

St Patrick's Catholic Church

Parish Priest:

Fr. Robert Steele
(021) 1133 840
robert.s.steele@gmail.com

Assistant Priest:

Fr. James Mulligan

Parish Office:

office@pukekohecatholic.org.nz
www.pukekohecatholic.org.nz
Facebook: St Pats Pukekohe
(09) 238 6641 (0204) 195 3491

Regular Mass Times

Sunday: 8am 10am* 5pm

**Children's Liturgy at 10am Mass
(during term time)*

Monday: 9am Liturgy of the Word

with Holy Communion

Tues, Wed, Fri, Sat: 9am Mass

Thursday: 7pm Mass

Christmas Blessings

Office Closed

23 December 2024 to 17 January 2025
Emails and messages will be checked periodically.
office@pukekohecatholic.org.nz
(09) 238 6641 (0204) 195 3491
Normal Office Hours resume Tuesday
21 January 2025

Volunteers for 22nd December 2024			
	8am	10am	5pm
	Today	Today	Today
Greeters	Kay & Itene	Volunteers Please	Volunteers Please
Welcome/ P.O.F	Agnes Faafiti	Connie Bianan	Roger Peterson
Ministers of the Word	1. John Jensen 2. Sue Jensen	1. Christine Balle 2. Annabelle Shield	1. Carlos Garcia 2. Fleur De Farias
Gifts	Lyn Wilcox	Bianan Family	Volunteers Please
Extra- Ordinary Ministers	1. Shakey 2. Novi 3. Rachael 4. Cathy 5. Annabelle 6. Alex 7. Dominic	1. Bernie 2. Hsiu Ying 3. Fehi 4. Nan 5. Amor 6. Ismaelito 7. Manase	TBC
Altar Servers	Robert, Elijah, Kitione	Chloe, Jemimah, Cedric, Klay	Caitlin, Terubeiti, Ava, Savannah
AV Operators	Annabelle		Robert
Musicians	Celso/Jay	Joanne	Silvy
Mission Shop	Returns Feb 2025		
Brass Cleaning: Michelle Farrell (22 Dec) Jeanette Irwin (29 Dec) Amor Labis (5 Jan) Florence Lussi (12 Jan) Flowers: Connie & Bernie (5 - 12 Jan)			



Fourth Sunday of Advent Sunday, 22 December 2024

Adoration

Thursdays 5pm — 10pm (resumes
February 2025)

Reconciliation

Thurs 6pm, Sat 9.30am
Sundays before each Mass
7.20am, 9.20am, 4.20pm

Caring group

Do you know someone in the
Parish in need of a visit or a chat
or something else? Please contact
the office.

Healing Mass

11am - 3rd Fridays.

Baptism of Infants

Parents must attend a course. To
register, contact the office.

**Note: The next course date is
February 2025.**

Over 8 years Baptism & Sacramental Programme

Contact the office for 2025 intake.

Marriage

Please contact Father Robert as
early as possible before the
anticipated wedding date. Pre-
marriage education is required. A
pamphlet outlining the process &
registration details are available in
the Church foyer or Parish Office.

Looking to become Catholic?

Enquire about 'Rite of Christian
Initiation'
Harry (021)2782785 or
Fr Robert (021) 1133 840 or
Parish Office (09) 238 6641.

