




Octave of Christmas
1. Numbers 6:22-27 2. Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:16-21
1st January 2023

Sunday	Saturday 5pm	Sunday 8:30am	Sunday 10:30am
Welcome/Intercessions 	Tevita Kaloamatangi	Leni Erlano	Rosalie Petelo
Ministers of the Word 	Margaret Fairweather Jennifer Fyn	Joy Treasurer Helen Le Marque	Normita Tolentino Timy Mario
Extra-Ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist 	Letisia Koloamatangi Peter Foster Anthony Thoman Raquel Sanga	James Obeng Vincet Ortiz Polly Ortiz Celerina Robertson Shyamalee Krone	Elizabeth Tugaga Tea Venu Tea Sharp Nelson De Jesus Lucie De Jesus Marietta Vaotuu John Franks
Altar Servers 	Martin Thomas Luke Kiutau Patelesio Kiutau	Vinesse Aita Frankie Aita Fomai Sapolu	James Santos John Paul Feagaiga Aja-Lucia Vatau

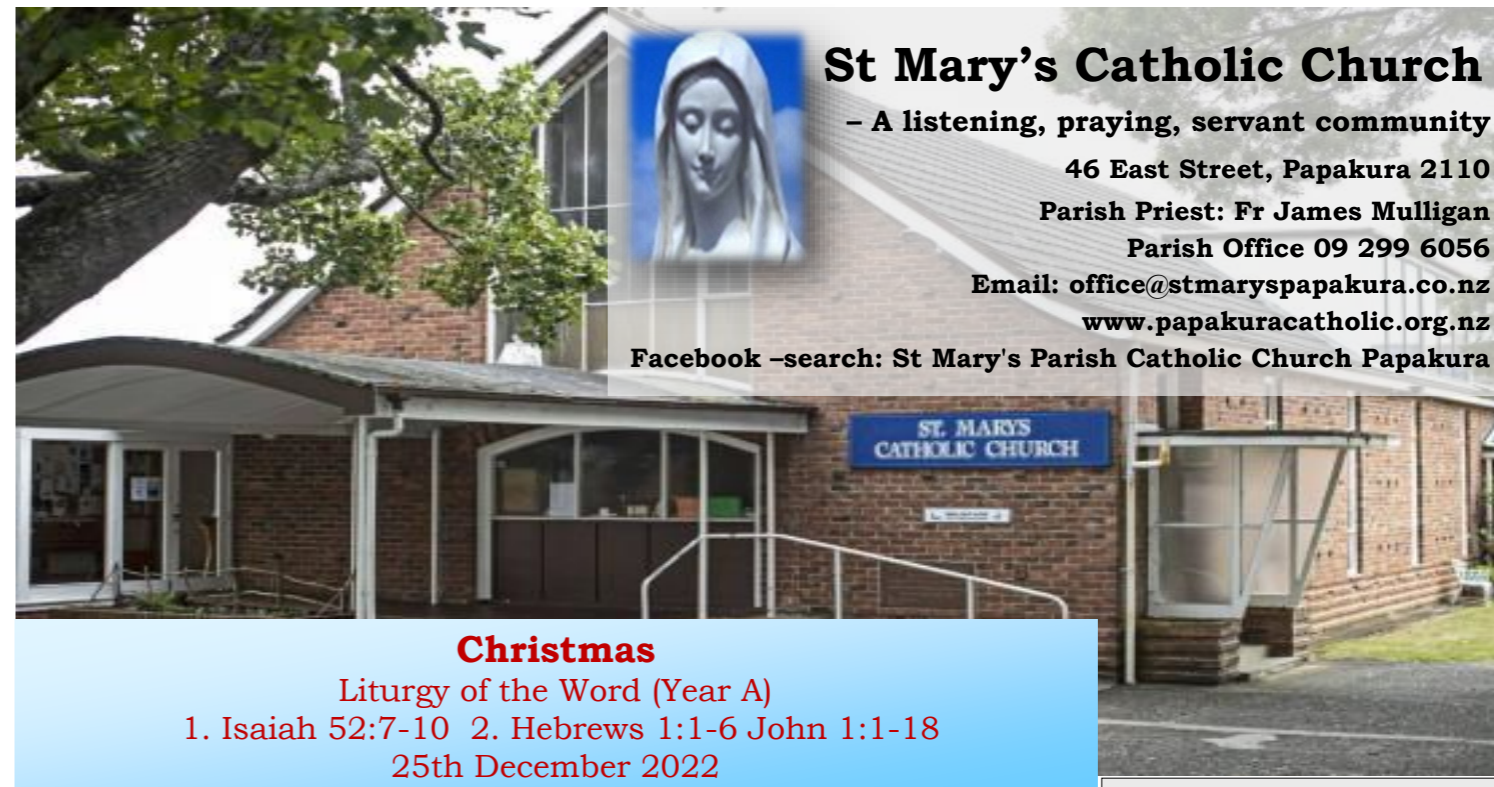
 Our Vinnie's Shop has expanded and is now able to accept donations of household furniture and appliances. If you can deliver to the shop at 275 Great South Road, Papakura, this would be greatly appreciated. Should you require a collection, you can phone 2965052, Monday to Friday 10:00am - 3:00pm and Saturday from 10.00am-1.00pm to arrange for a pickup time and date.



