



**MASS TIMES**

**Sunday Eucharist**

Saturday 6.00pm  
 Sunday 8:00am and 9:30am

**Weekday Eucharist**

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday 9:15am  
 Wednesday - Novena at 6:45pm followed by Mass at 7:00pm  
 First Friday (Mass of Healing & Anointing of the sick) 9:15am  
 First Friday Adoration followed by Mass 6:30pm  
 Parish Renewal Rosary (Every Saturday) 6:30am

Reconciliation and Exposition Every Saturday 11:30am-12:30pm  
 Baptism classes: 1st and 2nd Saturdays of the month 2:00pm to 3:00pm

**(Please see the Church noticeboard and Website)**



**NEXT SUNDAY (29<sup>th</sup> December 2024)**  
**Holy Family Sunday - (Scripture Readings)**

**1st Reading:** Sam 1:20-22,24,28 Samuel is dedicated to the Lord.  
**2nd Reading:** 1 Jn 3:1-2,21-24 He calls you his own children and that is what you are.  
**Gospel Reading:** Lk 2:41-52 His parents found him in the temple.  
**Psalm:** Ps 83 (84) How happy they who dwell in your house, O Lord.

**Rosters:** The rosters for various ministries servers are in the website. Thank you for your generosity with these ministries. If you are not available, please try to arrange your own replacement. Thank you.



**ALTAR SERVERS and OTHER MINISTRY Rosters**

**LITURGICAL MINISTRIES**  
**Sat 6:00pm** Nithin Savio, Sophia Mckellar, Sophia Mckellar  
**Sun 8:00am** Javier Soares, Eva Hu, Lucas Sun, Kathlyn Sun  
**Sun 9:30am** Jason Dash, Jessica MacKenzie, Joshua Joseph

	<b>Sat 6:00pm</b>	<b>Sun 8:00am</b>	<b>Sun 9:30am</b>
<b>Hospitality:</b>	Reggis	Annlyn Lopez	Jewel Villos
<b>1st Reading:</b>	Peter Dalgado	Charlotte Monteiro	Richard O'Malley
<b>2nd Reading:</b>	Betsy	Ronald D'Souza	Robin Cooper
<b>Ministers of Communion:</b>	Wilma Barboza	Mabel Vivera	Audrey Cooper
<b>Communion:</b>	Renee D'Souza	Paul Reddy	Wilma Barboza
<b>Communion:</b>	Helen Bailie	Karen Vivera	Teresa Joseph
<b>Projectionist:</b>	Goretti Sheppard	Annlyn Lopez	Brower Jr Pule
<b>Chief Collector:</b>	Romir Batista	Joseph Moodel	Irae Pule
<b>Co-Ordinator:</b>	Joseph Moodal	Josh	Joseph Moodel
<b>Music:</b>	John Smit	N/A	Graham

**CHURCH CLEANING ROSTER**  
 (Vincent George & family - 28th Dec 2024)

**FLOWER ARRANGEMENT ROSTER**  
 (Goretti - 28th Dec 2024)

AROHA 愛 mōmao CINTA LOVE AMOR GR

**ST DOMINIC'S CATHOLIC PARISH**  
 Ko te Pāriha Katorika o Hāto Tominiko ki

BLOCKHOUSE BAY  
 34 Bolton Street, PO Box 48097, Blockhouse Bay, Auckland

*We, the People of God, continue Christ's Mission of Love in our Diversity.*

사랑 ALOFA LIEFDE 𑌕𑌆𑌇 PAG-IBIG SUKA 愛

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**TODAY'S SCRIPTURE READINGS**  
**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Advent—(Scripture Readings)**

**1<sup>st</sup> Reading:** Micah 5:1-4 Out of you will be born one who is to rule over Israel.  
**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading:** Heb 10:5-10 I am coming to do your will.  
**Gospel Reading:** Lk 1:39-44 As soon as Elizabeth heard Mary's greeting, the child leapt in her womb.  
**Psalm:** Ps 79 (80) Lord, make us turn to you, let us see your face and we shall be saved.



*22nd December 2024*



In the recounting of the visitation of Elizabeth by Mary, both John (who is still within Elizabeth's womb) and Elizabeth herself greet the Blessed Virgin Mary, who is then in the early stages of pregnancy with Jesus. Both respond with exultant joy to her arrival. And Elizabeth declares Mary to be blessed, because she 'believed that the promise made her by the Lord would be fulfilled.' In identifying this belief as Mary's source of blessing, a great truth is revealed to us. Faith does not consist merely in accepting a set of propositions contained in the creed or the catechism. Rather it is the embracing of a mystery which is beyond us with trust and love, and yearning hopefully for the fulfilment of a promise which surpasses all our desires and imaginings. ~ God's Word 2024

**The Pontifical Society of St Peter the Apostle**, one of the Pope's missionary arms, currently supports 81,393 seminarians training in third world countries. The Church in NZ has been blessed by priests from the Philippines, Indonesia, India and Uganda serving our people. Can you offer a donation or financial support for this work? Donate to MissioNZ 06-0411-0021447-00



*Sunday Reflections*

## Parish News

**Christmas Confession:** Father Ephrem will be available after the Holy Masses for 1 hour from 17th to 24th December (regular time on weekends).

**Christmas Novena Mass** will be held from 16th until 24th December at early morning (5:30 AM) except on Sundays followed by cup of tea. Sponsors are welcome to contact Fr. Ephrem.



