

Parish Calendar, News & Notices

Weekend Mass Times

4th Sunday of Advent (3)
Sat Dec 19
 Blenheim-5pm Mass/Fr Jacob
Sun Dec 20
 Seddon-8am **W&C**
 Picton-9am Mass/Fr Jacob
 Cuppa after 1st Communion
 Kaikoura-9.30 Mass/Fr Pat
 Blenheim-10am **W&C**
 Havelock-11.30am Mass/Fr
 Renwick-5pm Mass/Fr Pat
 Carols from 4.30pm

Dec 24 Christmas Eve
 Blenheim-5.30pm Family Mass
 Seddon/Ward-6pm
 Kaikoura-7.30pm, Carols from
 7pm
 Blenheim-9pm, Carols from
 8.40pm
 Picton- 9pm Carols from
 8.40pm

Dec 25 Christmas Day
 Blenheim 9.30am
 Kaikoura 9.30am
 Picton 9.30am

Feast of Holy Family (4)
Sat Dec 26
 Blenheim-5pm **W&C**
Sun Dec 27
 Seddon-8am Mass/ Fr Pat
 Picton-9am Mass/ Fr Jacob
 Kaikoura-9.30 Mass/ Fr Paul
 Blenheim-10am Mass/Fr Pat
 Havelock-11am Mass/ Fr Jacob
 Ward- 5pm

Fri Jan 1: New Year's Day
 Picton-9am Mass
 Kaikoura- 9.30am W&C
 Blenheim-12.05pm Mass

Epiphany of the Lord (1)
Sat Jan 3
 Blenheim-5pm Mass
 Cuppa after Mass

Sun Jan 4
 Seddon-8am Mass
 Picton-9am Mass
 Cuppa after Mass
 Kaikoura-9.30 **W&C**
 Blenheim-10am Mass
 cuppa after Mass
 Havelock-11am Mass

2nd Sunday of Ord (2)
Sat Jan 10
 Blenheim-5pm Mass
Sun Jan 11

Seddon-8am **W&C**
 Picton-9am **W&C**
 Kaikoura-9.30 Mass
 Blenheim-10am **W&C**
 Cuppa afterwards
 Havelock-11am No Mass

Parish News & Events
Office Closure: Ginetta is taking leave during January so if you want to book one of the buildings over that time, please contact Lex Agnew 027 438 3157.

January Masses: Please keep an eye out for the changed timetable of Weekday & Weekend Masses during January. This is holiday time for the priests as well so there will be more Word & Communion Services during this period.

Communion to the Sick: If you have a family member housebound or in hospital and would like a priest to visit or someone to take Communion, please contact the Parish Office or Judith Kerridge 578 6209

Farewell to the Sisters of Mercy
 Sr Elizabeth Mary and the other sisters send their thanks for a wonderful Farewell last weekend and wish all parishioners the blessings of Christmas for the coming year.

Farewell to Mandy Li: After 5 years of helping Ginetta in the Office, she is moving on and undertaking further study. We wish her well in her future endeavours. Thank you Mandy for all your work and support.

Youth Group is still looking... for someone to take over Mieke's role while she is on maternity leave. 8th March for 6 months. Paid role, 10 hours. Please get in touch with Mieke asap if you are interested. 0223918584 . Thank you.

Want to be part of the most fun committee ever??!! Youth group committee has said goodbye to 3 long serving members this year, and we need a couple more people to come join us! Cruisy and fun, we meet once a month over nice wine and cheese platter to discuss and support the ministry. You don't need to be a parent to help support our youth! Please get in touch with Mieke and Maurice 0223918584. Thanks!

St Joseph's - First Holy Com-

munion Mass -Sun 20 Dec 9am
 John, McKenzie and Grace will receive their First Holy Communion at the 9am Mass. All welcome to join the celebration! Morning tea to follow.

Wed 23 Dec Christmas Carol's 7pm, at Wairau hospital, If you would like to join in with singing Christmas Carol's to the patients at Wairau meet at hospital chapel at 7pm , an uplifting experience and really appreciated by patients.

Wood choppers wanted: If you have time over January to help cut up the fallen tree on St Mary's grounds, please contact Lex Agnew 027 438 3157. And if anyone has access to a log splitter we could use as well, we would love to hear from you.

Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy Online Session (Retreat Day): Who am I ? - Reflecting on our Identity in God with Eamon Butler. Sat 30 Jan, 10.30am-4pm. Fee: \$60, ZOOM
<https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/virtual-retreat-day-with-eamon-butler-who-am-i/>

For more information and registration: info@studyjoy.nz

Parish Calendar

December
 Dec 20..1st Holy Communion PN (9)
 Dec 25..Christmas Day
 Dec 26..Boxing Day
 Dec 25-Jan 30, 2021- Parish Office closed
 No Parish meetings in January
February 2021
 Feb 1 2021.. 5th Anniversary of



Let Us Remember in our Prayers and at Mass:

Recently Deceased: Lois Maher (CHCH)
Anniversaries: Dec 18 Mike Dekker 24 Gwenda Bishell, Doreen Smith
Other Intentions: Kitty Collier, Harvey Howard, Beavan Underhill, Terri Byrne, Jim Loe, Paul McIntyre, Heather Alexander, Flo Andrews, Diane Smith, George Eaton, Fr Damian Caccioppoli sm,

COLLECTIONS:

We are most grateful for your support of our Parish of Star Of The Sea.

