

**NATIVITY OF THE LORD
25th DECEMBER 2022
CHRISTMAS DAY**

First Reading

Isaiah 9: 2-4, 6-7

Responsorial psalm

Psalm 96: 1-4, 11-13

Second reading

Titus 2: 11-14

Gospel

Luke 2: 1-16

EXPLORING THE WORD

The gospel reading for the Midnight Mass is Luke's brief but profound description of the birth of Jesus. Only the Gospels of Matthew and Luke give any information on this remarkable event, and both represent the unfolding of christological understandings over time. It is likely that Luke uses the device of the census to explain why Mary and Joseph are in Bethlehem, the predicted birthplace of the Messiah, when it is common knowledge that Jesus came from Nazareth. At the Centre of Luke's story is the proclamation of the birth to the shepherds in the fields and their reaction to it. (In Matthew, the proclamation comes to the Gentile magi or wise men.) At the time, shepherds were regarded as among the lowest of the population. They did not have a good reputation and were not to be trusted! But it is to these, not the high and mighty of the land, that God chooses to announce the birth of the saviour. In the continuation of the text, the shepherds are shown as accepting the proclamation and going 'with haste' to Bethlehem to 'see the thing that has taken place.' They are not checking the veracity of the angel's story but believe it implicitly. Their response is immediate. They return to their fields 'glorifying and praising God for all they had seen and heard, as it had been told them.' Their response to the coming of the Messiah is wholehearted!

Readings for next week

MARY, HOLY MOTHER OF GOD

01.01.2023

First Reading

Numbers 6: 22-27

Responsorial psalm

Psalm 67: 1-2, 4-7

Second reading

Galatians 4: 4-7

Gospel

Luke 2: 16-21

Readings for the following week

EPIPHANY OF THE LORD 08.01.2023

First Reading

Isaiah 60: 1-6

Responsorial psalm

Psalm 72: 1-3, 7-8, 10-13

Second reading

Ephesians 3: 2-3, 5-6

Gospel

Matthew 2: 1-12

PARISH COUNCIL COMMITTEE

Wayne Cammell, Marianne Mudaliar, Thomas Pereira, Celia Hunkin, Fr Craig, Harold Ballicao Arlene Pereira, Josephine Nickel.

FINANCE COMMITTEE Fr Craig, Lydia Lobo, Tony Noronha, Mike Pope, Nicola Crestanello, Utita Sakalia

LITURGY COMMITTEE Thomas Pereira, Alzira Rodrigues, Fr Craig, Shaad Karmani, Cora Noblejas, Errol Aviet, Celia Hunkin, Cherrie Lapaz, Joval Moredo, Patricia Smith.

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE

Christian Meyers, Gloria Trevino, Bong de Vera Claire Raubenheimer, Allan Stowers, Fr Craig, Leanne Brighthouse, Justin Dickson

BAPTISM ENQUIRES 2023

Attendance at a Preparation Course is necessary for your first baby.

Enquire with Nick at the Parish Office.

EXTRA PARKING FOR SUNDAY MASS

Friendly reminder there is plenty of parking available via the Te Irirangi entrance to the Schools. Only a short walk through the school and less traffic congestion. Thanks in advance.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MASS INTENTIONS

Recently Deceased: Gloria Diwa, Alberto Laurena, Mila Bilowwan, Gui Lan Ma, Siuaki Pule'anga, Baby Klein, David Solia, Rogelia Rodulfa, Boboy Guevara, Patrick McBride, Ramon Elepano

Anniversaries of Death: Darius Hunkin, Jose Moralejo, Canuto Garcia Jnr, Holy Souls in Purgatory, Fr Frank Roach, Anthony Joseph Brighthouse (6yrs), Luis Lopez, Mr P. Verghese (16th), Souls in Purgatory: Lau Keung; Ning Chuen Fa; Lau Yee Ming & Lau Kai Yan, Bill Davies (1st), Maria Crestanello, Alicia Gulapa (1st), Pablitos Santos

For the Sick: Samaya (Recovery), Mario Tarranza, Jeffrey Heng, Maria Lien

Special Intentions: Adique Family, Balbas Family, Thanksgiving for Baby Klein, Oaul Lim & Angela Ng (Anniversary)

Birthdays: Sione & Leilani Sakalia, Fred Hunkin, Paul Lim Hock Aun; Christopher Lim Hock Peng; Tony Ng Hoon Khye; David Lim Hock Peng & Christina Lim Kim Gaik.



