



A Catholic Parish of
The Archdiocese of Wellington

To Tatou Wahine O Nga Whanga Parahi Katorika

OUR LADY OF THE BAYS

MOTUEKA • RICHMOND • TAKAKA • WAIMEA WEST • WAKEFIELD

WEEKLY NEWSLETTER

8th Dec 2024

2nd Sunday of Advent

Issue 349

MASS TIME Sunday Mass

RICHMOND
Sunday 9.00am

MOTUEKA
Sunday 11.00am

WAKEFIELD
Vigil Mass 5pm, 2nd Sat each month

WAIMEA WEST
Vigil Mass 5pm, 4th Sat each month

TAKAKA
Saturday 5pm, 1st & 3rd each month
2nd Sunday of month at 9.30am
Liturgy of the Word with Communion

Weekdays Mass

MOTUEKA
Tuesday 9.30am
Friday, 9am Exposition of the Blessed
Sacrament, 9.15am Rosary
Friday, 9.30am Liturgy of the Word

RICHMOND
Wednesday and Friday, 9.30am
Reconciliation after weekday Mass or
by Appointment

CONTACT

Fr Ron Bennett – acting Parish Priest

Parish Office

Era Creevey, Admin 9.00-14.00
Monday, Wednesday, Friday
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Deadline Wednesday Noon

Once more in Advent, we are celebrating the first coming of our King and He comes again - every day - through us, to the world. Our Gospel quotes Isaiah's words:

"Prepare the way of the Lord, make straight His paths. Every valley shall be filled and every mountain and hill made low...and all flesh shall see the salvation of God."

Maybe you don't feel that command personally, but Christ entrusted His mission to us all. He came to us as a frail human baby and made the impossible possible over and over again before dying to overcome death for us.

What is impossible in your life right now? If any valley or mountain stands between you and your own hope of help, commit it to your loving Creator this Advent. Stay a while at the crib. Bring your needs like gifts to the nativity. Lay them down at His Son's crib and receive in faith the blessings promised by God. Then go out and overflow with joy to those around you.

Both Richmond and Motueka churches are offering opportunities to do just this on Wednesday evenings in Advent. Because Isaiah's call is for us, today. The verbs call us to prepare and to make straight. Where do we see downtrodden people who need to be lifted up? Where does pride and haughtiness need to be challenged skillfully after prayer and God's inspiration? We are His people. He will act to fill and smooth and straighten and smooth what we prepare. Only His spirit can help people to see the salvation of God, but we are entrusted with the message of hope that calls them.

The joy of this holy season offers opportunities to share a cup of tea and a mince pie (or more) with neighbours and friends. It can be challenging to share our faith at other times, but everyone is a little more open at Christmas. At Christmas, we can share our hope and build relationship with them, as our Lord always did with people. He knew that people care what we know when they know that we care.

Advent has begun (Hallelujah) and at its end is 2025, a Jubilee Year of Hope.

May His blessings fall on you all as you come to Him
Elle Campion
St Peter Chanel

The Saint Vincent de Paul Society

The SVdP Society's Christmas outreach to families in need will operate in the same way as it did last year. Should you wish to make a donation to this cause: Our bank account number is: **03 0703 0394763 02**

Please use Christmas and your name as your reference. If you require a receipt for tax purposes, please supply your physical address, by email to our treasurer, Dale Springer: Richmond.treasurer@svdpnelson.org.nz
A receipt will be posted out. Your giving has been of considerable assistance to us. Thank you

Nga mihi nui and God bless from Our Lady of Perpetual Help Conference

Reconciliation During Advent

During Advent there are opportunities for reconciliation. Due to the small number of priests in our Region there will not be an additional evening event, so please avail yourselves of one of the following:

Our Lady of Perpetual Help - William St, Richmond
After 9.30am weekday Mass on Wednesday and Friday, or by appointment

St Peter Chanel - High St, Motueka
After Tuesday 9.30am and Sunday 11.00am Masses, or by appointment

Sacred Heart - Commercial St, Takaka
By appointment before the 5.00pm Saturday Vigil Mass



Holy Family Parish (St Mary and St Francis of Assisi)

13 December: 5-6pm Reconciliation during Holy Hour, St Mary's

10-13 December after each weekday Mass

- 9.30am Mass, Wed & Fri, @ St Francis of Assisi
- 12.05pm Mass, Tue & Thu, @ St Mary's

15-20 December: 30 minutes prior to, and after, the Simbang Gabi (Novena) Masses.