Fr John Vianney in Uganda is putting together a scholarship fund for students at a high school he has established. Some students are not able to continue their studies owing to lack of funds.
New website: www.sfahighschool.org



If any of you want to contribute he has an account with **BNZ:**
MAKANDA JOHN MARY VIANNEY
Acc Number: 02-0400-0111981-097
 Bank Ref: Your Name / Scholarship



St Mary's Catholic Church
 - A listening, praying, servant community
 46 East Street, Papakura 2110
 Parish Priest: Fr James Mulligan
 Parish Office 09 299 6056
 Email: office@stmaryspapakura.co.nz
www.papakuracatholic.org.nz
 Facebook -search: St Mary's Parish Catholic Church Papakura

Christmas
 Liturgy of the Word (Year A)
 1. Isaiah 52:7-10 2. Hebrews 1:1-6 John 1:1-18
 25th December 2022

Mass Times

Saturday: Vigil 5:00pm
 Sunday: 8:30am 10:30am
 Filipino Mass 1st Sunday 12:30pm
 Samoan Mass 2nd Sunday 12:00pm
 Baptisms 3rd Sunday 12noon

Clevedon Community 8:30am
 1st Sunday of month
 Clevedon District Centre
 (Postponed until further notice)

RECONCILIATION 9 - 10am Saturdays
 ADORATION—Saturday after 5:00pm
 mass led by Alpha

Weekday Mass:

Monday 9:00am Liturgy
 Tuesday 9:00am
 Wednesday 6:30pm
 Thursday 9:30am
 Friday 9:00am
 First Fridays of month 10.00am
 Saturdays 8:30am Liturgy

Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament
 Fridays 9:30am - 12:00 noon
 (10am—12noon First Friday of month)

At this time of year, many Kiwis like to go camping in tents. But can we imagine having to live in one? In February this year, a homeless mother had no option but to pitch a tent for herself and seven kids in a park during a storm. Unable to find a new rental, Mariska Kruger sought help from Work and Income, only to be told there was nothing available. She was about to camp for the night when Lisa Cunliffe spotted the family. Was everything okay? Mariska pointed to the tent. Looking inside, Lisa saw a new-born lying wrapped in a blanket. There was only one thing in the world Mariska wanted: "A house. A place to call home for me and my kids." Through Lisa's kind words that were turned into deeds of practical support, Mariska has been able to find other accommodation but nothing permanent yet. How similar Mariska's story is to the story of Christmas! But that's the difference between words and deeds. As the great Russian novelist Leo Tolstoy wrote a long time ago: The chief difference between words and deeds is that words are always intended for men for their approbation, but deeds can be done only for God.

