



# Fourth Sunday of Advent C

St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield, 19 December 2021

## The WORD This Week

It's only in this week before Christmas that we begin to hear about the Christmas story itself. For the past weeks we have been preparing ourselves to greet the Lord, when he comes. Now we prepare to remember how he first came, by listening to the prophecies of his coming, and by hearing of the events before his birth. We meet the woman, Mary, who herself had been prepared for the coming of the Messiah. She has received the angel's greeting, and his strange news, and has accepted her role in God's plan. Now she hurries to her kinswoman, Elizabeth, who herself bears John the Baptist in her womb. John, just as we heard last week, alerts us to the presence of the Lord, as he leaps for joy in his mother's womb. His joy is that God has kept his promise, and is with his people.

## Prayer for the Fourth Sunday of Advent

Treasures spilling over,  
secrets pouring out  
in sheer delight.

The women hugging  
as the baby  
leaps for joy!

Holy Spirit,  
fill us too,  
with yourself.

Teach us to love.  
And let us cry out in joy,  
since the Lord has come to be  
within us and  
within all humankind.

Let our spirits jump for joy!

Anne Osdieck

## ADVENT SPIRITUALITY

### COME LORD JESUS

Lord, let us see your face. We have come so close to the coming of Christ; it is as though we can stand the waiting no longer. We want to see God's face. And what is that face like when it comes? It is the face of God become poor, the all-powerful God taking flesh in the womb of a virgin, that most disparaged of creatures in Jewish culture. It is the face of God become poor, the all-powerful God being born in an obscure village, Bethlehem, "too small to be among the clans of Judah." It is the face of God become poor, the all-powerful God present in the meeting of two insignificant women, far from the worldly centres of power. Christmas happens. Christ comes, but in strange ways and surprising circumstances. Many of us miss the coming of Christ because we expect him where and when he is not. God has to "make us turn in a different direction" so that we can find Christ in poverty (Bethlehem) and in the poor and outcast (Mary and Elizabeth). *Gerald Darring / www.liturgy.slu.edu*



A Filipino Advent Mass Tradition

## Simbang Gabi

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.



## St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield Christmas & New Year's Mass Schedule

**Christmas Eve, Friday 24 December 2021**

5.30 pm - Vigil Mass

7:30 pm - Vigil Mass

**Midnight Mass - Livestream ONLY\***

11:30 pm - Candlelight Carol Service

12:00 am - Midnight Christmas Mass

**Christmas Day, Saturday 25 December 2021**

8:00 am - Mass

10:00 am - Mass, *will also be Livestream\**

11:30 am - Chaldean Christmas Mass

5.30pm - Vigil Mass - 7.30pm - Vigil Mass

**Sunday 26 December 2021 Feast of the Holy Family**

8:00 am - Mass

10:00 am - Mass, *will also be Livestream\**

5.30pm Mass - 7.30pm Mass

**New Year's Eve, Friday 31 December 2021**

9.15am - Mass

5.30pm - Mass

7:30 pm - New Year's Eve Mass

**New Year's Day, Saturday 1 January 2022**

**Solemnity of Mary, Mother of God**

9:15am, 5.30pm & 7.30pm

**Sunday 2 January 2022 The Epiphany of the Lord**

8:00 am - Mass

10:00 am - Mass, *will also be Livestream\**

6.00 pm - Chaldean Mass

7.30 pm - Mass

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

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



**LIVE  
STREAM**

**Sunday 19 December 2021  
10am 4th Sunday of Advent**

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



Check out online the latest Catholic Diocese of Auckland news magazine - CDA Connect.

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/services/cda-connect/>

## THE WORD OF GOD

### 4th Sunday of Advent

#### Sunday

Micah 5:1-4  
Hebrews 10:5-10  
Luke 1:39-44

#### Monday

Isaiah 7:10-14  
Luke 1:26-38

#### Tuesday

Songs 2:8-14  
Luke 1:39-45

#### Wednesday

1 Samuel 1:24-28  
Luke 1:46-56

#### Thursday

Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24  
Luke 1:57-66

#### FRIDAY

2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-11, 16  
Luke 1:67-79

#### Saturday

Isaiah 52:7-10  
Hebrews 1:1-6  
John 1:1-18

*The Nativity of the Lord*

**NZCatholic**  
The national Catholic newspaper

December 12, 2021 • No. 627

CNL members put on walking shoes for a good cause  
Pope says Paris archbishop hounded 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 ko e koe i tou hoi tata, and ko koe

## 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.

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.

