

## Welcome to St Mary's Parish

**Holy Hour:** Each first Sunday of the month at 5pm.  
**Children's Liturgy:** 10.30 Sunday (Term time/not run on Public Holiday weekends) for children aged 4-8 years.  
**Holy Rosary:** 8.30am weekdays  
**Divine Office:** Morning Prayer of the Church, Tuesdays 8.10am  
**Stations of the Cross:** 5pm Fridays. Michael 298 9295  
**The statue of Our Lady** is available for families, add your name to the list in the foyer or ph Jean 296 5486  
**Legion of Mary:** Tuesdays 5pm, hall committee room. Celerina 2984080  
**Medjugorje prayer meetings:** Mondays, @ 2/1 Clark Rd, Joseph 298 2297.  
**Mothers Prayers:** 1st & 3rd Mondays 1-3pm – Ryder Rm, Jean Keown 298 4502.  
**Meditation Groups:** Tuesdays 9.40am Fr Ryder Rm. Tuesdays 5pm - 8A Ashdown Place, Bev 298 9943 Thursdays 7.30pm (St Anne's Manurewa every Monday 5-6pm in the Chapel.)  
**Music for Mass:** Choir practice Wednesdays 7pm, come along or contact Judith ph 268 1884, newcomers welcome.  
**Playgroup:** Wednesday mornings 9.30 - 11.30am, hall.  
**Knitting group:** each 2<sup>nd</sup> & 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday – 1- 3 pm Ryder Rm. Jenny 297 7292 - resumes 2018  
**English classes:** Thursdays, Ryder Rm at 10am—12noon. Parish Office 299 6056 - resumes 2018  
**St Vincent de Paul Food Bank Office:** Tuesday/Thursday 10-12noon ph 299 6056  
**St Vincent de Paul Shop:** 10-3pm weekdays, 9-12noon Saturdays 275 Great Sth Rd, 296 5052  
**Catholic Social Services:** A professional service available in this parish - Tuesdays 10am- 3-30pm. ph 022 6579789.



### We pray for those who have died :

Lionel Morta (Sth Africa) and those whose anniversaries occur at this time including:

David Paton, Kees Borsboom, Lauvale Paulo, Teresa Hawkins, Josephine Eeson, Emily Baardman, Daphne McEntee ...

We also pray for Ann Surgenor, Joanne Pudifoot, Robert Shearman and all sick parishioners and friends, and those recently bereaved.  
 May they be comforted through prayer, care and visits.

### Liturgy

The liturgy documents say nothing about a hymn at the end of Mass. The last thing that is said is "go". We are sent in to the world to serve, love, care, forgive and be Christ to the world. Many liturgists say there should be no hymn at the end of Mass. To heighten the sense of being sent, we are not having a dismissal hymn during Advent (we are having a post-communion hymn) and the priest is dismissing the people and sending them into the world to make a difference, from the back of the church. When mass ends, it is not finished; we are meant to know that we are sent.

### SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2018

#### Reconciliation, Confirmation & First Holy Communion

**Please enroll or atleast provide childs name BEFORE end of this school term as sessions start early next year in February.**

Enrollment forms at the doors, place in box provided in foyer.  
 Or for more information and enroll your child  
 Ph Helen Moverley 2986156 or Email: hmoverley@gmail.com

### PARISH SITE DEVELOPMENT

*"Building A Vibrant Faith Community"*



#### Online Donations:

**Acc. 02-0100-0120982-10 REF:BuildFund**

Also, Include your pledge number or contact parish office for receipt.

#### SECOND COLLECTION - BUILD FUND NEXT Sunday

#### CHRISTMAS MASSES & RELATED CELEBRATIONS 2017/2018

##### 4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT:

**Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December 5.00pm Mass**

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December 9.00am Mass**

#### CHRISTMAS:

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December**

**6.30pm Carols**

**7.00pm Vigil Family MASS- In the Garden**

Seating provided in hall foyer and Ryder Rm for elder parishioners and those with babies. Other seating is provided outdoors or you may bring a chair/rug, and bring warm clothing depending on weather.

**10.00pm Carols**

**11.00pm MASS of the Night**

**Monday 25<sup>th</sup> December 9.00am Mass of the Day**

#### Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion

Please mark your availability for Christmas Masses on the forms at the doors, thank you.

**Wanted: Musician** for 9am Mass on Christmas morning.  
 Can anyone help?

#### Choir for the Christmas Vigil

For any children or young people (or others) who would like to help out with the singing for the Christmas Vigil, come and join the practice from 6pm - 7pm on Friday 15th of December.