This Christmas morning, the greatest deed of all consists of one word made flesh. Right at the beginning of his Gospel, we've just heard John say that the Word has been made flesh and lives among us. The Christ child has literally pitched his tent in this world as it is. To literally change the course of history. Even though Jesus mightn't seem any more remarkable than Mariska's own new-born, he alone is the one through whom all things have come to be. By freely taking upon himself the limitations of our human condition, Jesus is already a light that shines in the darkness; to give all people who would accept him power to become children of God. Even though he cannot yet form recognisable human words, Jesus draws out of us a sense of wonder at the gift of life beyond words. Up to now, God has spoken to previous generations through the prophets such as Isaiah, in various different ways. But now, in this particular place, at this particular time, God has chosen to speak to us through his Son. In the light of the Incarnation God converts his word into the one deed that transforms creation, even as we listen. As the radiant light of God's glory and the perfect copy of God's nature, Jesus sustains the whole universe not just by his command but by his appealing to our better natures. Even as he sleeps for the moment in his mother's arms, God-in-Jesus transforms the promise of his coming from being just the stuff of dreams and shallow greeting card sentiments into flesh and blood reality. By embracing our weakness, Jesus reveals his glory which is the unlikeliest secret to changing the world. As we set out to unwrap the many intangible gifts of this day, may nothing prevent us from experiencing the joy of the saviour's birth with family, friends, and virtual strangers alike. May we never be tempted to turn God's Word made flesh back into words when we are really yearning for the closeness of a God with skin on! As we celebrate a Kiwi post-Covid Christmas, may the ends of the earth see the salvation of our God who widens the size of his tent to make a home for us as we make a home for him, who draws out of us the capacity to love and to live again as we make space for him and for each other; that we may welcome the gift of life not just through words but through deeds done only for God. How beautiful on our mountains are the feet of the one who comes this morning to bring us good news about himself. Surely that is the true spirit of this day. To herald peace. To bring happiness. To announce salvation. A happy, holy, tranquil, and safe Christmas to you all.

*The Word became flesh and dwelt among us.
 The Word that existed before all things;
 the Word that holds all things together.
 This Word—the Word, the Sacred Word
 that spoke life and breath into being—
 became flesh.*

*The Word became flesh and dwelt in skin;
 in bumps and bruises;
 in sickness and longing;
 in laughter and grief;
 in loneliness and fear.*

*The Word became flesh and knew us, oh
 how we have been known!*

*Come, let us adore the Word.
 Come, let us adore the Flesh.
 Come, let us revel in our humanity;
 this condition that Divine Love has de-
 clared Sacred.
 For the Word became flesh
 and dwells among us.*

(Shannon Evans, *The Word Became Flesh: A Christmas Poem*, 2022)

Locals Supporting Locals

HARVEYS REAL ESTATE EST. 1918

Thinking about selling?
 We can help you get your home sold or rented!

Kelly, Darren and their family have been part of our parish and the school for over 20 years.

We offer a full real estate service to our fellow parishioners and when successful not only do you get rewarded, so does the parish. We look forward to being of service to you.



Newsletter proudly sponsored by Harveys Papakura

Kelly & Darren Brady, Harveys Papakura
 021 635 583 | 09 298 4000 | darren@myharveys.co.nz | Southern Suburbs Realty Limited - Licensed Agent REAA 2008

Pastoral Associate: Benita Kiutau Ph 299 6056 weekdays (except Wednesdays)
Parish Office: Roleta Aranda Ph 299 6056
Sacramental Programme: Parish Office
Parish Office/Library: Tuesday to Friday: 8:00 am – 3:00 pm **Parish Hall Hireage:** Parish Office Ph 299 6056
St Mary's Catholic School: Ph 298 4450 **Web Site:** www.stmaryspapakura.school.nz
Holy Trinity Catholic Primary School: Ph 296 9039 **Web Site:** www.holytrinity.school.nz

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

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

Address.....

Postcode.....Tel no.....Email Add



Welcome to St Mary's Parish

Children's Liturgy: 10.30 Sunday (Term time/not run on Public Holiday weekends) for children aged 4-8 years.

Holy Rosary: 8:30, 5:30p.m. Monday to Friday

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 6:15pm, hall committee room. Celerina 298 4080

Medjugorje prayer meetings: Mondays, @ 2/1 Clark Rd, Joseph 298 2297

Meditation Groups: Tuesdays 9.40am Fr Ryder Rm. (St Anne's Manurewa every Monday 5-6pm in the Chapel.)