23 December: 30 minutes prior to, and after, the final Simbang Gabi (Novena) Mass.

Claretian Bible Diaries 2025 are now available for purchase, \$20 each.

These are a great resource, containing daily readings, psalms, reflections, Saints of the day and daily quotes. Prayers and details of the Jubilee Year are also included, as well as the Rosary, Divine Mercy chaplet, family prayers, examination of conscience, the Pope's monthly prayer intentions and more.

Copies will be available in Motueka and Richmond churches. If anyone else would like a copy, please email, as soon as possible: safeguardingolob@gmail.com

Arrangements can be made to deliver diaries to the other churches.

Fr Ron and Emilio will bring some diaries to Takaka on Saturday 7 December. Please pay with cash (put money in the container near the diaries) or internet banking to: **JP SOMU 01-0475-0185774-01**

OUR LADY OF PERPETUAL HELP, RICHMOND



Lorraine McArthur and Karen Moynagh will provide two opportunities

to come aside and prepare for the birth of Jesus.

Wednesday evenings December 4th and 11th

in Richmond OLPH Church, 7 to 8pm

You are warmly welcome to come and be nourished on your Advent Journey.

Christmas Mass Timetable

Christmas Eve

Takaka - 4.30pm, carols at 4pm

Richmond - 5.00pm carols at 4.45pm

Motueka - 7.00pm, carols at 6pm

Nelson - 7.00pm, Carols at 6.45pm

Christmas Day

Stoke - 8.30am

Richmond - 9.30am

Nelson - 10.30am

MEDITATION

ON Monday evening at 7.30 pm in the hall.
Our last meeting for 2024 will be on Monday 16th December.
We begin again in Feb 2025

CHRISTMAS CARDS

Cards for sale on the table in foyer

READING MATERIAL AND PRAYER CARDS

Please help yourself to magazines, prayers, pictures from the table in foyer.

USED STAMPS - Although posted mail is gradually decreasing any stamps are still gratefully received. Thank you to everyone who is still saving & putting them in the marked container in the church porch. A Stoke parishioner organises the sale of the stamps and ALL proceeds are donated to local charities.



Church Spring Clean

The inside of the Church needs a spring clean to match the amazing outside garden work recently done.

When: Saturday 14 Dec at 9am

What to bring: Cleaning supplies, clothes, bucket, etc

Everyone is welcome - the more volunteers the less time needed.

SACRED HEART, TAKAKA

Updated schedule for the services here at Sacred Heart, Takaka, in December.
Note that it has changed from last week.

Mass Times:

7 Dec, Saturday—5pm Vigil Mass

15 Dec, Sunday—9.30am Liturgy of the Word service

21 Dec, Saturday—5pm Vigil Mass

24 December, **Christmas Eve: 4pm** Christmas Carols **4:30pm** Vigil Mass

27/28 December: **No** Mass or service

FOOD BANK: a box is in the church foyer (as well as in our local supermarket) for donation of food and grocery items. Please support our local Golden Bay food bank in the lead up to Christmas

CRIB SET UP: Thanks to those who set up our cribs in the hall church as well as the old marble church. Be sure to peek through the window of the old marble church if you are passing by.

