



Priest Ministers

Fr Joe Grayland (Pastor)

Fr Kevin Neal

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OLOL MASSES

5:30pm Vigil (Saturday)

9:30am Sunday

Mon & Thurs Liturgy of Word & Communion

Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat 10:00am

SACRED HEART RONGOTEA

9:00am: 1st Sunday of the month

ST MARY'S FOXTON MASSES

10:30am Sun

10:30am Thurs

ST JOSEPH'S SHANNON MASSES

9:00am 3rd Sunday of the month

RECONCILIATION—OLOL

Sat 10:30am—11:00am

and on request

EUCHARIST ADORATION—OLOL

Fri: 10:30am—Noon

7:00pm—9:00pm

1st Sunday of Advent—2nd December 2018; Year B / Weekdays Year 2

From the Pastor's desk

Advent is your time to stop, to contemplate, to consider the future. It is a time of prayer and repentance created by something greater than itself, namely the coming of God in the nativity, the epiphany and in the baptism of Christ. These are the three festivals of revelation! Advent invites us to listen, to pray and to ponder in our hearts those things that are vital for a life that has meaning.

In our world, the market determines for many what is good, important or valuable. This has impoverished our celebration of Christmas and Advent. The central gift of Christmas is God's self-gift to the world in the baby. The singular gift of God to each of us, is the **love** that moves God, *to be-with-us*. Imitating this gift, the best gift we can give each other is our own presence. Imitating the Kings' gifts, we acknowledge a person's human dignity, their divine origin and their fulfilment in God.

Advent is a time to contemplate God beyond the marketplace, and an opportunity reflect on how we use shopping as entertainment and consumption as recreation. It is a time to meet the God that marketing and consumerism do not know. It is a time to put the credit card away, pull back from the craziness and give time to *oneself-with-God* and *oneself-with-another*. It is time to re-create!

Advent is a marvellous opportunity to offer the gift prayer. Prayer is the gift that changes the one prayed for, and one who prays. Prayer doesn't change God, but rather lets us contemplate the mysteries of life and to reach out to God for meaning and hope. Over the next several weeks there are several opportunities for both private and public prayer, as well as Eucharist.

At Lourdes Church, each Sunday afternoon at 3pm there will be **30 Minute Advent Prayers**. These prayers are for various people and needs: Week One, for refugees and migrants; Week Two for those living with cancer; Week Three for those in financial hardship; Week Four for personal conversion and peace.

But wait! There's more! Every Friday morning from 10:30am to noon, and again from 7:00pm to 9:00pm we have silent adoration of the Eucharist, an opportunity to sit with the Lord and contemplate.

But wait! There's more! Every weekday and Saturday morning, before Mass or Liturgy, the Rosary is prayed, and each Monday evening, from 5:00pm to 7:00pm, the Indian community hold their prayer time.

Each of these is an opportunity **to stop, to listen and to wait upon the Lord** that I hope people will use.

Silent prayer enables your soul to detox from the sensory overload of words and images we live in. Prayer for others enables your soul to recall that we live in a community of needs. Chanted prayers such as Rosary and litanies enable the lips to pray and the mind to wander through

questions and thoughts about others. All forms of prayer enable us to see as God already sees, to hear as God already hears, to contemplate what God already knows.

Lay-Led Liturgies of Word with Holy Communion on Mondays and Thursdays will be part of our public worship at Lourdes. In Shannon, Rongotea and Foxton these are common place on Sundays and weekdays. They build another element of our prayer life, especially in the time of increasing Lay-led ministry and leadership. Although they can never replace the celebration of the Eucharist on a Sunday, Liturgies of Word with Communion are led by generous parishioners who need your support and your presence. In the city it is easy to hop between Masses and to forget that even when Mass is not celebrated on a weekday, supporting the life of the community, and building the community prayer is also important.

Liturgies of Word with Holy Communion are not the Eucharist, and on Sundays they are a substitute for the celebration of the Eucharist. The Eucharist can never be replaced, though in the churches of Korea, Japan and Vietnam, over many centuries, the prayer of the lay faithful has kept the Church alive, even when the celebration of the Eucharist was impossible.