#### New Year:

**Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> December 5.00pm Mass**

**Monday 1<sup>st</sup> January 2018 9.00am Mass**

6<sup>th</sup>/7<sup>th</sup>; 13<sup>th</sup>/14<sup>th</sup>; 20<sup>th</sup>/21<sup>st</sup> January

5.00pm Mass & 9.00am Mass

27<sup>th</sup> Jan/28<sup>th</sup> Jan 5.00pm, 8.30am & 10.30am Mass.

#### PILGRIMAGE - MARSDEN CROSS & MOTUTI 2018 - REGISTER INTEREST

Father Peter Murphy will be taking a van to attend the Special Mass celebrating the 179th anniversary of the first Mass celebrated at Totara Point 13th January 1838. Visiting Marsden Cross & Motuti on Friday 13<sup>th</sup> – Sunday 15<sup>th</sup> of January 2018. This is an extended invitation for those interested to register their interest. There may be a small fee however further details will follow in due course. Please note due to the short trip away this invitation is for adults only this year.

The full Parish Pilgrimage which includes all our Youth and Families is scheduled to take place the same weekend as Auckland Anniversary Day in 2019 - confirmation of dates and price to follow.

#### Simbang Gabi sa Papakura 2017

Nine Days of Novena - Mass each evening here at St Mary's until 23rd December.  
 Time: 7—8pm

**Christmas Newsletter:** Notices for Christmas newsletter to parish office by this Wednesday morning please.

### ST. MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL PAPAKURA



office@stmaryspapakura.school.nz

Website: [www.stmaryspapakura.school.nz](http://www.stmaryspapakura.school.nz)

Enrolment queries:

David Tennent, Principal Ph. (09) 298 4450

[davidt@stmaryspapakura.school.nz](mailto:davidt@stmaryspapakura.school.nz) Latest news in foyer.

#### Papakura Community Dinners

An ecumenical group has been preparing and serving a dinner on Tuesday nights since 2013. The number of volunteers has dwindled and as 2018 begins new helpers will be needed. This could be joining an existing group who prepare the dinners to helping on the night serving and washing dishes. If you can consider a position on the roster it could be part of your New Years resolution.



Start date: Tuesday 23rd January 6.00pm

Please phone Rosanne 2996056.

#### Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide Update

At the time of writing this, David Seymour's 'End of Life Choice' bill is about to have its first reading and vote in Parliament (Wednesday 13 December). The bill seeks to legalise euthanasia and assisted suicide in New Zealand for those over 18 years with a terminal illness or an irremediable condition. By the time this notice appears in your parish newsletter, the result will be known.

If the majority of MPs voted 'no', the bill will have been defeated and will not progress any further. If the majority of MPs voted 'yes', then the bill will go to Select Committee where the public can submit their views on it. This Select Committee process will be specifically about Seymour's bill. The Health Select Committee conducted an inquiry last year about the issues of euthanasia and assisted suicide, releasing their report in August 2017. With over 21,000 unique submissions, 80% of those were opposed to the legalisation of euthanasia and assisted suicide.

Legalising euthanasia or assisted suicide would endanger the lives and wellbeing of people who are vulnerable, including those suffering from mental health issues, our elders, and the disabled.

Regardless of the outcome of Wednesday's vote, this issue is important and will continue to be a topic of public debate.

More information and resources on this issue will be provided in January.

You can also check out [www.nathaniel.org.nz/euthanasia](http://www.nathaniel.org.nz/euthanasia).

#### R.C.I.A

#### Christian Initiation of Adults.

**Is there any one you know that is interested in finding out more about the Catholic Faith ?**

Please contact the parish office. Ph 2996056

#### New to the Parish

Welcome to:

Taimalie Family  
 Abeysuriya Family

Contact form P.T.O  
 and foyer  
 (blue box)  
 or Parish Office  
 ph 299 6056

#### Scripture of the day

	Mon	Tues	Wed	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
<b>Psalm</b>	72	71	24	33	1 Samuel p.166	34
<b>Reading</b>	Jeremiah 23:5-8	Judges 13:2-7,24-25	Isaiah 7:10-14	Songs 2:8-14	1 Samuel 1:24-28	Malachi 3:1-4,23-24
<b>Gospel</b>	Matthew 1:18-24	Luke 1:5-25	Luke 1:26-38	Luke 1:39-45	Luke 1:46-56	Luke 1:57-66

Bequests: Have you remembered St Mary's in your Will.

