

# St Joseph's Parish Newsletter 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Advent 3.12.2023



(Serving the people of South Taranaki in Hawera, Normanby and Manaia)  
St Joseph's Church 38 Victoria St Hawera  
Sacred Heart Manaia 43 Ngatai St Manaia



Parish Office Located in the Mission Centre (Combined Parish & School Office)

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[www.stjoshw.co.nz](http://www.stjoshw.co.nz) Parish App Church Apps St Josephs Hawera

Parish Secretary Patrea Clement Parish Office 06 2785656 Open 9-12 weekdays.

Parish Priest Fr Vince 'Onesi 021 02287991

**Our Mission Statement**  
**We, the Catholic people of Hawera**  
**We want to be a friendly, forgiving community, based on faith and prayer and committed to joyful witness and service.**

## Mass Times Saturday Vigil 5pm

## Sunday Mass 9am

Tuesday 9am Mass

Wednesday 9am Mass

Thursday 9am Liturgy of Word

Friday 9am Mass

Reconciliation 10am Saturday or by appointment.

**Readings 1<sup>st</sup> Sunday Advent** Isa 63.16b-17 64.1 3-8 God is our Father. We are sinful, and you, O God, are hidden from our eyes. We are the works of your hands.

**2<sup>nd</sup> Reading** 1 Cor 1.3-9 Jesus gives us faith and the strength to persevere. God calls us into the fellowship of Christ.

**Gospel MK 13.33-37** Be on guard always. We do not know at what time or hour God will come.

**First Week Advent** – Liturgy Committee invite you to join us after the 9am Mass for the **Reflection Café Parish in Meeting Room**. This will be on the First two Sundays of Advent. A time to reflect in small groups on the Advent themes of Hope, Peace, Joy and Love for about an hour. There will be drinks and nibbles. Today is also the last day for donations of any preloved toys, games, clothing etc that can be given to those less fortunate in our parish community. Please leave them in the box in the foyer.



**Baptism:** We welcome this weekend through Baptism Finn Young child of Tracey and Nicholas.

**Senior Citizens Christmas Concert** hosted by Combined Churches is today 2-4pm St Josephs Church Hall

**Rosary-** Parishioners are invited to join in the Rosary this Monday 4<sup>th</sup> December at 1.30pm-2pm in the Chapel. The theme World Peace and Devotion to Mary.

**“Great things can happen with small beginnings”.**



**2<sup>nd</sup> Week Advent** Communion Service Saturday 9<sup>th</sup> December Vigil 5pm.

Reflection Café after 9am Mass Parish Meeting Room.

Friday December 15<sup>th</sup> there will be No 9am Mass. Mass will be celebrated with the School at 11am as the End of Year School Mass.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Week Advent – NO VIGIL MASS SATURDAY 16<sup>th</sup> December

Sunday Mass 17<sup>th</sup> December- Come join with the whole Parish and Celebrate Mass with Bishop John Adams. Please bring a plate for a Christmas potluck morning tea/brunch which will replace our normal Sunday hospitality.



Rite 2 Reconciliation will be Celebrated on Wednesday 20<sup>th</sup> December at 7pm.

Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> 10.30 Annie Brydon Church Service.

**4<sup>th</sup> Sunday Advent** – Saturday 23<sup>rd</sup> December Vigil Mass 5pm

Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> December Mass 9am

After Mass on the 24<sup>th</sup> the Church will be decorated in preparation for Christmas. If you have flowers in your garden that could be used for our Christmas Flower arrangements these can be left in the Church before Mass.



Ministries for Christmas – Next week we will be asking people to volunteer for the many Ministries at our Christmas Vigil or Christmas Day Mass, we will need Readers, Eucharistic Ministers, Mass Co-Ordinator's, PowerPoint Operators, Collectors, Offertory, Singers.

## Christmas Mass Times

December 24<sup>th</sup> Christmas Vigil Carols 6.30pm Mass 7pm.

December 25<sup>th</sup> Christmas Day Mass 9am

Parish Council News-We felt that the parish retreat was well attended. We are now preparing for Christmas. The children's liturgy will be singing some carols before the Christmas Eve mass. AGM was held on 19 November and well supported. The Parish Council thanks all who donate their time and skills for our parish.

**Suggestion Box** In Early 2025 our Parish and School will celebrate 150 years. We need to plan in advance how we celebrate this event. There is a suggestion box in the foyer. We ask you to consider how you think we should celebrate. As jubilees take a bit of organizing we need your feedback and ideas. How do you envisage we should celebrate this event? Your Ideas could include, the entire weekend, one day, evening function, day only, Mass and Luncheon. We want to hear **your ideas**. Please have your suggestions in by 18 January 2024.



**Society of St Vincent de Paul Hawera Tertiary Study Grant** St Vincent de Paul Society, Hawera are offering Tertiary study grant for those first year students attending University or Polytechnic in 2024. Applicants should have attended St Joseph's Primary School or are members of the St Joseph's Parish. Application forms with criteria, are available from the St Vincent de Paul Shop, 234 High Street, Hawera and close on the 31<sup>st</sup> January 2024. Recipients will be notified in February.

**Rosters for January & February** are about to be prepared. These will be out mid December. If you know you are away during this time, please help us out by telling us.

**PRAYERS FOR OUR LOVED ONES WHO HAVE DIED** - Please pray for all those who have died recently including, Sr Francesca Bourke, Mark Davies, & Lee Doyle, We pray also for those who have died over the last 5 years in December Michael Seaver & Cynthia Collins. Eternal rest grant to them O Lord and let perpetual light shine upon them. May they rest in peace.

**Mass Requests:** Mass has been requested for George Saxton recently deceased.

**RCIA (Rite of Christian Initiation of Adults)** Interested in knowing more about the Catholic Faith Please talk to Fr Vince for more information.

**PRAYER CIRCLE** Parish ministry. Prayer requests for special intentions, Ph or text 021 265 3542 Sue, or leave written request in specially marked box in the foyer.

**ANOINTING**-If you know of someone who is sick, in hospital or needs anointing, please call Fr Vince directly.

**VISITING**-If you would like a house visit from Fr Vince, please call him or leave a message at the office.

**COMMUNION TO THE SICK** If you are housebound or require Communion to the Sick please contact the office during week mornings 2785656.

### **Around the Diocese**

The Annual Sick & Retired Priests Special Collection - Sunday 3 December 2023

If Parishioners wish to give to this collection online, please deposit to St Josephs Parish Hawera

Acc 02 0630 0288010 03, please include your name, the initial SP(Sick Priests) and your planned giving number if you have one.

**Titipounamu Study & Joy** – St Nicholas History, Legend & Culture. 4 December <https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/st-nicholas/> see flyer on noticeboard.

**Wel Com** -Please pick up your copy of the latest newspaper. There is one for all Parish Families. Keep up to date with what is happening in the Dioceses of Palmerston North & Wellington.

**Te Kahu o te Ora | A Consistent Ethic of Life** The landmark bishops' teaching document Te Kahu o te Ora: A Consistent Ethic of Life is now available online as an easy-to-read flip book:

<https://www.catholic.org.nz/resources/te-kahu/> Te Kahu o te Ora is a revised and much-expanded version of a 1997 bishops' statement and reminds us that all life is a gift from God. NZCBC President and Bishop of Auckland Bishop Stephen Lowe says the bishops want every Catholic to read Te Kahu o te Ora. More information: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/tekahu-flip/>