



ST. MARK'S
CATHOLIC PARISH

2nd Sunday in Advent

The Good News

6th December 2020

Reflection

*Te Whare Karakia o Hato
Maaka, Pakuranga*

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OFFICE HOURS
Mon to Fri: 8.30am — 3pm
Sunday: 9.30am —
1.00pm

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Our readings today remind us of the good news God brings us.

Mark's gospel begins: *"The beginning of the Good News about Jesus Christ, the Son of God"*. The word gospel means good news. The good news that God loves us passionately, no matter what we may or may not *do*, but because of who we *are*: God's own precious, beloved, holy, and sacred children, made by God in God's own image and likeness.

Mark reminds us that God has come down from heaven to be with his people, to comfort us, heal us, feed us, teach us, and to save us. This is the astonishingly good news of Christmas.

The prophet Isaiah reminds us in beautiful poetry that God wants to console and comfort us *"like a shepherd feeding his flock, gathering lambs in his arms, holding them against his breast"*. Isaiah gives us a beautiful image of God building a highway for his people across the barren and dangerous deserts, filling up the deep valleys and leveling down the steep mountains. To make it easy for his people to come home.

Our Christian faith should always be good news, and if it is not good news, if it is judgmental, unkind, or unloving, then we have got it very wrong.

In the gospel, John the Baptist begins his mission to prepare the way for Jesus. This is also our own mission, to prepare the way for Jesus to come into the lives of others. John does this by encouraging people to turn away from greed and violence and to share with those in need.

In 1981, the US Catholic Bishops called us to apply this in our own lives:

"Because we believe in the dignity of the person, we must embrace every chance to help and to liberate, to heal the wounded world as Jesus taught us. Our hands must be the strong but gentle hands of Christ, reaching out in mercy and justice, touching individual persons, but also touching the social conditions that hinder the wholeness which is God's desire for humanity."

Let us pray for the grace to continue doing that as missionary disciples, empowered by the Holy Spirit to bring the love and joy of Christ to others.

Deacon Chris Sullivan

That All May Be One – Jubilee Year 1971–2021



YOUTH & YOUNG ADULTS

St Mark's Young Adults

The Podcast Series has begun! Episodes are uploaded every Sunday @ 8pm on St Mark's YouTube Channel and Facebook page to watch November Live Session:

EDUCATION

Sacrament of Baptism

Baptisms will take place every 1st & 3rd Saturday of the month @ 11.00am. If you would like your child to be baptised, please contact Mannix at the office.

Catechesis of the Good Shepherd

CGS will be on Saturday, 5th December 2020 in the Lyon's Den & Parish Centre from 10.00am – 12.00pm. For more information, please email stmarksatrium@gmail.com or contact Mary Anne @ 021 0266 9912

ALTAR

Funeral Notice

The Requiem Mass of Len Gissing will be held on Monday, 7th December @ 11.00am here at St Mark's. Celebrant will be Fr Peter Murphy

Feast of the Immaculate Conception of the Blessed Virgin Mary – Tuesday, 8th December 2020

Mass will be celebrated at 9.00am and 7.00pm

Rite of Reconciliation

Please join Our Lady Star of Sea & St Mark's @ St Mark's Catholic Missionary Parish on Thursday, 10th December 2020 @ 7.00pm

Christmas Novena Mass

Will start on Tuesday, 15th December @ 7.00pm and will end on Wednesday, 23rd December. Saturday & Sunday Mass schedules will be the same.

Carols & Midnight Mass

St Mark's Choir will be having 3 x practices on the 1st, 8th & 14th December 2020. If you would like to join the choir. Please contact Liz – 021 722 223 or Neil – 021 0231 6131

Mass will continue to be live streamed

Tue—Sat @ 9.00am & Sat Vigil @ 5.30pm & Sun 10.30am on St Mark's FB Page: St Mark Pakuranga & YouTube—subscribe to St Mark Pakuranga—: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=z9W-OJU2AH4>

Mass on Shine TV

Sunday Mass @ 2.00pm on Shine TV Free-to-air Channel 25, Sky Chanel 201 is ongoing. <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/>

Ministers for Christmas Mass

Please put your names down on the clipboards in the foyer if you are available to serve as an Altar Server, Eucharistic Minister, Reader, Commentator or Data Projector.

Daily Mass Calendar 2021

Now available in the Parish Office @ \$5.00

Welcome Ministry



Come and join our exciting new ministry for each weekend Mass. To register your interest please contact the office or call Mike Lobo – 09 390 0048

Communion Ministers & Altar Servers - 6.30pm

Please contact the office if you are available to serve at the above Mass

Mass Co-ordinators

Needed for the 5.30pm, 10.30am & 6.30pm Mass. Please contact the office if you are available.

Rosters

These can be found on the Church App <https://pakurangacatholic.churchapps.co.nz/admin/Links/> or Parish Website <https://stmarkspakuranga.org.nz/altar/> and are available in the church foyer.

