



Sunday	Saturday 5pm	Sunday 8:30am	Sunday 10:30
 Welcome/Intercessions			
 Ministers of the Word			
 Extra-Ordinary Ministers of the Eucharist			
 Altar Servers			

None until out of lockdown!

 Our Vinnie's Shop has expanded and is now able to accept donations of household furniture and appliances. If you can deliver to the shop at 275A Great South Road, Papakura, this would be greatly appreciated. Should you require a collection, you can phone 2965052, Monday to Friday 10am to 3pm and Saturday 10am to 12noon to arrange for a pickup time and date.



Fr John Vianney in Uganda is putting together a scholarship fund for students at a high school he has established. Some students are not able to continue their studies owing to lack of funds.
 New website: www.sfhighschool.org
 If any of you want to contribute he has an account with **BNZ**:
MAKANDA JOHN MARY VIANNEY
Acc Number: 02-0400-0111981-097
 Bank Ref: Your Name / Scholarship



Locals Supporting Locals

HARVEYS

REAL ESTATE EST. 1918

Thinking about selling?
 We can help you get your home sold or rented!
 Kelly, Darren and their family have been part of our parish and the school for over 20 years.
 We offer a full real estate service to our fellow parishioners and when successful not only do you get rewarded, so does the parish. We look forward to being of service to you.



Newsletter proudly sponsored by Harveys Papakura

021 635 583 | 09 298 4000 | darren@myharveys.co.nz | Kelly & Darren Brady, Harveys Papakura
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Pastoral Associate: Benita Kiutau Ph 299 6056 weekdays (except Wednesdays)
Parish Office: Angie Hodge Ph 299 6056
Sacramental Programme: Parish Office
Parish Office/Library: Tuesday to Friday: 8:00 am – 3:00 pm **Parish Hall Hireage:** Parish Office Ph 299 6056
St Mary's Catholic School: Ph 298 4450 **Web Site:** www.stmaryspapakura.school.nz

Welcome to any new parishioners! Please complete the form put in blue box in foyer or drop off at the parish office, thank you.

Mr/Mrs/Ms Family Name.....First Name.....
 Address.....
 Postcode.....
 Phone..... Email.....



St Mary's Catholic Church

– A listening, praying, servant community –

52 East Street, Papakura 2110
Parish Priest: Fr James Mulligan
Phone 09 298 5134 | Office 09 299 6056
Email: office@stmaryspapakura.co.nz | www.papakuracatholic.org.nz
Facebook –search: St Mary's Parish Catholic Church Papakura

In June 2010 I stayed for a fortnight at an old Franciscan Friary in Italy for an international retreat for Priests, Deacons and Seminarians connected with the Focolare movement. There were at least a hundred of us from around the world, all attempting to live the movement's spirituality of unity through acts of love in a common life. Not so easy when you don't know a single word of Italian or Spanish and your school-boy French is a bit patchy! I'll never forget my first night at Vinea Mea. After getting off the train from Florence, I'd been picked up at the local railway station in Incisa and was sitting down to dinner when I met David Rider. He'd just arrived from New York and was about to start studying at the North American College in Rome. Apart from being one the nicest people I have ever met, David is also one of the world's best tap dancers. A dancer since the age of 3, he'd opened a school of dancing in his teens and had even gone on tour with a professional troupe across America and Japan. Nowadays Fr David is a priest of the New York Archdiocese. Fr David is one of those rare individuals who use their everyday gifts and talents to connect with many different people on levels that would be far more difficult to bridge otherwise! To build a bridge means to find common ground in the face of difference. Pope Francis says that bridges are made by God with the wings of angels that people may learn to communicate. If we build walls or borders to separate ourselves for fear of the "other", we end up being inmates in prisons of our own making. Until we cross the bridge of our insecurities, we can't begin to explore our possibilities. As it says in a Welsh proverb: *if you want to be a leader, be a bridge...*

