



# Third Sunday of Advent C

St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield, 12 December 2021

## The WORD This Week

"The man who thinks he is safe must be careful he does not fall."  
This is the theme of this Sunday: it underlines the need for repentance, which is the focus of our Lenten journey in Year C. Jesus, in the Gospel, uses two recent events in order to illustrate his point about sin and repentance - there is a price to be paid for sin, but there is a way of avoiding it: if we repent, we will have salvation and a new and real freedom. This idea is emphasised in the parable, where we see a tree not being condemned immediately, but given a chance to change and produce fruit. So are we. This links in with the two other readings, which also talk about escape - the escape of Israel from Egypt. This is to be a warning for us, as Saint Paul says: if we are Christians, we must live as Christians, and be aware of the need to watch our lives and the direction they are taking.

## Prayer for the Third Sunday of Advent

What should we do  
to ready our hearts  
O Lord for your coming?

Your Baptist says we must  
give away our coat,  
share our food,  
make justice for all.

Lord, baptize us with  
the fire of your Holy Spirit  
burn the chaff from the wheat.  
gather us into your kind  
and loving arms.

Warm our hearts  
to share your  
love with everyone.

Anne Osdieck

## ADVENT SPIRITUALITY HOPE and JOY

What an overwhelming message is carried in today's liturgy: "Rejoice in the Lord always! May we experience the joy of salvation! Shout for joy! Sing joyfully! Cry out with joy and gladness!" There is a profound sense of hope for a better world to come, a world in which, the prophet says, "you have no further misfortune to fear and the apostle tells us to dismiss all anxiety from your minds." The reason for this joy and hope is clear: "The Lord himself is near" (Second Reading); "there is one to come who is mightier than I" (Gospel). It is within this context of joyous and hopeful expectation of the coming of Christ that we must understand the exhortations of John to the people. Our work for a better world is preparation for the coming of Christ. It is also a sign that the coming of Christ is near. "The Spirit of the Lord sent me to bring Good News to the poor." That is the message which we are to shout with joy: Jesus is coming with Good News for all those who are suffering because of injustice and peacelessness. *Gerald Darring / www.liturgy.slu.edu*



Daily Mass at 6am starting  
Thursday 16 December 2021

Simbang Gabi is a Filipino Advent tradition introduced by the Spanish Friars to allow the farmers to hear mass before going to the fields early in the morning. It is a series of nine dawn masses in anticipation of Christmas and to honor the Blessed Mother. While Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of the infant Jesus, Simbang Gabi is a time to honor the Blessed Mother.

## Temporary Schedule of Masses under RED Phase of the Covid-19 Protection Framework.

### Weekday Masses -

**Monday to Saturday 9.15am** followed by an hour of Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Confessions will be available during Exposition.

**Monday to Friday 6.30pm** Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament. Confessions will be available during Exposition  
**7.30pm** Mass

### Sunday Masses -

**Saturday 5.30pm Vigil Mass** - followed by Drive-through Reception of Holy Communion.

**Sunday 8am** - followed by Drive-through Reception of Holy Communion.

**Sunday 10am (to be live-streamed)** - followed by Drive-through Reception of Holy Communion



Sunday 12 December 2021  
at 10am 3rd Sunday of Advent

[https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8aH3O99\\_bUSYeyM671mOBg](https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC8aH3O99_bUSYeyM671mOBg)

Guidelines for Liturgical Celebrations & Religious Services under the traffic light system at St Thomas More Parish are on our website

## THE WORD OF GOD

### 3rd Sunday of Advent

#### Sunday

Zephaniah 3:14-18

Philippians 4:4-7

Luke 3:10-18

#### Monday

Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17

Matthew 21:23-27

*St Lucy*

#### Tuesday

Zephaniah 3:1-2, 9-13

Matthew 21:28-32

*St John of the Cross*

#### Wednesday

Isaiah 45:6-8, 18, 21-26

Luke 7:19-23

#### Thursday

Isaiah 54:1-10

Luke 7:24-30

#### FRIDAY

Genesis 49:2, 8-10

Matthew 1:1-17

#### Saturday

Jeremiah 23:5-8

Matthew 1:18-24

### Entrance: O COME, O COME EMMANUEL

1. O come, O come, Emmanuel,  
and ransom captive Israel,  
That mourns in lonely exile here,  
until the Son of God appear.

### Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to you, O Israel

2. O come, O come, great Lord of might,  
who to your tribes on Sinai's height.  
In ancient times once gave the law,  
in cloud and majesty and awe.

3. O come, O Dayspring from on high,  
and cheer us by your drawing nigh;  
Disperse the gloomy clouds of night,  
And death's dark shadow put to flight.

4. O come Desire of nations, bind  
In one the hearts of humankind;  
O bid our sad divisions cease,  
And be for us our Prince of Peace.

### Recessional: CHILD OF PROMISE COME

1. O Child of Promise come.  
O come Emmanuel.  
Come Prince of peace to David's throne.  
Come, God with us to dwell.

2. O Come anointed One,  
to show blind eyes your face.  
Good tidings to the poor announce.  
Proclaim God's year of grace.

3. O come now Saviour King,  
to reign in endless light.  
When heav'nly peace at last goes forth  
From Zion's holy height.

