

Parish of Our Lady of the Sacred Heart

PARISH PRIEST

Father Anthony Trenwith

PARISH SECRETARY

Chatty Pornela

Office Hours:

Mon.- Fri. 9am-3pm

(on-site Tue, Thu, Fri)



19 Banff Avenue

P O Box 29-066, Epsom

AUCKLAND 1344

Phone: 630-3956

Email: epsomparish@xtra.co.nz

Website: epsomcatholic.org.nz

OLSH SCHOOL - Ph: 638-6200

Principal - Mrs Mini Joseph

3rd December 2023 – First Sunday of Advent

Mass Timetable

Tuesday: 8am at the Mercy Centre Chapel (104 The Drive)

Wednesday & Thursday: 8am

Friday: 12.05pm (Adoration from 11am)

Saturday: 9am

Sunday Vigil Mass – Saturday: 5.30pm

Sunday: 9am

Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 4.45-5.15pm

The Rosary is prayed in the Church every Monday morning during school term at 9.15-9.45am.

OLSH Music Group

Our group participated at the recent Gaudete Diocesan Sing-along. It was a joyful gathering of choirs from various parishes and schools in the Auckland diocese. Below is a photo of our group during the Gaudete event.

We are currently practicing to sing at Mass on Sunday, 10th December (9am) and then the Christmas Vigil Evening Mass on the 24th December (Carols from 9pm).



Would you like to contribute to the **Parish Food Programme** Christmas delivery, this year? If you would like to purchase a Christmas gift for one of our children, please email me and I will match you with a child. We will also be delivering a food hamper and grocery voucher, so if you would like to make a monetary contribution, please get in touch. The food hampers help our families to provide for their children over the school holidays. Your help is very much appreciated! Many thanks!

Mary-Ann Todd & Sarah Stevens
maryanntodd29@gmail.com
021 2882850

Our Parish – The Week Ahead

Mon. 4th Dec. 6.30pm Legion of Mary meet in the church foyer.
New members welcome.

Mon. 4th Dec. 7.30-8.15pm Christian Meditation at 104 The Drive, Epsom.

Wed. 6th Dec. 7-8pm OLSH Music Group practice in the church.

Thu. 7th Dec. 2-2.45pm Christian Meditation at 104 The Drive, Epsom.

2024 Columban Calendar

Columban Calendars for sale (\$15 each) in the church foyer after Sunday Masses this weekend (while supplies last). Cash or online transfer only. No EFTPOS.

Christmas and New Year Timetable and Roster

The Christmas and New Year Timetable has been sent out by email. Hard copies are also available in the church foyer. Also, a blank roster sign-up sheet for Christmas Masses can be found in the church foyer. Please put your name down if you are available to assist in the various ministries. Thank you.

Altar Servers Training

An invitation to anyone who is interested to be an altar server (must have received their First Holy Communion). There will be a training for new altar servers on Sunday, 10th December in the church after the 9AM Mass. Christmas Party follows. RSVP required. Contact Shalini for more information and to RSVP: 021 212 3507.

Monte Cecilia Christmas Appeal

Christmas approaches quickly and Monte Cecilia is reaching out for our annual appeal, asking for your help in ensuring that children in Monte Cecilia housing have a joyful Christmas, with food on the table and a toy of their own. You are invited to leave wrapped and labelled (age and Boy or Girl) gifts in the basket on the altar for distribution. No gift is too small, as we have over 1,200+ children living within our Transitional & Community houses, so every little bit helps. **You can leave gifts in the basket until Monday, 11th December 2023.**

St Vincent de Paul Society Foodbank Donations

Our parish welcomes your donations of non-perishable goods and personal care items. In anticipation for Christmas, we invite you to donate food items suitable for a festive celebration. The donations basket will be put out on the altar from today **until Friday, the 15th December 2023** for this purpose. Thank you for your kindness and generosity.

St Vincent de Paul Onehunga Shop

Thank you for your ongoing support to the Vinnies Op Shop in Onehunga and the Society of St Vincent de Paul. If you need support, or a food parcel, please contact us. We need more good quality donations! Please drop them off at our shop at 345 Onehunga Mall, or call us if you need furniture picked up. Why not volunteer to help out at our Vinnies Shop? Any help would be wonderful. Our oldest volunteer is 97 and our youngest is 16 and we would be happy to have you join our team. Contact Wanda at the Vinnies shop (634-2697) for more information.

Upcoming Wedding



The wedding ceremony of Rebecca Brimble and Aakash Rajay is on Friday 15th December at 4pm. All members of the wider church community are welcome to attend this special occasion. Rebecca had been a Youth Group Leader at OLSH from 2017-2021. The service will be officiated by Fr Rob O'Brien; guests are kindly requested to dress in formal attire and arrive at 3:30pm.

Prayer Cards for Peace in the Holy Land

In light of the unfolding situation in Israel and Palestine, Aid to the Church in Need has produced prayer cards available in the church foyer. Aid to Church in Need is the Pope's own foundation, dedicated to the spiritual and pastoral support of suffering and persecuted Christians. As Pope Francis said in his recent Angelus address encouraging prayer and fasting for the Holy Land, "Prayer is the meek and holy force to oppose the diabolical force of hatred, terrorism and war." Please take a prayer card home and join in prayer for peace in the Holy Land.

G.I.F.T. Christmas Mass Sunday 10th December at 4pm in Good Shepherd Church, Balmoral followed by a light meal. All disabled people and their whānau and support workers most WELCOME!