Knitting group: each 2nd & 4th Tuesday: 1- 3 pm Ryder Rm. Jenny 297 7292

St Vincent de Paul Foodbank Office: Food parcels please phone for an appointment. Mob: 021 026 71430

St Vincent de Paul Shop: Mon—Fri 10:00-3:00pm Sat 10:00-1:00pm 275 Great South Rd, 296 5052



We pray for those who have died

Florentyna Monica Tautava Iosefo, Ben Hamilton, Mila Moredo, Marcie Thorburn, Francis Morine, Aleksander Goryl, Patricia Anne Burke, Seamus O'Sullivan, Douglas Smith, Janice Moran

And those whose anniversaries occur at this time including:

David Bruce Pullan, Catherine Schuller, Michelle Toxopeus, Trevor Norman Davis, Lesley Frances Peace, Ignatius Giborees, Winifred Pollard, John Joyce, Megan Jefferies, Angela Alcano Adsett, Charles Alfred Sims, Kevin James Ross, John Blinkhorn, Ann Simms, Florence Loomans, Ngaire Elizabeth Ross, Nora Gertrude Prince, Maria Johanna Hall, Harold Thomas Downs, Willebrordus (Kees) Borsboom, Lauvale Eneliko Lui Paulo, David Ian Paton, Teresa Hawkins, Josephine Mabel Eeson, Emily Alicia Baardman, Daphne Josephine McEntee, John Bernard Costello, Anne Surgenor, Margaret Elsie Whitham, Eric Andrew Kozanic, Helen Rosemay Kidd, Anne Barron, Mary Benton, Vida Joan Hareb, Herman Joseph Kroef, Helen Martha O'Connor

We pray for those who are sick including:

Elizabeth Nau, Alipati Afoa, Elizabeth Schubert, Marna & Tony Starbuck, Joe Loomans, Pauleen McDonald, Daphne Bankien, Christopher Bird, Ian Milliken, Helen Moverley, Sue Waine and Margaret (Jean) Soo-Choon, Lorraine Duley, Teresita Carezo, Colleen Foster, Helena Inoke Tatafu, Neil Stewart, Terry Brunton

Church Events:

School Preference Forms: Please note that Fr James is available to sign **School Preference Forms** on **Thursday Mornings from 10am to 12noon and afternoons from 4pm to 6pm** in the Parish Office by appointment. Many thanks for your co-operation.

Parish Baptisms:

Baptisms will be celebrated every **THIRD SUNDAY** of the month after the 10.30am Mass. Please note that there will be a monthly group baptismal preparation course in the **RYDER ROOM** on the **last Thursday of the month at 7.00pm**. Please contact Parish Office at **09 299-6056**. No paper-work - no baptism.

PARISH SITE DEVELOPMENT

"Building A Vibrant Faith Community"

Online Donations:

Acc. 02-0100-0120982-10

REF: Build Fund

Include your pledge number or contact parish office for receipt. **Please note that you can also make automatic pledge payments to the above Account Number. Your support is most appreciated!**



Parish Building Project Fundraising Team Contact Details

Can you help make our dream for a better church a reality? Contact one of us to arrange a time to meet to discuss your options. There will be an option that will work for you. We can also explain how up to 33% of your donation can be claimed back from IRD.

David Tennent – dandict@gmail.com
09 268 1884 or 027 489 4404

Vince O'Loughlin – loch.ness@xtra.co.nz
09 291 9194 or 021 379 845



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL, PAPAOKURA

54 Clark Road

We love being an active part of our parish community. Your children are our children. Your family is our family.

Together We Learn, We Pray, We serve

Me Whakakotahi, Kia Maarama, Kia Pono, Ki Te Karakia

ENROL NOW! PLACES ARE FILLING UP FAST!

Visits welcome. Contact our school office on **09 298 4450** or visit our new website. www.stmaryspapakura.school.nz

Follow us on Facebook too!

ST IGNATIUS of LOYOLA CATHOLIC COLLEGE

Burt Road, Drury

"To educate the young is to transform the world"

Jesuit education pioneer

St Ignatius of Loyola Catholic College will provide a Catholic education in the spirit of St Ignatius and the tradition of Jesuit education. Bishop Steve Lowe, Roman Catholic Bishop of Auckland is the Proprietor of the college. The new Diocesan college will open Term 1, 2024 with 340 Year 7 to 9 students. The roll will grow to 900 Year 7 to 13 students by 2030. Through its enrolment scheme priority will be given to preference students from St Joseph's Catholic School Pukekohe, St Mary's Catholic School, Papakura and Holy Trinity Catholic School, Takanini. Earthworks have been completed and the design is now also closed out. You can take a look at the first stage of the College using this flythrough:

ENROLLING NOW FOR 2024 YEAR 7, 8, 9

Visit www.saintignatius.school.nz



Holy Trinity Catholic Primary School

Learn Love Serve
Ka Ako Ka Aroha Ka Manaaki

137 Airfield Road, Takanini
School website: www.holytrinity.school.nz
School email: office@holytrinity.school.nz
Contact us at 296 9039
Enquiries and school visits welcome

