



# Second Sunday of Advent C

St Thomas More Parish, Glenfield, 5 December 2021

## 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."

## Prayer for the Second 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 Jesus,  
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

### 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.

Gerald Darring / [www.liturgy.slu.edu](http://www.liturgy.slu.edu)



## Christmas Giving Tree

Please make your donations by **Friday 10 December** so that we can complete the **Festive hampers**.

Please leave your **Christmas themed food** items on Fr's deck under the Christmas tree. If you wish to donate food vouchers/money, please leave them in the box provided on the deck. *Many thanks for your donations*

## 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 5 December 2021  
at 10am  
2nd 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

### 2nd Sunday of Advent

#### Sunday

Baruch 5:1-9

Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11

Luke 3:1-6

#### Monday

Isaiah 35:1-10

Luke 5:17-26

#### Tuesday

Isaiah 40:1-11

Matthew 18:12-14

*St Ambrose*

#### Wednesday

Genesis 3:9-15, 20

Ephesians 1:3-6, 11-12

Luke 1:26-38

*Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary*

#### Thursday

Isaiah 41:13-20

Matthew 11:11-15

#### FRIDAY

Isaiah 48:17-19

Matthew 11:16-19

#### Saturday

Ecclesiasticus 48:1-4, 9-11

Matthew 17:10-13

### Entrance: ON JORDAN'S BANKS

(Tune of: Lord make me an instrument of Peace)

On Jordan's bank the Baptist's cry;  
Announces that the Lord is nigh;  
Awake, and hearken, for he brings  
glad tidings of the King of kings.

Then cleansed be every heart from sin;  
Make straight the way for God within;  
and let us all our hearts prepare  
for Christ to come and enter there

Stretch forth your hand, our health restore,  
and make us rise to fall no more.  
O let your face upon us shine  
and fill the world with love divine.

All praise to you, eternal Son,  
whose advent has our freedom won,  
whom with the Father we adore,  
and Holy Spirit, evermore.

**Recessional:** Dan Schutte  
**THOUGH THE MOUNTAINS MAY FALL**  
**Though the mountains may fall and the hills**  
**turn to dust,**  
**yet the love of the Lord will stand**  
**as a shelter for all who will call on His Name.**  
**Sing the praise and the glory of God.**

Could the Lord ever leave you?  
Could the Lord forget His love?  
Though a mother forsake her child,  
He will not abandon you.

Go to Him when you're weary;  
He will give you eagle's wings.  
You will run, never tire,  
for your God will be your strength.

## 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.

## Resources in times of Lockdown

The diocese has a number of resources available on its website to support people during this time .

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/covid-protection-framework/>

**NZCatholic**  
The national Catholic newspaper

NZ bishops issue parish guidelines for traffic light framework 3  
Caritas director Julianne Hickey moving on from her role 11

## Park and Pray



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

<https://indd.adobe.com/view/da517399-e74a-4f9c-8c03-9c9cd286da00>

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 any name changes.

## PROLIFE FACTS

This week's bulletin is number 500. So many topics have been covered in the bulletins over the years, from topical New Zealand and international issues, to focusing on the work of individuals and various opportunities for pro-life action. This year has perhaps been the most challenging since the bulletins began, with the impact of the Abortion Legislation Act (2020). However, this unjust law is certainly not the end of the road for the pro-life cause because it does not change the hearts of those who care for the lives of all human beings at every stage of life. As we reach our 500th bulletin, and the final one for 2021, we invite you to consider becoming a member of Voice for Life and, in the coming year, helping to cultivate a society that truly values life. **For more pro-life information, visit [voiceforlife.org.nz](http://voiceforlife.org.nz).**

Celebrate the Closing Event for Patris Corde: With a Father's Heart A Festival on St Joseph! Join the Closing Mass and Festival of Lights with Archbishop Novatus Rugambwa, Papal Nuncio to NZ. This event will be held at the Sanctuary of Fourviere in Christchurch and livestreamed through Facebook. Register at [www.marriageandfamily.org.nz](http://www.marriageandfamily.org.nz)

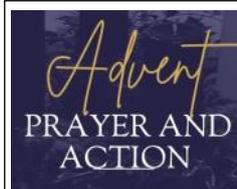


**Forrest Hill Family Pharmacy** will be providing booster shots as well as Vaccine certificates for those who don't have access to phones or computers. We can email or mail them out. Please spread the word to your families/friends and send us an email to [info@thefamilypharmacy.co.nz](mailto:info@thefamilypharmacy.co.nz)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

Forrest Hill Family Pharmacy  
7/1 Grenada Ave, Forrest Hill, North Shore.

Love your neighbour as yourself, get vaccinated  
Arohaina koe ki tōu hoa tata, ānō ko koe

Support the Covid-19 vaccination programme



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. Prayer for ourselves, our communities, the world. Each morning from the first Sunday of Advent

**28 November at 8.30am** on the Diocesan Facebook page <https://www.facebook.com/aucklandcatholic> advent prayer will be offered. Young people from our school communities, representatives from parish and ethnic communities, diocesan staff will lead us prayer. 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.**

## De Paul House Christmas Appeal 2021

Can you help bless a family this Christmas? This year we are asking families to sponsor children with a gift voucher. We are suggesting Gift Vouchers from The Warehouse, Westfield Mall or Kmart. Or you can donate direct to our account via online banking 02-0278-0059429-02 Please ref Xmas. On behalf of the De Paul House families, we thank you for your continuing support and care and wish you all a very joy filled Christmas season. [www.depaulhouse.org.nz](http://www.depaulhouse.org.nz)