Last week:
 AP's: \$ 1420.65
 Envelopes: \$ 767.25
 Cash: \$ 535.70
 Christmas Dues: \$ 17.00



When a priest is not available, Word & Communion will be led by parishioners.

Blenheim
Tues: 9.30am Mass
Wed: 12.05pm Mass
 Rosary: 5.30pm
 Ph: 572 9067 or 5782507 for venue
Thurs: 9.30 am Mass
Except 1st Thurs:
 Bethsaida **10.45am**
Fri: 11am Adoration
 11.30 Reconciliation
 12.05pm Mass
Sat: 9.30am Mass
 Reconciliation to follow
Sat: 5.00pm Mass
Sun: 10.00am Mass
 (2nd & 5th Sunday
 Word & Communion)

Havelock
Sunday: 11am
 (4th Sunday
 No Mass)

Kaikoura
Tues: 9.30am
Wed: 9.30am
Wed: 7pm Rosary
Thurs: 5.15pm
Fri: 9.30am
Sun: 9.30am
 (1st & 3rd Sunday
 Word & Communion)

Picton
Mon: Adoration 4-5pm
Wed: 9.00am Mass
 Adoration & Reconciliation: 9.30-10.30am
Fri: 7.30pm Rosary -
 24 York Street
Sun: 9.00am Mass
 (4th Sunday:
 Word & Communion)

Renwick
3rd Sunday 5pm Mass
Seddon
Sun: 8am Mass
 (2nd & 5th Sunday
 Word & Communion)

Ward
4th Sunday 4pm Mass
Baptisms
 Celebrated during weekend Mass or other times.

Marriages
 Marriages celebrated in all our Churches. Please contact the Parish Office well in advance.

Open Church
 Our Churches at St Mary's & Sacred Heart Kaikoura are open every day if you want a quiet place for prayer.

Te Whetu O Te Moana | Star of the Sea Marlborough Catholic Parish

From the Sounds to the Sea, the Mountains to the Plains
We Are One Mission. One Parish. Seven Communities
 Blenheim | Havelock | Kaikoura | Picton | Renwick | Seddon | Ward
Parish Office: 61 Maxwell Road, Blenheim | T. 03 578 0038
EM. office@staroftheseamarlb.co.nz | **FB. Star of the Sea Marlborough (357 followers)**
WEB. www.staroftheseamarlb.co.nz

Newsletter No 48: 20 December 2020 4th Sunday of Advent Year B

Last Sunday we celebrated and gave thanks to God for the presence of the Sisters of Mercy over the last 135 years in Marlborough. They have been a shining light in our parish bringing the Gospel values to everyone they met along their journey. Their work and effort can be seen in our community today through most of you who have been touched and graced by their presence in our parish. Like nearly all religious congregations, the difficulty with no more people joining up or no vocations to the religious life, means that they have to let go of some of their places which they have been working in. As the numbers dwindled down they, like all other congregations, have to make big adjustments to their communities. So, as Star of the Sea Parish, we are grateful that they have served the God here in world with best. For THANK as they place may ue to bless dantly in endeavors.



Last week John the out in the preaching we heard Baptist was wilderness and reaching out to people to turn away from their sins and be baptized. He also pointed out to the people that Christ is among them and John said he is not fit to undo the straps of his sandals. Christ is amongst us already, he is in the form our fellow human beings: be it your wife, your husband, your children, grandchildren, grandparents, in laws, your neighbors or people you meet everyday in your lives. They are pointing out Christ to us to be little bit more kind, more forgiving, more compassionate, more generous. If we try to find Christ in the big events of life, we might miss the boat all together. He comes to us in a small and uninteresting event in life. Sharing a laugh together, having time for each other, greeting each other along the way, visiting the elderly or the sick. Christ is here and amongst us, we just need to point people to him in our daily events. Let Christ be born in our hearts this Advent Season and lets share him to others. Blessings Jacob Kuman CP

