

Anniversaries December

Johannes Hoogenboom, Claire Weir, Pauline Gordon, Angela Fleming, Kevin Stowe, Bridget Cameron Charles McCloskey (Mac), Mick O'Sullivan, Mollie Saxon Molly Fergusson,

Timeframe Extended

You may be aware that the deadline for the local phase for the Synod 2021-23 was extended by the General Secretariat for the Synod of Bishops. The New Zealand Catholic Bishops have indicated that the timeline for the synodal process in Aotearoa will also be extended. In response, we have been working on how this extension will impact on our own diocesan process. The Secretariat has 'listened' to our concerns about the short time frame for local discernment and we as a diocese are responding in kind. This is synodality in action and we are delighted, so: The previous deadline of 30 November 2021 has been extended and submissions can now be made up until 31 March 2022. At the same time, we want to maintain the momentum that has been gained thus far. Any groups or submissions that may already be organised for the rest of the month are strongly encouraged to continue as planned. Hopefully, this extra time will allow for input from people who we most need to hear from including those who are baptised but disengaged from our communities for a variety of reasons, our young people and groups from diverse cultural backgrounds. We are still working to confirm the finer details of how this extension will impact our diocesan process and will communicate more details over the course of the next two weeks. Thank you for all you have already done to invite, encourage and engage in this synodal process thus far. We look forward to seeing the opportunities that arise from this extension unfold over the coming months and continuing on this journey together. *Teresa Edwards, Isabella McCafferty, Fr Simon Story & Nick Wilson—Diocesan Synodal Team*

Storage shed/spare garage –St Vincent de Paul are looking for some space to store furniture from time to time If you can help please contact Dave Cullen or Fred Dyer.

FOOD FOR FAITH offers brief daily reflections for Advent. Sign up at www.foodforfaith.org.nz
WelCom December 2021/January 2022 edition is being distributed this week for Sunday, 12 December. Contents include:
New Zealand Catholic Bishops' Pastoral Letter – 'Living, Caring, Worshipping, and Ministering in a Covid-19 World'.
Cardinal John Dew's column – 'A breath of new life for you all'.
Papal award – Richard Puanaki, Wairoa.
Paula Wells, Principal Sacred Heart Girls College New Plymouth – relocating to Wellington role.
Tony Murphy of Palmerston North Diocese – remembered.
Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care – update.
Christmas in a time of pandemic – Fr Neil Vaney sm.
'The Journey Into Reality' – reflective poem by Bishop Peter Cullinane, as supplementary lift-out.
Plus, more features, local and international news and views, young Church.



Mass Times

Tuesday	St Joseph's @ 9am
Thursday	St Patricks @ 9am
Friday	St Joseph's @9.15am
Saturday	St Joseph's @ 9am
Saturday	St Patricks@5.30pm (Vigil)
Sunday	St Joseph's@9.30am

Fr Paul Kerridge (Parish Priest)

12th December 2021

15 St Joseph Street, Waipukurau, Phone- 858-9383, office number- 8586416,

Hours Tuesday 7.15-1.45pm, Thursday- 12.15-1.45pm and Friday -7.15-1.45pm

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Rātini Kupu

**12th Hakihea , 2021
3rd Sunday of Advent**

Covid-19 Protection Framework

The Parish Leadership Team met this week to decide how best to decide how to organise the Masses on Christmas Eve and Christmas Day, now that the Traffic Light Framework is in place. We had an earnest discussion on what is a very difficult situation—the balance between allowing the maximum numbers to attend and the need to keep all Mass goers and Fr Paul protected. We decided that vaccine passports would be required at the 6pm Mass at St Joseph's on Christmas Eve. Vaccine passports are also required to enter the church at St Patrick's at the 9.30am Christmas Day Mass but people are invited to join that Mass and receive communion in the Church Hall without a vaccine passport. There will be a speaker system set up in the Hall. Masks are required at all Masses. Blessings—*Parish Leadership Team*

Some people are hesitant to come into gatherings since the arrival of Covid-19 into our Country. They fear bringing the virus with them into their homes and then inflicting their family and friends with this virus. We are conscious of what happened in Auckland. In making our Christmas Masses V.P.R. (Vaccine Pass Required) I hope this will ease their hesitancy and encourage them to join with me in celebrating the Birth of Christ with great Joy. It certainly is the highlight of Christian life for many of us. At St Joseph's, we will gather from 5.30pm on Friday 24th for Christmas Carols leading into Christmas Mass at 6pm. At St Patrick's we will gather from 9.am on Saturday 25th December for Christmas Carols leading in to Christmas Mass at 9.30am. Thank you to those who have made this possible for us. *Fr Paul.*

Christmas Mass Times

St Joseph's—24th December
5.30pm—Carols
6.00pm—Mass
St Patrick's—25th December
9.00am—Carols
9.30am—Mass



An Invitation to Pray for our Parish.

On the first Friday of each month, there will be Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in St Joseph's Church, from 10am until 3 pm. The intentions are for all the needs of our Holy Trinity Parish family. You are invited to come along during this time, and to pray for one hour before the most Blessed Sacrament.