John the Baptist was very much a bridge builder himself. As one lone voice crying in the wilderness, John fulfills the vision of Isaiah to prepare the way for the Advent Christ. In our Gospel, Luke sets John's bridge building in an historical context that isn't so different to our own. Building on Baruch's vision of Jerusalem's restoration where he portrays Jerusalem as a mother welcoming back her lost children from all directions, John's baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins means nothing less than to remove all obstacles of sin that we ourselves put up like traffic barriers, that lie in the way of Jesus coming to us, where we are. To make every path straight, to fill every valley, to lay every mountain low and to make the rough smooth means not to conquer a physical landscape but to reshape the inner landscapes of the human mind and heart. That all humankind shall see the salvation of God.

So what does God's salvation look like for us? In his letter to the Philippians, Paul writes from within the "bubble" of his imprisonment with joy, praying that their love for each other may increase more and more. Paul was very much like our Bishops who call us to care both for the vaccinated and unvaccinated alike, at this present time. As we come back together again after our time in the wilderness of lockdown, may we overcome the divisions that Covid has caused and exposed. As we prepare an Advent way for the Lord to lead us out of isolation to enjoy the freedom of renewed life in community, may the one who has begun this good work in us see that it is finished when the day of Christ Jesus comes. The way of Advent is not a destination but a journey, a way of love that reaches out across difference, a way of building bridges across the gulfs of uncertainties to touch hands, hearts and souls in the experience of union. As we prepare for Christmas, all we can do is build a bridge and get over ourselves! If you want to be a leader, be a bridge, not a wall.

There are times in life when we are called to be bridges, not a great monument spanning a distance and carrying loads of heavy traffic but a simple bridge to help one person from here to there over some difficulty such as pain, fear, grief, loneliness, a bridge which opens the way for ongoing journey. When I become a bridge for another, I bring upon myself a blessing, for I escape from the small prison of self and exist for a wider world, breaking out to be a larger being who can enter another's pain and rejoice in another's triumph. I know of only one greater blessing in this life, and that is to allow someone else to be a bridge for me. (Joy Cowley)

- Mass Times
- Saturday: Vigil 5.00pm**
Sunday: 8.30am 10.30am
Filipino Mass 1st Sunday 12.30pm
Samoan Mass 2nd Sunday 12.00pm
Baptisms 3rd Sunday 12noon
- Clevedon Community 8.30am**
 1st Sunday of month
 Clevedon District Centre
(Postponed until further notice)
- RECONCILIATION 9 - 10am Saturdays**
Weekday Mass:
Monday 9:00am
Tuesday 9:00am
Wednesday 9:00am
Thursday 9:30am
Friday 9.00am
First Fridays of month 10.00am
Saturdays 8.30am
- Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament**
 Fridays 9.30am - 12.00 noon
 (10am—12noon First Friday of month)

Second Sunday Of
 Advent

Liturgy of the Word
 (Year C)

Baruch 5:1-9;
 Philippians 1:3-6,8-11;
 Luke 3:1-6



Welcome to St Mary's Parish

Children's Liturgy: 10.30 Sunday (Term time/not run on Public Holiday weekends) for children aged 4-8 years.
Holy Rosary: 8:30, 5:30p.m. Monday to Friday
Stations of the Cross: 5pm Fridays. Michael 298 9295
The statue of Our Lady is available for families, add your name to the list in the foyer or ph Jean 296 5486
Legion of Mary: Tuesdays 5pm, hall committee room. Celerina 298 4080
Medjugorje prayer meetings: Mondays, @ 2/1 Clark Rd, Joseph 298 2297
Meditation Groups: Tuesdays 9.40am Fr Ryder Rm. (St Anne's Manurewa every Monday 5-6pm in the Chapel.)
Music for Mass: Choir practice Wednesdays 7pm, come along or contact Judith ph 268 1884, newcomers welcome.
Knitting group: each 2nd & 4th Tuesday: 1- 3 pm Ryder Rm. Jenny 297 7292
St Vincent de Paul Foodbank Office: Tuesday/Thursday 10-12noon ph 299 6056
St Vincent de Paul Shop: 10-3pm weekdays, 10-12noon Saturdays; 275 Great South Rd, 296 5052
The Knights Of The Southern Cross - John Curtin 021 995 302 Or Richard Powell



