

**FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
01.12.2024**

First Reading

Jeremiah 33:14-16

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 25:4-5,8-10,14

Second Reading

1 Thessalonians 3:12-4.2

Gospel

Luke 21:25-28, 34-36

EXPLORING THE WORD

Advent is a time of preparation for the coming of the Lord. This season, we recall two central elements of our faith: the final coming of the Lord in glory and the incarnation of the Lord in the birth of Jesus. The key themes are watchful waiting, preparation, and justice. Today's Gospel is from the last chapter before the passion narrative in which Jesus is teaching in the Temple. Jesus speaks to his disciples about the need for vigilance and prayer as they wait for the coming of the Son of Man in glory. Though Jesus predicts a time of destruction and fear, he tells his disciples to stand tall. Jesus does not promise deliverance from anxiety or tribulations. He encourages his disciples to pray for strength. We may encounter events and circumstances that could lead us to despair. Through prayer, we find strength and consolation in Jesus' words and in his continuing presence with us to endure all things and to witness to the action of God in our world.

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT 08.12.2024

First Reading

Baruch 5:1-9

Responsorial Psalm

Psalm 126:1-6

Second Reading

Philippians 1:3-6, 8-11

Gospel

Luke 3:1-6

PARISH COUNCIL COMMITTEE:

Wayne Cammell, Thomas Pereira, Fr Craig, Celia Hunkin, Harold Ballicao, Arturo Chan Mow, Arlene Pereira, Filipino Motulalo

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

LITURGY COMMITTEE: Thomas Pereira, Fr Craig Alzira Rodrigues, Shaad Kirmani, Celia Hunkin, Cherrie Lapaz, Joval Moredo, Patricia Smith, Paulette Devane, Marianne Mudaliar, Janet Wigmore, Lima Moefana

FUNDRAISING COMMITTEE: Gloria Trevino, Bong De Vera, Allan S, Judith V, Fr Craig, Malu Luteru, Litiana Loabuka

ST LUKE'S CULTURAL LEADERS

Filipino Community: Cora Noblejas, Agnes Peralta, Harold Balicao, Niede Chiu, Joval Moredo, Cherrie La Paz.

Samoan Community: Allan Stowers, Tuala Ben Silva, Leanne Brighthouse, Judith Vitolio, Arturo C.M.

Tongan Community: Soana Kauhalaniua, Sioeli Vaingaina, Alo Puleanga.

Indian & Sri Lankan Community: Jose Paul, Natasha Martis, Gayan Gunawardena, Douglas de Souza.

Kiwi & Other Nationals: Michelle Cammell, Doreen Wakefield, Mike Pope.

BUILDING FUND UPDATE

loan balance is **\$1,265,503.00**
Thank you for supporting our 2nd Collection.

CASH COLLECTIONS 24 NOVEMBER 2024

1st Collection: **\$3,475.70**
2nd Collection: **\$1,089.90**

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/

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

BAPTISM ENQUIRIES

Baptisms in Dec 2024 & Jan 2025 required course attendance in December 2024.

Enquire with the Parish Office for registration.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR MASS INTENTIONS

Recently Deceased: Lizzi Pilmer, Ramon Crisostomo Calimbahim, Atjeng Sunandar, Erwin Abrea, Hayley May Smuts

Anniversaries of Death: Joan Keals, Vaisioa (9th), Cecilia D'Lima (8th), Sr Edward (17th), Fortunata, Michael Anthony, Reynaldo Sr, Eileen Abrahams (2nd), Meagan (3rd), Luis Lopez, Mary Lee Sin Fong, Klein Factor Maximo Rojas (15th), Julieta Rojas (8th), Katreen Samantha Eustaquio (3rd), Patrick McBride, Rene Felizardo(5th), Erlinda & Juanito Mencias, Maria Terrado, Pablito Santos

Special Intentions: Mathew, Jacob & Family, Karen Mae Abrea, Ruth Banta, Rosa Filipino, Fatongia Frances Motulalo (Sick), Ponifasio Smith (Recovery), Emily Goh (Healing), Lemo Tovio (Sick), Gustav Santos (Healing), Kapisi Ngan Woo (Sick), Ana Maria McKinney (Sick)

Birthdays: Ariana Hall (11th)



SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT - 08 DECEMBER 2024

TIME	COMMENTATOR	READERS	ALTAR SERVERS	COMMUNION	AV	COLLECTORS
5:00PM	Natasha Martis	Vernon Velayo	Glaine Geralde Maryjane Wong Ling	Oliver Tamayo Julyan Balicao	Owen Tamayo	Butch Bolante Boy Banson Anish Martis Clyde Fernandes
		Karl Guarin	Jirus Wong Ling Jakob Bolante	Fiat Siasoco		Ponifasio McKinney Chris Motulalo Vaea Motulalo
8.30AM	Genevieve Fernandes	Nicola Crestanello	Hezekiah Faletagoai Mercy McKinney Jas Lopez	Jana Lopez J L Lopez Deon Saunders Claire Raubenheimer Marilyn Singh	Lynn Hunkin	Aldrin Dare
		Madel de Vera	Jodek Lopez			
10.30AM	Utita Sakalia	Rosalina Abrugena	Cian Da Silva Emmanuel Kuriachen Kurt Factor	Mel Nepomuceno Rita Nepomuceno Blace Sayas Grace Chiu Evelyn Singh Katelyn Singh Abraham Fruean	Kelly Cheah	Cheenee Paras Baldwin Sayas Emmanuel Krakue Ralph Chavez Aaron Rodrigues
		Ysabel Kis-ing	Gabriel Ranathunga Jacen Mejica			
5PM	Callum McLeod	Nathan Viegas	Matthew Espinosa Ariabelle Odevilas	Sapna Mathews Sophia Kim	Josie de la Cruz	Glenn Hareb Jojo Espinosa Earl Odevilas Roger Balanay
		Carol Viegas	Simi Tekiteki	Ana Delluta		

Thank you to all our ministry volunteers for your service to our Parish!
Please contact coordinator@flatbushcatholic.org.nz for any roster queries.

