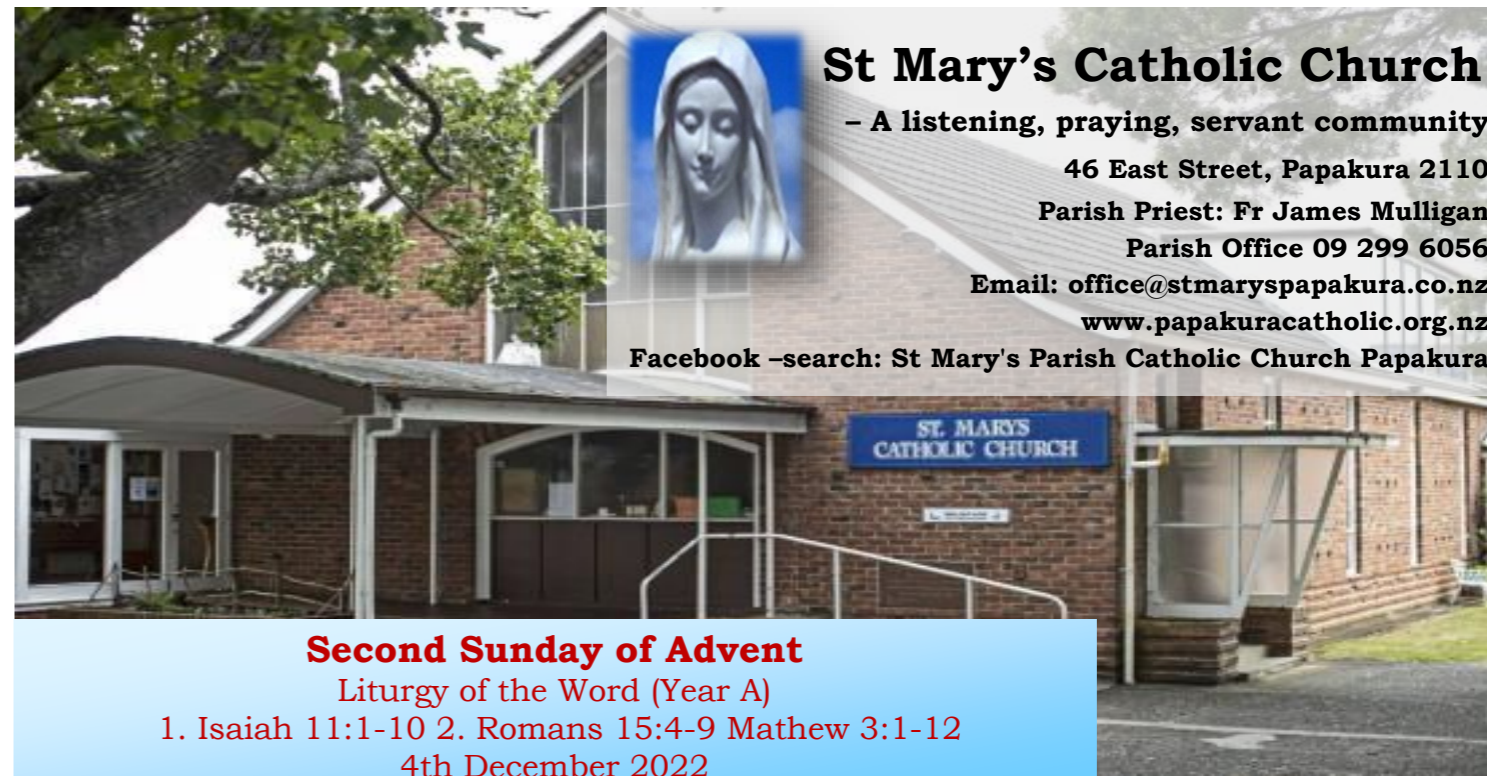



Third Week of Advent
 1. Isaiah 35:1-6, 10 2. James 5:7-10 Mathew 11:2-11
 11th December 2022

