

Kotahi Ano

(Together as One)

1 December 2019

1st Sunday of Advent



Our Lady of Lourdes
96 Shamrock Street
Palmerston North 4412



Sacred Heart
6 Mersey Street
Rongotea 4476



St. Mary's
Johnston Street
Foxton 4814



St. Joseph's
Cnr Grey & Vogel Street
Shannon 4821

8 December 2019 – 2nd Sunday of Advent – Year A.

Proclamations of the Word: *Is: 11:1-10, Rom 15:4-9, Mt 3:1-12*

Parish Pastor & Moderator

Fr Joe Grayland
027 777 8096
priest@lourdesparish.nz
Fr. Kevin Neal

LOLOL Parish Secretary

Kate McNamara
06 358 3667
office@lourdesparish.nz
LOLOL Office Hours:
Tues to Friday 9:00am to 1pm

Parish Coordinator

Eleanor Jacobs
021 064 4584
foxtoncoordinator@lourdesparish.nz
St. Mary's Office Hours:
Thurs & Fri 9:00am to 1pm

Online Communications Coordinator

Claire Jacobs
info@lourdesparish.nz

Our Lady of Lourdes:

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5:30pm
Sunday Mass: 9:30am
Monday & Thursday: Liturgy – 10:00am
Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat: Mass 10:00am
Reconciliation: After Sat 10am mass.

Sacred Heart Rongotea:

Sunday Mass: 9:00am
1st and 3rd Sunday each Month
Liturgy of Word: 9:00am
2nd, 4th & 5th Sunday of each Month

St. Mary's Foxton:

Sunday Mass: 10:30am
Thursday Mass: 10:30am
Liturgy of Word: TBA
Reconciliation: By Appointment

St. Joseph's Shannon:

Sunday Mass: 9:00am
1st and 3rd Sunday each Month
Liturgy of Word: 9:00am
2nd, 4th & 5th Sunday of each Month

Pastor's Desk

Advent has two aspects.

Advent's first aspect is the preparation for Christmas and the feast of God-becoming-human in Jesus. This is the festival of the divine embracing the human, making it zing with life! It is the festival of the ordinariness of God. Where many seek power, prestige and position, God comes amongst us as a child, the son of a betrothed, unwed mother, in a stinky stable, out the back of a pub, whose first visitors are shepherds with the smell of the sheep on them.

This is an object lesson in humility that stops us romanticising the tableaux and sanitizing God. It teaches us to look for God in the ordinary, driving us towards a spirituality of the ordinary. It challenges us when we look for a spectacular, superficial God.

Emmanuel, God-with-us is the powerful leitmotif that will carry us through the days of Advent. One honours and lives in Christ when one honours and receives one's own life from God as gift. The more one is enabled to receive oneself as gift, the more one is enabled to receive the whole of creation as gift. This perspective moves one from the "I" to the "WE", that is from the ego to the soul. It changes how one lives and how one believes.

Advent's second aspect creates the community of faith, the "WE" that redeems the "I". Religion, politics, commerce, education and psychology become deeply selfish where they are ego-based, searching for their own fulfilment. Where this is true, eternal happiness, truth, knowledge and faith are shallow, predicated as they are on the notion that freedom is an act of the self and, that when I gift God my freedom, I have enabled God to be God. There is nothing further from the truth. God is the freedom that keeps on giving; the freedom who enables me to be free and the happiness that is eternal. I am free, not because I have created freedom myself but because I have received it from God, as gift. Thus, my freedom is itself God's gift. This is radical freedom because it is freedom without ego!

Much of our thinking is ego driven. The ego defends itself above all else. It defines itself against other people and rejects change: the ego wants what it wants. Where the ego rules community becomes

impossible, and God is just another projection of the ego with the tagline, "I do it my way!"

Advent reminds us that the lone individual is too small to live in the presence of God who is eternal community. The individual must surrender their fragile "I" to the embrace of the robust "WE" of God. The movement from the "I" to the "WE" is the Spirit's fanning of the divine spark within us, into a flame.

The embrace of the "WE" is illustrated in the "yes" of Mary of Nazareth. Mary's "yes" was essential for the Incarnation. In her "yes" we are privy to a relationship that is built on freedom; the freedom to become someone for others; the freedom to be a person for God; and the freedom to be ordinary. God is a community of Father, Son and Spirit. The Trinity is not oppositional, binary or dualistic as most of our worship, politics and thinking is. In God one cannot just choose the Father, or just the Son, or just the Spirit; to choose one is to choose all. In choosing God we choose to enter a community of divine creativity. Once we have made this choice it will begin to dawn on us that we did not choose God, but that "God has chosen us to go out and to bear fruit that will last." God does not come uninvited and grace cannot work without nature.

Openness and freedom from the law cannot come without God's Spirit. Advent is about love enabling lovers to be life to each other. As they love, they change the world!

