

3RD SUNDAY OF ADVENT 17.12.2023

First Reading

Isaiah 61:1-2a,10-11

Responsorial Psalm

Luke 1:46-50, 53-54

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 5:16-24

Gospel John 1:6-8, 19-28

EXPLORING THE WORD

This Sunday's Gospel invites us to continue our reflection on the person and mission of John the Baptist. John's Gospel begins with a theological reflection that has come to be called the "prologue." This prologue places the story of Jesus in its cosmological framework. It speaks of Jesus' existence with God since the beginning of time. In John's Gospel, Jesus is presented as the fulfillment of the Old Testament and the culmination of the Word, the light that is coming into the world's darkness. The only affirmative response that John the Baptist gives is when he quotes the prophet Isaiah. Upon answering the next question, John announces that the savior they seek is already among them, but as yet unrecognized. John's response highlights for us an important Advent theme: Jesus has already come into the world as our savior. During Advent, we pray that we will be able to recognize Jesus' presence in our midst. Advent also reminds us that Jesus will come again to fulfill the promise of salvation. We pray that we will continue to be watchful as we anticipate that great day.

(Source: Loyola Express)

4TH ADVENT SUNDAY 24.12.2023

First Reading 2 Samuel 7:1-5,

8b-12,14a,16

Responsorial Psalm 89:2-5,27,29

Second Reading Romans 16:25-27

Gospel Luke 1:26-38

PARISH COUNCIL COMMITTEE

Wayne Cammell, Thomas Pereira, Fr Craig, Celia Hunkin, Harold Ballicao, Arlene Pereira, Arturo C.M.

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

Gloria T, Bong d. V, Fr Craig, Allan Stowers, Judith V, Manu L.

PARISHIONER REGISTRATION

**New to the area??
Want to join a ministry or
community group.**

Check it out on our Parish website or scanning this QR Code.

THANK YOU FOR JOINING US !!!



DIOCESAN MARRIAGE PREPARATION COURSE

Are you getting married?
Please book your Diocesan Marriage
Preparation course

[www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/
discipleship/our-courses/](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/our-courses/)

For more information email:
marriageandfamily@cda.org.nz
Gerry M:021 0224 7442 / gerrys@cda.org.nz

BAPTISM ENQUIRIES

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

Note: There are no baptisms during Lent.

If you need a Baptism or Sacrament
Certificate to be re-printed there will be an
admin charge. Your original certificate is
free of charge, please keep it in a safe place.

Enquire with the Parish Office

NEW PARISH BANK ACCOUNTS

FLAT BUSH BUILDING

02-0108-0708780-03

FLAT BUSH PARISH

02-0108-0708780-00

Particulars: *First Name* Code: *Last Name*

Ref: *Contact number*

*The old bank accounts from the back of the newsletter
have been closed.*

BUILDING FUND UPDATE

loan balance is

\$1,735,503.00

Thank you for supporting
our 2nd Collection.

COLLECTIONS 10 DECEMBER 2023

1st Collection:

\$3,118.10

2nd Collection:

\$1,140.30

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MASS INTENTIONS

Recently Deceased: Ernestina Virtuadazo (Philippines), Nineva Vaitupu (Dunedin), Marc Oliver, Joan, Kalameli Lesa (Samoa), Laurie Richardson, Clement, Carolina Mondelo Claraball (Philippines), Tevita Leger (Tonga), Ineen Reynolds (Paeroa), Elicia Enriquez, Peter Kim, Fa'atuai Imeleta Penn (Sydney), Lesa Tominiko (Samoa), Tarcisio Leonila, Margaret Warham, Bonifacia Leechin Ortega (Philippines), Joan (South Africa), Joseph Peter Pereira.

Anniversaries of Death: Cecilia D'Lima (7th), Gloria C. Diwa (1st), Jude Fernandes (8th), Bernardo Pacol (16th), Nelson & Natividad Bulay_Og, Noel S. Macabasco Junior (40days), Norma Stewart (1st), Alberto Laurena (1st), Jude Fernandes (8th), Soane Kauhalianua (2nd), Jose Luis Trevino (4th mnth), Norman Guarin (3rd), Elizabeth Bullo, Anselmo & Concepcion Villadiego, Eileen Abrahams (1st), Chloie, Natividad & Nelson Bulay_og, Malia Maketalena Pule'anga (1st), P. Verghese (17th), Susana Moon.

Special Intentions: Corrine Pereira & Keith Jeremiah, Reden C. Orongan (Critical Condition), Sarah Smith (Recovery).

Birthdays: David Lim, Tony Ng, Paul & Christopher Lim, Niel Kulkarni.



