

## ST PASCHAL'S PARISH

FATHER MARCHELLINO PARK—ADMINISTRATOR

THAMES PRESBYTERY

PH: 868 6169

OR 021 1131855 OR EMAIL : pih0116@gmail.com

www.ngateacatholic.org.nz

PASTORAL OFFICE NGATEA

PH : 867 7401

Email: stpaschalngatea@xtra.co.nz

MASS 10.30am – Sunday

Mass 11.00am—Wednesday

RECONCILIATION – During Exposition or after Mass every Sunday

SUNDAY 18TH DECEMBER 2022

READINGS

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Isaiah 7:10–14

Psalm 24

Romans 1:1–7

Gospel Matthew 1:18–24

*'Jesus was born of Mary, the betrothed  
of Joseph, a Son of David.'*



Fourth Sunday in Advent

**MINISTERS**

GREETER: Frances Chaplow

COMMENTATOR: Robert Hicks

PROCLAIMER OF THE WORD: F Chaplow

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: S Main

COLLECTOR: Stephen Crooymans

DATA PROJECTOR: Dot Chipman

SUNDAY 25TH DECEMBER 2022

READINGS

CHRISTMAS DAY

Isaiah 52:7–10

Psalm 98

Hebrews 1:1–6

Gospel John 1:1–18

*'For unto you is born this day in the city  
of David a Saviour, who is Christ the  
Lord.'*



**MINISTERS**

GREETER: Moya Lynch

COMMENTATOR: Lorraine Hayward

PROCLAIMER OF THE WORD: J Reynolds

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: Robert Hicks

COLLECTOR: Trevor Finan

DATA PROJECTOR: Whoever is available

In Palestine, the betrothal period was akin to our sense of engagement but was somewhat more binding. The couple was considered married but had not yet come to live together. An indiscretion of the nature described by Matthew required a formal divorce and thus public knowledge. Joseph seeks to spare Mary this public disgrace, but God intercedes and alerts Joseph to the real identity of this child which is in her 'by the Holy Spirit'. For Matthew, this is the most important point of his infancy narrative. The child Jesus is the fulfillment of the ancient prophecy that the maiden will conceive 'God with us'. God has freely chosen to come among people. The second important point in this text is Joseph's response. The anguish and turmoil he must have felt is overcome by his trust in God's ways and he obeys. He simply 'did what the angel told him to do'. Through his trust and acceptance of God's will, human history will never be the same because 'God-is-with-us'.



**Dear God, please keep our families, friends and loved ones safe. Please watch over them always and let good health, happiness and blessings befall them. Amen**



This will be the last newsletter for the year and I will be taking a break until 29th January. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year to you all.

The new rosters will be ready by the end of January. Please let Frances know of any changes or offers of help for 2023.

**SATURDAY 24TH DECEMBER**

**CHRISTMAS EVE VIGIL  
7.30PM**



Preceded by carols from 7pm

**CHRISTMAS HAMPERS**

Thank you to the ladies from St Paschal's and the Co-operating Churches who made up and delivered special Christmas hampers to the needy during this past week.

And, thank you to Parishioners who have given generously to the cause!

**2023 Columban Calendars for Sale \$12**

**CHURCH LINEN**

Dec L Hayward

Jan F Croymans



**NO FLOWERS FOR ADVENT**

The gospel reading for the Midnight Mass is Luke's brief but profound description of the birth of Jesus. Only the Gospels of Matthew and Luke give any information on this remarkable event, and both represent the unfolding of christological understandings over time. It is likely that Luke uses the device of the census to explain why Mary and Joseph are in Bethlehem, the predicted birthplace of the Messiah, when it is common knowledge that Jesus came from Nazareth. At the centre of Luke's story is the proclamation of the birth to the shepherds in the fields and their reaction to it. (In Matthew, the proclamation comes to the Gentile magi or wise men.) At the time, shepherds were regarded as among the lowest of the population. They did not have a good reputation and were not to be trusted! But it is to these, not the high and mighty of the land, that God chooses to announce the birth of the saviour. In the continuation of the text, the shepherds are shown as accepting the proclamation and going 'with haste' to Bethlehem to 'see the thing that has taken place.' They are not checking the veracity of the angel's story but believe it implicitly. Their response is immediate. They return to their fields 'glorifying and praising God for all they had seen and heard, as it had been told them.' Their response to the coming of the Messiah is wholehearted!



<b>JANUARY</b>	<b>8/1/2023</b>	<b>15/1/2023</b>	<b>22/01/2023</b>	<b>29/01/2023</b>
Commentator	Frances Crooymans	Dot Chipman	Stephen Crooymans	Robert Hicks
Reader	Frances Chaplow	Alice Douglas	Frances Crooymans	Simon Main
Intercessions	Kay Brydon	Laurel Blakey	Dot Chipman	Ros Foster
Collector	Ross Brydon	Trevor Finan	Stephen Crooymans	Ross Brydon
Greeter	Stephen Crooymans	Colleen Jordan	Phyllis Hayward	Lorraine Hayward

**\* please let Frances know if you can't make allocated date**

### DECEMBER TIMETABLE

**Sunday 18th:** Community Christmas Carols at Domain under the Christmas Tree from 6pm

**Saturday 24th:** Christmas Vigil Mass at 7.30pm preceded by Carols from 7pm

**Sunday 25th :** Christmas Day Mass at St Paschals at 10.30am

### WORLD DAY OF PEACE 1ST JANUARY 2023

In today's modern age, the idea of having peace in the world may seem difficult or unrealistic. But many people still continue to hope for a time in history when all of the humans on earth can just get along.

World Day of Peace is dedicated to not only ending war, but bringing peace to the people of earth in a variety of ways. Whether it is regarding peace on a small scale between family members or a large scale between nations, this day is worth observing and celebrating!



### MINISTERS – 1st January 2023

GREETER: Moya Lynch

COMMENTATOR: Lorraine Hayward

PROCLAIMER OF THE WORD: J Reynolds

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION: F Crooymans

COLLECTOR: Stephen Crooymans

DATA PROJECTOR: Whoever is available

### READINGS – 1st January 2023

Octave of Christmas

Numbers 6:22-27

Psalm 67

Galatians 4:4-7

Gospel Luke 2:16-21



Dec 28th	June Clark
30th	Annalia Schouten
Jan 13th	Chaminda Roshan
21st	Kate Main
23rd	David Crooymans
26th	Sarah Tully
27th	Frances Crooymans
	Afra Roskam
29th	Father Vally

We pray for all those who are in need of our prayers: Fay Hayward, Mary Speedy, James Aralar, Robert Hicks, Michael Lynch, Sister Tina.

And those whose anniversaries occur during the month of December and January:  
Sam McWatters, Gerald Assen, Ernie Martinovich, Franz Spreeuwenberg, Sylvia Blake, Bernadette Burton, Jessie Main and Mary Satherley.

Eternal rest grant unto them O Lord.