

Kotahi Ano

(Together as One)

22 December 2019

4th 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

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 "crisis of God" is one of the major questions Christmas addresses. This crisis is obvious in the "humbug" approach that calls Christmas "just another day". It's in the commercial approach that uses "the season" and cynically includes the "return at no cost" flyer with the gift that one didn't want to give to the person who didn't want it. The Boxing Day sales reveal the depth of cynicism when everything is offered with the epitaph: "buy your Christmas gift for New Year."

Today's public life does not talk much about God. Recently I heard a radio presenter say, regarding the eruption on White Island: "we keep them in our thoughts...and prayer...uh...if that's your thing..." The experience of the emptiness of religion and the pointlessness of God is not new. The emptiness of religion means that we too can live as if God didn't exist. Let's move on!

Christmas tell us that humanity does need God. Without God we can't understand the nature of gift. Without God we don't understand our humanness, the choices for good or evil and the needs of the poor. The mistake is to talk of God in doctrinal terms (often poorly understood) to a culture that doesn't have the ears to hear. The opportunity is to talk of the place of God in human life in experiential terms; how life is lived with blessing when God is present and included.

Christmas celebrates the bond between God and humankind. It reveals that God is the greatest defender of human dignity and freedom. The task of evangelization is to *speak with people* about the presence God. Christmas words and Christmas gifts show the perennial newness of the encounter with Christ, in the community of the Living God.

Evangelizers are people, free of prejudice and religious ignorance, with a healthy and mature understanding of God. They encounter the world as it is and invite this world into a deep and life-giving religious experience. Evangelizers realize that God, the Church, the Scriptures and Faith are not their possessions to "hand on" to a grateful recipient, as if they own them. Rather they "hand on" what has been gifted to them. It's not "pass the parcel", its share in the gift; come drink from the one cup!

God works from within human culture and life. Grace is always perfecting nature, imbuing all fields of human activity with meaning and bringing it to truth. Grace, working in nature changes people's hearts; "enemies begin to speak to one another and those estranged join hands in friendship." Grace is most powerful where church members stop fighting with each other and seek the way of unity and truth, deciding to be a People of God. Grace perfects the church and the world because it is perfecting us; as members of both we are doubly blessed and doubly challenged.

Allowing God to enter one's life requires conversion, which is the willingness to see the world through God's eyes; to come out of self-sufficiency and discover "the One who makes all things new."

The celebration of Christmas begins with the birth of Christ and ends with the Baptism of Jesus. This is one festival of revelation; God is revealed to the People of Israel, then to the Gentile Nations and finally to the Church. Nativity, Epiphany and Baptism of Jesus reveal that God is amongst us, healing, leading, loving, saving. Ultimately, we will crucify this revelation and be revealed to ourselves as people who mask violence with religious language. Once one sees this one will rely on the mercy of God; a mercy offered in hope that all the world might be freed and that all people will come to live in peace and justice. Let it begin with us!

Fr. Joe

We pray for:

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

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

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 LOLO School or LOLO Parish office.

Our Lady of Lourdes Guild:

Christmas Raffle result- 79D Orange Diamonds. May Gallagher. Thank you all for your support. We wish you all a very happy Christmas.

Please diarise

December 2019:

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**

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:

There are a **number of roles** that need to be **covered** at the upcoming **Christmas Masses** at OLOL. Please sign up for these on the sheets in the church foyer.

You're **invited** to donate shortbread or a Christmas cake for the hospitality following the **Christmas Masses** at OLOL. These can be left at the parish office.

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

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

Training for Ministers: There will be a series of training sessions for ministers from all our communities during 2020. Inviting all Ministers and anyone interested in becoming an Extraordinary Minister of the Eucharist. **First session: OLOL 3pm, 26 January 20**

From Eric and Jeanette Wright

Our heartfelt thanks to you all for your prayers, love, support offered and given in so many ways over the past few weeks. Thank you for your attendance at the funeral of our beloved son Darren. We have been humbled by the caring and love shown to us. To Fr Joe who went above and beyond to walk beside us on this very difficult journey. We will always be grateful. Please continue to pray for Darren and for us. Much love!

Please note: This is the last Newsletter for 2019.

The first Newsletter for 2020 will be the 2nd of February 2020.

Have a blessed Christmas Season and a Happy New Year from the Parish Office.

St. Mary’s Foxton/Shannon

RIP Kathy Hapi passed away on 9.12.19 and was buried from St Mary’s Foxton on 12.12.19.

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

This morning we will **Dress the Crib** in preparation for Christmas Day. Everyone is warmly encouraged to stay and actively participate after our Communion Service today.

Roster for 25 December 2019 - 9am - Greeter-J Carroll, Readers-C Hehir, T Hehir, Offertory-Carroll Family, Euch Min-R Hehir, A Robinson, Cleaning/Flowers-B Hehir, Altar Servers-Tom & Sophie, Sacristan-A Robinson, No Children’s Liturgy.

Roster for 29 December 2019 - 9am - The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph - LM - J Carroll, Greeter-J van Daatselaar, Readers-A Hehir, S Hodson, C Hehir, Euch Min-T Taylor, Sacristan-F Mullin

The SVDP wish to thank the Parish Priests, Office Staff and Parishioners for their assistance, accommodations and donations during 2019, you are wonderful supporters. Season’s Greetings from the SVDP

St Vinnies close at one o’clock this Saturday 21/12/2019 and back on the 6/1/2020. Thank you for all your help this year.

We are now: Youth Praise Worship Adoration. Date: 26 Dec 19. **Time:** 6:30pm to 8:30pm. **Where:** Cathedral of the Holy Spirit. P/N

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. 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 pray for us.

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

OBERRAMMERS PASSION PLAY TOUR 2020. Still a few tickets available for my tour commencing in Munich on June 5th 2020. If you are interested please contact Mons Dave Bell: 021 257 6771 mondbell@gmail.com

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

December 2019		
Tuesday 24 th	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 25 th	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		
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: 23 December to 29 December 2019

Church Cleaning: (23 Dec) Jeanette & Lance Iwikau
Counter: (24 Dec) Selwyn Brown
Flowers: (Dec) Advent – No Flowers
Greeters: 5:30pm June & John Lynch
 9:30am Ans Haakman
Children's Liturgy (29 Dec) Holiday
Readers: 5:30pm Kathy Gardiner, Moira Jury and Kath Rooney
 9:30am Diane Baucke, Maree O'Donoghue & Erika Ramirez
Extraordinary Ministers of Holy Communion:
 5:30pm – 29 Dec – Volunteers
 9:30am – 29 Dec – Volunteers
Altar Servers: 9:30am TBA
Hospitality: 9:30am TBA
Linen: (Dec) Mary O'Connor, **Lawns:** (4 Jan) Kevin Long
Religious Goods Cabinet: (22 Dec) TBA
SVDP Basket: (Dec) Rose Semmens
 (Jan) John Lynch

St Mary's Foxton Roster: 29 December 2019

Greeters: TBA
Proclaimers: TBA
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion:
 TBA

St Joseph's Shannon Roster: 29 December 2019

Greeters: N/A
Proclaimers: L Legg
Extraordinary Ministers of Communion:
 D Legg, L Legg

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.



Kotahi Ano (Together as One) Children's Corner



AFRAID

ANGEL

BEAR

BIRTH

CHILD

CONCEIVE

DIVORCE

FOUND

HOLYSPIRIT

JESUS

JOSEPH

MARY

PEOPLE

PROPHET

SAVE

SHAME

SON

WIFE