A Mother's Greetings

On this last Sunday before Christmas, the Church's Liturgy reveals the true identity of our Redeemer: He is, as today's First Reading says, the "ruler . . . whose origin is from . . . ancient times." He will come from Bethlehem, where David was born of Jesse the Ephrathite and anointed king (see Ruth 4:11-17; 1 Samuel 16:1-13; 17:1; Matthew 2:6). God promised that an heir of David would reign on his throne forever (see 2 Samuel 7:12-13; Psalm 89; Psalm 132:11-12). Jesus is that heir, the One the prophets promised would restore the scattered tribes of Israel into a new kingdom (see Isaiah 9:5-6; Ezekiel 34:23-25, 30; 37:35). He is "the shepherd of Israel" sung of in today's Psalm. From His throne in heaven, He has "come to save us." Today's Epistle tells us that He is both the Son of David and the only "begotten" Son of God, come "in the flesh" (see also Psalm 2:7). He is also our "high priest," from the mold of the mysterious Melchizedek, "priest of God Most High," who blessed Abraham at the dawn of salvation history (see Psalm 110:4; Genesis 14:18-20). All this is recognized by John when he leaps for joy in his mother's womb. Elizabeth, too, is filled with joy and the Holy Spirit. She recognizes that in Mary "the mother of my Lord" has come to her. We hear in her words another echo of the Psalm quoted in today's Epistle (see Psalm 2:7). Elizabeth blesses Mary for her faith that God's Word would be fulfilled in her. Mary marks the fulfillment not only of the angel's promise to her, but of all God's promises down through history. Mary is the one they await in today's First Reading—"she who is to give birth." She will give birth this week, at Christmas. And the fruit of her womb should bring us joy—she is the mother of our Lord.

Next Sunday's Readings

1st	Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6, 12-14
2nd	Colossians 3:12-21
G	Luke 2:41-52

2025 Clergy Appointments

The list of 2025 Clergy Appointments is on the noticeboard in the foyer. We will farewell Fr. James Mulligan at the end of January. Fr. James will move to Hibiscus Coast as Parish Priest. We wish him all the best in his new appointment. We will welcome Fr. Doan Nguyen to our Parish of St. Patrick's Pukekohe. Please make him feel welcome and keep both Fr James and Fr Doan in your prayers.

<p>Rosary Daily at 8.30am (except Thurs/Sun) Also Fridays 12.15pm All are Welcome!</p>	<p>St Pat's Kids Choir: Children aged 5 -13 are welcome. Practices are Fridays at 3.30pm. If you wish for your child to join, please email maireadg@stjosephs.co.nz (ALL children must be accompanied by a parent / caregiver)</p>	<p>Marriage Please contact Fr Robert as early as possible before the anticipated wedding date. Pre-marriage education is required. A pamphlet outlining the process & registration details are available in the Church foyer or Parish Office or contact 09 3603025 marriageandfamily@cda.org.nz</p>	<p>Hall Hire - St. Patrick's Hall is available to parishioners for booking by contacting the Parish Office. Please contact the office for an application form and to check availability. PLEASE BOOK WELL IN ADVANCE TO AVOID DISAPPOINTMENT</p>
<p>St Pat's Crafters Group Every Mon, 10am -12, upper meeting room. Bring your crafts and join us for sharing and fellowship. Call Lynette 2385690 or just turn up.</p>	<p>Communion to the Sick Unable to attend Mass because of illness? Please contact the office so that we can organise one of our team to visit with Holy Communion.</p>	<p>Youth Group (10 - 18 years) Every 3rd Sunday, 3.30pm start Fun / Faith / Food / Friendship (Check Bulletin for changes)</p>	<p>Monday Night Prayer Group Meets from 7pm to 8pm, scripture and prayer. Ring Rita or Roger 092384667 or 0210626389.</p>
<p>Looking to become Catholic? Enquire about 'Order of Christian Initiation of Adults' (OCIA) If you know of someone who would like to explore the faith and become a Catholic or who wants to discuss their own faith journey. Please contact Harry 021 2782785 or Fr Robert 021 1133840 or the Parish Office.</p>	<p>Divine Mercy every 1st Sunday, 3-3.30pm, here at St. Pat's</p>	<p>The Catholic Faith on Demand formed.org Free for parishioners to Sign Up & Enjoy! Click 'Sign Up', Choose 'Sign up as parishioner', Type 'St Patrick's Church Pukekohe', Click 'Next', Enter your name & email address, Click 'Sign Up' - You're done!</p>	<p>Planned Giving: If you wish to receive a 33% tax deduction for your donations, please join the Planned Giving scheme by completing the form found in the foyer or contact the parish office. Every donation, helps with upkeep of our lovely church building and provides for our wonderful priests. Please consider joining the pledge. accounts@pukekohecatholic.org.nz</p>
<p>Medical Emergency Dial 111 AED located in foyer</p>	<p>St Patrick's Parish Council - Fr Robert Steele (Parish Priest/Interfaith), Peter Fa'afiu (Chair), Daniel Patten (Secretary), Manase Leger (Food Bank), Ismaelito Labis & Allan Murillo (Filipino Group), Jomel Vicente & Daniel Patten (Youth Ministry), Salote Sanalio (Tongan Group), Harry (RCIA), Matt Grevatt (St. Ignatius), Jean Kiely (Liturgy)</p>	<p>Christian Meditation WCCM Meditation Pukekohe Group, Meet in the Chapel Wednesday 5:30pm Any queries please contact Roanne 027 647 8000 roanneraine@gmail.com</p>	<p>Notices for the Bulletin Please send notices and announcements to the Parish Office before Thursday for the coming Sunday bulletin. accounts@pukekohecatholic.org.nz</p>

