

NOTICES

Caring Foundation Christmas Appeal—Give an impactful gift this Christmas! Give a gift that changes lives! Every donation to the Caring Foundation's Christmas appeal will be matched dollar for dollar up to \$50,000. The Caring Foundation partners with over 60 local agencies to provide the right help at the right time for families and people in poverty and hardship. Check out www.caringfoundation.org.nz



Thank you for all your support this year. We hope you have a wonderful Christmas and a happy new year!

The Caritas Team



Nga Tapuwae Self Directed Pilgrimage—Our Northland pilgrimage sites will be attended by CDA staff to welcome you and share the stories at specific times on 12 & 13 Jan 2024. All transport, accommodation and food is self-arranged. The pilgrimage will end with the anniversary Mass at Totara Point on 14th January. To register email, Dcn Steve Fraser 021439407 or email stephenf@cda.org.nz

Full-Time Vacancy—The Pompallier Centre is seeking the right person for a fulltime role to provide credit control and administration support to the Operations Manager. To view the full advert and apply, see www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz under Diocesan Services and Staff Vacancies.

What about the Synod? The Synod on Synodality was not just a meeting in Rome in October. This week the Synod Secretariat issues guidelines *Towards October 2024* for how local Churches continue the journey together exploring the question "HOW can we be a synodal Church in mission?". Regional opportunities for holding conversations around this theme will be held post Easter that the diocese might participate in this phase. To find out more head to <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/synod/> Details about the sessions will be available early 2024.



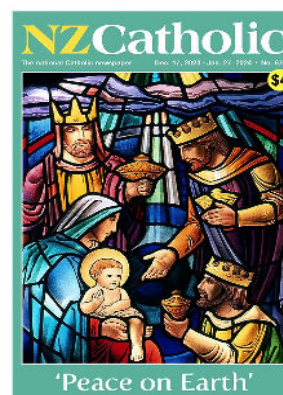
To read about diocesan events in the last weeks and start filling your 2024 diary with opportunities for faith development, fun and diocesan life download the latest edition of **CDA connect**

nect <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2023/12/CDA-CONNECT-Christmas23.pdf>

Approved Diocesan Marriage Preparation Course - Please book your course here: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/our-courses/> Please book 1 year (if getting married in NZ) or 18months (if getting married overseas) in advance of your wedding date. The 3-part course takes about 32 hours to complete and is usually spread over 3 months. For more information email: marriageandfamily@cda.org.nz or call Gerry on M:021 02247442.

Pro Life FREE EVENT -Christian medical professionals may find it particularly hard, now that abortion is often viewed as simply another health service and euthanasia is presented as a choice. If you have ever felt like this, you are not alone. The Auckland Voice for Life Training Day, at the Reformed Church of the North Shore, Trias Road, Sunnynook, on 2 March, 2024. Contact auckland@voiceforlife.org.nz for more information.

Society of St Vincent de Paul- Thank you for your ongoing support to the Vinnies Op Shop in Onehunga and the Society of St Vincent de Paul. 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.



FREE ONLINE

<https://indd.adobe.com/view/7d2f4fc3-4750-490e-9037-f0042afa6a31>



OUR LADY OF FATIMA

Fourth Sunday of Advent

24th December 2023

PARISH MISSION STATEMENT

We are the parish of Our Lady of Fatima, within the Diocese of Auckland. We strive with the help of the Holy Spirit to build a Eucharistic Community and through our lives proclaim the Kingdom of God.

4th Sunday of Advent	Next Sunday's readings
Reading 1	2 Sm 7:1-5, 8b-12, 14a, 16
Psalm	Ps 89:2-3, 4-5, 27, 29
Reading 2	Rom 16:25-27
Gospel	Lk 1:26-38
Reading 1	Sir 3:2-6, 12-14
Psalm	Ps 128:1-2, 3, 4-5.
Reading 2	Col 3:12-21 or 3:12-17
Gospel	LK 2:22-40

Readings for the Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)

The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)- Vigil Mass

Reading I : Is 62:1-5

Ps 89:4-5, 16-17, 27, 29.

