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MASS TIMES							CONTACTS
Mon	Tue	Wed	Thu	Fri	Sat	Sun	
9:15 am	9:15 am	7:00 pm	9:15 am	9:15 am	9:15 am 6:00 pm Vigil	8:00 am 9:30 am	PARISH PASTORAL COUNCIL stdomppc@gmail.com
SACRAMENTS							LITURGY COMMITTEE FINANCE COMMITTEE stdominicsparish@xtra.co.nz
Baptism	Every Saturday at 11:00am Contact Fr. Mario Dorado.						CARING COMMITTEE stdominicspastoralcare@gmail.com
Reconciliation	Saturday after 9:15am Mass						EVENTS COMMITTEE stdomsevents@gmail.com
Anointing	First Friday of every month after 9:15am Mass						YOUTH GROUP stdomsyouth@gmail.com
DEVOTIONS Adoration	Every 1st Friday at 6:00pm followed by Mass at 7:00pm						NEWSLETTER COMMITTEE stdomsnewsletter@gmail.com
Novena	Wednesday at 6:45 pm						SOCIAL JUSTICE COMMITTEE stdomssj@gmail.com
Rosary	Every Saturday at 5:30pm & Sunday at 9:00am						

DONATIONS / PLANNED GIVING

To join our Planned Giving scheme please first send an email to: stdomspgc@gmail.com
 The Planned Giving coordinator will then allocate you a Planned Giving number.
 For online contributions please use the following details:

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REFLECTION

Today's gospel tells us that John the Baptist was born into the world for a singular purpose, "to testify to the light." And not just any light, but "the light of the human race" (John 1:4), "the light that shines in the darkness," that the darkness can never overpower (1:5). One of the reasons the feast of Christmas was originally placed on December 25 was to highlight the symbolism of celebrating the birth of the one who proclaimed himself "the light of the world" (John 8:12) during the darkest days of the Northern Hemisphere's winter.

Whether we find ourselves in the Northern or Southern Hemisphere on this Gaudete Sunday, there is plenty of darkness to be encountered: poverty, war, violence, hatred, greed, and all manners of evil. When we turn our gaze to our own suffering and that of others, it is easy to become discouraged. How can any light possibly brighten this darkness?

As Christians, we could say that we have all been born into the world with the same vocation as John the Baptist: to testify to the light, to be hope in the world by fully living our belief, in and relationship with Jesus Christ. This is the source of our gladness, and the reason St. Paul urges all of us to "rejoice always." As the feast of Christ's nativity draws nearer, we pause to ask ourselves, how do we live our vocation to joy? How are we being called, at this moment in human history, to testify to the light that no darkness can overcome?



Living Liturgy 2021



FROM OUR PARISH

THE SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2021 has been finalised and registration forms are available in the church foyer, on the parish website <https://blockhousebaycatholic.org.nz/sacraments/sacramental-programme> and at the main office of St. Dominics Primary School. Registration forms can be emailed to stdomssacprogram@gmail.com. For further information, please contact Bradley Pinto on 0223629592.

COLUMBAN CALENDARS: Support the Columban Fathers with their missionary work by purchasing a calendar @ \$12 ea.

RITE OF RECONCILIATION

In preparation for Christmas the Sacrament of Reconciliation will be held at: Immaculate Heart of Mary, Avondale, **Wednesday 16 December at 7.30pm.**

CHRISTMAS PARTY IN THE PARK: Sunday 13 December from 5:00pm, Craigavon Park, Kinross St.

DIVINE MERCY CHAPLET every Sunday at 7:45am before 8:00am Mass.

CHRISTMAS MASSES

16-24 December: Christmas Novena 5:00 a.m.

Thursday 24th: Vigil Mass 6:00 p.m.

Thursday 24th: Carols 10:00 p.m. followed by Mass 11:00 p.m.

Friday, Christmas Day: 8:00 a.m. and 9:30 a.m.

THE ASYLUM SEEKERS SUPPORT TRUST, which runs a House on Blockhouse Bay Rd, is seeking the following assistance:

1) CHILDREN'S CLOTHES - good quality, for boys (aged 4 - 16).

2) GARDENING PROJECT - a new project. Seeking help and guidance from anyone with an interest or expertise in gardening to help out at the House. Contact: Frejya Stocker, Client Services Manager, Asylum Seekers Support Trust. Mob 021-0236-4668. Message from Paul Robertson, St Dominic's Social Justice Committee.

