

CHRISTMAS IN THE PARK at St Mary's Avondale, Great North Road, 21 December 2019, 7:00pm - 9:30pm after Mass at 6pm. With live entertainment, food stalls, carols and choirs.

PRO-LIFE FACTS - Ken Orr of Right to Life recently sent a request under the Official Information Act to Andrew Little requesting evidence of the "harassment & intimidation" complaints which could potentially be used to justify a ban on holding peaceful vigils near abortion premises. The Minister declined his request and provided no evidence. For more pro-life information www.voiceforlife.org.nz or Facebook: www.facebook.com

CHRISTMAS BLESSINGS FROM THE CATHOLIC CARING FOUNDATION who wishes all parishioners a blessed and holy Christmas. Our sincere thanks for your support of families & communities in need throughout this year. Please remember the work of the Foundation this Christmas and make a gift to our Christmas Appeal. To make a gift, visit www.caringfoundation@org.nz

THE JUSTICE AND PEACE COMMISSION will hold its annual retreat on March 14 next year. It will be held in Vaughan Park, Long Bay. The theme will be Christian Maori spirituality. See the website Aucklandjusticeandpeace@gmail.com.

*May the anticipation of Advent
fill you with hope.
May the wonder of the
incarnation touch you with joy.
May the light of the Christ-child
surround you with peace!*

NZ CATHOLIC - The Dec.15 – Jan. 25 issue of NZ Catholic is out now. Some headlines are: \$126m Catholic precinct in Christchurch. Legal action looms over school funding. Moving abortion story at March for Life. Tongan Catholics clean up close to home.

POMPALLIER COMMEMORATION - Haere Mai! Nau Mai! You are invited to the 182nd Anniversary of the First Mass celebrated on 13 January 1838 at Totara Point. On January 12, 2020 at 11:00am Mass at Totara Point, followed by a shared picnic lunch.

DREAMWORK 202 WORKSHOPS Practising Dreamwork Skills with Margaret Bowater. Friday 31 January, 10am-1pm. \$45. These workshops are open to people who have previously attended an introductory dream workshop and seek to improve skills. www.mercyspiritualitycentre.org.nz

AUCKLAND CHARISMATIC RENEWAL OPENING MASS 2020 - All members of Charismatic realities are invited to come for the opening Mass of 2020 at Sacred Heart Church, 16 Vermont St, Ponsonby on 1st February at 10.30am followed by shared lunch in the hall. Contact Deidre 021 022 51103 or Anil 022 364 9306

ST VALENTINE'S DAY MASS AT ST PATRICK'S CATHEDRAL - Celebration of Marriage and Family. Friday, 14th February at 7:30 pm. All welcome: Married, Engaged, Singles, Families and Children. Gerry at ph 360-3025 or gerrys@cda.org.nz.

LIFT UP THEIR VOICES Feb 15, 2020 - a formation day for musicians, choirs, liturgy committees and all people with an interest in music in the Mass. Led by composer Michael Mangan. All day (9:30am to 3:15pm). At Our Lady of the Assumption Church, 97 Galway Street, Onehunga.



St. Joseph's, Helensville & St. Patrick's, Huapai

1 Puriri Street, Helensville 0800
Phone 09 420 8110

Website: www.helensvillecatholic.org.nz
Email: office@helensvillecatholic.org.nz

Parish Priest: Rev. Carlos Guleng

Third Sunday of Advent 15 December 2019 - Year A

Readings: Isaiah 35:1-6,10; Psalm 145; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11

Response: Lord come and save us.

Daily Readings

16-21 Dec	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
First Reading	Numbers 24:2-7, 15-17	Genesis 49:2,8-10	Jeremiah 23:5-8	Judges 13:2-7,24-25	Isaiah 7:1-25	Songs 2:8-14
Psalm	25	72	72	71	24	33
Gospel	Matthew 21:23-27	Matthew 1:1-17	Matthew 1:18-24	Luke 1:5-25	Luke 1:26-38	Luke 1:39-45

Usual Holy Mass, Reconciliation & Adoration Times Below

	HELENSVILLE		HUAPAI	
Vigil Mass	Weeks 2 & 4	6:00 pm	Weeks 1, 3 & 5	6:00 pm
Sunday Mass	Weeks 1, 3 & 5	9:00 am	Weeks 2 & 4	9:00 am
Weekday	Mon, Wed, Thu	9:00 am	Tue & Fri	10:00 am
Adoration	Thursday	9:30-10:30 am	Friday	10:30-11:00 am

Reconciliation	Helensville	Thursday after the 9am Mass during Adoration
	Huapai	Friday after the 10am Mass during Adoration
	Other Times	Feel free to contact Fr Carlos

Haere Mai (Come)

Nau Mai (Welcome)

Whakarongo Mai (Listen)

PLEASE PRAY FOR THOSE WHOSE ANNIVERSARIES ARE OCCURRING THIS WEEK - 15/1980 Margaret Dobby, 18/2012 Elma Olwyn Lynch, 19/1985 Donna Grimshaw, 19/2015 Frank Peacock, and 20/1987 James Powell.