Fr. Joe

We pray for:

Barbara & Graeme Younger, Betsy Franssen, Chris Kleinsman, Darren Wright, Evie Feierabend, Joan Lambourne, Kararaina Te Ira, Karina Wright, Margaret Kersel, Ron Gleeson, Steve Horgan, Vinnie Carroll, William Lemmon

Masses is offered for:

Deceased family and friends of the Brown & O'Leary families.

Working Bee, OLOL, Saturday the 21st. Dec, 1pm start. Preparing the Church for Christmas.

Please diarise

December 2019:

- 2nd 7pm **Rongotea Bible Society Action Group** – St. Luke's Church Hall. Bring a parcel to be auctioned. Proceeds go to poverty-stricken women in India. – Supper – All welcome.
- 3rd 11am **Anointing Mass & Christmas Dinner for Seniors** – OLOL
- 3rd 12pm **International Day of Persons with Disabilities** – **Connolly Hall**, 10 Guildford Terrace, Thorndon, **Wellington**
- 6th 7pm **Mass for Life** – St. Mary of Angels, 17 Boulcott Street, Wellington
- 7th 12pm **National March for Life** – Civic Square Wellington (March to Parliament Grounds begins at 2pm. Concludes at 4pm)
- 7th 3pm **Rosary of Life & Faith** – Rosary group in your parish (Info – www.coasttocoastrosary.co.nz or ph Clare 022 1912886)
- 8th 5:30pm **Carols in Bethlehem** – Te Kawau Recreation Centre Rongotea
- 10th 7pm **Unity Singers** – Cathedral of the Holy Spirit – 7pm (Admission – Donation or non-perishable food)
- 12th 10am **Rongotea Combined Women's Fellowship meeting** – Bible Chapel. Lunch at The Woolshed Café SH1 Sanson
- 15th 4:30pm **Josephite Retreat Centre - Whanganui Liturgy - Mere Kirihimete** – Rita Cahill rsj. Please bring a non-perishable food item to help those in need.
- 17th 7pm **Rite II Reconciliation** – St Mary's Foxton
- 18th 7pm **Rite II, City Wide Reconciliation** – St Mary's P/N
- 21st 1pm **Working Bee, OLOL** – Preparing the Church for Christmas.
- 24th 10am **Mass – OLOL**
12:05pm **Mass – Cathedral of the Holy Spirit**
6:00pm **Family/Children Vigil - OLOL**
8:00pm **Family/Children Vigil – St. Joseph's Shannon**
12am **Midnight Mass – Cathedral of the Holy Spirit**
- 25th 7:30am **Mass – Cathedral of the Holy Spirit**
9:00am **Mass – Sacred Heart – Rongotea**
9:30am **Mass – OLOL**
9:30am **Mass – Cathedral of the Holy Spirit**
10:00am **Mass – St. Mary's Foxton**

On the **24th Dec** there will be a **Children's Christmas mass** at 6pm here at OLOL. It will be similar to last year's Christmas play and mass. If you would like your children to be involved in some way, please write their name on the list that the children's liturgy leaders will be holding after mass today. **Practises** will be held after 9.30am mass on the 8th, 15th and 22nd Dec. Please contact Lorraine Wilson on 021 222 7802 if you have any questions.

Frs. Anthony and Joseph have moved to Hawera for the second part of their induction to New Zealand – **the Taranaki Experience!** They will be with Fr Craig Butler until the end of January, after which they will be appointed to their new pastoral ministry in the Diocese. **Thanks for the wonderful hospitality.** I am very grateful to you all for having made them both so welcome. It is an experience of the internationality of the Church as well as of the particular nature of each national church when we welcome brothers and sisters from other parts of the world. **Fr Joe**

Kotahi ano (Together as One) is the new name for our combined newsletter. The name was selected by three different families and was the unanimous choice on a blind selection process.

The name was submitted by Team Torok. Congratulations. We had 33 suggestions and I am grateful to everyone who took the time to submit a name. From this Sunday, the First of Advent, December 2019 we'll use this name and the one newsletter across our four communities.

We also have a new email to go with it: info@lourdesparish.nz this will be linked to our website and overtime we'll get that up and running too. Claire Jacobs is our communications and newsletter person so please email her with any information for the newsletter at info@lourdesparish.nz before Thursday midday on any given week. The Newsletter will be emailed to parishioners on Fridays. We have a new office email as well: office@lourdesparish.nz and this is the best contact for Kate our Parish Secretary. The old email of ololpn@xtra will be retired.

Eleanor Jacobs, the Parish Coordinator at Foxton/Shannon has a new email too: foxtoncoordinator@lourdesparish.nz please use this if you want to use the hall in Foxton or let Eleanor know of any pastoral needs at Foxton and Shannon and Himatangi.