"Working Together for a Safe Church"

St. Patrick's Pukekohe is committed to providing a safe environment by following the National Safeguarding Policy

www.safeguarding.catholic.org.nz

Christmas Eve Family Mass

24th December 6pm

Children are welcome to come dressed as Angels, Shepherd or Kings & take part in the Christmas Story play.

Please arrive in the hall by 5.15pm if children wish to participate.

We would love to see you all. There are some costume items available, that can be borrowed, if you wish to use them.



Sunday, 22 December 2024

Diocesan Noticeboard

Christmas & New Year Mass Times

Christmas Mass Times:

24 Dec 6pm Family Mass

24 Dec Midnight Mass -

(carols from 11.30pm)

25 Dec Christmas Day Mass 9am ONLY

New Year's Day Mass:

1 January, 9am ONLY

+ **Local Youth Ministers Wanted!** The Catholic Diocese of Auckland is looking for self-motivated leaders to become paid Local Youth Ministers, working across both a secondary school and parish. This is a unique opportunity to make a difference in the lives of young people! To learn more and to apply, please visit: www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/

+ **Christmas Mass on Shine TV** this year Christmas Mass from the Archdiocese of Wellington will be broadcast on Shine TV at 3pm. Please let interested people know especially the housebound know

+ **Christmas Mass Times** the diocese has collected the times of Christmas Masses throughout the diocese which can be accessed from the front page of the website or directly <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/christmas-masses-2024/>

+ **The New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference is seeking** an experienced journalist to support its communications efforts in 2025 and beyond. This new position will assist the Church in sharing its stories and in keeping the Catholic and wider community informed about the life, mission and ministry of the Church. A background in religious journalism would be advantageous, as would experience in media monitoring. Please send expressions of interest to communications@nzcbc.org.nz no later than January 12. The role could be filled sooner than January 12 for the right candidate, so please contact the Bishops Conference promptly.

+ **See the Need. Be the Hope! Catholic Caring Foundation's Christmas Appeal** Please support the Caring Foundation's Christmas appeal through your donations and prayers. Your donation will have double the impact!. Please feel free to take home our Christmas newsletter and see where your donations are making a difference. www.caringfoundation.org.nz or call (09) 360 3012.

+ **Opening of the Year of Jubilee** Join Bishop Steve in Mass opening the year of Jubilee 2025, Cathedral of St Patrick and St Joseph, 11pm, 31 December

+ **January 2025 Retreat** with Dan and Stephanie Burke from Avila Institute and Divine Intimacy Radio. **Sat 4th Jan: Setting the Captives Free:** Spiritual Warfare and Discernment of Spirits, Hillsborough. Full day retreat.

