

Kotahi Ano

(Together as One)

15 December 2019

3rd 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

22 December 2019 – 4th Sunday of Advent – Year A.

Proclamations of the Word: **Is: 7:10-14, Rom 1:1-7, Mt 1:18-24**

Parish Pastor & Moderator

Fr Joe Grayland
priest@lourdesparish.nz
Fr. Kevin Neal

LOLO Parish Secretary

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

Parish Coordinator

Eleanor Jacobs
021 064 4584
foxtoncoordinator@lourdesparish.nz

St. Mary's Office Hours:

Thurs & Fri 9am 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 10:00am 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

The second reading's reference to the farmer's patience is so important. Another word for faith is patience; having the patience to wait for the outcome rather than trying to rush it. Waiting teaches one to perceive one's own inner need to change, and to grow in an adult faith that embraces the reality of life.

The quest for God always begins with a question and ends with the realisation that God was right beside me, maturing my faith, changing my life and freeing me of my immature tendency to turn religion into an idol.

Early Christian believers waited for the Lord to return soon after his ascension. They expected an immanent second coming. However, as the months stretched into years, they realised that his second coming could be some time off. At this stage some would have lost heart because the expectation was not met; their idolisation of Jesus had brought nothing.

The early believers, like us today, have so many expectations of God that cannot be fulfilled, because they are our needs projected onto God. Once these projections fail religion will fail us too, and the blame game will begin: "if only the priest was holier", "if only the Mass was different", "if only the Pope was a woman", "if only Latin was used", "if only the youth did things the old way"... and so it goes on, the idolatry of false expectations digging a hole in the soul.

We often treat God as the divine shopkeeper onto whom we load our expectations, until God is drowned in our selfishness. At that point people walk away from the religious shop, utterly dissatisfied with God because the customer service is so poor.

Stripping away the layers of religious and spiritual selfishness is never easy because it demands honesty. It requires one to enter the desert, become vulnerable to the Spirit and to be stripped one's comfortable religious idols. It is demanding, when much of our contemporary living is spent avoiding the desert within and creating lives where meaning is fleeting, and choices are arbitrary. We can even use prayer as an entertainment, a thing we use to fill up the emptiness and avoid the real world. Prayer becomes

an idol when it is all about ME, the ego, the selfish need, and not at all about God.

When you hear: "I'm too busy praying to help", or "I'm too busy praying to spend time with my spouse", or "I'm too busy praying to do homework with my children" you know that "praying" has become an unhealthy addiction. When unmasked such "prayer" and "praying" is really a crutch used by a person who doesn't want to see the blind seeing, *hear* the mute speaking, *see* the lame walking and *know* the deaf can hear, because their religious world idolises the self with its fear, loss, and false humility as the touchstone of belief.

To see God in the beauty of the Jonquil and in the freedom of another person is profound! The profundity of each is their giftedness; they are gifts of God that lead us who experience them to rejoice in God's presence! These gifts (as all gifts) are given by God, freely, not cajoled out of God as a trade-off for something from the divine shopkeeper.

When John's disciples ask Jesus for a sign of the presence of the Kingdom he replied "tell what you see and *hear*" because only those who aren't blind can see and only those who aren't deaf can hear! To see, hear and then to speak is the work of the true disciple: the one who sees and hears the wonders around them and welcomes them all as the signs of the Kingdom.

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:

Recently deceased Darren Wright, Ian Matson (A) – and for the return to full health of Judith Wall

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

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.

Please diarise

December 2019:

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

19th **LOLO School Graduation**

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 15th and 22nd Dec. Please contact Lorraine Wilson on 021 222 7802 if you have any questions.

Parish office will close on Tuesday at noon on the 24th of Dec 2019 and will reopen on the 28th of Jan 2020.

St. Mary's Foxton/Shannon

Parish office will close 20/12/19 and open 23/1/20.
No Eucharistic Service or Mass in St Mary's Foxton on Thursdays, until 30/1/20.
RCIC starts 30/1/20 at 2:30pm St Mary's Foxton: meet & greet the parents & children.

Sacred Heart – Rongotea

We will be Dressing the Crib after our 9am Communion Service next Sunday 22 Dec. We need as many as possible to fill the positions please.
Roster for Sacred Heart for 22 Dec 9am Communion Service:
Greeter-T Hehir, Readers-J van Daatselaar, F Mullin, L Hehir, Eucharistic Minister-C Carroll, Sacristan-C Carroll. Lay Minister - B Hehir.

From SVDP – A huge Thank you to All the Parishes and Their Priests Along with our Loyal Customers who support The Raffle. The winners Are: Tania Dalley, Nikee Burmeister, Blackwell, Oline. Wishing you all a Merry Xmas and New Year.

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.

We have had a High demand this year for **Children's toys** of all Ages. We would also like to give some Toys to Families in Need.

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.

Ignatian Spirituality for Women

An 8-day silent, individually guided retreat. Given by Adriana Janus, Nicola McCarthy and Joy Cowley. 20-29 March 2020
Magnificat Retreat Centre, Featherston. Cost: \$675, includes accommodation for 9 nights, all meals and daily spiritual direction.
For further information and registration please contact Joy Cowley, joycowley@xtra.co.nz

Kotahi ano (Together as One)

Please note our new email address:

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 coordinator 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.