4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - 24 DECEMBER 2023

TIME	COMMENTATOR	READERS	ALTAR SERVERS	COMMUNION	AV
5:00PM	Cyril Siasoco	Rebecca Guarin	Jakob Bolante	Joseph Mukkada	Thomas George
			Beatrice Basilio	Irene Siasoco	
		Dominic Carlos	Trisha Faye De Jesus	Oliver Tamayo	
			Eden Feagaiga		
8:30AM	NO MASS				
9:30AM	VOLUNTEERS NEEDED <i>Please see the Mass coordinator if you are able to serve at this Mass.</i>				
10:30AM	NO MASS				

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

Please contact Thomas
for any roster queries:

*thank
you*

coordinator
@flatbushcatholic.org.nz

CHRISTMAS RAFFLE 2023 - FINAL SALE

The last of the raffle tickets are available for purchase in the foyer until the beginning of the 10.30am mass today.

The draw is today at 10.30am Mass.

GRAB SOME LAST TICKETS!!!

The Filipino Community
of St. Luke's Parish, Flat Bush Sponsors a
CHRISTMAS RAFFLE 2023
For the benefit of the church building fund of St Luke's Parish

1st Prize: Masport 6 Burner BBQ – value of \$1200
\$600 Pak n Save Gift Cards

2nd Prize: Photography package – value of \$500
Family or Engagement shoot (T&C's applicable)
\$500 Pak n Save Gift Cards

3rd Prize: IGLOO BMX 49L Chilly Bin & Christmas Hamper
– value of \$500

Raffle draw date Ticket Price: \$10
Sunday 17th December 2023

CHRISTMAS & NEW YEAR MASS TIMES 2023

4TH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

SAT 23 DEC - 5 PM Vigil
SUN 24 DEC - 9:30 AM

SUN 24 DEC - CHRISMAS EVE

Carols at 6 PM, followed by 6:30 PM Mass
Carols at 9 PM, followed by 9:30 PM Mass

MONDAY 25 DEC - CHRISTMAS DAY - 8:30 AM & 10:30 AM

FEAST OF THE HOLY FAMILY

SAT 30 DEC - 5 PM Vigil
SUNDAY 31 DEC - 8:30 AM, 10:30 AM & 5 PM

MONDAY 1 JAN - NEW YEAR - 9 AM

PARKING FOR CHRISTMAS MASSES

Please park your vehicles in the school carpark at Sancta Maria College for Christmas Mass times.

FRIDAY 1:30PM MASS TIME UPDATE

The last Friday 1:30PM this year is on **Friday 22 DEC 2023**.
There will be **NO FRIDAY 1:30PM MASS** on
5th, 12th & 19th JAN 2024.
The first Friday 1:30PM Mass is back on **26 JAN 2024**.

HAROLD PLUMLEY MEMORIAL GARDEN

Choose to remember your loved ones in a tranquil and prayerful memorial garden on the grounds of St. Luke's parish.

Please contact the Parish Office.

DECEMBER FOOD STALL

We extend our warmest thanks to everyone and to the St Luke's Kiwi and Other Nationals Community for all your support, dedication and hard work. We raised just over **\$3,500**. Everything was beautifully presented and looked delicious plus we had the perfect weather.

We hope for your continued support in our fundraising events where all proceeds goes towards the benefit of the church building fund.

PARISH RITE II RECONCILIATION

In preparation for Christmas, you are invited to come to the parish Reconciliation Rite II on **Thursday 21 December 2023 at 7pm**.

NEED HELP

Times can be difficult especially as Christmas is approaching. If you need help or know someone who is struggling then please make contact with Fr Craig.

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Religious Christmas cards are available from the Parish Office
\$15 for a pack of 5.



BAPTISM DATES

The next baptism date is the **10th February 2024**.
Please contact the parish office for more information.
09 359 4750

***There are no baptisms during Lent
from the 14th Feb to 23rd March 2024***

PARISH OFFICE HOLIDAY CLOSURE

The parish office will be closed from **Friday 22nd December 2023** and will reopen on **Tuesday 23rd January 2024**.

STAFF CHANGES

As we draw to the end of 2023 and get ready to welcome in the new year, the parish office will have a couple of staff changes. After two and a half years, we farewell Joseph who has assisted in the parish office in many ways and managed our social media. Joseph goes on next year to pursue a career in teaching as he begins an internship at Rosmini College on the North Shore. We are extremely grateful for his many contributions to St Luke's and wish him all the best as he begins this new chapter in his life. We also welcome new to the staff Sr Lyra RSM as Pastoral Coordinator and Lima Moefana as Parish Assistant, who will both be starting in the new year. Please join me in welcoming them to the parish team.