Reading II: Acts 13:16-17, 22-25

Gospel : Mt 1:1-25

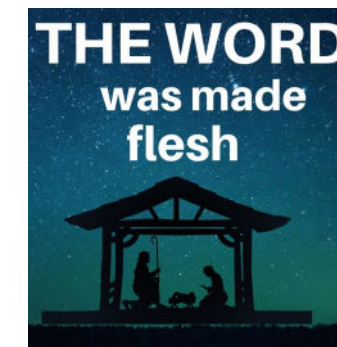
The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas)- Mass during the Day

Reading I : Is 52:7-10

Ps 98:1, 2-3, 3-4, 5-6

Reading II: Heb 1:1-6

Gospel: Jn 1:1-18



REFLECTION

A DWELLING PLACE FOR GOD. King David wanted to build a fine temple in which God would dwell among the people. But God did not choose a building made of stones and mortar for a dwelling place, but the womb of the virgin Mary. God continues to dwell among us in Mary's son, Jesus Christ, whose body is the Church. Let us pray for a deepening of faith this Christmas, that we, like Mary, may continue to give Christ to the world. (St Pauls Sunday Missal, 2012, p.514).



Stay Connected

Please visit the parish website to keep up to date www.meadowbankcatholic.org.nz

PARISH OFFICE

PARISH PRIEST

Fr Austin Fernandes

PARISH SECRETARY

Patricia Murti

4 Lucia Glade, Meadowbank

P: 09 521 5244

M: 022 155 6897

E: lofatimaparish@gmail.com

W: meadowbankcatholic.org.nz

MASS TIMES

WEEKEND

Sunday Eucharist 9:30am

Saturday Vigil 5:30pm

WEEK DAYS

Monday 9am

Tuesday 9am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion
6:30pm Rosary, Novena & Mass

Wednesday 9am

Thursday 9am

Friday 9am

Saturday 8am Adoration

8:30am Rosary

9am Mass

RECONCILIATION

Every Saturday 9:30 – 10am

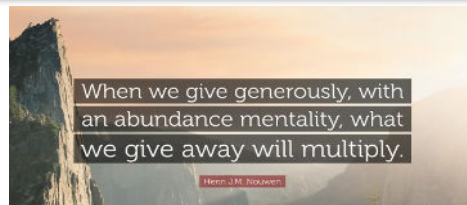
EVERY MONTH

First Friday Encounter

7pm - 8:30pm Come and encounter our Lord in adoration, worship & prayer

First Saturday Anointing of the Sick at 9am Mass

PARISH GIVING



Every gift that you make helps to advance our parish mission of building a Eucharistic Community and maintains the financial health of our parish operations and programmes.

Donation Tap Point—found at the entrance of our church foyer.

Giving Envelopes—these can be placed at in the collections taken up during Saturday Vigil/Sunday Mass. Email lofatimaparish@gmail.com

One-Off or Regular Giving—Do a transfer online and set up an auto-payment to support our parish regularly.

To sign up and for more information, please visit <https://bit.ly/olofgiving>

For your tax receipt please email the parish office lofatimaparish@gmail.com

Our new account numbers

Meadowbank Parish 02-0108-0707665-000

Meadowbank House 02-0108-0707665-001

Last Week's Collection:

Parish Support \$ 393.80

Priest Support \$ 267.70

The above amounts exclude automatic payments, direct credits and tap and go.

PARISH MINISTRIES



Legion of Mary

To join the OLOF Legion of Mary, please contact Nina, or Jo. We meet every Sunday at 10:45am, or please email us lofatimaparish@gmail.com

Join us to pray the rosary before Mass, Monday to Saturday at 8.30 am.

Volunteering & Serving at OLOF

Please email oloffaith@gmail.com to explore & find out some of the ways to serve at OLOF.

Health and Safety

Parish Health and Safety Coordinator: **Asha Patel**, email : ashapat65@gmail.com. Working closely with Lisa-May Gray- Safeguarding Coordinator Catholic Diocese of Auckland.

OLOF Men

Join the men of our parish once a month at 6:30pm for dinner, short content and a discussion.

Alpha @ Our Lady of Fatima

Next Alpha starts on Thursday 1 February 2024. Check out bit.ly/olofalphacourse

OLOF Health & Healing

A short video session on the 1st Saturday of the month. All welcome for cup of tea and some discussion on the topic.

Become Catholic (RCIA)

Are you or someone you know curious about the Catholic faith or looking into becoming Catholic, Christian Initiation for Adults (RCIA) is for you. For more info olofrcia@gmail.com

Children's Liturgy

Every Sunday 9:30am during the school term. **Sunday 17 Dec 2023 - last session for 2023.** Sunday 4th February - first session for 2024.