Sunday	Saturday 5pm	Sunday 8:30am	Sunday 10:30
 Welcome/Intercessions	Barbriana Soo Choon	Leni Erlano	Maricris Amposta
 Ministers of the Word	Jennifer Fyn Margaret Fairweather	Evan Maratas Moevao Hugo Feagaiaga	Normita Tolentino Arnel Mantes
 Extra-Ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist	Anthony Thomas Atelina Hunt Dennis Sanga Raquel Sanga Peter Foster	Tahnee Tepiua Afoa Falaniko Malaki James Obeng Shyamalee Krone Celerina Robertson	Lucie / Nelson de Jesus Anna Cullen Miriam Mantes Jane Castrillo Letisia Koloamatangi Liveti Manase
 Altar Servers	Oliver Kiutau Patelesio Kiutau Luke Kiutau	Sheshan Krone Jeevani Krone Vinesse Sapolu	Fomai Sapolu (cross) Finn Butler Arabella Williams




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


Second Sunday of Advent
 Liturgy of the Word (Year A)
 1. Isaiah 11:1-10 2. Romans 15:4-9 Mathew 3:1-12
 4th December 2022



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

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)

In late 2013, a young woman from Syria gave birth to her child in Israel. Because she was going into labour, she chose to cross the border nearby her village because she couldn't get to a local hospital in time. Israeli soldiers were patrolling on their side of the border when she asked them for help. They transferred her to a hospital in Galilee. To her amazement, the Israeli midwives and doctors treated her with the greatest sensitivity and respect. She felt she was among friends. Even though Syria and Israel are still mortal enemies, scores of Syrians like her have come to Israel as refugees from the civil war still raging in Syria. Her story shows that the meeting of basic human needs makes us all the same despite our differences. The "golden rule" of doing good for mutual benefit applies to all cultures and religious traditions. As it says in a line from the Muslim scriptures: "I would like to be a bridge over fire so that creatures might pass over me and not be harmed by it."

In our Gospel, John the Baptist also wants to be like a bridge over fire. In fulfilment of Isaiah's vision of a new king after the heart of David the one whom John is preparing the way for will, like a young shoot, cause new life to spring up from where once there was only death. That person is Jesus. Matthew makes John, like Jesus, a proclaimer of the kingdom of heaven: "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is very close." As a lone voice crying out in a desert wilderness, John calls his people not just to cleanse themselves to avoid punishment but to change their mindset. The baptism John offers for the forgiveness of sin is not an end in itself but a step along the way to Israel reclaiming the true meaning of repentance to produce its appropriate fruit. Despite the crowds' expectation that he may be the One (given the distinctiveness of his dress, diet, and lifestyle), John fulfils the promise of scripture by giving way to Jesus as a perfect example of humility. From Matthew's perspective, John's vocation is to lead the heart to the place where God will speak. Through John, we see how God-in-Jesus brings us over the border that leads from death to life to fulfil the Psalmist's vision. That justice shall flourish in God's time, and fullness of peace forever.

As we travel further along the road of Advent, it's easy for us to put up obstacles that bar the way to Jesus coming to us where we are. Like the Pharisees and Sadducees whom John condemns for viewing his baptism as nothing more than fire insurance, we Catholics can be blasé about this season as if we can make a straight path just by observing the externals. Yet Covid has taught us to yearn for something deeper. Isaiah's vision of a world free of hurt in which hereditary enemies live in peaceful coexistence and Paul's call to us in Romans to become more tolerant with each other, following the example of Christ Jesus, show us how to find greater personal meaning and connection to overcome all that divides and isolates. Over the past few months, our Parish Senior Leadership Team has been crafting a vision statement for everyone's consideration. As we rebuild our Parish, how can we be a welcoming, active, and listening community of missionary disciples of Jesus Christ? The way to human flourishing is through the desert of honest self-confrontation, in that sin not only affects individuals but families, communities, and society. How many of us will gather to celebrate our Advent Rite II Reconciliation service this Friday? If we take our cue from a young mother's willingness to overcome her ingrained prejudices for the sake of her own child, then preparing a way for the Lord of Advent shouldn't be all that hard. In the end it's not so much a matter of finding Jesus but of Jesus finding us. To baptise us with the Holy Spirit and with fire...

There are times in life when we are called to be bridges, not a great monument spanning a distance and carrying loads of heavy traffic but a simple bridge to help one person from here to there over some difficulty such as pain, fear, grief, loneliness, a bridge which opens the way for ongoing journey.

When I become a bridge for another, I bring upon myself a blessing, for I escape from the small prison of self and exist for a wider world, breaking out to be a larger being who can enter another's pain and rejoice in another's triumph.

I know of only one greater blessing in this life, and that is to allow someone else to be a bridge for me.