### St Mary's Youth Group

Join us Fridays 7pm - 8:30pm in the Hall - 8yrs and over

*'You are the Church of today'*

Spiritual Advisor:

Father Maliu 09 2985134/0272496738

Co-ordinators: Evangeline, Olivia, Brittany

email: [stmarysyouthfamily@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysyouthfamily@gmail.com)

Like us on Facebook: St Marys Catholic Youth



#### St Mary's Parish Office Administrator.

We are currently seeking a highly capable and motivated Parish Administrator for 25 hours per week commencing early in 2018.

We are seeking a talented and versatile person to ensure the effective and efficient day to day running of our Parish office and to support the Parish Priest.

This is a varied role and the core responsibilities are:

Secretarial services, processing parish accounts, maintaining parish records and compiling parish communications.

Applicants should have excellent administration and communication skills – both written and oral, strong interpersonal skills and sound computing skills in a Windows environment.

Good time management skills and capability to prioritise competing time demands are required for this role.

To view the full position description or to make an enquiry please email Evan Fitzpatrick at [efitz21@outlook.com](mailto:efitz21@outlook.com)

#### Mercy Spirituality Centre

104 The Drive, Epsom. Ph. 638 6238 or

[info@mercyspiritualitycentre.org.nz](mailto:info@mercyspiritualitycentre.org.nz) or

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

#### ● Pondering St John's Gospel:

● **Five weekly presentations** with Fr Stuart Sellar, first session Thurs 22 Feb 7-9pm. \$15 (\$60 all 5 sessions)

● **Introduction to Dreamwork 101** with Margaret Bowater Fri 23/Sat 24 Feb. \$130

**The Healing Power of Singing** with Trio A Due at St Mary's Historic Chapel, Sat 24 Feb. \$60 (\$110 for 2 pers)

See our booklet for more details. Bookings essential.

Our office reopens on 15 Jan 2018.

We wish you many blessings for Christmas and a Happy New Year!

#### NZ Catholic \$4.

Some headlines:

Marist to be new Bishop of Christchurch. Seriousness of diocese priest shortage brought home. Hundreds at Catholic Youth Festival. Pope worried about Trump Jerusalem move.

#### 2018 Columban Calendar:

\$12 in the foyer today.







Next Week: 24th December 2017

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Readings: 2 Samuel 7:1...16 Romans 16:25-27 Luke 1:26-38

	5.00 pm	9 am (from 10.30am roster)
Ministers of the Word	Liora Madezo	Lisa Gurney Deanna Bautista
Extra-Ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist	Judith Prince Colleen Benson Jovita Parker Pandora Noue Volunteer	Shadia Azouri Lucie de Jesus Hilda Pritchard Jean Keown Clara Gray
Altar Servers	Alex Divine Guadalupe	Andrea Andrews

Mass timetable  
for Christmas Masses  
on page 2 ...

Roster Christmas Masses:

All Ministries  
as advised, thank you

**Coordinator Liturgy Centre** - Vacancy Pompallier Diocesan Centre - seeking a multi talented, dedicated and efficient person with a good knowledge and love of the Church's liturgy to co-ordinate the work of the Liturgy Centre. The Centre resources the parishes, schools and communities in the diocese for liturgical ministry. For the full position description and to download an application form, please visit [www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz) under quick links and staff vacancies. Please send cover letter, application form and CV to Leanne Killgour, HR Manager, [leannek@cda.org.nz](mailto:leannek@cda.org.nz). Applications close 26 January 2018

**Marcellin College's 60th Jubilee**

- is coming up next year - 23-25 March 2018. Registrations now open at [www.marcellin.school.nz](http://www.marcellin.school.nz)

**Looking for a thorough, reliable, trustworthy person to clean your home ?**

Experienced in hotel/private home cleaning. No job too small. Ph Teresa: 02102752176



Thinking about selling? I can help you get your home sold!

My family and I enjoy being a part of our parish and the school community. I would like to give something back to the community, when you successfully use my services I will make a donation to the parish. I look forward to being of service to you or anyone you may know.

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**Pastoral Associate:** Rosanne Wills Ph 299 6056 weekdays or 021 0738236 **Parish Office:** Marie Bridge Ph 299 6056

**Sacramental Programme:** Parish Office

**Parish Office/Library:** Tuesday to Friday: 9.30 am – 3.00 pm **Parish Hall Hirage:** Parish Office Ph 299 6056

**St Mary's Catholic School:** Ph 298 4450 **web site:** [www.stmaryspapakura.school.nz](http://www.stmaryspapakura.school.nz)

Welcome to any new parishioners! Please complete the form put in blue box in foyer or hand it in to the parish office, thank you.

