

### Anniversaries in December

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

**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 to 3pm. 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.

information, visit [voiceforlife.org.nz](http://voiceforlife.org.nz)

**Pro-Life Facts**—Close to 3000 pro-lifers filled Wellington's Lambton Quay as they walked in the annual March for Life on a sunny 3rd December. They came in vans and buses from all over the country, the Far North and the Deep South, gratifying numbers of young people and family groups, chanting "Life is Beautiful" and "March for Life". For more pro-life information, visit [voiceforlife.org.nz](http://voiceforlife.org.nz).

**Bethlehem University's Br Peter Bray** new video and NZ speaking tour  
Brother Peter Bray FSC, the Kiwi Vice-Chancellor of Bethlehem University, will make a NZ speaking tour on behalf of the bishops to all our Catholic Dioceses early next year, to talk about the Holy Land, his work with his students, and the lives of other ordinary Palestinians. In preparation for the tour, he is making three videos; the second has just been issued. It is very powerful. View it here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=R17kia53-GY>

Go here for more information about the videos and Br Peter's speaking tour: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/brpeter-video2/>

Br Peter's hopes to start his speaking tour about 24 January, likely starting in Hawkes Bay, followed by Palmerston North, Taranaki, Wellington, Christchurch, Dunedin, Hamilton, Auckland and Whangarei, ending about

8 February. The NZCBC will make his firm itinerary available when it is settled.

### Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy-

Online Sessions (Evening):

Stories, Films & the Bible: The Father (2020) with Fr Kevin Waldie SM.

Monday, 12 December, 7-8.30pm. Koha/Donation. ZOOM.

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

The Infancy Narratives in the Gospel of Matthew with Kieran Fenn fms.

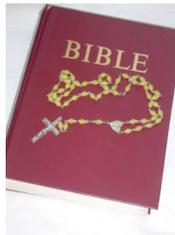
Monday, 19 December, 7-8.30pm. Koha/Donation. ZOOM.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/the-infancy-narratives-in-the-gospels/>

For more information: [www.studyjoy.nz](http://www.studyjoy.nz)

### Bible Diaries 2023

The Bible Diary called "The Word in Other Words" is a work produced by the Divine Word Missionaries and the Sisters Servants of the Holy Spirit who are working in different mission places all over the world. It is a reflection on the daily Word of God in the light of contemporary missionary experiences. The Bible diary 2023 is a meaningful, and useful Christmas Gift. Order now. Limited Supply. \$20.00 per book (GST inc) - postage is \$4.50 for up to 3 books. Call (09) 489 6549 / 027 922 9902 during office hours (Monday to Thursday) or email us, [info@missio.nz](mailto:info@missio.nz)



### Mass Times

Tuesday	St Joseph's @ 9am
Thursday	St Patrick's @ 9am
Saturday	St Joseph's @ 9am

### Sunday Masses

Saturday	St Patrick's @ 5.30
Sunday	St Joseph's @ 9.30am

Fr Paul Kerridge (Parish Priest)

11th December, 2022

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

E-mail - [cat.chb@extra.co.nz](mailto:cat.chb@extra.co.nz)

[www.holytrinitychb.com](http://www.holytrinitychb.com)

## Rātini Kupu

### 11th Whiringa-ā-rangi 2022 3rd Sunday of Advent

### Joy in the Lord

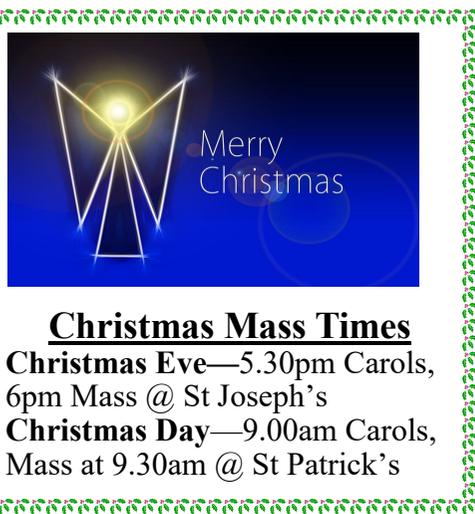
"Be strong and do not fear! Here is your God." Today is called Rejoicing Sunday. Today the candle on the Advent Wreath is pink, not purple as on the other three Sundays of Advent. It is meant to express our joy at the nearness of Christ's birthday. Some people seem to be happy by nature; others mournful by nature. Here is the story of a priest who always preached mournful sermons. He was asked by his parish priest to preach about St. Joseph instead, as he was a cheerful man. The following Sunday the priest spoke about Joseph who happened to be a carpenter and as a result spent a lot of his time making coffins and here we go again with sad, sad tales. Here are three impressions about happiness. First, that happiness is right here and now.. We convince ourselves that life will be better when we get married, have a baby, then another. Then we are frustrated that the kids are not old enough and we will be more content when they are. After that we are frustrated that we have teenagers to deal with. We will certainly be happy when they are out of that stage. We tell ourselves that our life will be complete when our spouse gets his or her act together. The truth is there is no better time to be happy than right now. Second, 'If you are happy, let your face know.' Maybe we could begin to be more joyful by taking a peek in the mirror and asking ourselves: does my face look like the face of someone who has heard the good news of the Gospel, namely that I am loved unconditionally by God? Third, joy will come to us if we set about actively trying to create it for others. If I go about my life demanding that others carry me rather than seeking to carry them; feeding off others rather than feeding them; demanding that others meet my needs rather than trying to meet theirs, joy will never find me no matter how hard I party or try to crank up good cheer. [associationofcatholicpriests.ie](http://associationofcatholicpriests.ie)



