



Second Sunday in Advent

YEAR C



9 December 2018

The WORD This Week

Again we hear about the coming Day of Christ, and meet the character of John the Baptist. Just as once before he “ prepared the way for the coming of Christ, so today he does the same for us. Our hearts should be open to his voice, as he calls us to repentance, and asks us to make the way straight for the coming of our Lord. The imagery of this Sunday is particularly rich: the dominant image is of a vast population moving together - the return from exile in the first reading, the going and coming of the sowers in the psalm, the community of the Church preparing together in Paul's letter. We prepare for the coming of the Lord as His people - a community who cooperate to make the processional way” of the Holy One - flattening the hills of opposition and ridicule, filling in the valleys of doubt and despair, so that “ all mankind shall see the salvation of God.”

Lord Jesus, keep us watchful to find your presence.

In our chaos,
oh let us hear once again the
Baptist crying out to us:
*“Prepare the way,
make straight the paths.
Every valley filled and hills made low.
All flesh shall see the salvation of God.”*

God of constant newness,
carve fresh roads into our wilderness.

Let our whole life point to Jesus.
He has been born here,
is with us now,
turning our desert
into gardens.

Anne Osdieck

GOSPEL SPIRITUALITY Joyful Anticipation

Advent is a time of joyful anticipation. It is time, the prophet Baruch says, “to take off your robe of mourning and misery,” for God is leading his people “with his mercy and justice for company.” God’s people “are wrapped in the cloak of justice from God,” and they “will be named by God forever the peace of justice.” Paul, too, speaks of joyful anticipation, of waiting for “the day of Christ Jesus.” He encourages the Philippians to grow in “love, understanding, wealth of experience, clear conscience, and blameless conduct,” and he concludes with a wish: “that you may be found rich in the harvest of justice which Jesus Christ has ripened in you.”

The message of John the Baptist is to prepare the way for the coming of Christ, to make straight the windings and to make smooth the rough ways. We need a “baptism of repentance,” a cleansing from the old ways of “greed and darkness” and a commitment to a new way of living. We need to challenge the wisdom of the world in the way it was challenged by that prophet in the desert. **G.D. / liturgy.slu.edu**



A huge thank you for your wonderful generosity in gifts/food/money which has been donated for the Marist Alternative school, St Vincent de Paul & Little Sprouts. These have now been put into hampers & gifted wrapped for Christmas delivery.

Christmas Masses

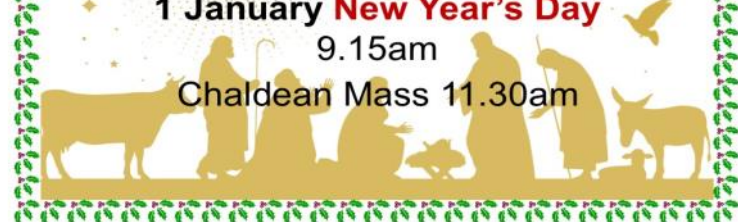
24 December Monday
Carol service 6.25pm
Family Christmas Vigil
7.00pm

24 December Carol service 11.25pm
Midnight Mass
12 midnight

25 December Carols 8.45am
Christmas Day Mass
9.00am
Chaldean Mass 11.30am

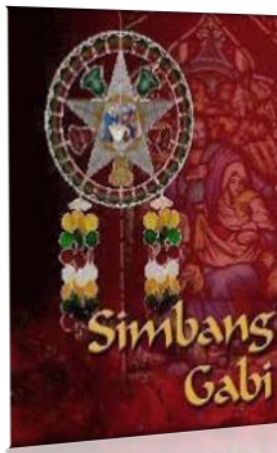
31 December Monday
New Year's Eve
7.30pm Mass

1 January New Year's Day
9.15am
Chaldean Mass 11.30am



COME & CELEBRATE
Monday 17 December until 24
December at 6am.

Literally means “Night Mass”, **Simbang Gabi** is a novena (nine day series) of dawn Masses practiced by Roman Catholics in the Philippines from 16th to 24th of December in anticipation of Christmas. The nine successive masses held in honor of the Blessed Virgin Mary represent the nine month stay of the infant Jesus in the womb of His Mother, that leads to the celebration of the Solemnity of Christmas on December 25.



FOOD and FRIENDSHIP
No Charge! “Eddie’s Meals”
at Rosmini College Auditorium,
36 Dominion St, Takapuna.
Fridays - 14 and 21 Dec at 6pm

Eddie’s Meals aims to bring together, through food and conversation, people who might eat alone, people who live without much excess, people looking for friendship, those feeling isolated or lonely. **Bring nothing – just come.** Or bring along someone who would enjoy and benefit from the experience.



THE WORD OF GOD

2nd Sunday of Advent

Sunday

Baruch 5:1-9

Psalm 126

Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11

Luke 3:1-6

Monday

Isaiah 35:1-10

Psalm 85

Luke 5:17-26

Tuesday

Isaiah 40:1-11

Psalm 96

Matthew 18:12-14

Wednesday

Isaiah 40:25-31

Psalm 103

Matthew 11:28-30

Thursday

Isaiah 41: 13-20

Psalm 145

Matthew 11:11-15

St Lucy

Friday

Isaiah 48:17-19

Psalm 1

Matthew 11:16-19

St John of the Cross

Saturday

Ecclesiasticus 48:1-4, 9-11

Psalm 80

Matthew 17:10-13



Vigil Family Mass: All singers and musicians, please join us in the church for the second of three practices starting on **Monday 10 Dec at 7.30pm.**

Christmas Morning Mass: Singers are needed for this Mass, if you can help please contact Paula stmglenfieldmusic@gmail.com



2019 Columban Art Calendar

\$12 - on sale after Mass or from parish office.
These make great Christmas gifts.