FOR THE SOULS OF THOSE RECENTLY DECEASED - Steve Nobilo, Barbara Dutton, Eileen Casey, Nestor Taala, Tony Jelas, Ronald Edwin Collett, Pat Hayes, and Laurel Schoen.

Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace. We also pray for their families that they will be comforted through our prayers, care and support.

WE PRAY FOR HEALING & RECOVERY for all those who are sick in our Parish community and in our family especially Rose Smith, Patrick Shalley, Basil Grbić, Helen Bradly (Richard's Mum), Peter Evans, Katherine Joseph, Rosie Ko, Laurel Schoen, Linda Kiddie, Allan Parkinson, John Granville, Peter & Kath Ashby, Tom Davis, Bob Clarke, Jamie Wilson and Michael Wylie.

LAST WEEK'S COLLECTION

Pledge \$359.00 Non-pledge \$584.20
Thank you for your support.

HOLY ROSARY FOR THE HEALING OF BISHOP PAT'S EYES - I'm encouraging everyone to pray even just one decade of the Holy Rosary for the healing of the eyes of Bishop Pat. Please sign-in your name on the folder at the foyer. This is our Christmas Gift to him.

Thanks & God bless, Fr Carlos

NEWSLETTER - If you have any Items for the newsletter, please send by Thursday evening to the office email: office@helensvillecatholic.org.nz.

LAST PARISH CHOIR PRACTICE FOR CHRISTMAS Joining the practice for the Christmas Carols and Mass is a great way to prepare for the coming of Jesus at Christmas. All are welcome to join.

ST JOSEPH'S on Tuesday 17 Dec at 7:00pm until 8:30pm.

FAMILY LIFE CATHOLIC GIFTS still have a good variety of Nativity Sets large and small to bring your focus closer to the Christ Child as we head towards Christmas. There is also a large range of gift ideas such as Statues, Rosaries, Jewellery, Book, etc. Please see the website: catholicgifts.co.nz or call (09) 6290820, 569 Richardson Road, Mt Roskill and we'll be very happy to assist you.

NEWSLETTER - If you would like to receive the newsletter and Sunday readings early via email, please send a request email to news@helensvillecatholic.org.nz

CHRISTMAS TIMETABLE

St Joseph's Catholic Church
1 Puriri Street, Helensville

Tuesday, 24 December, Christmas Vigil
- **Carols at 7:30pm & Mass at 8:00pm**
Wednesday, 25 December, Christmas Day - **Mass at 9:00am**

St Patrick's Catholic Church
380 Main Road, Huapai

Tuesday, 24 December, Christmas Vigil
- **Carols at 6:00pm & Mass at 6:30pm**
Tuesday, 24 December, Midnight Mass - **Carols at 10:30pm and Mass start at 11:00pm finishes 12:00 Midnight.**
Wednesday, 25 December, Christmas Day - **Mass at 9:00am**

REFLECTION ON THE READINGS

The joy that is such a distinctive feature of the Advent season comes to the fore on this third Sunday. In some parishes this will be evident in the presider's rose coloured vestments. It is certainly manifest in the word of God. Isaiah's joyous vision of a new creation is echoed in Jesus' response to the disciples of John the Baptist - "the blind see again, and the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, and the deaf hear, and the dead are raised to life and the Good News is proclaimed to the poor."

The dream of a world in which all life - human and creaturely - can flourish without defect or diminishment has powerful appeal. It captures our imaginations and orients our energies. Equally it exposes our lesser desires for what they are - full of false promise.

At a time of year when many people are frantically busy with end-of-year functions, Christmas parties, gift shopping, and preparing for Christmas dinners and for summer holidays, the letter writer James calls for patience. We cannot hurry the harvest of God's realm; it is in God's good hands.

Break Open the Word

p12

Coming Sunday Readings – Fourth Sunday of Advent (A) 22 Dec

Isaiah 7:10-14; Psalm 23; Romans 1:1-7; Matthew 1:18-24

Coming Rosters - 21 / 22 Dec	Huapai - Vigil Saturday	Helensville - Sunday
Leader	Michael	John
Word	John	June / Joanna
Eucharist	Catherine	Jo / Rob
Altar Servers	Daphne	Gabriel / Nikita

CHRISTMAS NOVENA MASSES (15-23 DECEMBER 2019)

Sunday, 15 December	9:00am	Novena Prayer is Part of Sunday Mass	Helensville
Monday - Friday, 16-20 December	7:00pm	Novena Mass with Holy Rosary	Huapai
Saturday, 21 December	6:00pm	Novena Prayer is Part of Vigil Mass	Helensville
Sunday, 22 December	9:00am	Novena Prayer is Part of Sunday Mass	Huapai
Monday - 23 December	7:00pm	Novena Mass with Holy Rosary	Huapai

Congratulations!

To all the children who took another step on their faith journey last Sunday when they received the Sacraments of Confirmation and First Holy Communion.

A **BIG** thank you to all the people who had a part in the preparation of the candidates and the beautiful Mass - particularly Monica and Frank, Catherine, Shinta, Sarah and John Peacock, Moana, and Fr Carlos. Thank you to the whanau and friends who supported the children throughout their journey and on the day.