We pray for those who have died
And those whose anniversaries occur at this time including: Trevor Davis, Lesley Peace, Ignatius Giborees, Winifred Pollard, John Joyce, Megan Jefferies, Charles Sims, Kevin Ross and John Blinkhorn
We pray for those who are sick including:
 Elizabeth Nau, Alipati Afoa, William Marshal, Elizabeth Schubert, Marna & Tony Starbuck, Seamus O'Sullivan, Pauleen McDonald, Antoinette Anton, Daphne Bankien, Christopher Bird and Marcia Thorburn .

"Traffic Light Baptisms": Under Alert Level "Red", Parish baptisms will be celebrated privately, for individual families only. Our usual group baptisms and evening preparation courses will resume once when we reach Alert Level "Orange". For further information and bookings, please ring Fr James at the Presbytery on 298-5134.

Advent Rite I Reconciliations: Through the weeks of Advent, Fr James will be available for reconciliation/confession on Tuesday and Thursday evenings, from 5.30pm-6.30pm.

Church Events:

School Preference Forms: Please note that Fr James is available to sign **School Preference Forms** on **Thursday Mornings from 10am to 12noon and afternoons** from 4pm to 6pm in the Parish Office. Many thanks for your co-operation.

Parish Baptisms: Baptisms will be celebrated on the **THIRD SUNDAY** of the month after the 10:30 Mass. Please note that there will now be a monthly group baptismal preparation course in the **Ryder Room** on the **last Thursday of the month** at 7pm. (Next session to be advised)
 Please contact Fr James to register and for further details on telephone 2985134. No paperwork, no baptism.
St Mary's School Mass
 Please note that because during term time the classes from the school will attend Thursday Morning Mass, the time has changed to **9:30am** permanently to stop confusion.



PARISH SITE DEVELOPMENT

"Building A Vibrant Faith Community"



Online Donations:
Acc. 02-0100-0120982-10

REF: Build Fund

Include your pledge number or contact parish office for receipt.

Parish Building Project Fundraising Team Contact Details

Can you help make our dream for a better church a reality? Contact one of us to arrange a time to meet to discuss your options. There will be an option that will work for you. We can also explain how up to 33% of your donation can be claimed back from IRD.

David Tennent – dandjct@gmail.com

09 268 1884 or 027 489 4404

Vince O'Loughlin – loch.ness@xtra.co.nz

09 291 9194 or 021 379 845

St Vincent de Paul Gifting Tree

The Gifting tree inviting Parishioners to take a toy and donate a gift for age and gender of the child listed on it, is usually put up in the Church at this time. With the uncertainty of when the Church will be accessible again, and the difficulty of arranging drop-off, sorting, wrapping and delivery of the gifts we have very reluctantly and sadly had to make the decision NOT to give gifts this year. We thank the generosity of Parishioners for your support of the gifting tree in past years. We will still be giving Christmas Hampers of the donated food and probably a Supermarket voucher to about 75 struggling families from various local agencies and schools and our Foodbank. If you would like to make a monetary donation towards this instead of a gift, that would be greatly appreciated. Donations can be made directly into the St Vincent de Paul Account Number 12-3031-0679646-00

Reference: Christmas

Thank you.



Many THANKS for the donations received so far. If you require a receipt please send to this email choochoo01@xtra.co.nz your name and address and amount & date of donation.



St Vincent de Paul shop is **OPEN**
 275 Great South Rd, Papakura
 Mon - Fri 10.00 - 3.00 Sat 10.00 - 12.00
 Incoming goods will be accepted from 22nd November onwards.
 Thank you for your support.

