

THIS WEEK IN THE PARISH
+++++ Perpetual adoration - in the chapel +++++

MONDAY 17th

NO 5.15pm Mass

TUESDAY 18th

8.30am	Exposition & prayer	9.15am Mass	St Gregory's Church
	Anointing Mass	1.30pm Mass	St Gregory's Church
6.00pm	PPRE		St Gregory's Parish Centre

WEDNESDAY 19th

8.30am	Exposition	9.15am Mass	St Joseph's Parish Centre
10.00am	Prayer and Reflection Group		St Joseph's Parish Centre

THURSDAY 20th

11.30am	Rosary	Noon Mass	St Gregory's Church
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FRIDAY 21st *St Peter Canisius*

8.30am	Exposition & rosary	9.15am Mass	St Joseph's Parish Centre
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SATURDAY 22nd

8.30am	Exposition	9.15am Mass	St Joseph's Parish Centre
9.45am	Sacrament of Reconciliation		St Joseph's Presbytery
4.00pm	Legion of Mary		St Joseph's Parish Centre
5.15pm	Sacrament of Reconciliation		St Gregory's Church
5.30pm	Rosary	6.00pm Mass	St Gregory's Church

SUNDAY 23rd *4th Sunday of Advent*

8.30am	Mass	10.00am	Mass	5.00pm	Mass	St Gregory's Church
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PRAYER HELPLINE INTENTIONS

- > In thanks and praise for God's continuous love and on-going blessings
- > For peace - true peace in our minds, hearts and spirits
- > For the success of the Bishop's Care Appeal
- > For parents living the day to day struggles of high needs children
- > For teachers and children, as the school year comes to a close

Parish Priest	Fr John Adams	352 9275
Assistant Parish Priest	Fr Thanh Tran	352 9275
Pastoral Associates	Lauren Butler	027 424 6045
	Irene Maguire	027 622 9415
	Megan Stewart	021 069 6233
Parish Secretary	Wilma Vertogen	352 9275
Family Group Coordinator	Irene Maguire	027 622 9415
School Principal	Aaron Richards	352 8779



WHAT MUST WE DO?

This question, asked of John the Baptist, in our gospel this weekend is of course a question for all of us. "What must we do?" when faced with the coming of the Lord. John gives a very ordinary answer, we are to continue on with our lives striving for holiness – this is what we must do. The great St Philipp Neri was once asked what he would do if told of his immanent death. He happened to be playing cards at the time! His reply – that he would continue playing cards.

Doing great things is not a necessary part of being prepared for the Lord, striving for personal holiness is. Living our lives focused on the things of heaven may or may not involve heroic public acts, but the way in which we act will affect others through the inevitable joy which accompanies those who seek the Lord. Whilst happiness can be elusive for us at times, the joy of being a disciple of Jesus is always there. The rose coloured vestments of the priests this weekend signify the joy inherent in being a follower of Jesus. This is the insight of the prophet Zephaniah in our first reading this week;

*"Shout for joy, daughter of Zion, Israel shout aloud!
Rejoice, exult with all your heart daughter of Jerusalem.
The Lord has repealed your sentence . . ."*

Fr John Adams
PARISH PRIEST

St Joseph's Parish Centre - 133 Main North Road ☩ St Gregory's Church - 30 Cotswold Avenue
Phone 352 9275 P O Box 5014 Email – pap.bish.rc@xtra.co.nz

Parish website www.stjosephspapanui.org.nz Diocesan website www.chch.catholic.nz
Facebook www.facebook.com/stjopap Youth Group stjoespapyg@gmail.com

*Photos may be taken during special events or activities
and shared with the parish community on facebook/stjopap*

BISHOP'S CARE APPEAL

Caring for those in need . . .

During Advent our parish is holding the Bishop's Care Appeal, in support of the caring ministries within the diocese of Christchurch.

"I was hungry and you gave Me something to eat . . ."

Your gifts will feed the hungry. Last year the Church distributed 4,458 food parcels and made 4,478 home visits across our diocese.

Please prayerfully consider those in the humblest of circumstances with a gift to the Care Appeal. Your support is an answer to someone's prayer. (Bishop Paul Martin SM) Support these good works, give today - 366 9869 or www.chch.catholic.nz/BCA18

ANOINTING MASS

The Advent Mass with Anointing of the Sick is this Tuesday 18th December, 1.30pm at St Gregory's Church, followed by refreshments. If you require transport please ring Brenda 359 6693 or Janette 352 5778.

ROSTERS - Sign up today!

The Christmas roster schedule is in the foyer. There are still gaps to be filled. If you are involved in our parish ministries and are in Christchurch over the Christmas season please sign up today.

RECONCILIATION - Rite II

Still another chance to prepare for Christmas!
Burnside Parish 7.30pm Thursday 20th December

RETIRING COLLECTION

There will be a retiring collection at all Masses on 12th/13th January for Fr John and Fr Thanh, wishing them well as they leave us. If you might be away, you can donate now already, through the collection basket, using a clearly marked enveloped, so your intentions are easily known.



FR JOHN & FR THANH'S FAREWELL EVENT

It is with sadness that we farewell Fr John and Fr Thanh in January next year. We extend a warm invitation to all St Josephs Parish friends and families to come and join them for a farewell BBQ on Friday 18th January at 5.30pm at St Josephs School.

TODAY'S READINGS

Zeph 3:14-18 Phil 4:4-7 Lk 3:10-18

NEXT SUNDAY'S READINGS

Micah 5:1-4 Heb 10:5-10 Lk 1:39-44

ST VINCENT DE PAUL CHRISTMAS APPEAL

Thank you to all those who have supported the appeal for Christmas. Please drop your items into the church today (Sunday) or into the St Joseph's Parish Centre by Wednesday. Fresh fruit and home baking most welcome. To help with deliveries please be at the parish centre by 5.00pm on Wednesday.

FLOWERS FOR CHRISTMAS

If you have any red or white lilies to help decorate the church for Christmas Please ring Jean 358 1111 or Judy 352 7535 by 20th December.

ADVENT SCRIPTURE TALKS - this Sunday

Fr Frank Kelly presents the second of his talks at 7.00pm at St Joseph's Parish Centre, speaking on the "Biblical reflection on the incarnation."

ADVENT 2018 ONLINE

Receive daily New Zealand based Advent reflections in your inbox. Sign up at www.foodforfaith.org.nz.

PREPARING FOR CHRISTMAS.

Each Wednesday of Advent Fr John O'Connor will offer a fifteen minute reflection at 5.50pm at St Mary's pro-Cathedral. Reflections will be preceded and followed by 20 minutes of silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament.

FR GRAEME BLACKBURN'S FIRST YEAR ANNIVERSARY

Bishop Paul and the family invite parishioners and friends to attend a Memorial Mass for the late Fr Graeme Blackburn on his first anniversary, on Tuesday 15th January 2019 at 11.00am at Our Lady of Victories Church.

CATHOLIC STALL

Lots of Christmas 'goodies' for the family - check it out in the foyer.

MASS TIMES ON WEBSITE

Christmas Mass times across the diocese are online at www.chchcatholic.nz

POSITIONS AVAILABLE

Formation Programmes & Young Adults Ministry Coordinator and Female Mission Team Supervisor. Email cyt@chch.catholic.org.nz for more details.

PLEASE PRAY FOR . . .



- § all those who have no-one to pray for them
- § all those who have died recently
- § and all those whose anniversaries or birthdays occur at this time.

Eternal rest, grant to them, O Lord.