Mon 6th Jan: Awakening the Heart to the Presence of God; Meadowbank 6-9pm

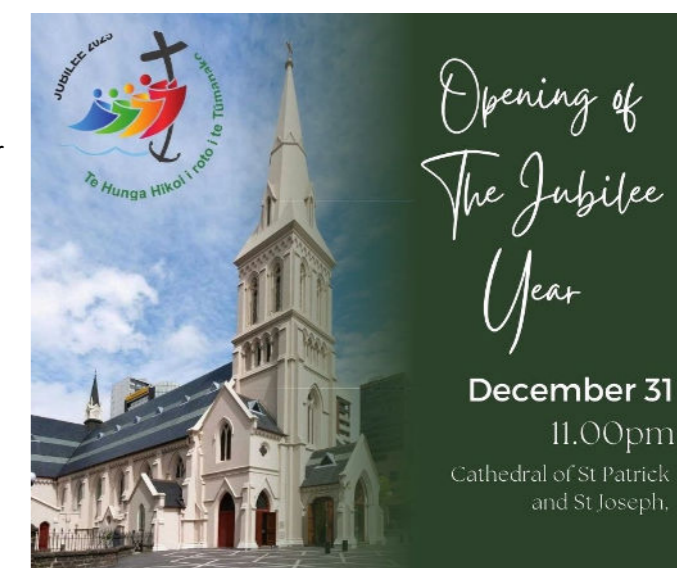
Tues 7th Jan: Deeper Into the Heart of God; Ponsonby 6-9pm For more info and to register: <https://spiritualdirection.com/nz>

+ **Wake and Pray**, Tuesday mornings in Advent, 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th December, a half hour Meditation on Zoom 6.15-6.45am Contact: diannaf@cda.org.nz (flyer on noticeboard)

+ **On the 'Wings' of the Spirit!** Gather with others in your parish to explore your faith through the Scriptures and to grow in your relationship with Jesus. Get Wings. Nga Parirau in your parish today, the NZ Catholic Faith Formation programme. Contact Dianna: diannaf@cda.org.nz

+ **Nga Tapuwae.** Registrations are open for Ngā Tapuwae 10th to 12th January 2025. Come and join us in experiencing the footsteps of Bishop Pompallier, Kupe, and the Poynton's with other pilgrims together sharing our Catholic and Māori heritage.

This will be a guided pilgrimage. Accommodation at \$80.00 per night per person will be shared living, experience and eating on the Marae. Your own transport will be required. For more information contact Dcn Steve on stephenf@cda.org.nz



An update from Nina in Lebanon (enclosed with this bulletin)

Enclosed is a Christmas message & update letter about Nina Talu, the Catholic Missionary in Lebanon that our Parish has supported this year. Our parish, through the Mission Shop, sent \$5,000 in 2024 to support Nina in her outreach to refugees and other disadvantaged people in Lebanon. Nina is a parishioner of St Joseph's and St. Joachim's Parish in Otahuhu. She works under the guidance of the local bishop in Beirut and co-operates with Franciscan and Jesuit missionaries there to aid displaced people in that country.

Your continued support of the Mission shop has enabled this to happen. God Bless your generosity!

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23 December 2024

To

17 January 2025

Normal Office Hours resume Tuesday 21 January 2025

Thank you to all

Gaudete! A massive thank-you to our amazing parishioners for supporting last Sunday's Advent market, by donating and/or buying pre-loved goods and sweet treats. We raised \$753.90 for St Patrick's Pukekohe youth group.

Your kindness has blessed:

Gianna's Home, Abundance Op Shop, ProLove Monte Cecilia Housing Trust, Pukekohe SPCA shop

Deo gratias.

Mary McKillop Centre - 2025 Retreats and Reflection Days

Booklet containing the 2025 planned Retreats & Reflection Days is available on the noticeboard.

St. Patrick's Pukekohe Vision Statement

'A vibrant Catholic parish that transforms members into the People of God through a personal relationship with Jesus Christ and the Sacramental Life of the church. We offer to all, without exclusion, the opportunity to connect with each other and grow together in Christ.'