I have a new email as well: priest@lourdesparish.nz and the older one ololpastor@xtra will be retired.

We have moved to new emails that link to the website and enable us as a pastoral team of four to communicate more easily.

Please note the new emails:

office@lourdesparish.nz

Info@lourdesparish.nz

Foxtoncoordinator@lourdesparish.nz

priest@lourdesparish.nz

The **SVDP stocks are low** for small packs of breakfast cereals and dehydrated vegetables plus tea bags, coffee and sugar, donations of these can be left with Parishes.

Also looking for furniture donations with demand especially for double beds, lounge tables, dining tables and chairs. These can be collected by phoning Vinnies Shop, Toni, 3576779 between 10am and 4pm. Sincere thanks is offered for all donations.

I, Kelly, had a call from a welfare lady looking for **furniture for a Family**, 1 Adult & 5 Children who were living in a shed and now have a house. Contact Kelly 0272402723 please if you able to help.

WelCom is out this **Sunday, 1 December.**

Contents include:

- NZ Catholic Bishops meet Pope Francis in Rome.
- Cardinal John Dew visits Palmerston North Diocese.
- End of Life Choice Bill passes 3rd reading – Dr John Kleinsman, Nathaniel Centre.

20 of our young people are currently prepping for Life Teen Summer Camp, Aotearoa 2020. This camp is a great way for young Catholics aged 13-17 to build faith and friendships in an exciting Catholic environment. This year campers will explore the theme 'Fiat'. They will learn that *fiat* is not simply a "yes" to God, but a submission to the great things that God wants to do in their lives. These youth are in need of financial assistance for camp fees, and transport to and from camp. We are kindly asking if anyone could make a small or large contribution towards this which would be greatly appreciated! If you feel strongly about supporting our youth in this way please contact Tausilia Citywide parish youth minister MOB: 021509439 Email: tmclutchie@pndiocese.org.nz Please keep us in your prayers also.

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

December 2019		
Tuesday 24th	10:00am	LOLO
	12:05pm	Cathedral of the Holy Spirit (CHS)
Christmas Eve	6:00pm	Family/Children Vigil OLOL
	8:00pm	Family/Children St. Joseph, Shannon
Midnight	12:00am	CHS
Wednesday 25th	7:30am	CHS
Christmas Day	9:00am	Sacred Heart, Rongotea
	9:30am	LOLO
	9:30am	CHS
	10:00am	St. Mary's, Foxton
Thursday 26 th	9:00am	CHS
Friday 27 th	9:00am	CHS
	10:00am	LOLO
Saturday 28 th	5:30pm	Vigil OLOL
Sunday 29 th	7:30am	CHS
	9:30am	LOLO
	9:30am	CHS
	10:00am	St. Mary's, Foxton
	6:00pm	CHS
Tuesday 31 st	9:00am	CHS
	10:00am	LOLO

January 2020		
Wednesday 1 st	9:00am	CHS
	10:00am	LOLO
Thursday 2 nd	9:00am	CHS
	10:00am	LOLO
Friday 3 rd	9:00am	CHS
	10:00am	LOLO
Saturday 4 th	9:00am	CHS
	5:30pm	LOLO
Sunday 5 th	7:30am	CHS
	9:00am	St Joseph's Shannon
	9:00am	Sacred Heart Rongotea
	9:30am	LOLO
	9:30am	CHS
	10:00am	St. Mary's, Foxton
	6:00pm	CHS

LITURGY TIMES

December 2019		
Thursday 26 th	10:00am	LOLO
Saturday 28 th	10:00am	LOLO
Monday 30 th	10:00am	LOLO
Thursday 2 nd	10:00am	LOLO
Saturday 4 th	10:00am	LOLO

RECONCILIATION TIMES

December 2019		
Friday 13 th	11:30am	Rite I – CHS
Saturday 14 th	9:30am	Rite I – CHS
Tuesday 17 th	7:00pm	Rite II – St. Mary's Foxton
Wednesday 18 th	7:00pm	Rite II – St. Mary's Palmerston North
Friday 20 th	11:00am	Rite I – CHS
Saturday 21 st	9:30am	Rite I – CHS
Monday 23 rd	11:30am	Rite I – CHS

LOLO ROSTERS: 2 December to 8 December 2019

Church Cleaning: (9 Dec) Eileen Walsh

Counter: (3 Dec) Marion Carey

Flowers: (Dec) Advent – No Flowers

Greeters: **5:30pm** Jeanette Currie & Lesley Wright
9:30am Alistair Cameron

Children's Liturgy (8 Dec) Sheree Power & Lorraine Wilson

Readers: **5:30pm** Kath Rooney, Rosalie McCann & Kevin Shore
9:30am Ebele Ezepue, Terry Johns & Clare Cole

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

5:30pm – John Werder, Julie Lees, Jeanette Currie, Hannah Brown & Lesley Wright

9:30am – Denis & Margaret Beckett, Sherin Thomas, Eileen O'Connor & Mary Murrow

Altar Servers: 9:30am Carson & Carissa May

Hospitality: 9:30am Dianne & Paul Baucke

Linen: (Dec) Mary O'Connor, **Lawns:** (7 Dec) Alan Marlow.