God's Word Daily Reflections

Monica Bryce has copies of God's Word 2022 for sale at \$25 each. If you wish to buy one please ring her on 2961139 .



Columban Calendars 2022 are available for \$12. While the church is closed, please e-mail the office on office@stmaryspapakura.co.nz or call and leave a message on the answer phone. The office is only attended on a Thursday during lockdown.

Sacramental Program is taking enrolments for **2022** for more information and enrolment forms email:



ST MARY'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL, PAKAKURA
 54 Clark Road
 We love being an active part of our parish community. Your children are our children. Your family is our family.
Together We Learn, We Pray, We serve
 Me Whakakotahi, Kia Maarama, Kia Pono, Ki Te Karakia
ENROL NOW! PLACES ARE FILLING UP FAST!
 Visits welcome. Contact our school office on 09 298 4450 or visit our new website. www.stmaryspapakura.school.nz
 Follow us on Facebook too!
St Mary's, Papakura School Hall is available for hire to clubs, businesses and for private events. This is a large, pristine venue with kitchen, toilet and parking facilities. Please call our school office on 09 2984450 for more information.

Holy Trinity Catholic Primary School
 Learn Love Serve
 Ka Ako Ka Aroha Ka Manaaki
 137 Airfield Road, Takanini
 1. School website: www.holytrinity.school.nz
 2. School email: office@holytrinity.school.nz
 Enquiries and school visits welcome
 Phone school office (09) 296 9039

CMF 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 and contact Michael at 021 825 955 or visit fourviere.nz for more information.

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.

New to the Parish

Welcome

Contact form P.T.O and foyer (blue box) or Parish Office

Week Dec 6th - 11th	Monday	Tuesday St Ambrose	Wednesday The Immaculate Conception Of The Blessed Virgin Mary	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
Psalm	85	96	98	145	1	80
1 Reading	Isaiah 35:1-10	Isaiah 40:1-11	Ephesians 1:3-6,11-12	Isaiah 41:13-20	Isaiah 48:17-19	Ecclesiasticus 48:1-4,9-11
Gospel	Luke 5:17-26	Matthew 18:12-14	Luke 1:26-38	Matthew 11:11-15	Matthew 11:16-19	Matthew 17:10-13

Bequests: Have you remembered St Mary's in your Will.

St Mary's Youth Group

'You are the Church of today'

"Everyone is welcome to the smyfs family"

When: 7pm- 8:30pm
 Where: Church hall
 Who: Ages 10 and over

Term one dates:

Parent contact: Tracey Luamanu
 Phone Number:027 388 1556
 Youth leader contact: Tahnee TePuia-Afoa
 Phone number:021 084 4848



Information on the Synod We are currently at the start of the 2021-2023 Synod For A Synodal Church . To find out more about this process including how to get involved head to the website <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/synod/> where you can read all about it and download information.

Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy Online Sessions (Evening):

Nativity Scenes with Beate Matthies. Monday, 06 December, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM. Koha/ Donation. <https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/nativity-scenes/>
Joy at Mass with Prof Thomas O'Loughlin and Kieran Fenn fms. Friday, 17 December, 8-9pm. ZOOM. Koha/Donation. <https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/joy-at-mass/>
 For more information and registration: www.studyjoy.nz
Muffin Talk Radio Programme recordings and video clips on religion, interfaith and community available at <https://www.studyjoy.nz/category/resources/muffin-talk/>



Studying Theology at the University of Otago

The Theology Programme at the University of Otago offers many opportunities for the study of Theology, Church History, Ministry, Biblical Studies, and Pastoral Theology, both on-campus and to many students across Aotearoa New Zealand through its successful distance study programme. We are committed to serving Christian communities throughout the country.
 New enrolments for 2022 are now open. For details of papers go to: <https://www.otago.ac.nz/theology/study/>