

St Mary's Parish



Ko Hehu Te Kaiwhakatipu - In Christ We Live and Grow

69 Ruahine Street, Palmerston North. Phone. 358 5614;
email: stmaryspalmy@inspire.net.nz website: www.stmaryschurchpn.org.nz
Office hours Monday – Friday 9am - 1pm, Parish Secretary: Susan Learmonth
Parish Priest: Fr Manoj Mathew IC, Assistant Priest: Fr Robin Kurian IC,
Special Ministry to the Elderly: Fr Thomas Sherry - Ph. 353 6955
Parish School: St Mary's, Principal: Suneal Singh, Ph. 357 5015

3rd December 2017

1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT

“Stay Awake for His Coming”

Today we begin the new liturgical year with the season of Advent. The word ‘Advent’ means ‘coming’. The first coming of Christ took place two thousand years ago when Christ was born at Bethlehem. Faith tells us that he will come again at the end of the world to Judge the living and the dead. As far as concerned Jesus’ first coming took place in our lives as infants we were baptized or when we came to faith in Him. Jesus comes into our lives to save us. Individually, he comes to us time and again in a variety of ways. There are three particular occasions when His presence in the midst of the Christian community becomes more intense: when we gather to pray, when we read the Scriptures and when we celebrate the Eucharist. Our whole life should be a continuous Advent, an ever getting ready to receive Christ at his repeated comings. It is thus that we shall be prepared for Christ’s coming at the end of the world.

Today, the Church reminds us that Jesus has already come into the world in the flesh, so now, we have to remember that he constantly comes to us as our Saviour and in our neighbour. He is about to come to us in the Eucharist in order to help us make sense of all that happens to us and around us. Let us stay awake for his Coming.

(Fr Manoj Mathew IC)



**Christmas Day Mass
At St Mary's - 9.00am**

THE ANNUAL SICK AND RETIRED PRIESTS SPECIAL COLLECTION TODAY

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 today 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

This week's Readings –

Isaiah 63:16-17; 64:1, 3-8
1 Corinthians 1:3-9, Mark 13:31-37

Next week's Readings –

Isaiah 40:1-5, 9-11
2 Peter 3:8-15, Mark 1:1-8

WEL-COM

Your free copy is available in the foyer today.

MASS TIMETABLE : 4 - 10 December

Monday	Mass	9:00am
Tuesday	Mass	12:00pm
Wednesday	Mass	9:00am
Thursday	Mass	9:00am
Friday	Mass	9:00am
Saturday	Mass	9:00am
	Vigil Mass @ St Columba's	5:00pm
Sunday	Mass	10:30am
	Mass @ St Columba's	11:00am

**Reconciliation is available after Saturday morning
Mass and on request.**

PLEASE PRAY FOR:

Jacinta Chapman, Marzia, Carmel Walton, Vinnie Carroll, Edwin Evans, Kath O'Hagan, Shane Hoy, Vincent Chan, Jan Rodgers, Clare McCartney, Trish Collis, Sue Fryer, Laura Roberts, Neil Burton, Wiki & Delastro Maniapoto, Marie Hubbard and all in rest homes and hospital care.

Prayer Chain - please phone Sally: 326 9209.

RECENTLY DECEASED:

Janet Quinn, Fr Patrick Cumiskey, Barry Nolan, Claire Tippet, Annette Bristow, Gregory Wright, Fr Des Moosman, Lila Smith, Paul Andrew, Valerie Russell, Sr Noreen Murphy OP (Dunedin), Frank Rochecouste.

DECEMBER ANNIVERSARIES:

Pat Tuohy 3, Maureen Ryan 6, Elaine Pearce 17, Anna Liao 31.

PARISH FEAST DAY
10th December -
NEXT SUNDAY
*Please bring a plate for a
shared lunch
and barbeque in the School
grounds, after Mass.*
ALL WELCOME.

RITE II RECONCILIATION
There will be a combined Rite II
Reconciliation for the city wide
parishes on 19th December at 7pm.
This will be held at the Cathedral.

HOLY ROSARY
All parishioners are encouraged to
recite the Holy Rosary every Saturday
at 8.30am before the 9am Mass.

EUCCHARISTIC ADORATION
10am every Tuesday
Followed by Mass

SCHOOL MASS
On 15th December there will be a School
Mass at 12 noon and **NO** 9am Mass that
day.

PARISH OFFICE
The office will be closed for 3 weeks
after Christmas. Reopen on 16th
January. Please note the change of
parish office times. Working days:
Tuesday to Friday, 9am – 2pm. The
office will be closed on Mondays in
2018.

**MUSICIANS FOR
CHRISTMAS MORNING MASS**
We are still seeking a music group to play
for the Christmas morning Mass which is
now at 9am. This year some of our
regular music groups are unavailable,
please contact the office if you are able to
assist, thanks.

ON SALE
CHRISTMAS CARDS \$2.50 pack of 5
and COLUMBAN CALENDARS \$12.00
purchase from the Parish office.

NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER
10th December
Mass Co-ordinator: T.Kigufi
Sacristan: A. & M. Carambas
Greeters: L. & B.Vergheze
Altar Servers: E.Sojan, D. & D.Shinoy
Readers: S.Munday, M.Munday, N.Legg
Offertory: T.Lafai – Sae family
Eucharistic Ministers: B.Vergheze,
S.Xavier, P.Walsh, A.Marsh, C.Sae,
H.Autagavaia
Junior Liturgy: T.Makiwa
Counters: E.Drury, P.Widdup
Collectors: P.Sojan, P.Gildea, J.Marsh
Hospitality: I.& J.Bailey, E.& M.Gormly
Altar Linen (Dec): S.Learmonth
Floral Arrangers: M.Hurley
**Cleaners week beginning 17th
December:** Kapatiran group



Youth retreat and Christmas celebration is
on 16th December at 6.30pm. All the
youth are invited to participate. For more
info call Hilary 022 690 6637.