**The Catholic Church** throughout New Zealand made serious mistakes in its approach to Māori, and using te reo during Eucharist helps us become more inclusive even in our daily lives. Citing examples of the Church's mistakes, Cullinane says the lack of training for diocesan priests in ministry to Māori combined with the Church entrusting the 'Māori Mission' to specialist groups ensures that most Māori do not feel 'at home' in our parish church celebrations of Eucharist. He says that developing a sense of inclusiveness does not come about by running parallel Māori and European churches. "The Church in our country is greatly indebted to the Religious Orders to whom the 'Māori Mission' was entrusted," he writes. Cullinane mentions the Society of Mary, the Daughters of Our Lady of Compassion, the Mill Hill Missionaries and the Congregation of Our Lady of the Missions in particular. "Their work continues to bear fruit, and any alterations to pastoral practices need to safeguard the right of Māori to continue to experience life and worship in the Church in ways that are natural to them." Nevertheless, Cullinane says, running a Māori Mission parallel to parishes had serious unintended side effects. He writes it is against that background that introducing te reo into parish Eucharists seems a tiny gesture – but it is about recognition of tangata whenua, inclusion and belonging. "Of course, it would be mere tokenism if it were not to follow through in all the ways required by respect for the rights of Māori in wider society and Te Tiriti o Waitangi." Our celebrations of the Eucharist are meant to feed into our daily lives, Cullinane points out. "Eucharistic life involves the rejection of racial prejudice and discrimination wherever these occur. "In this way, the use of te reo in parish Eucharists should whet our appetites for the kind of hospitality, listening, sense of community and inclusiveness we have been talking about on the synodal journey." He suggests that the next step is to experience Eucharist on a marae and recognise Māori's

warm and welcoming ways. "This way, people can see

how these properly belong to the gathering stage of coming together for Eucharist. "Respect for the rights of the home people can be only a first step in our reaching out to the many others in our society who suffer from inequalities ... "It also involves our support for other ethnic groups who can be victims of racial prejudice. Anything less than a prophetic stand for all these is less than Eucharistic." Failure to address prejudice or help people disadvantaged by personal, social or economic conditions, proves the Second Vatican Council's claim: "The split between the faith which many profess and their daily lives deserves to be counted among the more serious errors of our age," writes Cullinane. *cathnews.co.nz*



### Christmas Mass Times

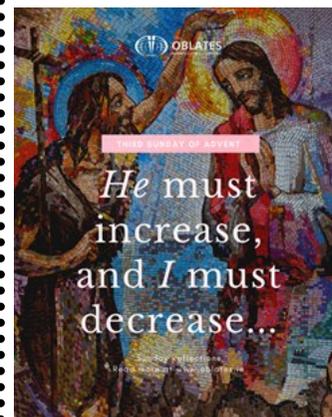
**Christmas Eve**—5.30pm Carols, 6pm Mass @ St Joseph's  
**Christmas Day**—9.00am Carols, Mass at 9.30am @ St Patrick's

**Reconciliation will be offered on the 18 December at 4pm @ St Joseph's.**



WelCom December/January edition is out this week to parishes and schools for **Sunday, 4 December**. Content includes: Pope Francis' letter to Ukraine people. Cardinal John Dew message: 'A blessed, peaceful and happy Christmas to all'. Sacred Heart Cathedral Wellington – work underway as restoration gets closer to completion. Compassion Soup Kitchen – profile interview with manager. Synod on synodality – updates. Te Hikoī Whakapono – Journey of Faith visits The Catholic Parish of Wellington South. 'Mary's Joseph and the strength of silence' – reflection by Fr James Lyons in the lead up to Christmas

**Week two** of John the Baptist and we encounter a man who is now in prison, cut off from his ministry and his followers. Much worse, he is hearing reports about his friend and disciple, Jesus, which are deeply troubling. He is even beginning to think that maybe he was wrong when he pointed to Jesus as the Messiah. Reaching out to Jesus he asks: "Are you the one who is to come...or have we got to wait for someone else?" There is a sadness in this picture of John, described by Jesus as "the greatest of the Prophets", alone in prison and wrecked with doubts. Christmas is a time of celebration and joy, yet for many people this Christmas it will be a time of sadness, loneliness, and doubts about the future. The various crises troubling our world this year



have given rise to a new poverty for many people and a terrible sadness this Christmas. John the Baptist, usually so strident, independent and strong, found himself alone, broken and filled with his

own doubts. A quiet prayer to John the Baptist today for strength and peace, and you can be sure that this "greatest of the Prophets" will help and support you.

Brian Maher OMI

[<communications@oblates.ie>](mailto:communications@oblates.ie)

**Could the Baptist have doubted?** Why did the Baptist send from his prison cell that urgent question to Jesus: "Are you He that is to come?" Hadn't John recognised our Lord as the Messiah several months previously, at the Jordan, when he proclaimed Him publicly as the Lamb of God? Did John, faced with almost certain death under Herod, have doubts or second thoughts about Jesus? Some say no, John only asked the question for the sake of his followers, who needed confirmation of their faith from Christ himself. But if John did have doubts, it was because of the peaceful way that Jesus behaved, not at all like the violent revolutionary the Jews expected as their Messiah. The answer to his question came when Jesus told him what God's messenger would be like: healer of the sick, consoler of the suffering, preacher of freedom and truth to the poor. In this way, John's faith in Jesus was made strong, giving him courage to protest against Herod, and accept a martyr's death.

**Parish get together is this Sunday the 11th December** from 4-6pm in the presbytery for the Parish Christmas gathering. Bring a small plate to share.