Our Lady of Lourdes:

On December 19th we celebrate the Lourdes School Graduation Mass and welcome all family, friends, Staff and students to it. For this Mass we will use the Easter Seating format. I look forward to celebrating this end of the school year with your Whanau members. Please bring them all along!

We will leave the church in the Easter Seating format for the following Sunday (4th Sunday of Advent) and for the Christmas Eve Family+Children's Mass at 6pm on December 24th and for the 9.30am Mass on Christmas Day.

Please bring your Whanau members with you to share in the joy of Christmas.

You will also notice new TVs that have been donated by the School Board and the School PTFA so that we don't need to use booklets. I am very grateful to the Board and the PTFA for this gift to the Parish. It is a wonderful investment in our worship for the children and their Whanau.

We are one family/Whanau of whakapono/faith and together as young and old we make up the Body of Christ.

To you all, may the blessings of Christmas bring you peace, joy and love for each other.

Blessings.

Fr Joe

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
	10:30am	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
	10:30am	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

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
Saturday 21 st	10:30am	Rite I – OLOL
Monday 23 rd	11:30am	Rite I – CHS

LOLO ROSTERS: 16 December to 22 December 2019

Church Cleaning: (23 Dec) Jeanette & Lance Iwikau

Counter: (24 Dec) Selwyn Brown

Flowers: (Dec) Advent – No Flowers

Greeters: 5:30pm Peter & Roselle Gouwland
9:30am Srnka Flegar

Children's Liturgy (22 Dec) Sheree Power & Lorraine Wilson

Readers: 5:30pm Dot Bowe, Rob Towers, Volunteer

9:30am Janey Bishop, Holly Pedley & Malia Mavaega

Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:

5:30pm – John Werder, Pat Curran, Monica Hammond, Moira & Kevin Jury

9:30am – Collette O'Connor, Clare Cole, Stephen Guy, Mary Dorn & Eileen O'Connor

Altar Servers: 9:30am TBA

Hospitality: 9:30am Tokelaun Group

Linen: (Dec) Mary O'Connor, **Lawns:** (21 Dec) Kevin Long

Religious Goods Cabinet: (22 Dec) TBA

SVDP Basket: (Dec) Rose Semmens

St Mary's Foxton Roster: 22 December 2019

Greeters: J Jaggard

Proclaimers: T Rockell & C Fullick

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion:

M Culling, S O'Kane & F Roache

St Joseph's Shannon Roster: 22 December 2019

Greeters: N/A

Proclaimers: N Creighton

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion:

M Lawrence, N Creighton

Sacred Heart Rongotea Roster: 22 December 2019

Greeters: T Hehir

Proclaimers: J van Daatselaar, F Mullin, L Hehir

Extraordinary Ministers of Communion:

C Carroll

Planned-Giving Direct Credit: Our Lady of Lourdes

LOLO Parish Account 02-0630-0288037-18

Details to appear on payee's (LOLO) 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

LOLO Parish Account 02-0630-0288037-07

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

Name of Account	Code	Reference
St Mary's Foxton	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.

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

One candle is lit on each Sunday of Advent to symbolise Hope Peace joy and love.



The rose coloured candle is lit on the third Sunday of Advent, sometimes known as Gaudete Sunday.

The white candle in the centre of the wreath is lit at Christmas to symbolise the birth of Jesus.



Q	D	E	M	M	A	N	U	E	L	D	O	C	B	T	R
P	D	W	L	V	S	N	O	W	M	A	N	A	E	R	M
O	J	K	A	P	J	O	S	E	P	H	Q	R	F	E	A
N	I	C	Y	U	X	P	H	V	R	I	T	O	G	E	R
M	W	H	M	R	J	Q	O	I	M	G	R	L	U	X	Y
L	C	R	B	P	T	M	P	W	G	B	P	S	Z	Y	B
K	K	I	A	L	M	T	P	W	Q	A	J	L	Q	C	C
J	L	S	K	E	P	F	I	L	Q	W	R	E	A	T	H
I	R	T	C	X	B	C	N	C	I	R	X	Y	L	G	C
H	G	M	A	U	I	K	G	F	O	O	D	S	I	L	I
G	M	A	A	J	E	S	U	S	W	N	X	X	G	T	K
F	V	S	G	S	Z	A	D	V	E	N	T	Y	H	R	A
E	P	Q	I	N	A	T	I	V	I	T	Y	F	T	T	T
D	O	N	F	P	A	O	C	A	R	D	S	M	S	A	X
C	Q	K	T	G	Q	S	A	N	T	A	Q	W	M	D	K
B	X	U	S	C	H	R	I	S	T	I	A	N	J	S	J
A	O	S	W	Q	X	V	L	S	T	A	R	I	S	S	C
	1	2	3	4	5	6	7	8	9	10	11	12	13	14	15

What did the stamp say to the Christmas card?

“Stick with me and we’ll go places!”

ADVENT	TREE	FOODS	JOSEPH
CHRISTIAN	LIGHTS	CAROLS	SANTA
NATIVITY	GIFTS	WREATH	SNOWMAN
JESUS	PURPLE	STAR	SHOPPING
CHRISTMAS	EMMANUEL	MARY	CARDS