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### INSTRUCTIONS for Drive-Through Reception of Holy Communion.

Ensure that everyone in the vehicle brings a face mask to wear.

Enter the church parking lot on St Thomas More Lane. The priest will be standing at the main entrance of the Church.

Park your vehicle horizontally in front of the Holy Communion Station.

First ensure that everyone in the vehicle is wearing a protective face mask and then roll down all windows where people are seated. Do not exit your vehicle.

The priest will begin with the sign of the Cross, then will raise the consecrated Host while saying "Behold the Lamb of God, behold Him who takes away the sins of the world. Blessed are those called to the supper of the Lamb." You will respond as usual with, "Lord, I am not worthy that You should enter under my roof, but only say the word and my soul shall be healed."

The priest will then administer Holy Communion by saying "The Body of Christ." You should then reverently receive the Body of Christ and respond "Amen" You should then pull down your face mask and consume the Body of Christ. It is essential that you spend some time thanking the Lord for His gift of Holy Communion.

As you leave, a small table will be available where you may pickup our parish newsletter or leave an offering/donation. You may also drop off your food donation for St Vincent De Paul food bank.

## NZCatholic

The national Catholic newspaper

December 12 - 26, 2021 • No. 627

**OWL** members put on walking shoes for a good cause

Pope says Paris archbishop hooded out by gossip

### Traffic Light Check



NZ Catholic providing, free of charge, a digital link to the latest issue.

<https://indd.adobe.com/view/ec3d8d91-1f86-4c52-948e-16a861c4ab70>

No morning Teas after 10am Mass until further notice.



### Confirmation & Eucharist 2022

We are now taking registrations for the classes starting in Feb 2022.

Email the parish office: [office@stthomasmore.org.nz](mailto:office@stthomasmore.org.nz) and Mary will email you back the form and information.

### Please pray for our sick parishioners & their families

Peter Marshall, Cathy Sigley  
Tamar Mathews,  
Israel Nathan, Eloise  
McFadden, Mark Delaurier  
Troy Angelo Madrigal  
Mary Anne Clark  
Contact Parish office for name changes.

Love your neighbour as yourself, get vaccinated  
Arohaina koe ki tou hoa tata, ano ko koe



Join Drs Tim Gray and John Sehorn as they examine Mary under her title of the Immaculate Conception. This dogma of the Catholic faith, promulgated in 1854 by Pope Pius IX, speaks of Mary's conception & what it means to the church.

#### How do parishioners register for an account?

Registering for FORMED is easier than ever:

1. Go to [formed.org/signup](https://formed.org/signup)
2. Select your parish by typing in **0629** & select **St Thomas More, 336 Wairau Road, Auckland**
3. Register with your name and email address.
4. Check that email account for a link to begin using FORMED.

### Update Ngā Tapuwāe Cancellation

It is with some sadness that we have decided to cancel Nga Tapuwāe – our planned Northland pilgrimage scheduled for 6-9 January 2022. This difficult decision has been made due to the uncertainty that Covid restrictions have placed on us for the Christmas and New Year timeframe. We hope and pray that we will be able to hiko together again in the following year.

Please do not hesitate to contact Deacon Stephen Fraser on [stephenf@cda.org.nz](mailto:stephenf@cda.org.nz) or 021 439 407 if you have any questions.

**Forrest Hill Family Pharmacy** will be providing booster shots as well as Vaccine certificates for those who don't have access to phones or computers. We can email or mail them out. Please spread the word to your families/friends and send us an email to [info@thefamilypharmacy.co.nz](mailto:info@thefamilypharmacy.co.nz) or give us a call on (09) 449 0635 to arrange this for you. Vaccinations are FREE.  
FH Pharmacy, 7/1 Grenada Ave, Forrest Hill.

### Resources in times of Covid-19 traffic lights

The diocese has a page dedicated to the key information for places of worship at this time <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/covid-protection-framework/>

A reminder that the diocese continues to provide broadcast **Sunday Mass**. It is uploaded at 5.30pm Saturday night to the Youtube channel Auckland Catholic <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCb7o1XYfQet-mOW1mJSzfo> It is also broadcast on Shine TV Sundays at 2.00pm Free-to-air TV Channel 25, Sky TV Channel 201.



In this season when we prepare with hope for the coming of Emmanuel – God with us, all are invited to join a circle of prayer.

Each morning from

**28 November at 8.30am** on the

Diocesan Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/aucklandcatholic> advent prayer will be offered.

We, the diocese, gathering to pause and pray together. Then at **10.30 am 1-24 December** same place we will upload an Advent Calendar. A simple way to connect with the Gospel and live the hope of Advent. **Please join us.**



Kids Korner: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/download/kids-korner/>

Parent Ponderings: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/download/parent-ponderings/>

### De Paul House Christmas Appeal 2021

Supporting families in Need

This year we are aiming to give a gift voucher to every child, teenager and adult, so they choose their own gift. Can you help us?

Vouchers for **Westfield and The Warehouse**

Donate via website <https://www.depaulhouse.org.nz/donations>

Or online bank: **De Paul House 02-0278-0059429-02 Reference "Christmas"**