Mr/Mrs/Ms Family Name..... First Name.....

Address..... Postcode.....

Phone..... Email.....



# St Mary's Catholic Church

~ A listening, praying, servant community ~

52 East Street, Papakura 2110

Parish Priest: Fr Peter Murphy | Assistant Priest: Fr Maliumoeao Otutaha

Phone 09 298 5134 | Office 09 299 6056

Email: [st.marys.papakura@xtra.co.nz](mailto:st.marys.papakura@xtra.co.nz) | [www.papakuracatholic.org.nz](http://www.papakuracatholic.org.nz)

Facebook –search: St Mary's Parish Catholic Church Papakura

REFLECTION ...

Advent Week 3

"We have to burrow deep down through disappointment and even despair to find the source of hope. Only at the place where it bubbles up from the bowels of the earth is hope more than wishful thinking, crossing your fingers, keeping up morale. This may be why prophets (and we all have a bit of the prophet in us) seem often to oscillate from the dark to the light.

"Today Isaiah is all light. You would have to have a professionally hardened heart not to be moved by his vision of an event, a coming – that brings glad news to the poor, heals the broken-hearted, gives liberty to those held in bonds of fear or fantasy and sets prisoners free. At Christmas many people remember this hope, and feel connected to its pure, fresh and simple source. That is why Christmas is about a birth and children and Christmas go together so well.

"This hopeful vision of the human theatre is usually buried deep in the noise and glitter and excessive indulgence of the festivities. Inevitably, we will hear about the economic impact of Christmas spending on the economy; much less about the special shelters for the homeless run by volunteers, the people who will search out and comfort those who with their families have lost home and livelihood because of war and are looked at by their new hosts with suspicion and hostility.

"How do we dig down to find this spring of hope that can face the inhumanities of humanity and still not give up trying to make the world a kinder and more just place? After all, many who start off idealistically become cynical. Politics smothers purpose. And many more perhaps burn out in the process, giving themselves generously but imprudently in ways that break the mind or the body.

"Paul says 'pray without ceasing'. This hardly means spending all day in church, mosque, temple or synagogue. Nor does it mean thinking about heavenly realities all the time. It means unblocking the channel of consciousness that is the continuous pure stream of prayer in us.

"I once sat down to meditate with a small group in my meditation room on Bere Island. Then an awful smell and a worrying sound of gurgling came from the nearby toilet. It was overflowing. Bad news, like we read of every day. My cousin, who is an expert in everything, came round and feared it was the septic tank. Big problem. Later as I walked around outside I saw a hole where the pipe led from the toilet to the tank. I looked in the hole and saw a stone lodged there. Hardly believing my luck and beaming with pride that I had solved the problem I plucked out the stone and everything flowed thereafter in the right way.

"We don't have to try to pray continuously. We just have to remove the blockages to enjoy what Paul calls the soundness, wholeness, of body, mind and spirit. This is the biblical understanding of the human – the triple dimension that lifts the duality of body and mind to transcendence. This third and most subtle dimension is clearly present in today's gospel, as John the Baptist points away from himself to the 'one who will come after' him.

"We can only say so much and see so much. We can only keep the attention on ourselves for so long. If we don't clear the blockages in consciousness that foul up ourselves and the world, we will endlessly look and not see and chatter so much that we drown out the healing silences of life. The Baptist says 'there is one among you whom you do not recognise.' What a hopeful thing to say." Laurence Freeman OSB.

Peter Murphy



Year of Grace



Mass Times

Saturday Vigil 5.00 pm

Sunday 8.30 am & 10.30 am -

Children's Liturgy 10.30am

Filipino Mass 1st Sunday 12.30—2018

Tongan Mass 2nd Sunday 5pm (Jan 2018)

Samoan Mass 3rd Sunday 12noon (Dec)  
(Then resumes March 2018)

Clevedon Community 8.15 am

1st Sunday of month

St Andrews Main Rd Clevedon

HOLY HOUR

1st Sunday of month 5.00 pm

RECONCILIATION 9—10am Saturdays

Weekday Mass:

Monday to Thursday 9.00 am

Fridays 9.00 am

First Friday of each month—10am

Saturdays 8.30 am

Longford Park Chapel

2nd Tuesday of month, 10.30 am.

Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament

Fridays 9.30am - 12.00 noon

(10am—12noon First Friday of month)

## THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Liturgy of the Word

Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11

Psalms

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

John 1:6-8

"He said "I am the voice of one crying out  
in the desert, 'make straight the way of  
the Lord,'"