St Mary's Youth Group

'You are the Church of today'
"Everyone is welcome to the smyfs family"

When: Friday evenings every fortnight
7:00pm- 8:30pm

Where: Church hall
Who: Ages 10 and over

Term 4 dates:

28 October 25 November
11 November 9 December

Parent contact: **Tracey Luamanu**
Phone Number: 027 388 1556
Youth leader contact: **Tahnee TePuia-Afoa**
Phone number: 021 084 4848

Planned Giving

Please join our Planned Giving Scheme and receive a 33% tax deduction for your donation.

Hall Hireage —

Parish hall is available for bookings for all occasions.

Please check availability at Parish Office or email us at office@stmarys.papakura.co.nz



Information on the Synod We are currently at the start of the 2021-2023 Synod For A Synodal Church. To find out more about this process including how to get involved head to the website <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/synod/> where you can read all about it and download information.



Parish offices will be closed from **24th December 2022**, re-opening on **1st February 2023**.

To join ALPHA please scan the QR Code for registration



ST VINCENT DE PAUL wish to thank everyone who has donated gifts and money towards our Christmas appeal. Through your generosity we have able to make Christmas brighter for many needy families in our community.

With grateful thanks, GOD bless you all.

St. Vincent de Paul Food Bank

Food parcel items that would be greatly appreciated are: Canned Mackerel / fruit, Milk Powder, Biscuits, Peanut Butter, Jams and Toiletries

St Vincent de Paul Shop Papakura

This is a continued call for volunteers. Please contact **Rosanne 021 073 8236**

Season's Greetings



What a difference a year makes! Even though Covid is still with us, we have had a very full and productive year here at St Mary's. On behalf of our Parish Team, I want to wish you, your Whanau/Families and loved ones a very happy, holy Christmas and a peaceful, safe start to the New Year. Thank you all for your prayers, generosity, and support over 2022. We look forward to 2023 with full confidence, under the protection of Mary Mother of God. Cheers and Blessings, Meri Kirihimete, *Father James*

Christmas and New Year Masses Schedule

24th December
7:00 pm—Vigil Mass

10:00 pm—Carols

11:00 pm—Christmas Eve Mass

25th December
9:00 am—Christmas Mass

31st December
5:00 pm

1st January 2023
8:30 am / 10:30am

God's Word 2023 for \$20

Daily Mass Calendars for \$3

2023 Columban Art Calendars for \$17

Available from the office

Parish Safeguarding Training

on **26th February 2023** after 10:30 am mass.

All Volunteers must attend.

ARE YOU SEARCHING FOR A PLACE TO BELONG?
ST MARY'S PAPAOKURA CATHOLIC CHURCH
YOU ARE WELCOME HERE!
THINKING ABOUT BECOMING A MEMBER?
ARE YOU BAPTIZED CATHOLIC & LOOKING FOR MORE?

SACRAMENTAL RITES OF INITIATION
FIRST EUCHARIST/CONFIRMATION
DO YOU DESIRE TO DEEPEN YOUR KNOWLEDGE AND UNDERSTANDING OF THE FAITH OF THE CATHOLIC FAITH?
WHERE DO YOU BEGIN?
ALL YOU HAVE TO DO IS ASK
WE INVITE YOU TO JOIN THE ST MARY'S FAITH FAMILY
BECOMING CATHOLIC BEGIN YOUR JOURNEY WITH US
CONNECT WITH US
office@stmaryspapakura.co.nz

NO PARKING Due to health and safety concerns, please note that **no parking** is permitted outside the front entrance of our church on the Wellington Street side. Changes have been made on East street parking please observe. Many thanks for your co-operation.

New to the Parish

Welcome

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

Week 26th—31st Dec.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Psalm	31 p.40	97 p.106	124 p.137	96 p.105	128 p.139	96 p.105
1 Reading	Acts 6:8-10,7:54-59	1 John 1:1-4	1 John 1:5-2:2	1 John 2:3-11	1 Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6,12-14 2. Colossians 3:12-21	1 John 2:18-21
Gospel	Matthew 10:17-22	John 20:2-8	Mathew 2:13-18	Luke 2:22-35	Matthew 2:13-15,19-23	John 1:1-18