## THE KING SHALL COME

The kings shall come when morning dawns  
and light triumphant dawns  
When beauty gilds the eastern hills and life to  
joy awakes.

Not as of old a little child,  
To bear and fight and die,  
But crowned with glory like the sun,  
that lights the morning sky.

The king shall come when morning dawns,  
and light and beauty brings.  
Hail, Christ the Lord your people pray; come  
quickly, king of kings.



## FORMED

Trust in God  
by Brigid DeMoor  
Long before an angel  
appeared to a young

girl named Mary, the need for the angel's message was firmly established in history. At the start of Creation, mankind had rebelled, choosing to trust something other than their Creator, bringing sin and death into the world. So how does that event connect to a young virgin and a startling visit from a celestial being?

### 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.**

Thank you so much for your wonderful generous, festive donations to fill our Christmas food hampers.

We were able to fill over 20 fabulous hampers just like this one...

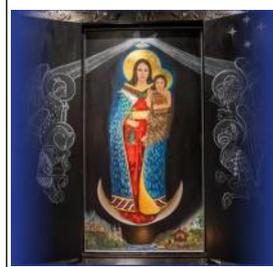


## TITIPOUNAMU Study & Joy

For more information for online sessions and registration: [www.studyjoy.nz](https://www.studyjoy.nz)

**Muffin Talk Radio Programme recordings and video clips on religion, interfaith and community available at** <https://www.studyjoy.nz/category/resources/muffin-talk/>

Interview with **Pat Lythe** on **Synods**: <https://www.studyjoy.nz/2021/12/09/pat-lythe-on-muffin-talk/>



On 15 August, the newly commissioned art piece **"Ko Hāta Maria, te Matua Wahine o te Atua Holy Mary Mother of God"** began a nationwide hiko wairua (pilgrimage). The art piece will journey through our diocese from 19 December 2021 to 15 February 2022. The

itinerary of the hiko wairua is on the diocesan website [www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/](https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/). If you are wanting to view the artwork, please check with the host parish for church opening times and any applicable health and safety guidelines. Information about the art piece: [www.tearaamaria.nz](https://www.tearaamaria.nz)

**ST JOSEPH'S PARISH**, 10 Dominion St, Takapuna. 26 December 2021 to 1 January 2022

**MARIA ASSUMPTA PARISH**  
198 Beach Haven Road, Beach Haven.  
2 January 2022 to 15 January 2022

### Advent Time Out Day –

Spend a day in quiet reflection at St Francis Retreat Centre - 9:30am – 2:30pm (\$30 includes lunch)  
Monday 20 December Venue: St Francis Retreat Centre, 50 Hillsborough Rd, Hillsborough.  
Bookings: [admin@stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz](mailto:admin@stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz)

### GIDEA PARK STUDY DAY: THE EVOLUTION OF THE MASS

On Saturday 15 January 2022 Professor John Morrill will lead a Study Day on *'The Evolution of the Mass'*, tracing the development of the Eucharistic liturgy from the earliest centuries to the present day. He will explore in particular the teaching of Trent and Vatican II, and the latest papal instructions on the celebration of Mass.

To access this free live stream event simply go to [www.whatgoodnews.org](https://www.whatgoodnews.org) The event begins at 11.00 GMT and ends by 13.30. No prior registration is needed. To be added to our mailing list simply follow the instructions on the home page of the website.

### 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/>



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/>

**Mary MacKillop Retreat Centre** If anyone wishes to join our Mary MacKillop Retreat Centre database Contact Sr Jill McLoughlin via email:

[MBSpirituality@sosj.org.au](mailto:MBSpirituality@sosj.org.au) This will ensure you will receive information throughout the year about our retreats and reflections days.

### What is happening with the Synod?

To find out about the Synod, what it is exactly, what's happening locally consider signing up for **Synod Snapshot** a fortnightly newsletter that after this week's edition will be published fortnightly from 26 January.