Christmas Mass Rosters

Vigil Mass 7.30pm

Communion Ministers

Malcolm Martis
Erin Waleck
Lorraine Anderson
Grace Rowland

Readers

Adam Martis

Commentator

Paul Oliver

Altar Servers

Patrick Malden
Abby Martis
Ceana Frances

Midnight Mass

Communion Ministers

Melanie Jurgens
Andrea Jurgens
Kirk Gaabucayan
Carmel Gaabucayan

Readers

Averille Schmidt
Angela Tarn

Commentator

Rosemary Grant

Christmas Day – 8.30am

Communion Ministers

Tiana Meyer
Steve Halbauer
Marie Halbauer
Hoa Thi Nguyen
Mary Lenton
Brian Fitzpatrick
Ray Anderson

Readers

Commentator

Kurt Meyer

Christmas Day – 10.30am

Communion Ministers

Jessie Lo
Angela Lopez

SOCIAL

Columban Calendar 2021

Available in the Church Foyer and Office @ \$12.00

The **29th November – 12 December** issue is out now.
Available in the Church foyer @ \$4.00



SVDP needs Tea tinned tomatoes and coffee. We are starting to collect Christmas sweets, chocolates & biscuits. **Christmas Cards for Sale @ 10 for \$5.00 or \$2.50 for 5.** Volunteers needed to pack food parcels in Station Road, Otahuhu from 9.30am to 12.30pm. Call Anthony or Rene - 09 270 4088

Christmas Boxes

Thank you to everyone who has taken boxes to fill - I now need to have them all returned so I can get them to Henderson. Please return to the office as soon as possible. [Megan 021 901 379](tel:021901379)

Friendship Group Christmas Luncheon

This year our Christmas luncheon catered for us in the Parish Centre. We will also have some live music
DATE: Thurs 17th December. TIME: 11.30am Cost - \$22.00 a head. Please leave your money and name at the office and collect a ticket. There will be no \$5 gift this year but a donation to SVDP food bank would be appreciated. Please confirm your attendance by the 7th of December. Thank you. [Megan 021 901 379](tel:021901379)

Jubilee Souvenirs

Blue and black beanies with the Jerusalem Cross can be ordered on the existing 50th Jubilee Memorabilia order form: <https://forms.gle/uGnLfvmrKBFihiko8>
The maroon T-Shirt with 50th Jubilee Logo is also now available in kid's sizes; Order for kid's T-Shirts here: <https://forms.gle/pJDYEmVsHX1o6tQd8>



Please use **NAME+JUB50** as reference for online payments – please see bank details under **Finance**



Small Notebook - \$10	T-Shirts - \$20
Large Notebook - \$12	Mugs - \$10
Glass Mugs - \$15	Tote Bags - \$5
Key Rings & Fridge Magnets - \$4 or 3 for \$10	
Large Corner Desk	\$120
Small Desk	\$100
Computer Desk Stand	\$50
Blue & Black Beanies	\$25 each
Kid's Sizes Maroon T-Shirt	\$18

FINANCES

We need your help...Please support us via:

Direct Debit: BNZ : **Acc No.: 02-0100-0120982-04**

ST MARK PARISH APP! - To download:

Step 1: Download **ChurchApps NZ**
Step 2: Search "St Mark" and it will pop up with our parish
Step 3: Choose your Groups to get alerts of events, rosters
Step 4: Stay updated and connected to St. Mark's

Collection: 28 & 29 November 2020 - **\$8,711.80**

Indian & Sri Lankan Food Festival

Thanks to all the Parishioners for their support – amount raised was **\$5,539.00**

OTHERS

Parish Business Directory

Can be found on the Parish website under News & Events and Parish App

https://pakurangacatholic.churchapps.co.nz/files/links_1603227922.pdf

Support our Parish Trades People, Professional and Businesses



If you would like to promote your Trade, Profession or Business, please inform the office as we are creating a Parish directory to support Parishioners talents, skills, and business

Memorial Wall



In celebration of St Mark's 50th Anniversary, a **Memorial Wall** will be made in remembrance of our loved ones who have passed away. **Cost is \$200 inclusive of GST**

There are only 15 spaces Left

NZpray2day

An app that encourages people to seek a moment to reflect, pray and respond to the ancient Christian cycle of seasons, saints and readings. Available from Apple's App Store or the Google Play Store; search for NZpray2day, It is free a gift for you from Te Kupenga – the Catholic Leadership Institute

Working Bee

Clean up the grounds for Christmas. **Saturday, 19th December @ 10.00am till noon.**

SKIDS Holiday Programme

Please see notice board for details.

The **2nd Sunday of Advent** symbolizes **Faith** with the "Bethlehem Candle" reminding us of Mary and Joseph's journey to Bethlehem.

The **3rd Sunday of Advent** symbolizes **Joy** with the "Shepherd's Candle" reminding us of the Joy the world experienced at the coming birth of Jesus.

The **4th Sunday of Advent** symbolizes **Peace** with the "Angel's Candle" reminding us of the message of the angels: "Peace on Earth, Good Will Toward Men."