Religious Goods Cabinet: (8 Dec) Martin Boyle

SVDP Basket: (Dec) Rose Semmens

St Mary's Foxton Roster: 8 December 2019

Greeters: P O'Dea

Proclaimers: J Hendry & D Kauri

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion:

M Caldwell, F Roache & D Duncan

St Joseph's Shannon Roster: 8 December 2019

Greeters: N/A

Proclaimers: M Lawrence

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion:

L Legg & D Legg

Are you thinking of becoming a Catholic or interested in knowing more? If you're interested in this wonderful Sacrament, please get in touch with either the OLOL School or OLOL Parish office.

LOLO Prayer Line phone Eileen (06) 329 1801 or (021) 671 755 or the Parish Office

Planned-Giving Direct Credit: Our Lady of Lourdes

LOLO Parish Account 02-0630-0288037-18

Details to appear on payee's (OLOL) bank Statement

Name of Account	Code	Reference
LOLO	PG #	Your Name

Donations for Special Collections may be made using the details above, please include the name of the Collection, e.g. Missions, Dues, Holy Places.

Planned-Giving Direct Credit: St. Mary's Foxton & Shannon

LOLO Parish Account 02-0630-0288037-007

Details to appear on payee's (St Mary's) bank Statement

Name of Account	Code	Reference
LOLO	PG #	Your Name

Donations for Special Collections may be made using the details above, please include the name of the Collection, e.g. Missions, Dues, Holy Places.

Advent 2019

The time has come to count the days until God's gift arrives.
Let's prepare with open hearts for Jesus in our lives.

Count the Days Count the Ways

Sunday

Monday

Tuesday

Wednesday

Thursday

Friday

Saturday

1
Today is the First Sunday of ADVENT.
Light one candle on your wreath.

2
Dear Lord, this ADVENT season prepare my heart to be your home.



3
In ADVENT...

we look forward to Jesus' birth and to his return. Jesus will welcome all God's children into eternal life.

4
Christmas is three weeks away. Seems like a good time to set out your manger scene.



5
The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.
John 1:5
Do you know how many lights are on your tree?

6
They have freely scattered their gifts to the poor, their righteousness endures forever.
Psalm 112:9

St. Nicholas was a generous man who gave to the poor. To whom are you giving gifts this year? Do you know people in need that you can help this season?



7
It is the Second Sunday of ADVENT.
Light candles one and two this week.



8
The angel went to Mary and said, "Greetings, you who are highly favored! The Lord is with you."
Luke 1:28

9
Mary was happy about her baby. Draw a picture today of Baby Jesus.



10
11
Has your family received any Christmas cards? Count how many have pictures of Baby Jesus.



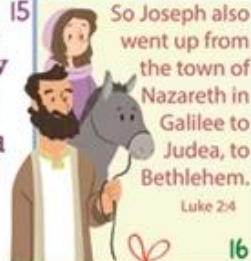
12
A gift that you make yourself is very special for someone you love. Think of things that you can make for Mom, Dad, Grandma, Grandpa or family members. Bread? Candy? A bean bag for your little sister? A painted picture for Grandma? Ask Mom to help you.

13
Joseph did what the Lord commanded him and took Mary as his wife.
Matthew 1:24

14
Jesus was born into a loving family, and through him, we are part of God's family



15
Today is the Third Sunday of ADVENT.
Shout "Hip Hooray!" and light three candles today.



16
So Joseph also went up from the town of Nazareth in Galilee to Judea, to Bethlehem.
Luke 2:4



17
Are you traveling this Christmas? Count the miles to your destination, and pray for safety for all travelers.



18
While they were there, the time came for the baby to be born.
Luke 2:6
How many years old are you? How many days?

19
Dress up and put on a Christmas play today.



20
Look at the shape of your Christmas tree, notice that it points to heaven.

21
How many Christmas carols can you sing? Invite a friend to church with you.



22
It's the Fourth Sunday of ADVENT.
Light four candles. Our countdown to Christmas is almost complete.



23
Use paint, glitter and heavy paper to make a star for your manger scene today.

24
The time has come to celebrate the precious Savior's birth. We gather 'round his manger bed with everyone on earth To count the blessings God has given and all God has in store. This child is God's great gift of love for now and evermore.

The shepherds said to one another, "Let's go to Bethlehem and see this thing that has happened!"
Luke 2:15

**December 25th
Christmas Day!**