**Thanks to Samoan Community** - We would like to extend our sincere gratitude to the Samoan Community for their generosity and hard work in cleaning the surroundings of the Church. Your efforts, including water blasting and trimming the hedges, have made a beautiful difference in our environment. This thoughtful act of service is a wonderful way to celebrate Christmas in a truly meaningful way. Thank you for your kindness and dedication - it's deeply appreciated by all of us.

**Cup of Tea - Samoan Community** welcome everyone for a Cup of Tea after 9.30 a.m. mass on 22nd Dec. 2024.

**St Dominic's Knitting Group Fund-raiser Raffle held on 15th December:** The prizes were large a hand knitted Nativity set as the main prize, with two smaller Nativity sets as the second and third prize. The winners were: 1st prize - Ticket no: T91 - Carmen D'Souza, 2nd prize - Ticket no: T82 - Chrysllyn Pinto 3rd prize - Ticket no: L28 - Shalini Saldanha. The group would like to thank everyone for their support and generosity. All proceeds go towards purchase of wool which is knitted into children's garments for the families of Monte Cecilia Trust. Overall the Group raised \$454.00. Thank you and God bless.

**Self-Rostering for Church Ministries/Altar Servers/Volunteers:** We have shared Google Sheets for Self Rostering and received a very positive response so far. However, for few parishioners who prefer not to use the online sheets, a printout is available at the church foyer for filling it manually. Please be encouraged in filling (online or manual) at the earliest or contact parish office (e-mail/call/text) for assistance.

**Christmas & New Year Holidays** - Please be advised that the Parish Office will remain active until 20th December 2024 and will resume on 20th January 2025. The next newsletter will be published when the office resumes operations. Wishing you all a blessed Christmas and a joyful New Year! **Fr. Ephrem & Parish Office**

**DONATIONS / PLANNED GIVING:** To join our Planned Giving scheme please email to: [stdomspgc@gmail.com](mailto:stdomspgc@gmail.com) or contact the Parish office. For online contributions please use the following details: Account Name : RC Bishop of Auckland Blockhouse Bay Parish Account No. : 02-0108-0707980-00 Ref : Your name and planned giving number



Do not let your heart be troubled. Have faith in God.

## St Dominic's School News

**Across the Path - from the School Principal, Daniel Pepper:**

### Dance Around the World

What a wonderful event! Our children showcased 12 stunning dances from around the world, beautifully woven into the story of the birth of our Risen Christ. Dressed in traditional costumes from various countries, the children sang, danced, and brought joy to all who attended. It was a truly memorable celebration for our school community.

### End-of-Year Dates to Remember:

- **Friday, 13th December:** Final Mass for Leavers, 9:15 AM
- **Monday, 16th December:** Praise Giving Awards for the 3 teams
- **Tuesday, 19th December:** Last Day of School – Final Assembly, 11:30 AM

We extend our heartfelt thanks to the parish and to Father Ephrem for his unwavering support and the love he shares with our school community. It has been a busy year filled with many positives and wonderful celebrations.

We look forward to continuing our partnership with the parish in 2025. Please note that school reopens on **Monday, 3rd February**.

Wishing you all a blessed and holy Christmas! ~ Daniel Pepper

## Other News

**Mother of Divine Mercy Refuge families,** would like to sincerely thank the St Dominics parish for the donated goods of toys, clothing and food. We truly appreciate your prayers and support towards our families in need. Wishing you all a very Merry & Blessed Christmas & New Year!

**Request for Volunteers - Holy Communion to the Sick and Homebound:** May I request some volunteers to take Holy Communion to the Sick and Homebound **and join our parish pastoral care group.** Before you embark in this honourable ministry, training will be provided to ensure you feel confident and prepared. Your volunteering would be highly appreciated and we trust you will be guided by a guardian angel. Interested to join or have any queries, please contact the parish office or Fr. Ephrem directly. Bless you for your willingness to serve and bring Christ's love to others!

**Columban Art Calendar 2025:** St. Columban's Mission Society's beautiful Art Calendar is available for sale at \$15/- only. All are encouraged to buy the Calendar to contribute to the Society.

**Legion of Mary 'Our Lady of Grace' Praesidium** The Legion of Mary holds its meeting every **Tuesday evening, in the Parish Centre at 7pm.** This worldwide apostolic group has over 10 million members in 170 Countries. Mother Mary sees your heart and seeks you out to be part of her army to fight evil by bringing Jesus into the hearts and souls of our Parishioners. Join us and discern if this is a suitable ministry for you to be part of. Your sacrifice of time and effort in this service, brings forth blessings from our Lord Jesus and Mother Mary. Look forward to seeing you on Tuesday.

**Please remember the following in the Eucharist and your personal prayer:**

**Recently Deceased/Anniversaries:** Maggie Rebello, Elsa Olla, Janet Jensen, Elsy Vivera, Vern Walker, Chris Sekula, Pearl Dharmai, Ineke Merckens, Peter Gasson, Bernadette Waith, Yvonne Ryan, Fr Mario Dorado, Conrad & Margaret Rasch, Margaret Baptista, Bernard Singh, Patras Tigga, William Maguire (Bill).

**For the Sick:** John and Dolores Webb, Peter Mun, Bozena Bakarich. *Please call the parish office if you need to place a name on this list.*