5.30 pm 8.30am 10.30am 6.30pm

Rosters—12th & 13th December 2020

Music

Data Projectionist

Tawag-Awit	Grace & Choir	Gospel Choir	El Shaddai
Hayden Kwan	Adela Lee	Alex Tabaco	Alice Sung

Altar Servers

Sylvia Tan	Zoe Lee	Georgia Wilson	Alanna Santoso
Julian Wang	Ryan Smeath	Mikaela Bangalan	Aaron Santoso
Ariana Cordeiro	Ethan Karl	Victoria Chiremje	
Gianna Cordeiro			

Cleaning

Joanne van Heerden
Alice Sung
Julius Tollentino
Lara Teixeira
Kelly Anne



Flowers

ADVENT

NO FLOWERS

Recording

Nadine van Niekerk Ensil
Jenna Ensil
Barbara Murray
Cecil Dangatan
Genevieve Tham

Sunday Readings

First Reading
Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11
Prepare a way for the Lord

Psalm:
84: 9-14
Let us see, O Lord, your mercy and give us your saving help.

Second Reading
Peter 3: 8-14
We are waiting for the new heavens and new earth.

Gospel
Mark 1: 1-8
Make his paths straight



Wedding Anniversary – December 2020
Wishing all couples celebrating their anniversary this month a happy and blessed year ahead

Mannix & Stella Lopez	Raj & Monica Churi	Sheyan & Kitty Samarasinh
Patrick & Julie Hee	Angus & Adelin Gomes	Gordon & Marian De Souza
Errol & Iona Lazrado	Sai & Noella Krishnamurthy	Simon & Bella Trinidad
Paul Lim & Angel Ng	Russel & Charmaine D'Lima	Imelda & Ramille Guiang
Brian & Jeramie Dela Cruz	Llewellyn & Carolyn McGivern	Wilfred & Sandie D'Mello
Pravin & Pearl D'Silva	Malcolm & Juliet Martis	Clarence & Nirmala Noth
Kyle & Christine Donnelly	Magno & Coradele Gulle	Bernard & Erica Rooza
Desmond & Shanti Barboza	Rob & Mary Pepping	Michael & Margaret Li
Mike & Philomena Lobo	Lloyd & Carmelita Kyd	Henry & Jane Tan
Horace & Vivien Wong	Albert & Josephine William	Brian & Marie Watson
Stuart & Elizabeth Bauld	Fong Che & Linda Kuk	Noel & Cecelia Saquin
Bryan & Jeramie Dela Cruz	Daniilo & Lolita Tolentino	Jeremy & Michelle Youmans
Jose & Nicole Lachica	Alfonco & Ethaleen Lanuza	Adelyn Wong & Vincent Soh
Grace Wong & Fredrick Lee	Llai Waqa & Ana Veitoyaki	Wesley & Candice Simmers

In the Celebration of the Eucharist and in your personal prayer, remember: -

Recently Deceased

Nicholas Champion, Norman Guarin, Len Gissing, Norman Guarin, Siu Lai Ying, Alan Lambert, Joyce Swartz, Jack Kotkamp, Romie Santos, Eduardo Ulanday,

Anniversary of Death

Eric Quadra, Edna Purcell, Michael Jordan, Li-Wen Meng Sung, Constance Miranda, Alfredo Sy. Kona Reddy, Eli, Peter, Salston, Dick, Moreen Cynthia

For the Sick: Please notify the office once the name can be removed.

Elizabeth McCann, Cannie Fung, Ross Gemmell, David Ben, Priscilla Cefre, Reynaldo Padilla, Mark & Rowena McKenzie, Lawrence Jarvis, Marsha Tan, Claude Spies, Joseph Chen, Beverly Handisides, Martin Drushovich, Shirley van Niekerk, Georgina Fitzgerald, Ted Loughman, Irene Vas, Maria Hsieh, Arthur Sinajou, Alejandriana Sinajou, Lyan Lopez, Jean Galema, Peter Hundleby, Erick Kwong, Rachel Hammond, Greg Hayes, Matt Jones, Chan Sui Ying, Annette Peterson, Peter Wolfkamp, Lyn Visser, Matt Joue, Ann & Peter McPhillips, Joseph Weiss, Gertrude Moran, Lucy Chen, Lawrence Jarvis, Isabel Morais, Joan P. Ah-Wa, Barbara, Mulfide Mary R, Mehmet Rende

ST MARK'S MISSION STATEMENT

To promote a loving, caring, Christ-like community which accepts all people. And is inspired by the Holy Spirit to spread The Good News of Jesus Christ.

MORNING TEA

In the Parish Centre after the **8.30am Mass & 10.30am Mass**
ALL WELCOME

Liturgy of the Word

Monday: 9.00am

ROSARY

Tues—Friday @ 8.30am
Saturday @ 8.00am

DIVINE MERCY DEVOTION

Tues—Friday @ 9.30am

Mass Times

Tues—Sat: 9.00am
Wednesday: 7.00pm
Sat Vigil: 5.30pm
Sunday: 8.30am
10.30am
6.30pm

Confession / Reconciliation

Saturday: 9.30am
4.30–5.15pm

And on request

Exposition & Holy Hour



Wednesday:
9.30am - 12.00pm

Saturday:
8.00am—9.00am

1st Friday of the month
7.30pm—9.00am Saturday