ANNUAL MASS COUNT UPDATE

The Auckland Diocese requires all parishes to conduct a Mass Count every November, and we are pleased to share the progress and growth observed over the years. This important initiative not only helps us track the growth of our parishes but also provides insights into how we can better equip ourselves to serve the faithful in our communities. We currently have an average of 2,822 attending our Masses at St Luke's across all four Masses. We want to express our warmest thanks and appreciation to all our dedicated Mass Counters for your assistance.

YEAR	WEEKLY AVERAGE AT ST LUKE'S
2017	1,128
2018	1,212
2019	1,493
2020	1,216 (Covid started)
2021	Closed for Covid
2022	1,651
2023	2,080
2024	2,822

ADVENT RECONCILIATION

Our Advent Reconciliation Liturgy will take place on:
Thursday, December 12th at 7pm.

The combined Advent Reconciliation for Our Lady Star of the Sea in Howick and St Marks Pakuranga will be held at **St Mark's Church on Wednesday, December 11th at 7pm.**

This is a wonderful opportunity to prepare spiritually for the coming of Christ during this holy season. Please join us for this special time of reflection and grace.

HOLY COMMUNION

As we approach the altar to receive Holy Communion, we want to remind you of a few important guidelines:

Say Amen - When you receive Holy Communion, please respond with a heartfelt "Amen" after the priest or Minister presents the Body of Christ.

Receiving in Front of the Minister - It is important that you receive Holy Communion directly in front of the minister, not taking it back to your seat. This ensures that the sacred moment is properly observed and helps maintain the reverence of the liturgy.

Accompanying Children - We ask that all children be accompanied by an adult during this time to ensure their proper guidance and understanding of the sacrament. Thank you for your cooperation in these matters.

FEED A FAMILY APPEAL

As we approach the Christmas season, the need for support in the wider community continues to grow. The Vinnies Feed a Family appeal, seek to assist families across South Auckland with daily necessities with additional Christmas food, gifts and amenities. If you would like to donate and help a family in need, there are payment options:

Society of St Vincent de Paul AK
ASB Bank 12-3017-0500224-00
Ref: Feed A Family. Ref: Fullname

Or visit Givealittle <https://givealittle.co.nz/org/vinniesauckland> or scan the QR Code. Phone 09 815 6122 or email feedafamily@stvinnies.co.nz for receipts.

All donations collected from the appeal will be doubled in amount by a private generous donor.



CHRISTMAS RAFFLE 2024

Raffle tickets are available in the foyer this weekend. We have some wonderful prizes up for grabs, so don't miss your chance to win! We appreciate your generosity and hope to see you all there for the big drawing, next Sunday, December 8th, 2024 at the 10.30am Mass! Let's make this Christmas extra special for our parish community!

The Kiwi & Other Nationals Community
of St. Luke's Parish, Flat Bush Sponsors a
CHRISTMAS RAFFLE 2024
For the benefit of the church building fund of St Luke's Parish

1st Prize: 4 night Bach stay - Whitianga Holiday Home (valued over \$1,500)
\$500 Grocery Vouchers *T&C's apply*

2nd Prize: Staedtler Stationery Hamper - valued over \$700
donated by Staedtler (NZ) Ltd
\$300 Grocery Vouchers

No. 3rd Prize: Air Fryer - valued \$400
Ham - valued \$100
Christmas Cake

Raffle draw date
Sunday 8th December 2024

Ticket Price: \$10

SACRAMENTAL PROGRAM

The celebration of the Sacrament of First Reconciliation (Rite II) for the children attending the program is on **Thursday, 5 December at 6:00pm.**
Rehearsal is on 4 December at 4:00pm.
Please pray for the children and their families.

SMCPS YR 6 LEAVERS FAREWELL MASS & CELEBRATION OF LEARNING

The Yr 6 Leavers Farewell Mass will be next Thursday, December 5th at 9am, at St Luke's Church.
The Celebration of Learning/Prizegiving will also be next Thursday, December 5th at 12.30pm, at the Sancta Maria College Auditorium.

WORKING BEE

Thank you to everyone who volunteered and supported our working bee effort, in keeping our church space beautiful and well-maintained.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES

To streamline our operations we are phasing out our planned giving envelope system. We encourage all envelope users to switch to our secure online payment option. It's convenient, environmentally friendly, and helps us manage our resources more effectively. Tax receipts will be available after every financial year. For enquiries, please contact the parish office.
We appreciate your understanding and support and thank you for your continued generosity.

SUGGESTED YOUTUBE CHANNELS FOR CATHOLIC FORMATION

We invite you to deepen your faith and enhance your Catholic formation by visiting these Youtube channels and websites. They offer valuable materials to help you grow in understanding and practice of our faith.

Bishop Robert Barron:

<https://www.youtube.com/@BishopBarron>
<https://www.wordonfire.org/>

Fr Mike Schmitz Channels:

<https://www.youtube.com/@AscensionPresents>
<https://media.ascensionpress.com/>