

St. Francis de Sales

- 8 Finchley Rd, Torbay



EAST COAST BAYS CATHOLIC PARISH NEWSLETTER

PARISH TEAM:

Priests: Fr. Carlo Cruz
fr.carlo@ecbcatholic.org.nz

Fr. Emile Frische
mhmemile1970@gmail.com

Deacon: David Marshall
deacondavenz@me.com

Office: Beate Matthies
Operations & Finance Manager
beate@ecbcatholic.org.nz

Liturgy & Pastoral
Coordinator (TBA)

PARISH OFFICE:

Phone: 09 478-4565

Website: www.eastcoastbayscatholic.org.nz

E-mail: office@ecbcatholic.org.nz

MONTHLY CHILDREN'S MASS:

3rd Sunday: 9.00am Mass St. John's
Church (in school term only).
Contact Lindy lindy@willplan.co.nz

MASS TIMES:

	ST FRANCIS	ST JOHN'S
Monday	-	9.15am
Tuesday	10.00am	-
Wednesday	-	9.15am
Thursday	10.00am	-
Friday	-	9.15am
Saturday	8.00am	5.30pm
Sunday	7.30am, 10.30am	9.00am

RECONCILIATION:

St. Francis: Saturday after 8.00am Mass
St. Johns: Saturday 5.00pm before Vigil

MONTHLY MASSES: RETIREMENT VILLAGES

2nd Friday: Aria Bay 11.00am

3rd Friday: Fairview 11.00am

4th Friday: Hugh Green 11.00am

PARISH CONTACTS:

Children's Liturgy: Bill barsfamily@xtra.co.nz

Family Groups: Lindsay & Colin 021 082 95605

Music: Matt matthewdavis26@hotmail.com

RCIA: Deacon Dave 021 210 0642

Safeguarding: Iona safeguarding@ecbcatholic.org.nz

Secular Franciscans: Linda 479-6469

St. Vincent de Paul: Anne 479-8840

Youth: Joseph M.

St. Johns School: 09-478-7734

St. John the Baptist

- 87 Hastings Rd, Mairangi Bay



REFLECTION FOR THE 1st SUNDAY OF ADVENT: Fr Emile

This first Mass of the new liturgical year reminds us to look forward, to look to Jesus. Advent reminds us that God has not abandoned us; **GOD IS WITH US.** Advent encourages us to look for God with us, Emmanuel, in our lives, no matter what happens. Advent reminds us to be aware of the constant presence of Jesus with us. Jesus tells us in the Gospel passage today to be on our guard and stay awake. Not only for today, but every day, waiting for His Second Coming. Be awake.

There is a story of a young boy in a shopping mall, and he asks a lady there who was shopping for Christmas: "Where is the line/queue to see Jesus? If Christmas time is his birthday, then why don't we see him more?"

Advent is the time to make more room for the presence of Jesus in our lives.

As people will be busy preparing for Christmas, it is good to remember that a holy couple prepared for the first Christmas, Mary and Joseph. Jesus was in the womb of Mary for 9 months; Mary knew that the Word had been made flesh and she was waiting to welcome Jesus.

It's time to prepare to celebrate the Birthday of Jesus. He was born for me. Santa Claus brought me presents, but Jesus Christ gave His life for me.

This Advent season, let us open our hearts to celebrate the Birth of Jesus.

Amen.



St Vincent de Paul Society



Our shelves are nearly empty so we are having a food drive over the next 2 weeks.

It would be really appreciated if everyone could bring an item to help fill our cupboards. If you would like to make a donation the bank account number is 12 3059 0241398 00.

Please send your details to treasurersvdp@gmail.com so that a receipt can be issued.

Are your contact details still correct? Are your children still living in your household? If you have moved or your contact details have changed, please let us know!

Please let us know if you have any special skills to offer to our parish, e.g. nurses, doctors, trades, gardeners. We would like to keep us all connected. You can always inform us of new contact details through our website: <https://eastcoastbayscatholic.org.nz/parishioners/>

CATHOLIC SCHOOL PREFERENCE FORMS:

Fr Carlo and Fr Emile will be available to sign the forms on **Wednesdays, 10am - 12 noon & 1-3pm for a 15minute slot. Please make an appointment through: office@ecbcatholic.org.nz**

Gardening Working Bees, Sat, 09 December



Weeding and preparing the grounds for Christmas

9.30-11am, St John's Grounds & 9-10am, St Francis Grounds

03/12/23 First Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 63:16-17, 64:1,3-8, Psalm 80, p.84
1 Corinthians 1:3-9
Gospel of Mark 13:33-37

10/12/23 Second Sunday of Advent
Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11, Psalm 85 p.90
2 Peter 3:8-14
Gospel of Mark 1:1-8

Please remember our sick in your prayers:
Bruce R; Joanna R; Jill C; Stacey; Jenny F; Jenny J; Kim C; Jean A; Jim A; Murray F; Shirley B; Ivy P; Suzanne Y; Peggy J; Verena K; Anthony T; Mary M-G; Wayne L; Denny C; Yvonne D; Marinai K; Myra B; Louise D; Eileen M; Eileen McG; Maureen N; Eugene; Sanny L; Maria J; Kevin D; Tony J

TUESDAY MORNING CATCH-UP

at the White Flower Café on **Tuesdays, 9.30 - 11.00am**
It's a great opportunity to meet socially. We are a very friendly bunch, everyone welcome.