Readings for following week

SECOND SUNDAY IN ORD TIME

15.01.2023

First Reading

Isaiah 49: 3, 5-6

Responsorial psalm

Psalm 40: 1, 3, 4-9

Second reading

1 Corinthians 1:1-3

Gospel

John 1: 29-34

PARISH COLLECTIONS

18th DEC 2022

1st Collection: \$2,593.10

2nd Collection: \$1,189.00

PARISH GROUPS

The Legion of Mary: Our Lady of Victories Presidium

Madel 027 889 5679

Meetings are every Tuesday 7pm

SLYAC / IGNIS

stlukes.yac@gmail.com

CHILDRENS & YOUTH CHOIR

Lira: liralecias@gmail.com

St Lukes Youth Group

assistant@flatbushcatholic.org.nz

Live & Share Christ

live.share.christ.2022@gmail.com

Cyril 021 101 4574 or Rita 021 0271 3172

PARISHIONER REGISTRATION



Check it out on our Parish Website, by scanning this QR Code.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR COOPERATION!

NO RIGHT TURN

To help alleviate the congestion after each weekend mass please do not make a right turn as you exit onto Chapel Road. Thanks for your Understanding and cooperation.

Thank you to all our ministry Volunteers for your service to our Parish!

There will be no rosters published in the newsletter. If you are attending mass during the holiday period and are available to minister, please see the mass coordinator in the foyer.



Christmas Message from Fr Craig

I am pleased to be able to tell you that, now we have no restrictions on gatherings, our parish has bounced back and grown considerably over the past year with over 1,650 people who regularly attend one of the Sunday Masses and call St Luke's home. On the 1st of May, the feast of St Joseph the worker we celebrated our first anniversary in the new church.

As a parish we welcomed our new Bishop, Bishop Stephen Lowe to the Parish as he celebrated the Sacrament of Confirmation and First Holy Communion for 72 children. At the Easter vigil we welcomed 3 people into the Church through the RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults) program. There were 50 baptisms and 22 weddings held here over the past year. We have also had some sad occasions with the death of several parishioners and two of our youngest parishioners: baby James and baby Klein. Our memorial garden now has the ashes of several parishioners, which adds to the dignity and sacredness of the church grounds.

There were many new Pastoral initiatives in the parish: we started up a new youth group and hosted our first Alpha course. We hosted a beautiful joint liturgy with the Anglican Church across the road, St Paul's in the park, to mark the death of Her Majesty Queen Elizabeth II. We had successful Parish fundraisers: Parish Corporate dinner, two raffles and a movie night, we are immensely grateful for all those who contributed to the success of our efforts in any way great or small.

Our cultural groups have really grown over the past year and are more involved in the life of the parish than ever, as they encouraged others to be actively involved in the parish. We have tasted numerous morning teas after Mass and experienced some beautiful liturgical celebrations.

My thanks to Nick, Celia and Joseph for their tireless assistance throughout the year, and on their behalf and myself, I wish to take the opportunity of thanking you all for your support and love, and wish you and your families a very Happy, Holy and Joyful Christmas Season.

God Bless

Fr Craig

THANK YOU

Many thanks for the well wishes and Christmas gifts that have been given to Fr Craig & the Parish Team.
We are humbled by your appreciation and generosity.



HAPPY BIRTHDAY

Happy Birthday to Fr Craig as you celebrate your birthday on the 27th December.
Thank you for all you do for the parish, praying 2023 will treat you well.

CORRECTION FOR THE FRONT PAGE MASS TIMES

There will be no Friday 1.30pm mass during the school holidays.
Thank you for your understanding.

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

The sacramental program for Confirmation sessions start back on Sunday 26th February at 9.30am.

ASSISTANT PRIEST

We are pleased to announce that Bishop Steve has appointed Fr Daniel Kulangara as Chaplain to the Syro Malankara Community & Assistant Priest here at St Lukes.
We look forward to welcoming him at the end of January 2023.

MASS TIME TABLE

Sat 31st Dec	5PM Vigil Mass
Sun 1st Jan	8.30AM & 10.30AM Mass

MASSTIME JANUARY

Weekday

Wednesday	9am
Thursday	9am
Friday	9am & 1:30pm
Saturday	9am

Sunday Masses

Saturday	5pm Vigil
Sunday	8:30am & 10:30am

- Reconciliation Saturday 9:30am
- Adoration 1st Saturday 9:30 - 10:30

PARISH OFFICE HOLIDAY CLOSURE

The parish office will be closed from Tuesday 27th Dec 2022 and will reopen on Tuesday 17th Jan 2023