



# CHRIST THE KING CATHOLIC SCHOOL

Phone: 09 626 7123

Website: [www.ctl.school.nz](http://www.ctl.school.nz)

**RESPECT – COMPASSION – SERVICE – PEACE & JOY**

We encourage parents to enrol children well before their fifth birthday. You are welcome to visit the classroom before your child starts so you can meet the teacher and observe classroom routines.

## Parish Office

Phone: 09 626 7744

### email

[parishoffice@christthekingparish.org.nz](mailto:parishoffice@christthekingparish.org.nz)

### Website

[www.christthekingcatholic.org.nz](http://www.christthekingcatholic.org.nz)

### Facebook

[Facebook.com/christthekingnz](https://www.facebook.com/christthekingnz)

## Office Hours

Monday, Wednesday, Friday  
9.00 am - 3.00 pm

## Parish Staff

### Parish Priest

Fr Benedict Francis

Email: [ben196@gmail.com](mailto:ben196@gmail.com)

### Parish Secretary

### & Hall Bookings

Esther Tu'u

[parishoffice@christthekingparish.org.nz](mailto:parishoffice@christthekingparish.org.nz)

### Custodians

Anae & Lesina 021 1391210

### For Baptisms and Marriages

please contact the office or email  
Fr Benedict

### Sacristan/Rosters

Jerome Tuni 021 0693209

## Sunday Mass Times

Saturday Vigil: 6.00 pm  
Sunday: 8.30 am, 10.00 am

## Daily Mass Times

### Monday

Liturgy of the Word  
with Holy Communion 9.00 am

**Tuesday-Thursday & Saturday**

9.00 am **Friday** 10.00 am

### Mass of Anointing

Every First Friday of the Month 10.00 am

### Exposition/Benediction

Thursday 9.30 am



## Reconciliation

Saturday 9.30 am after  
morning Mass  
or by appointment

## Anointing of the Sick

The Sacrament of Anointing of the Sick is offered to anyone in danger of death.

Please call the parish office. If you are sick or undergoing surgery you are welcome to seek the Sacrament of Anointing any time after Mass or by appointment.



## Planned Giving Scheme

If you would like to join the Parish Planned Giving Scheme please fill in the Parish Registration Form available from the table in the foyer. For every dollar you donate, you get 33 percentage back a tax credit.



260 Richardson Road, Mt Roskill, Auckland 1041

"To live by faith, to be known by love and to be a voice of hope"

15 December 2024



# The Third Sunday ADVENT

# Rejoice!

## *Brings Out Our Best*

This mid-point of Advent alerts us to issues of justice and equality. The prophet John has been asked as a sort of trick by people who exploited others with tax bills, and soldiers who often used their brute force on others how they should repent. His words were tough but quite ordinary -  
~ don't overcharge, ~ share your surplus with the needy ~ and don't exploit people. It's another, but more figurative way, of stating the basic demands of 'Love one another'. Christmas can bring out the best in us to care for the needy. We are surrounded by charities looking for aid. We know that Jesus hears the cries of the poor, and he joins every carol singing group trying to help.

Christmas also asks us to consider our honesty and integrity, for we know that many are poor, at home and abroad, because of the greed of others.

Christmas is a reminder and a challenge that all can live with the dignity we have come to regard as human rights - education, safety, shelter, food, water, employment, freedom. The Christ child who was born poor represents all the poor of the world, especially children.

As he was born ordinary, he represents that God who meets, greets and helps us in the ordinary aspects of life. The one who is to come is the one who will live and love according to these truths of human dignity and equality. (Donal Neary SJ)

**Christmas**  
Mass Times

**Tuesday 24 December**  
Vigil 6:00 pm Carols 5:30 pm  
Midnight Carols 11:30 pm

**Wednesday 25 December**  
9:00 am ONLY

**New Year**  
Tuesday 31 December  
Vigil : 11:00 pm  
Wednesday 01 January 2025  
9:00 am ONLY  
*Solemnity of Mary,  
Mother of God*

## We are God's Instruments

Today we celebrate the third Sunday of Advent and it is also called Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is a Latin word that means "rejoice." This name is taken from the entrance antiphon for Sunday's Mass, which is also echoed in today's second reading from the Paul's letter to the Philippians. Some people mark this Sunday by lighting a pink candle instead of a purple one on their Advent wreath. It is a reminder that the Advent season is a season of joy because our salvation is already at hand. This Sunday's Gospel continues last week's focus on John the Baptist and his role in preparing the way for Christ. In today's Gospel reading, the crowds ask John the Baptist for specifics. What evidence of repentance is required? John replies by naming concrete actions: crowds should share their food and cloaks; tax collectors should be just; soldiers should act fairly. The concern for justice is a hallmark of Luke's Gospel.

When the crowd begins to wonder if John the Baptist might be the Messiah, John interprets his baptism and makes it clear that his ministry is in preparation for the Messiah. John the Baptist knows his place and role in God's plan of salvation. By encouraging the crowd to act similarly in accordance with their stations in life, John's teaching suggests that each person has a role to play in God's salvation. It is the great mystery of our salvation that God permits and even asks for human cooperation in his divine plans. Whatever we are – parents, teachers, civil servants, employers, doing business, self-employed – we need to remember that we are God's instruments. Our aim is, like John the Baptist, to lead people to the feet of Jesus that they may know him personally as Saviour, Lord, Brother and Friend.

Opening of the Holy Door of  
St Peter's Basilica 24 December

**HOPE**  
JUBILEE 2025  
PILGRIMS OF HOPE

Prepare the way of the Lord...

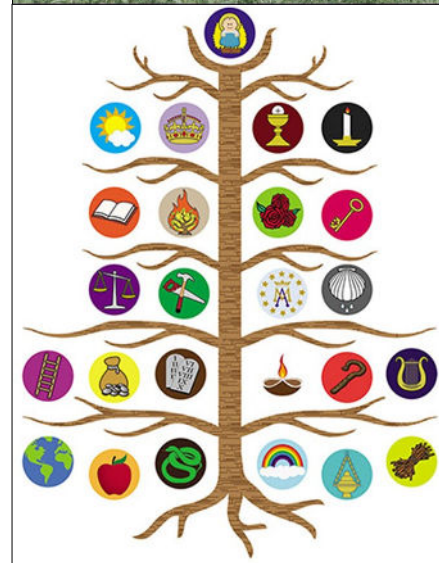
**Advent Reconciliation**  
**Tuesday 17, December, 7 pm**

Let's prepare the church grounds  
for Christmas

**WORKING BEE**  
Saturday,  
21 December, 10 am

Bible Diary 2025

**\$20**  
Please pay  
by cash or eftpos  
Thank you



### The Jesse tree

It helps us connect the custom of decorating Christmas trees to the events leading to Jesus' birth. The Jesse tree is named from Isaiah 11:1: "A shoot shall come out of the stock of Jesse, and a branch shall grow out of his roots." Jesse was the father of King David. We adorn a Jesse tree with illustrated ornaments that represent the people, prophecies, and events leading up to the birth of Jesus. The ornaments of the Jesse tree tell the story of God in the Old Testament, connecting the Advent season with the faithfulness of God across four thousand years of history.

**We pray for all those who are in need of our prayers,  
are recovering from surgery or are terminally ill:**  
Sandra Shear, Max Joseph F Ng Lam, Madonna OTT-Fereti, Malia Afeak Finau

**and for those whose anniversaries occur at this time:**  
Veronica Rodrigues, Salatielu Mati, Irene Mendez, Rev. Father Francis Roach  
Freida D'Souza, Rozina Rajan

*Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them.  
May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.*