ST COLUMBA'S ASHHURST
On Monday 11th December, we are holding
a pre Christmas gathering at John and
Mary Culling's home, 1288 Pohangina
Road. Bishop Peter will celebrate Mass at
6pm and this will be followed by a pot luck
tea. All are welcome.

BISHOP CHARLES
The Bishop is on holiday at the moment in
India and Laos. If you would like to follow
his travels and see some great photos then
go to his Facebook page and check out -
facebook.com/BishopCharlesDrennan

MARIAN EUCHARISTIC COMMUNITY
Kerala Catholic Prayer Community prayer
meeting, every Monday 4.15pm – 7pm at
Our Lady of Lourdes Church.

CONGRATULATIONS
Congratulations to Mary Bennett who
graduated this week with a "Diploma in
Religious Studies – Pastoral Ministry" from
The Catholic Institute of Aotearoa New
Zealand (TCI) at the Awards Ceremony
held on Tuesday in the Wellington
Cathedral.

CAROLS AT SCHOOL
St Mary's School will hold a Carols evening on
8th December from 5.30pm to 8pm. Bring
along a picnic hamper and enjoy an evening
with us ending with a few favourite carols.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL
Christmas Raffle tickets for sale – come into the
store to buy your tickets. Can everyone have a
clean out and donate children's toys and books,
bric a brac, jewellery – anything to help families
trying to make this Christmas time of year a bit
cheaper. **Next meeting on Tuesday, 12th
December, 5.15pm in the Cathedral
Lounge.**

NATIONAL MARCH FOR LIFE
NEXT Saturday 9th December, 2pm
Civic Centre to Parliament Grounds
in Wellington

Parishes, groups, families and all people of
goodwill are invited to this march. Be a
beacon of light for Kiwi families, mothers and
the unborn! The spirit of the march is one of
celebrating the gift of life and protecting the
vulnerable at all of life's stages from
conception to natural death. The march also
seeks to highlight to abortion vulnerable
women in our community that we are here
to support them and do whatever it takes to
help them choose life for their precious
babies. www.marchforlifenz.org.nz or phone
Michael 021 825 955.

**Mass for Life – Opening Mass of the
National March for Life and Feast of the
Immaculate Conception** - this Mass will
be celebrated by Monsignor Burns at St
Anne's, Emmett St, Newtown on Friday 8th
Dec 7.30pm. For info contact Clare 03 237
8343 or Michael 021 825 955.

CENSUS FORMS

We are handing out Census forms today.
Please can you complete this form with
all your information and hand back to
Susan today or drop into the office next
week. Thanks.

CDC PHILOSOPHY CAMP

Join Fr Dominique Faure and CDC students to
Search for the Truth, ask the Big Questions, go
deeper, have fun! Aimed at 16-19 year olds.
3pm - 26th December, 2pm - 28th December.
Cost \$60 includes two nights marae style
accommodation, all meals. Email
cameron@cdc.ac.nz facebook.com/cdcnz ph
09 489 8197 CDC, 1 Fred Thomas Drive,
Takapuna.

Te Ahi Kaa – The Hearth-Place

Applications are open for our young adult
community house situated at 25
Amesbury Street. Te Ahi Kaa has room
for 4 young adults (19 years plus) to
spend a year in guided community living,
focused on prayer, hospitality, formation
and service. For More Information
contact Georgia 0226704422; [Nick 021
822 814](mailto:Nick.021.822.814) or [Kathleen 021 509 436.](mailto:Kathleen.021.509.436)

CAROLS IN THE CATHEDRAL with the Unity Singers

Tuesday, 5th December, 7pm
**Admission: Non perishable food or a
donation for St Vincent de Paul
foodbank.**

MARCELLIN COLLEGE 60th Jubilee
23 – 25 March 2018
Registrations open at
www.marcellin.school.nz

FOOD FOR FAITH ADVENT 2017 ONLINE RETREAT

Fr John O'Connor has for many years gifted
the New Zealand Church with his website Food
for Faith. He is offering a wonderful gift to us
all this Advent, like an Advent Calendar it will
have an offering every day, leading and
preparing us for Christmas. You can have it
arrive every day by email by signing up at his
site, or you could visit his site each day:
<http://foodforfaith.org.nz/>

HEARTS AFLAME 2018 SUMMER SCHOOL

For young adults 18-35 years old. The school
runs for 10 days. December 29, 2017 @ 4:00
pm - January 7, 2018 @ 12:00 pm. Early
bird registrations close 29th October.
www.heartsaflame.org.nz

ACROSS
**Counselling, Family Support and
Parenting Programmes**
www.across.org.nz

Sign up for next year's programmes – Anxiety
for children 8-12, Triple P Parenting
Programme, Postnatal Depression
programme. 294a Church St, Phone 356 7486.

PROLIFE FACTS

In their new 38 page booklet "The
Unforgotten Babies: the inspiration
behind the Buttons Project", Peter and
Marina Young write about their
experience of abortion and the stories
they have received from post-abortive
women all over NZ who heard about the
Buttons Project. To receive the booklet,
visit www.buttonsproject.org For more
pro-life info visit www.voiceforlife.org.nz