Plus
St Vincent de Paul Christmas Cards
\$2.50 for 5 cards

Last **Thursday Adoration** will be Thursday 13 December 2018 and will resume on Thursday 7 February 2019.

There will be no evening Masses / adoration / novenas during January 2019



Hear the Cry of the Poor and of the Earth.

A day of retreat and reflection on hearing the 'cry of the poor and of the earth' through the lives of St Mary MacKillop who urged us to 'seek the poorest' and ecologist Julian Tenison Woods. **9am - 4pm Saturday 23 February 19** Mary McKillop Centre, 30 Holgate Rd, Kohimarama. Cost: \$15 including lunch. Register with Peter Garrick peterg@cda.org.nz Or phone 022 1300 730 to secure your place.

Enthronement of the Sacred Heart of Jesus



Consecration of your family home to the Sacred Heart of Jesus will start again in the New Year. *Details in the 2019 newsletters.*

Christmas Fundraiser Concert

- An evening of carols, music and song. Featuring Tim Watanabe (former member of NZ Guitar Quartet), Ronan and Beatrice Reilly (Australian Sacred Music Association) Sunday 16 December 2018, 6:30pm. 3 Cole Place, Te Atatu South \$20 per person, Students and children by donation **All welcome**



Altar Servers ROSTER 15 & 16 Dec

Saturday 15 December 5.30pm Vigil	Martina Mercado Ysabel Mercado Annah Mathew Projectionists: Peter Grant
Sunday 16 December 8.00am	To be confirmed. Projectionist: Ric Reyes
Sunday 16 December 10.00am	Raffi Rassam Michael Bennett Projectionist: Mary Hartley

Advent Reconciliation

Wednesday	12 Dec	Northcote	7pm
Thursday	13 Dec	East Coast Bays	7pm
Friday	14 Dec	Glenfield	7pm
Monday	16 Dec	Devonport	5pm
Wednesday	18 Dec	Takapuna	7pm
		Beach Haven	No reconciliation

Time Out Day for reflection and prayer

St Francis Retreat Centre, 50 Hillsborough Road, Mt Roskill.
Wednesday 12 December 2018, 9.30am – 2.30pm
Light lunch provided. Gold coin donation for the day-
Booking essential : ph. 09 625 6651
or email admin@stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz

FIRE WARDENS

We are still looking for fire wardens to cover all the Masses. If interested, please email the parish office or write your name on the clipboard in the foyer. **Thanks**



ADVENT WOMEN'S RETREAT

Saturday-December 15
St Joseph's Retreat Centre, Takapuna
9:30am - 5:00pm
Cost: \$20 includes lunch - Register: st.thomas.more@xtra.co.nz

- Having a Mary Heart in a Martha world -

ADVENT WOMEN'S RETREAT - Take time out in the busy-ness of our lives and rest for a day.

Just \$20 includes lunch. To register contact Parish office 444 8624 email: st.thomas.more@xtra.co.nz or Manu Bennett 022 080 4233

Board Required: 18 Year old, Catholic student. Moving from Christchurch to North Shore to study. Board needed for the year. References can be provided and for more information, please contact Jonathan Challies at director.jc12@gmail.com or on 0221739278.

Mercy Spirituality Centre
104 The Drive, Epsom. Ph. 638 6238 or www.mercyspiritualitycentre.org.nz
RETREAT: Who are You O God and Who am I?

with CHRISTINA CATHRO rmdm. 11, 12 & 13 Dec, 10am-1pm. \$65 per 3-day Retreat. We fall into a particular way of seeing and know God that we are given a lifetime to unveil. This is a silent morning retreat with input from Christina, time to oneself and group sharing.
RETREAT DAY: Rediscovering Wholeness of Life in Christ: How gratitude opens the way with SARAH COOPER. Saturday 16 February 9.30am-3.30pm. \$65 including lunch.
MUSIC WORKSHOP: Psalms and Gratitude with Fr CHRIS SKINNER sm. Saturday 23 February, 0am - 1pm. \$30 including morning tea. St Columba Centre, Ponsonby Road, Auckland. email: info@mercyspiritualitycentre.org.nz to register.

Please pray for our sick parishioners & their families

Peter Marshall, Patrick Pabalan, Emelda Armishaw, Joan Rumble, Tamar Mathews, Israel Nathan, Eloise McFadden, Mary Jury and Gary & Cathy Sigley
Contact office for any name changes ph 444 8624

NZCatholic
Newly ordained joy
The latest issue in your church Sunday Dec. 2

Confirmation First / Eucharist 2019

Forms are now in the foyer to enrol your child into the sacramental programme. Complete the form and return to the box in the foyer or hand into the parish office.

ALL WELCOME to a cuppa after the 10am Mass Hosted by the Tongan community

NB: No cuppas 30 Dec & all of January 2019

Baptism Preparation courses will recommence in March 2019

Church Cleaning 15 December 2018
Dominic Lobo, Ivan Rodrigues and Rosa Statella
Queries ph Sharon 441 6454

Holy Cross Seminary
www.holycross.org.nz