RITE 2 RECONCILIATION

It is a communal confession. We gather as a community and celebrate the liturgy. Then we seek individual confession and absolution. We conclude with a proclamation of praise, a prayer of thanksgiving and a blessing.

PLEASE BE REMINDED OF THE FOLLOWING DATES:

Dec 6, Wed - NORTHCOTE, St Mary's

Dec 7, Thurs - TORBAY, St Francis de Sales Church

Dec 10, Sun - DEVONPORT, St Francis and All Souls

Dec 12, Tues - TAKAPUNA, St Joseph's

Dec 13, Wed - OREWA, St John's

Dec 14, Thurs - GLENFIELD, St Thomas More

Dec 15, Fri - BEACHHAVEN, Maria Assumpta

Rite 2 Reconciliation will be at 7 pm in all parishes.

ADORATION

Every first Friday of the month, 6-9pm at St John's.
Please note that there is no Adoration at
St Francis during the months of December and January.



DAILY MASS CALENDARS 2024

for the new Church Year are
now available from the office.
(Price: \$4)

Parish Collection: 24-30 November: \$6,954.00

Donate to East Coast Bays Parish: 02-0108-0707702-000.

Please indicate your gifting number for a donation receipt at the end of the financial year. If you don't have one, contact beate@ecbcatholic.org.nz



MASS MINISTRIES:

09/10 December 2023

5.30pm: St. John's

Sacristan: Margaret McL.

Welcome: Carl E.

Projectionist: Gilroy M.

Greeter: Lindy W.

Readers: Anastasia B., Amanda D-Mc

Holy Communion: Jennifer K., Anthony M.,
Crystal P., Maria N., Deborah E

7.30am: St. Francis

Sacristan: Farida T.

Welcome: Tony J.

Projectionist: Maria J.

Greeter: Emma A.

Readers: Henry S.

Holy Communion: Linda A., Lynne S., Noella A.

9.00am: St. John's

Sacristan: Katie P.

Welcome: Ricardo. S.

Projectionist: Elizabeth O'B.

Greeter: Angela C.

Readers: Thomas B., Daniella B.

Holy Communion: Mark W., Maurice L., Mike
W., Raad N., Therese L.

10.30am: St. Francis

Sacristan: Volunteer

Welcome: Volunteer

Projectionist: Danielle S.A.

Greeter: Hipold D'S.

Readers: Florinda A., Christopher N.,

Holy Communion: Gregory L., Lynne L.,
Stephanie R.



CRAFT & FRIENDSHIP GROUP

A happy group of people who enjoy
craft and friendship. We next meet on
Wed, 6 Dec at St. John's, 1-3pm.

For more information,
contact Judith at 09 410 6917

WEEKLY DIARY:

SUNDAY - 03 Dec—First Sunday of Advent

MONDAY - 04 December—St John Damascene, St Barbara

9.15am Mass, St. John's Church

10.00am Legion of Mary, St. John's Church

7.30pm Alpha Programme, Mike Byrne's Room, St Francis

TUESDAY - 05 December

10.00am Mass, Morning tea; St. Francis Church

10.30am Rosary Group, St. Francis

WEDNESDAY - 06 December—St Nicholas, Bishop of Myra

9.15am Mass St. John's Church

9.50am Rosary, St. John's Church

4.30pm Legion of Mary, St. John's Church

THURSDAY - 07 December—St Ambrose

10.00am Mass, St. Francis Church

FRIDAY - 08 December—Immaculate Conception of Mary

9.15am Mass, St. John's Church

SATURDAY - 09 December

8.00am Mass, St. Francis Church

Fundraising Account for donations specifically towards the upgrade of the presbytery.

East Coast Bays Parish **Fundraising** account:

02-0108-0707702-003 (BNZ), Reference: 'Presbytery' and your gifting number.

For questions or feedback: office@ecbcatholic.org.nz.

Our Parish Office needs support!

If you are friendly and welcoming, have a high level of written and spoken English and are IT savvy you might like to consider applying for one of the positions.

Position 1: Office & Communications Assistant

To support the office team in communications activities and processes for the parish and ensure all parishioners are kept informed and supported through different channels of communication. This includes preparing the weekly newsletter and assisting with the updating of the parish website and social media.