Readings for Fourth Week of Advent

Sun 20th:	2Samuel 7:1-5,8-11,16	Romans 16:25-27	Luke 1:26-38
Psalm:	Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord		
Mon 21st:	Songs 2:8-14	Zephaniah 3:14-18	Luke 1:39-45
Tues 22nd:	1Samuel 1:24-28		Luke 1:46-56
Wed 23rd:	Malachi 3:1-4,23-24		Luke 1:57-66
Thurs 24th:	2Samuel 7:1-5,8-11,16		Luke 1:67-79
	Isaiah 9:1-7	Titus 2:11-12	Luke 2:1-14
	Christmas Eve		
	Christmas Day		
Fri 25th:	Isaiah 9:1-7	Titus 2:11-12	Luke 2:1-14
Sat 26th:	Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-60	Matthew 10:17-22	The Nativity of The Lord St Stephen, First Martyr
	The Feast of the Holy Family		
Sun 27th:	Ecclesiasticus 3:2-6, 12-14	Colossians 3:12-21	Gospel Luke 2:22-40

Nativity Scene Is Reminder of Hope Amid Suffering

The Christmas tree decorates St. Peter's Square after a lighting ceremony at the Vatican Dec. 11, 2020. (CNS photo/Paul Haring)



By: Junno Arocho Esteves

Date: December 11, 2020

VATICAN CITY (CNS) — The image of baby Jesus nestled in the manger is a much-needed reminder during the pandemic that God gives the world the gift of hope in troubled times, Pope Francis said.

Meeting with delegations from Castelli in Italy's Abruzzo region and from Kocevje, Slovenia — responsible, respectively, for the Nativity scene and Christmas tree in St. Peter's Square — the pope said that Christmas "reminds us that Jesus is our peace, our joy, our strength, our comfort."

"But, to receive these gifts of grace, we need to feel small, poor and humble like the characters of the Nativity scene. Even in this Christmas, amid the suffering of the pandemic, Jesus — small and defenceless — is the 'sign' that God gives to the world," he said Dec. 11.

The delegations were at the Vatican for the evening ceremony to light the Vatican Christmas tree and unveil the Nativity scene. Presiding over the ceremony were Cardinal Giuseppe Bertello, president of the commission governing Vatican City State, and Bishop Fernando Vergez Alzaga, secretary general of the commission.

The Nativity scene featured several life-sized ceramic statues in a contemporary art style that "has its roots in the traditional working of Castelli's ceramics," said a statement from the commission.

The statues in St. Peter's Square are "only a few pieces" of a 54-statue collection created by students and teachers of Castelli's "F.A. Grue" Art Institute between 1965 and 1975 and included sculptural representations of the Magi and an angel placed above ceramic statues of the Holy Family.

The cylindrical ceramic statues surrounding Joseph, Mary and baby Jesus included a bagpiper, a shepherdess holding a jug and even an astronaut, meant to reference the history of ancient art and scientific achievements in the world.

The Christmas tree in St. Peter's Square was a 98-foot-tall red spruce tree, which hails from one of the "most intact" forest reserves in Slovenia, the statement added.

Thanking the delegations for their gifts, the pope said that "this year, more than ever, they are a sign of hope for the Roman people and for those pilgrims who will have the opportunity to come and admire them."

Both the tree and the Nativity scene, Pope Francis said, create "a favorable Christmas atmosphere" that helps Christians "live the mystery of the Redeemer's birth with faith."

"In the creche, everything speaks of the 'good' poverty, the evangelical poverty, that makes us blessed," he said. "By contemplating the Holy Family and the various characters, we are attracted by their disarming humility."

PARISH ADMINISTRATION ASSISTANT

Two mornings per week

The Star of the Sea Parish has an opportunity for a friendly and effective administration assistant to join their small team.

You would provide reception duties at the parish office as well as assisting with administrative functions such as booking parish facilities, preparing weekly bulletins and other clerical work. You would also be assisting with invoicing and bill payments.

Ideally you will have:

- Good customer service skills
- Good keyboard skills
- Strong attention to detail
- Competence in MS Word and Xero

Currently the position is two mornings per week, with potential to grow.

If you are interested, please forward your CV with a covering letter to The Parish Office by 21st December 2020

Thank you St Vincent de Paul:

Paige, Isaac, Sophia & Koda called in to St Vin-nies on 10th December with their teacher from St Mary's to leave a gift for the volunteers.



Volunteers for Christmas at St Mary's

Sign up sheets

We also require Readers, Altar Servers, Collectors, Eucharist Ministers, PowerPoint operators. please add your name to the lists in the Church foyer.

And if you want to be involved in Mass at any of the other Mass Centres please approach their Stewardship Team

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FOOD FOR FAITH FOR ADVENT – Father John O'Connor's popular Food for Faith page will have daily reflections for Advent. Go to his site and sign up to get the reflections daily by email during December: www.foodforfaith.org.nz



A quote from the ADW Office of Ecology, Justice and Peace

How many times Jesus comes into our lives, and how many times he sends us an angel, and how many times we don't notice because we are so taken, immersed in our own thoughts, in our own affairs and even, in these days, in our Christmas preparations, so as not to notice Him who comes and knocks at the door of our hearts, asking for acceptance, asking for a "yes" like Mary's.

Pope Francis: [Angelus 21 December 2014](http://www.vatican.va/holy_father/francesco/angelus/angelus_20141221.html)