



FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY OF JESUS MARY & JOSEPH

The WORD This Week

As an example for us to follow, the Holy Family can seem a little too perfect: when we consider the more dramatic events of the Christmas and Easter story, it can seem so far removed from us.

And yet, as today's Gospel reminds us there were also the so called hidden years - the many years of family life in Nazareth, spent in ordinary things. During that time, we hear how Jesus grew and matured, and in the glimpse of that family life we see our example. Our celebration of this feast announces that there is a lasting value in the ideals of family life, and the relationship between husband, wife, parents and children. Whatever the changing details of each age, honour, understanding and love always remain the recipe for the perfect, and holy, human family. It is love that we put on over all the other clothes of changing cultures and places, to guarantee the life of the family in imitation of the Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.

A Prayer to the Holy Family

Heavenly Father,
we ask You to bless our family.
Open our hearts to receive Your love.
May our home be another Nazareth,
so that our family may be a place
where Your peace and love abides.
Open our eyes to recognize the gift
and beauty of life,
so that we may find joy in
Your presence among us.
Grant us pure hearts seeking holiness,
generous hearts full of Your love,
merciful hearts ready to forgive and
tender hearts full of kindness.
May our family be a sanctuary of life and love,
a beacon of hope
drawing others to your Son, Jesus Christ.
Amen.
Jesus, Mary, and Joseph,
Holy Family of Nazareth,
pray for us.

CHRISTMAS SPIRITUALITY THE HOLY FAMILY

The Holy Family of Mary, Joseph and Jesus is a symbol of what every family should be like. It is in a special way a sign of the unity of the human family. Today's liturgy tells of all the qualities which should characterize the human family: respect, care, kindness, forgiveness, love, peace, duty. It expresses, in terms of the culture of biblical times, the ideal of harmony and working together.

The boy Jesus disturbed his family's internal harmony momentarily, but with good reason, for the sake of something higher. The internal harmony of today's human family is also being disturbed, but for the sake of things baser: greed, the will to dominate, disregard for human dignity, pride, selfishness. "Why have you done this to us?" This is the question that must be impressed upon all those who disturb the unity of the human family, the oppressors, racists and sexists, the hoarders of wealth, the polluters of the land, the abusers of children, the neglectors of the elderly, the instigators of war, the killers and rapists, the indifferent. And of course, in our day, ISIS. "Why have you done this to us?" *Gerald Darrig / www.liturgy.slu.edu*



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



Bishop Lowe appointed as Bishop of Auckland

Pope Francis has appointed Bishop Stephen Lowe as the new Catholic Bishop of Auckland. The appointment was announced in Rome at midnight on 18 December 2021. Bishop Lowe, who had been Bishop of Hamilton replaces Bishop Patrick Dunn, who was appointed as Auckland Bishop in 1994, and is retiring. The Diocese of Auckland has almost 40 per cent of New Zealand's 471,000 Catholics. Bishop Lowe was ordained as bishop of Hamilton in February 2015. Born in Hokitika, he was ordained as a priest for the Diocese of Christchurch in Hokitika in 1996.

You can read more about Bishop Lowe in the latest NZ Catholic online <https://indd.adobe.com/view/7cf1046d-de15-49c7-9232-0e8ea6146abf>

THE WORD OF GOD

Sunday

Ecclesiasticus

3:2-6, 12-14

Colossians 3:12-21

Luke 2:41-52

*The Holy Family of Jesus,
Mary and Joseph*

Monday

1 John 1:1-4

John 20:2-8

St John, apostle & evangelist

Tuesday

1 John 1:5-2:2

Matthew 2:13-18

The Holy Innocents, martyrs

Wednesday

1 John 2:3-11

Luke 2:22-35

Thursday

1 John 2:12-17

Luke 2:36-40

FRIDAY

1 John 2:18-21

John 1:1-18

Saturday

Numbers 6:22-27

Galatians 4:4-7

Luke 2:16-21

The Epiphany of the Lord



Wishing you all a very
Happy & Holy Christmas
and a New Year full of
health and happiness!

Confirmation & Eucharist 2022



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

Email the parish office:

office@stthomasmore.org.nz and
Mary will email you back the form
and information.

Or download the form from the Parish website
<https://glenfieldcatholic.org.nz/events/confirmation/>

If you are attending any of the Christmas masses and there isn't a choir, you will find a hymn sheet at the back of the church otherwise the words will be up on the overhead TVs.



The parish office will be closed from 24 December 2021 until 18 January 2022.

Normal office hours
Tuesday to Friday
10am to 1pm will

resume from 18 January 2022.

Check out the parish website

www.glenfieldcatholic.org.nz for mass times, confirmation news etc.

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

WEEKDAY MASSES

Monday to Saturday 9.15am

NO EVENING MASSES, ADORATION AND DEVOTIONS

During the Month of January

SUNDAY MASSES

SATURDAY

5.30 pm - Vigil Mass

7:30 pm - Vigil Mass

SUNDAY

8.00 am 10.00 am

This 10.00 am Mass will also be

LIVE STREAM

7.30 pm

Ruth Brown R.I.P.



Ruth passed away on
Tuesday 21 December 2021

Funeral service will be held at St Thomas More
11am on Thursday 30 December 2021

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



For more information for online sessions and registration: www.studyjoy.nz



PRAY CHRISTMAS
MASS

Christmas Day @ 1pm
SHINE TV

Free-to-air TV Channel 25

SKY TV Channel 201

Christmas Mass will be available from the Diocesan YouTube channel Christmas Eve from 5.30pm

<https://youtu.be/ErWJvtL75MA>

To join in with full voice with the singing you can

download the Hymn Sheet <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Christmas-2021-Shine-TV.pdf>

This Mass will also be available on free to air TV on Shine TV Christmas Day at 1.00pm Free-to-air TV Channel 25, Sky TV Channel 201.



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/.

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

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



Kids Korner: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/Christmas-Week.pdf>

Parent Ponderings: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2021/12/A-Small-White-Envelope-1.pdf>

The Environment & Sustainability Committee of the Diocese of Auckland's Justice and Peace Commission needs new members. If you take inspiration from Pope Francis' *Laudato Si'* and are interested in encouraging awareness of action on environment issues and sustainability we'd like to hear from you. Contact: Peter Garrick Executive Secretary via email peterg@cda.org.nz or phone 022 1300 730

Petition

Below is a link to a petition that the Government recognise the 4th (oral) article of Te Tiriti o Waitangi. Since this article came about through Bishop Pompallier's intervention, it is of particular interest to our Catholic community.

https://www.parliament.nz/en/petitions/sign/PET_116011

NZ Catholic
The national Catholic newspaper



NZ Catholic providing, free of charge, a digital link to the latest issue. <https://indd.adobe.com/view/7cf1046d-de15-49c7-9232-0e8ea6146abf>

No morning Teas after 10am Mass until further notice.

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 tōu hoa tata, ānō ko koe