Position 2: Liturgy & Pastoral Coordinator

Prepare the efficient delivery and coordination of all sacraments and liturgical celebrations which enhance the parish community of East Coast Bays Parish. This role includes supporting and coordinating processes, programmes and volunteers, and making sure that the parish's liturgical and pastoral needs are met.

Hours: 12-15 hours/week (with some flexibility)

Location: 395 East Coast Road, Mairangi Bay
Detailed Job Descriptions are available on request.

Contact: beate@ecbcatholic.org.nz

Christmas / New Year Timetable

Sun, 24 Dec, 5.30pm: St Francis (Children)

Sun, 24 Dec, 8.30pm: St John's (Vigil)

Mon, 25 Dec, 9.00am: St John's

Mon, 25 Dec, 10.30am: St Francis

Mon, 01 Jan 2024, 9.15am: St John's

Baptism Preparation Course

Tuesday 5th December 7pm.

Registration is necessary. See the website at <https://eastcoastbayscatholic.org.nz/2023/03/09/baptism/>

Contact baptism@ecbcatholic.org.nz

The angel giving tree is back - children of all ages (and adults alike) are invited to come forth and bring gifts to place under our angel tree for a less fortunate child. The presents will be picked up on 12 December.



St John's PTFA Christmas Tree Fundraiser Pick up/Delivery 3rd or 10th December

A small number of Christmas trees will be available for sale on Sunday which parishioners are welcome to purchase after the Christmas get-together at St John's turning circle.

Cash or bank transfer available.

Regular trees (5ft - 6ft'6) - \$45
Large trees (7ft - 7ft'6) - \$75



The Columban Calendar 2024

You can pay in cash or online to the parish account and pick it up from the office or the church foyer. \$12



Is God calling you to walk in the footsteps of St Francis of Assisi?

The Secular Franciscans meet at St John's Church every 2nd Sunday of the month at 4pm.

Contact: Linda Atkinson 09-4796469



Sacramental Programme 2024

Registrations for the Sacramental Programme 2024 close on

28 February 2024

For information see:

<https://eastcoastbayscatholic.org.nz/2023/04/04/2023-east-coast-bays-parish-sacramental-programme/>

If you see any damages or maintenance concerns on the parish buildings, please contact the office or drop a note in one of the donation/feedback slots in the back of the churches. **Thank you**

Titipounamu Study & Joy

St Nicholas - History, Legend & Culture with Beate Matthies.

Monday, 4 December, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM. Free. Donations/Koha are appreciated.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/st-nicholas/>

YouTube Recordings

Muffin Talk radio programmes are available online at:

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/category/resources/muffin-talk/>

For more information: www.studyjoy.nz



DIOCESAN NEWS



3-24 December: "Come Lord Jesus."

During Advent, we prepare for the celebration of Christ's birth through prayer and reflection.

Youth Ministry Officer

Are you a self-motivated relationship-builder who wants to make a meaningful positive impact in the lives of young people? We're looking for someone who answers "Yes!" to become our full-time **Youth Ministry Officer**. You'll be part of a tight-knit team implementing a bold new strategy for ministry to young people in the Diocese of Auckland.

<https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies>

NGA TAPUWAE SELF DIRECTED PILGRIMAGE

Registrations are now open for Ngā Tapuwāe – A Self Directed Pilgrimage 2024.

You can experience the sacred places of Kupe, Bishop Pompallier and the early missionaries.

Registration: Dcn Steve Fraser stephenf@cda.org.nz or phone 021439407

Taizé Prayer for Advent

Friday 8 December at 7pm

Mary MacKillop Chapel, 56 Selwyn Ave, Mission Bay

Advent Retreat

Saturday 2 December 8am-2pm, St Michael's Parish, 6 Beatrice Road, Remuera. Discover the mysteries of Advent with the insightful guidance of Dr Robert Loretz. Join us as we interpret the deeper mysteries of the incarnation using the 'Four Senses of Sacred Scripture'. Light lunch provided. Entry by Koha.

Life Teen Aotearoa Summer Camp is for you, and it is for your teens.

Registrations are closing! So if you are ready to help lead your teens closer to Christ and have the #bestsummerever then go to www.lifeteen.nz to register your group or to apply as a Summer Missionary. Contact samu-elb@cda.org.nz for queries

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

Approved Diocesan Marriage Preparation Course

Are you getting married? Please book your Diocesan Marriage Preparation course here: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/our-courses/> Please book 1 year (if getting married in NZ) or 18 months (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.

Pope Francis:

"Prayer awakens the soul from sleep and focuses it on what matters, on the end of existence." "Even on the busiest days, let's not neglect prayer."

NZ Catholic available in the foyer.

Price: \$4.

In this issue:
Kiwi Sister of Sion working in Holy Land strife.



Pay in cash
or online to the parish account.

Diocesan Youth & Young Adult Ministry:

www.facebook.com/AKCYM, www.instagram.com/acym2

Catholic University Chaplaincy:

Contact Robbie – robbiedlv@cda.org.nz