Prepare the Way of the Lord: Advent is a special time to reflect, to ponder the Word, and to 'Be still' and silent in the presence of God. Please join a community on Zoom this Advent from the holiness of your home - Saturday evenings to ponder the Advent Sunday Gospels; Wednesday mornings in silent Meditation; Wednesday evenings to reflect on Pope Francis message for us that 'it is confidence that must lead to love'. We ask Mary, our Mother, to open our hearts to the presence of her Son this Advent. God bless. Register with diannaf@cda.org.nz

Te Kahu o te Ora: A Consistent Ethic of Life the landmark bishops' teaching document is now available online as an easy-to-read flip book, reached from a button on the NZCBC home page: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/> Or from here: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/resources/te-kahu/>. *Te Kahu o te Ora* is a revised and much-expanded version of a 1997 bishops' statement and reminds us that all life is a gift from God. NZCBC President and Bishop of Auckland Bishop Stephen Lowe says the bishops want every Catholic to read *Te Kahu o te Ora*. More information: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/tekahu-flip/>

Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College

Enrolment for the Bachelor of Divinity and Graduate Diploma in Theology is still on-going until the end of January. The Certificate and Diploma in Christian Studies are also accepting enrolment for 2024. Semester starts on 19 February 2024.

Courses offered: www.tekupenga.ac.nz/timetables.

To enrol: www.tekupenga.ac.nz/apply.

Taize Prayer for Advent, Friday 8 December at 7pm, Mary MacKillop Chapel, 56 Selwyn Ave, Mission Bay.

Advent Retreat Day Mary MacKillop Retreat Centre, 56 Selwyn Ave, Mission Bay Led by Sr Jill McLoughlin, Saturday 9 December 10am – 3pm, \$30 waged/\$20 unwaged Registrations by December 7th MBSpirituality@sosj.org.au MOB 0210710277

NGA TAPUWAE SELF DIRECTED PILGRIMAGE

Registrations are now open for Ngā Tapuwāe – A Self Directed Pilgrimage 2024. Our Northland pilgrimage sites will be attended by CDA staff to welcome you and share the stories at specific times on 12th and 13th January 2024, but you will travel independently having organised your transport, accommodation, and food. Your pilgrimage will end with the anniversary Mass at Totara Point on 14th January. All are welcome to participate and learn more of our Catholic heritage. You can experience the sacred places of Kupe, Bishop Pompallier and the early missionaries. To register email, Dcn Steve Fraser on stephenf@cda.org.nz or phone 021439407

Shine TV Shine TV weekly broadcasting of Sunday Mass at 2pm Free-to-air channel 25 or Sky 201.

Kids Korner: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Celebrating-ADVENT-Week-one-HOPE.pdf>
[Embracing God](#)

Parent Ponderings: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/11/Embracing-God.pdf>

SAFE CHURCH ~ SAFEGUARDING

As Catholics we believe that every person is created in the likeness and image of God. Therefore, we continue to ensure that our parish is a place where everyone is treated with respect and dignity. We foster an environment which is welcoming, and in which all our parish whānau, including our tamariki, rangatahi, kuia and kaumatua, feel safe.

If you have any complaints or concerns, our Safeguarding Co-ordinator is Louisa Rani and you can contact her by email at epsomsafeguarding@gmail.com. You may also contact the National Office for Professional Standards 0800-114-662 or the police 111.

MASS INTENTIONS

A gentle reminder that mass intentions need to be sent to the parish office at least 48 hours before the day on which mass is to be offered. If the intention is particularly important please make sure to mention this at the time the request is made. As a general rule, Sunday mass is offered for the people of the parish although some exceptions are possible. Please note that if a mass cannot be offered on the desired date, it will be offered on the next available date.

Eucharist has been celebrated or will be celebrated for:

Recently Deceased: Bruce Currie, Margaret Nicholas, Patricia Kerr, Nevis Almeida, Mathilda Mendes, Br Gerard Mahoney, Brenda Anne Coup, Ivan Pervan, Sue Wong, Ngaio Abbot

Sick: Millie Pacheco, Carol Rogers, Corazon Abulencia, Nicholas Geor, Evelyn Totanes, Stephen Wheoki, Noel Mijares, Arielle Beatriz Bautista, Peggy Dance, Adrian Judson, Joseph Cave, William Wong, Lloyd Jones, Ricardo de Castro, Lima Sio Kame, Celia Codoy, Garry Mijares

Anniversaries: George Wong and Reg Wilton (Nov 5), Elizabeth Cahill (Nov 11), Carolyn Ann Hulme (Nov 25), Alma McCombe (Dec 2), Mary Chow (Dec 3), Leonard Lee (Dec 9)

Roster for next weekend: 10th Dec.

	5.30PM Vigil	9AM
Commentator	Mark Brimble	Mark Almeida
Reader	Marlene Parejas	Folole Fangupo
Offertory	Mary Jackson	Paul Grace
	Melissa Mara	and Family
Eucharistic Ministers	Grant Barnett	Amile Salian
	Teresa Chow	Priscilla Sevele
	Lynette Duncan	Annette Wilson
Altar Servers	Sam Lobo	Julianna Exross
	Sia Lobo	Volunteers Please
	Jaden D'Souza	
Collectors	Alfred & Sushila Fernandes	Ray & Amile Salian
A/V Operator	Lana Lon	Averia Rani
Music	Annemarie Kerridge	Judith Fullerton and OLSH Choir
Children's Liturgy		Volunteers Please
Counters	Peter Brooks Carolyn Brooks	Elvis D'Costa
Altar Care	Marizel Dizon Joy Daria	
Flowers	Kathy Long Sarah Crawford	

Readings for next week Second Sunday of Advent

1. Isaiah 40:1-5,9-11
 2. 2 Peter 3:8-14
- Gospel Mark 1:1-8



Sign of the Cross (Te Reo)

Ki te ingoa
O te Matua, O te Tamaiti,
O te Wairua Tapu
Āmēne