For us, lay-led worship is the future and we need to strengthen our communities through lay-presiders and lay-homilists. I'm grateful that Kathleen Field and Kerry Hocquard have agreed to break open the Word on several Sundays in Advent. It takes courage to stand before the community and share one's faith, so please thank them both for their ministry amongst us.

Prayer, in all its forms, is vital for the life of the communities we live in. It must be vibrant, transformative and wholistic. This is a challenge and it needs to be shared by all people in all age groups. The future is wonderful, and it is full of opportunity. Let's seize the day!

Joe Grayland

We Pray for the Sick: Ryan Marsden, Bridget Dorn, Michael Quirk, Colin Quirk, Sheila Evans, Fr Tom O'Connor sm, William Harrison, Fred Winter, Fr Joe O'Sullivan, Mark Richards, Trevor Wilson, Tony Keenan, Gary Meyer, Barbara & Graeme Younger, Michael Eades, Louis Heynen, Vinnie Carroll, Joan Lambourne, Evie Feierabend, Mary Jefferies, Marie Hubbard, Mikulas Oros, Ann Fairclough, Toshi Sekizaki, Braxton Prentice, Katherine Denby, Anne & Bill Bethune, Oliver Gillespie, Siobhan Thomson.

Died Recently

Dan O'Donoghue, Guiseppina Dujany, Philippa Frost.

Mass has been offered for

Monica McMurdo

Requiescant in Pace

ADVENT PRAYERS, OLOL, Sundays of Advent 3:00pm-3:30pm
Prayer intention Week 1—For refugees and migrants.

THANK YOU to all who were involved in the many and various ways that help to make the annual OLOL Anointing Mass and Seniors Christmas Lunch the enjoyable and successful event it has been for many years. You know who you are and your effort, big or small, is very much appreciated by all.

Our Lady of Lourdes Guild News

- **Christmas Raffle \$1 ticket**—these will be on sale at both Masses this weekend 1st and 2nd December.
- **Christmas Function - lunch at the Manawatu Golf Club at 1:00pm Tuesday 4th December.** Remember your gift for the exchange. Enquiries June 3547686 or Rose 3575429.

RCIA in the meeting room 7:00pm—9:00pm Tuesday 4th December.

Junior Youth Group, OLOL Thursday 6th December, 5:00pm—7:00pm
Ph Jude Bell White 021 520 024 for full details.

Men's breakfast. Come and be fed. The perfect way to start your day.
Next breakfast Friday 7th December, 6:45am to 8:00am, Our Lady of Lourdes meeting room. Cereal, toast etc supplied. All welcome. Info John Hammond 0276887750.

Rosary Crusade for Life and Faith

8th December, Holy Hour 2:00pm and Rosary 3:00pm
Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, NB change of venue.

The NZ government is looking at reforming our abortion laws and legalising euthanasia. In response, a group of lay Catholics have organised this pro-life (from conception to natural death) Rosary Crusade on the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.



CHRISTMAS BAKING donations of Christmas cakes and shortbread are needed for the hospitality which follows our Christmas Liturgies. Donations may be brought along to either weekday or Sunday Mass and left in the box provided in the foyer. All donations will be greatly appreciated and enjoyed by the masses after the Masses!

- **Coffee group, for parents and children, 9:15am in the gathering area each Tuesday until term ends.** Ph Maria 021 02760945 or Laura 027 4273683 for any questions, or just turn up on the day!
- **Shining Stars Pre-school Music Group** Thursdays, during term time, 9:30am St James School Hall. Ph Steph 027 440 8544.
- **Parishes Young Families Minister—Basia McIntosh**
BMcintosh@pndiocese.org.nz 021 246 0840.

OLOL Prayer Chain: Ph Eileen O'Connor 329 1801/021 671 755 or the Parish Office 358 3667.

ON SALE NZ Catholic, Tui Motu, Cards, Calendars, reflection books.