St Johns College—ENROLMENT INFORMATION: *Enrolments are open. Please phone the College to make an enrolment interview with our Principal, Rob Ferreira. Ph 878 6853*

Need help? With your vaccine pass—please come to the office. We can print off for you and help get it set up for you.

Notices from *Titipounamu Study &*

Joy—Online Sessions (Evening):

Joy at Mass with Prof Thomas O'Loughlin and Kieran Fenn fms.
Friday, 17 December, 8-9pm. ZOOM. Koha/Donation.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/joy-at-mass/>

For more information and registration: www.studyjoy.nz

Communicating Joy

The lead-up to Christmas has a sense of happy anticipation, an excitement matched in today's readings. We are invited to a truly joyful proclamation of the Good News.

About The Joy of the Gospel, pope Francis wrote: One cannot but admire the resources that the Lord used to dialogue with his people, to reveal his mystery to all and to attract ordinary people by his lofty teachings and demands. I believe that the secret lies in the way Jesus looked at people, seeing beyond their weaknesses and failings: "Fear not little flock, for it is your Father's good pleasure to give you the kingdom" (Lk 12:32); Jesus preaches with that spirit. Full of joy in the Spirit, he blesses the Father who draws the little ones to him: "I thank you Father, Lord of heaven and earth, that you have hidden these things from the wise and understanding

NZCatholic

The national Catholic newspaper December 12 - 25, 2021 - No. 627

CWL members put on walking shoes for a good cause 5 Pope says Paris archbishop hounded out by gossip 13

Traffic Light Check



and revealed them to babes" (Lk 10:21). The Lord enjoys talking with his people; preachers should try to communicate that same joy to his listeners. *Association-ofcatholicpriests.ie*

Crib Appeal—this year our Crib appeal will stay local. We have decided that our recipient is the CHB Foodbank. Its been a very hard couple of years for our community with the Foodbank having tripled its parcel requests. Our funding is running out and the demand for food is still very high. We appreciate any donations.

Planned Giving - With cheques now being phased out you may wish to make a donation by direct payment to the Parish via internet banking. The bank account details are:
Bank - BNZ
Account - 02-0630-0288045-013
Account Name - The Holy Trinity Parish
Reference - Planned Giving number or Surname
Code - First Name

Parish Christmas Party— Sunday 12th December from 4pm at the presbytery. Bring some finger food to share. All welcome.

This Sunday, the third Sunday of Advent is called in Latin, 'Gaudete Sunday' or 'Joyful Sunday'. Halfway through our preparation for Christmas we remind ourselves once again of the 'Joy' that is Christmas. While this is a reflection on the Gospel, I must call attention to the first two readings of the Mass. The first Reading from the Prophet Zephaniah, begins, "Shout for Joy" and goes on to describe a celebration, a party, with God himself joining with his people to dance, exult and shout for joy. So frequently we imagine or are told that the God of the Old Testament is an angry, vengeful God, set only on punishing us. Isn't it wonderful to meet a God in today's reading who actually wishes to party with us! What a wonderful image. In "The Joy of the Gospel" written by Pope Francis in 2013, he writes about this very text: "Perhaps the most exciting invitation (to joy) is that of the prophet Zephaniah, who presents God with his people in the midst of a celebration overflowing with the joy of salvation. I find it thrilling to reread this text: "The Lord, your God is in your midst, a warrior who gives you the victory; he will rejoice over you with gladness, he will renew you in his love; he will exult over you with loud singing, as on a day of festival." What tender love echoes in these words!" The Second Reading, from Paul's Letter to the Philippians, is a beautiful account of St. Paul's absolute trust in a God who "is very near." "I want

you to be happy..." he begins, "always happy..." and the reason for Paul's happiness is his certainty that God is near. He tells us that the "...peace of God, which is so much greater than we can understand, will guard our hearts and our thoughts." What a wonderful and simple prayer for us to whisper to God this Sunday. "Lord, be near to me this day, so that your peace, which is so much greater than I can ever understand, will guard my heart and my thoughts. For the second Sunday in a row the Gospel centres on John the Baptist, the last and greatest of the Prophets. Join me in reflecting on this truly great person of the Gospels. *Brian.*

This Sunday night (12th December), John Cowan's guest will be actress Rose McIver. Rose was raised in Titirangi, Auckland, by her photographer father and artist mother. She studied Psychology and Linguistics at the University of Auckland. At the age of two, Rose began appearing in commercials and received the role of an angel in the film *The Piano* at age three. She has worked mainly for New Zealand television, from fantasy-based series like *Maddigan's Quest* to dramas such as *Rude Awakenings*, as well as two Disney Channel films. Rose's big-screen debut was in Peter Jackson's film, *The Lovely Bones*, playing Lindsey Salmon, the younger sister of the main character. She appeared in the 2010 film *Predicament* and the television film *Tangiwai*, based on the 1953 Tangiwai rail disaster. In 2014, she starred as Olivia Moore in the series *iZombie*, which ran for five seasons. Rose enjoys writing, crossword puzzles and Sudoku. She is an ambassador for Emirates airlines.

Blessing of the Wreaths—After Mass on Sunday we will have a combined service with St Mary's. There will be a morning tea to follow. Please stay and welcome our visitors.