MONTE CECILIA CHRISTMAS APPEAL: This year we need your help and support for our homeless families. There are 1,410 children in our care who have been exposed to homelessness, living in cars and no place to call home. We have a tradition of providing a gift for every child so they may experience a little Christmas joy. Are you able you donate a gift/gifts so we can be sure none of them go without? We also need the usual donations of canned food, breakfast cereals, and maybe the odd small Christmas treat such as cake, tarts and sweets. Donations can be dropped off to the church after Mass on Saturday 12th and Sunday 13th December. If you can help, please contact Anne: 027 448 8348 or Nila: 021 181 7561.

FROM OUR DIOCESE

A REFRESHED DIOCESAN WEBSITE same address

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/> is live. Bishop Pat invites you to explore it. You will also find a message from him and Bishop Michael regarding the Mission Map on the site as well as a wealth of information and resources.

Christmas blessings and gratitude from the Caring Foundation. Your support for families and communities in need during 2020 has helped the foundation support over 60 agencies working with the poor and the vulnerable. Thank you for your compassion and care. Please keep the Foundation in your prayers, and if able please support our Christmas Appeal. www.caringfoundation.org.nz

MORE NEWS

150 YEARS OF DOMINICAN SISTERS IN NEW ZEALAND

18 February 2021 will mark 150 years since ten Dominican sisters arrived from Dublin, Ireland, to begin the congregation in New Zealand.

The sisters are taking this opportunity to remember with gratitude all those who have enabled and supported our life in this country: family, friends, women who have shared our life, former pupils, parishioners, benefactors and supporters in prayer and ministry.

A public mass will be held at St Mary's Church, Mosgiel, at 10am on Saturday 20 February, to which all are welcome.

NZ CATHOLIC 13—26 Dec. Some headlines are: New pastoral plan for Auckland diocese. New vaccines prompt serious questions. Hospital chaplain called a local hero. Marist ordained to priesthood.

Online Session (Evening): Christmas "Self-Care Nibbles" with Clare Barnett. Tuesday, 15 December, 7.15-8.45pm. Fee: \$30. ZOOM. <https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/christmas-self-care-nibbles/>

Online Session (Retreat Day): Who am I? – Reflecting on our Identity in God with Eamon Butler. Saturday, 30 January, 10.30am-4pm. Fee: \$60, ZOOM <https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/virtual-retreat-day-with-eamon-butler-who-am-i/>

Please remember the following in prayer:

For the Sick: Margaret Rasch, June Parr, Ofa Brown, Mavis Urlich, Brenda Tweedale, Christina Woolard, Rosemary McLaughlin, Paulina Unkovich, Margaret Baptista, Theresa Furdas, Helena Podwin, Ineke Merckens, Sr. Dominic OP, Kath Conway.

Recently Deceased: Lynette Tuttle, David Mu, Don Matthews, Luming Dorado, Vernon Stowers, Fr. Luke Rawlings OP, Denise McNichol, Sarah Byrne, Ted Murphy, Marie McKenna.

Anniversaries of Death: Matthew Foskin.

Please call the office if you need to place a name on this list.

13th December 2020

3rd Sunday of Advent

TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS

1st Reading: Isa 61:1-2a, 10-11
Psalm: Luke 1:46-48, 49-50, 53-54
2nd Reading: 1 Thess 5:16-24
Gospel: John 1:6-8, 19-28



NEXT SUNDAY
4th Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: 2Sam 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
Psalm: 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29
2nd Reading: Rom 16:25-27
Gospel: Luke 1:26-38

NEXT WEEK'S ROSTER

SATURDAY 6.00pm

Altar servers: Nathan T, Moriel D, Roswell M, Ashton S, Shane M.

Commentator Kevin Creado

1st Reading Hazel Patrao
2nd Reading Nita Creado

Ministers of Communion Valerie Fernandes

Chief Collector Martin Patrao
Music Ministry Sue Gasson
Co-ordinator Susan Dias
Projectionist Goretti Sheppard

SUNDAY 9.30am

Altar servers: Seanna S, Sophia X, Angeline X, Jeremy X, Jason D.

Commentator Sarah Flynn

1st Reading Helen Bergin
2nd Reading Connor McDonnel

Ministers of Communion Valyne Koh

Chief Collector Josh Soares
Music Ministry Graham S.
Co-ordinator Mabel Vivera
Projectionist Vincent George

Cleaning Flowers Creado family
-

If you are not available, please arrange your own replacement