Dear Parishioners, during the last year, for various reasons, seven (7) volunteers have come off our cleaning roster. That leaves a big hole and we need some new people, families, couples, singles who could take a turn to keep our church clean and tidy. Your turn would come only once or twice a year as the cleaning is done every fortnight. It is not too big a job, taking about an hour. Please ph me 329 1801 and leave a message. **With thanks, Eileen**

Readings Dec 9th: Baruch 5:1-9; Phil 1:4-6, 8-11; Lk 3:1-6

The National March for Life NZ has been endorsed by the Catholic Bishops of NZ Saturday 8th December to celebrate the gift of life and send a message of love and hope to our community. Be a beacon of light for Kiwi families, mothers and the unborn! Gather at 2:00pm in Civic Centre, 101 Wakefield St., Wellington ready to begin to walk to Parliament grounds. Phone Michael 021 825 955 or [marchforlifenz website](http://marchforlifenz.org.nz).

The Annual Sick and Retired Priests
Special Collection—Today—Sunday 2 December 2018

On behalf of the Bishop, the Clergy Trust Fund provides for the well-being and care of priests in the Diocese. This includes stipends, food, travel home for overseas priests, retreats, and all costs relating to healthcare. The Clergy Trust Fund is struggling to meet growing medical costs. Hence, your giving to this special collection is most appreciated especially by our elderly priests who then benefit from your generosity. Your support is a great way of showing your gratitude to your priests.

Many thanks and blessings to all who contribute to this special collection. Every contribution helps.

Mons Brian Walsh, Vicar General

ORDINARY ACTIONS - EXTRA ORDINARY IMPACT

Sisters of Our Lady of the Missions Annual Christmas Appeal

Help support the Mission Sisters make a difference in the lives of children and women. Our Christmas Catalogue enables you to give a gift this Christmas that truly brings Christ's love to those in need. We are an International Missionary Congregation of women who desire to facilitate change by being present with compassion and sharing God's love and justice among those with whom we share life. Read about our projects and make your gift-choice. See the poster in the foyer or ask Kerry Hocquard for more information. Thank you.

The Pregnancy Centre needs some volunteers to answer the phone and do some other simple tasks, 2 hours every 6 weeks. If you can help or for more information please contact: Joan 0211232673

Unity Singers welcomes you to **Christmas Carols at Cathedral of the Holy Spirit, Tues 4th December 7:00pm.** Admission by donation or item of non perishable food for the SVDP Foodbank. Food donations can also be left at the Cathedral Parish Office or the Vinnies shop 252 Rangitikei St.



ADVENT 2018 ONLINE. Receive daily New Zealand based Advent reflections in your inbox. Sign up at www.foodforfaith.org.nz.

Advent Treat: NZ Symphony Orchestra's performance of **Handel's MESSIAH.** Sunday 9 December 3.00pm at the Regent on Broadway. Book at the Regent or www.ticketdirect.co.nz



Caritas Gifts allow you to support Caritas' work. When you buy a gift, making a donation on behalf of another, you help transform the lives of individuals, families and communities struggling to overcome poverty and injustice. Please have your order to Caritas by Friday 15 December to ensure you receive your gift card in time for use as a Christmas gift. **Call 0800 22 10 22 to order.**

ROSTERS: Dec 3rd to 9th

Church Cleaning: Judy Walker and Eileen Walsh.
Counting: (Dec 4th) Leigh Basile **Flowers:** No flowers during Advent.
Greeters: Vigil 5:30pm Jeanette Currie and Lesley Wright
9:30am Ans Haakman
Readers: 5:30pm Kathy Gardiner, Rosalie McCann, Rolyenne Rocero
9:30am Ebele Ezepeue, Fina Ta'ala, Clare Cole.
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion: 5:30pm John Werder, Monica Hammond, Hannah Brown, Denis Jones, Pat Curran **9:30am** Jeanette and Eric Wright, Stephen Guy, Kyra Tikitiki, Wendy Derksen.
Altar Servers: 9:30am Imogen Gallagher and Gabriel Josafat.
Children's Liturgy: Colleen and Madeline McHardy
Hospitality: 9:30am Rose and Wally Semmens
Religious Goods/Library: Rita Auta.
Linen: (Dec) Maria Lukkassen. **Lawns:** (Dec 8th) Tino Pakome and Son
SVDP Basket: (Dec) Barry Angland.

GREETERS, please collect your new rosters from the gathering area.

WelCom

Collect your free copy from the gathering area today.