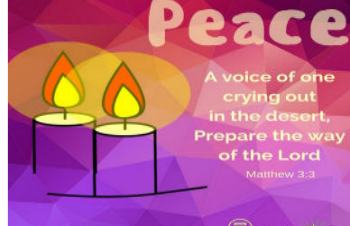
(Joy Cowley, *The Bridge*)

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)



Peace
 A voice of one crying out in the desert. Prepare the way of the Lord
 Matthew 3:3

"God's word 2023"
 \$20.00 each or \$25.00 after Christmas.
 If you want a copy please call Parish Office at 09 2996056
 Thank you.

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:

Mary Bell 2013, Veronica McKinsty 2012, Johanna Browne 2008, Martin O'Brien 2011, Elaine Tessa Nikolao 2016, Leydon James Papps 2006, Sandra Ann Lynch 2006, Marie (Pat) Eckhoff 2016, Charles Benedict Waith 2020, Catherine Mary Fay 2000, Mafatua Pune 2010, Beverley Leslie Leila Neal 2020, Mary Verona Nash 2015, Bill van den Bogaart 2018, Eleanor Yee 2018, Kenneth Fabris 2009, Henry O'Brien Gardiner 2001, John van Lieshout 2016, Elsie Smith 2018, Josephus Magilsen 2000, Morris Nash 2011, Mary Patricia (Pat) O'Sullivan 2017, Barbara Margaret Spuur 2018, Tunu Lemisio Lepou 2021, Trevor Harold Orr 2006, Luzminda Reyes-Grundy 2017, Paea 'I La'e Hafoka 2020, Franciscus (Hank) Kleinsman 2014, Vitale Faleniko Lama 2007, Alma Dawn Talbot 2015, Jack Turner, John Turner

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

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, PAPA KURA

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:

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PbvT1h3VdIU>



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.

St Mary's Parish Children's Liturgy Leaders needed -

Come and join our wonderful team of Children's Liturgy Leaders! If you have wanted to be more involved in our parish but weren't sure how then this is the opportunity for you. Resources and support are provided as well as a great opportunity to bring the Word of God to our children at their level. Children's Liturgy runs every Sunday at the 10.30am Mass during term time. If anyone is interested or would like more information, please email Anna Buckley annab@stmaryspapakura.school.nz we would love to have you join our roster for 2023.

St Ignatius of Loyola Catholic College
An Ignatian education in Southern Auckland

ENROLLING NOW FOR 2024 YEAR 7, 8 & 9
Visit www.saintignatius.school.nz

St. Vincent de Paul

Food parcel items that would be greatly appreciated are: Breakfast foods, sugar, tea, soup in tins and flour.



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

To join ALPHA please scan the QR Code for registration



New to the Parish

Welcome

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

Week 5 th — 10 th Dec.	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Psalm	85 p.90	96 p.105	103A p.113	98 p.107	1 p.14	80 p.84
1 Reading	Isaiah 35:1-10	Isaiah 40:1-11	Isaiah 40:25-31	1. Genesis 3:9 -15,20 2. Ephesians 1:3-6,11-12	Isaiah 48:17-19	Ecclesiasticus 48:1-4,9-11
Gospel	Luke 5:17-26	Mathew 18:12-14	Mathew 11:28-30	Luke 1:26-38	Mathew 11:16-19	Mathew 17:10-13

Christmas Carols

You're Invited!

PARISH FUNDRAISING ACTIVITY

WHEN 10 Saturday December 2022, 7pm - onwards
WHERE St Mary's School Hall, 54 Clark Road, Papakura
ADMISSION Donation for the Parish Building Fund

ENJOY THE SHOW / JOIN THE EVENT

Food Stalls available, please bring Cash!
For more details, contact the Parish Office at (09)299 6056

Join Us!

10TH SATURDAY DEC 2022

Parish Safe Guarding Training

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

All Volunteers must attend.

2023 Calendar

for **\$17.00** each. Please call parish office.

ARE YOU SEARCHING FOR A PLACE TO BELONG?

ST MARYS PAPA KURA 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

Calling volunteers to help with our Christmas Masses **24th December, 7pm and 11pm** and Christmas day **25th December 9am**.

If you are able to help with the following - **first aider, car park warden, ushers** please contact office.

15th—23rd December 2022 at 7:00pm except 21st December at 6:30pm

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.