DRS:** Cath Daignault

30 London St. Wanganui  
Ph: 343 1227

Email: [school@stmarys.ac.nz](mailto:school@stmarys.ac.nz)



*Thank you*

"A huge thank you to all those people who helped with my John, either through the prayer vine or assisting with getting him on his feet after mass.

We appreciate all the support given to us throughout our time of grief.

Thank you and God bless, Jan, Caroline and Teresa O'Neill."

**Fr Don Don donation**

If you would like to make a donation towards Fr Don Don's gift of appreciation please leave with Pat at Holy Family or Jo in the office at St Marys.

**The Catholic Parish of Whanganui Christmas Mass Times**

**Christmas Eve**

**Monday 24th December**

7.00pm Vigil @ St Marys  
9.30pm Vigil @ Holy Family  
10.00pm Vigil @ Jerusalem

**Christmas Day**

**Tuesday 25th December**

9.00am @ St Marys  
9.30am @ Kaiwhaiki  
9.30am @ Waverley



**ST. ANNE'S SCHOOL**

**Principal:** Karl Zimmerman

**DRS:** Jo Gichard.

Raine St. Wanganui East

Ph: 343 8389  
Email: [office@stannes.school.nz](mailto:office@stannes.school.nz)



This Friday we have over 100 children competing in the annual Tough Kids challenge at Cooks Gardens.

This is an awesome day organised for Whanganui schools by Sport Whanganui.

This Sunday evening is our Year 8's end of year dinner.

At this dinner we have a guest speaker, presentations to each year 8 student and a dance.

We will also formally farewell them all at our end of year concert and prize giving at the Royal Whanganui Opera House on Monday 17th December from 6.30pm.

Last Friday I tendered my resignation to our Board of Trustees.

I was offered and accepted a position of being a Leadership Adviser for the company Evaluation Associates to work with Beginning Principals in the Taranaki, Whanganui and Manawatu region.

This position commences on 31st January.

I will work from Whanganui and will not be leaving our area.

I wish to thank all the parishioners and our priests for the prayers, support and generosity you have given our school and myself over the past eight years as Principal at St Anne's Catholic School.

The Board are currently working with our diocesan staff to appoint an interim Principal and begin the process to appoint a permanent replacement.

Karl Zimmerman