ST PETER CHANEL, MOTUEKA

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

MOTUEKA December 24th Christmas Eve ; Carols at 6.30 pm Mass at 7pm. NO MASS ON CHRISTMAS DAY

Dec 24th Takaka Carols at 4pm Mass at 4-30pm

Dec 24th Richmond at 5pm , carols at 4.45pm Nelson at 7pm

Dec 25th Christmas Day Richmond 9.30am Nelson at 8.30am, 10.30am

CHRISTMAS PARTY

Our St Vincent de Paul society will be hosting a Christmas morning tea for senior Parishioners, this Wednesday 11 Dec, in the Parish (School) Hall, at 10am. If you suspect that you are among the oldest 20-30 of those you see at Mass each week, then you certainly qualify! Come and spend some social time with your fellow Parishioners. Last year was a big success, so come and add to the success of this years event!

PRAYERS FOR OUR SICK

Please remember our sick, those managing long term health problems, and those facing new issues in their lives, health or others, especially at this time of the year when everyone seems to be under pressure anyway. Remember their Carers, and the Doctors and Nurses whom we get to know and trust. Please pray especially for Sandra Rayen (nee McIvor)

ADVENT EVENING

Join us at St Peter Chanel for a reflective hour this Wednesday evening and next Wednesday, at 6.30pm to welcome the birth of Jesus into our world once more. This week: The Dedication. Luke 2;22-35 . All welcome. For more info email eldecampion@gmail.com.

CHRISTMAS TREE FESTIVAL

Among the 60 or so Christmas Trees currently exhibited in the Nelson Cathedral is an entry from our Parishioners, Elizabeth and Mark Stolten. It is the Flexo Tree, number 9. The exhibition is on until January 12th if you have time for a look.

ST PETER CHANEL SCHOOL

Welcome Father Ron—We welcome Father Ron who will be acting as Our Lady of the Bays Parish priest for the next two months. May Father Ron enjoy his time with us and make great memories of his time in Tasman and Nelson.

Thanks to our Staff for a great year—A huge thank you to our teachers Jo, Ms Strong, Mrs Price and Mrs Alborn – they all might need a holiday after the last few weeks. Thank you to Katie who has had an amazing first year as our Office Manager. (And thanks to Margaret Campbell McCauley who leads the team with enthusiasm and energy.)

Enrolment Inquiries for 2025—If you have friends enquiring about joining our school whanau, please do encourage them to speak with myself, or one of our staff members. All our non-preference places are spoken for presently. Catholic children are automatically preference. Please refer anyone who is wanting Catholic education and values for their children and is considering baptism for their children, as the school can support them with that process. If people are thinking of Garin College for secondary school, then they will need to be Catholic to be enrolled. The very best preparation for a Catholic High School, is to attend a Catholic primary school, as we share the same NZ Religious Education curriculum. Religious Education is a compulsory subject for all Garin Students from Year 9-13 so being introduced to it at the primary school level makes this a natural transition.

Season of Advent

Sunday was the first Sunday of Advent. We officially begin to prepare for the coming of Jesus and celebrating his birth over 2000 years ago. In classes we will especially be considering the Whakapapa of Jesus and how through the Bible we can trace his line of descent from the creation story of Adam and Eve right up unto Mary and Jospheh becoming the parents of Jesus. Each classroom will celebrate Advent with the lighting of an Advent wreath candle for morning prayers.

Financial Hardship? Please Get in Touch

Unfortunately, the Attendance Dues have increased for next year, by another \$30. There is a rebate available for anyone facing financial difficulty. Please do not hesitate to get in touch with me, as I can assist you with the application process for a rebate. I can also put you in touch with support agencies who can help with practical things like groceries. Margaret Campbell-McCauley, Principal.



Minister	8/12/2024	15/12/2024
Greeter	T Hall A Francis	R & K O'Gorman
Morning Tea	M Pascua & M Jones	R & K O'Gorman
Music	Josie & Scott	Hemon & Katie
Prayers Faithful	Margaret C McCauley	Judy Kenter
Readers	M Kilmartin & E stolten	D Ogilvie & C Ellis
Eucharistic	H Duncan & J Kenter	S & V Cameron
Cleaning	P & M Macquet	
Lawns	Mike Carr	Paul Hay
Flowers		

Mark and Elizabeth Stolten's Flexo Tree no 9 in Nelson Cathedral.