Sacrament of Baptism

For Infant Baptism, please register on our website. Preparation class every 3rd Saturday. For Child Baptism, please contact the parish office for inquiries

Counselling & Accompaniment

Counsellor: Dr John Evangelista. Contact the Parish Office 09 521 5244



PARISH PROGRAMMES

The 2024 Sacramental Programme registration for Mt Carmel students has opened.

Please go to <https://bit.ly/olofsacprog> for more information and to register.

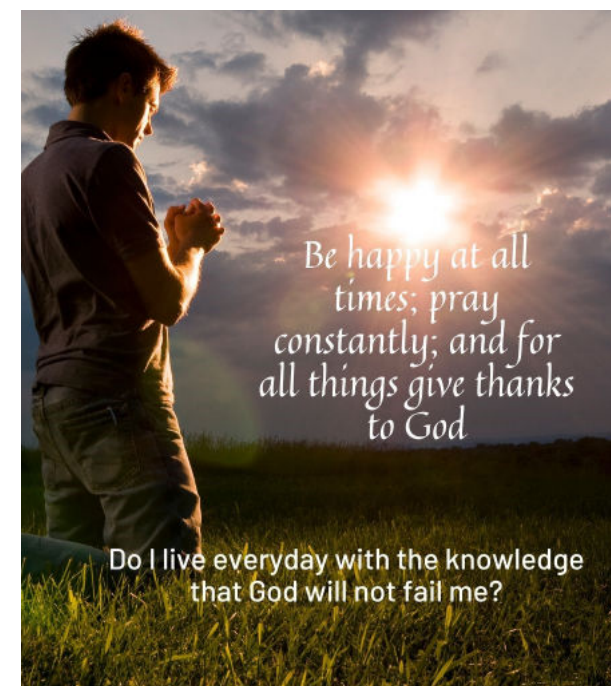
Upcoming Retreats & Events at St Francis Retreat Centre

Time Out Day For those who seek a day retreat - 9:30am - 2:30pm (\$30 includes lunch) Wed 21 Feb 2024, Thu 21 Mar 2024.

Women's Prayer Retreat

Fri 16 Feb 5pm—Sun 18 Feb 3pm

Homecoming - A Lenten retreat reflecting on the spiritual implications of Rembrandt's painting and Henri Nouwen's book "The Return of the Prodigal Son" | Fri 22 Mar 7pm- Sun 24 Mar 7pm. For more info/book call 09 625 6651 or visit www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz



MT CARMEL SCHOOL

happy holidays!

May the children and their families have a blessed Christmas and a Happy New Year. We wish everyone a safe and happy holidays! The new school year Term 1 starts **Thursday 1st February 2024.**

PARISH NOTICES

What's happening in our parish?

3-24 December : "Come Lord Jesus". During Advent, we prepare for the celebration of Christ's birth through prayer and reflection.

Sat 23 Dec- 5.30pm Vigil Mass 4th week of Advent.

Sun 24th Dec- 9.30 am Sunday 4th Week of Advent.

Sun 25 Dec- 5.30pm Family Mass- Vigil, and 10.30 am Mass -Christmas Mass.

Mon 25 Dec-**Christmas day**, Mass at 9.30 am.

Saturday 30 Dec—5.30pm Vigil (Holy Family).

Sunday 31 Dec—9.30am Sunday Mass.

Monday 1 Jan—9.30am Mass—Mary Mother of God- New Year day 2024.

Resume to our weekly schedule

Saturday : 5.30 pm Vigil Mass

Sunday : 9.30am Mass

Mon: 9 am.

Tues : 9 am LOWHC, 6:30pm Novena & Mass.

Wed, Thu, Fri, Sat—Mass at 9 am.

Every Tuesday 6:30pm—Novena to Our Lady of Fatima & Rosary in church and also online. ID: 843 6371 4845 | Passcode: 953536; Mass 7pm

Thank you

The Mercy Sisters of Te Waipuna Puawai are very grateful and thankful to all wonderful parishioners for helping families at this time of the year, with all the wonderfully prepared hampers and Christmas vouchers.

Thank you for all your support, the Alpha Bake Sale has raised a total of \$ 3053.00.

We wish you a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year 2024. Our office will remain closed from 24th Dec 2023 to 25th January 2024. We will resume office from Tues 30th Jan 2024.

God bless you all as you prepare to celebrate Christmas with your family and friends. All the Best for the New Year.