



Pastoral Area of Saint Mary of the Cross MacKillop, Rotorua

Catholic Churches

St Michael's, St Mary's and Sacred Heart, Murupara

Proud of our Three Catholic Schools: St Michael's, Lisa Cres., 348 1362

St Mary's, 37 Carnot Street, 348 1701

John Paul College, Whitworth Road, 347 8795

Third Sunday of Advent YR C 16th December 2018.

Parish Priest:

Fr. Eamon Kennedy Email:
freamonkennedy@gmail.com

Assistant Priest:

Fr. Tovia Lusitino

Deacons:

Rev. Joe Rogers (345 8567)
Rev. Nick Bruce: Email:
revnpbruce@yahoo.co.nz
Rev. John Limrick 332 3717
Rev. Ben Pomare Email:
bmpomare@xtra.co.nz
Rev. Mike Jones Phone:
022 459 4297

Secretary: Andrea Tuki

Finance Chairperson:

Beverly Simpkins
simpkins@slingshot.co.nz

Parish Council Chairperson:

Eddie Kirk. Email:
Edwardkirk@police.govt.nz

Home Communion

Coordinator:

Bernie Mahar (349 6112)

Prayer Chain:

Anne Crowe (345 5825)
Jane Diment (349 0735)

Office Hours:

Monday: Closed -
Tues. - Friday.: 8am - 2.30pm
Phone: (07) 348 0289

Email:

catholicrotorua@xtra.co.nz

Website:

www.catholicrotorua.org.nz

Postal Address:

40-44 Seddon St, Glenholme,
Rotorua 3010

Deadline for newsletter:

Thursday 9am

Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

The two Marist Priests are on the move

At the beginning of next year, Fr David Gledhill and Fr David Moore are leaving our Diocese to take up new appointments in Ōtaki and Wairoa. We thank them both for their ministry in our Parish and we give thanks to God, asking him to bless them both in a special way.

A big thank you

I take this opportunity to particularly thank those who are involved in preparing the music for our Christmas celebrations. It is such an important ministry and we are grateful to those who do the music. Also those who prepare the rosters and do the ministries during this Christmas season. May God bless you all.

Asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving.

In our second reading this Sunday, St Paul talks about praying. He says "There is no need to worry; but if there is anything you need, pray for it, asking God for it with prayer and thanksgiving..." It is good to be reminded of our constant need to pray for the things we need and also give thanks to God. We don't have to make our prayer complicated and long, we can say short prayers like 'Thank you Lord for giving us a fine day.' 'Bless my parents', Bless my children and keep them safe.' We can talk to God as if we were talking to a good friend and just chat with him.

Our Rite II Reconciliation for Advent

This Tuesday 18th December, at 7.00 pm is our Rite II Reconciliation for Advent. The wonderful thing about Rite II is you may go to Confession to a Priest who you do not know or is not one of the Priests of the parish. For adults it is a good idea to do your examination of conscience at home.

Asking the Holy Spirit to show you your sinfulness and help you to make a good confession. Also writing your sins down if you need to and the Act of Contrition. Don't forget to bring your children who have made their first Holy Communion, they also need to go. We all sin and Christ gave us this sacrament to renew our relationship with him and the Church. It is a beautiful thing to be forgiven and renewed. It is one of the easiest ways to encounter Christ's mercy through the Sacrament of Confession.

Preparation for preparing your funeral

On Sunday 23rd December 3.00 pm at St Mary's, there will be a discussion about how to prepare your funeral.

Kind regards and God bless.

Fr. Eamon Kennedy



Rite II Reconciliation

Tuesday 18th December at 7.00
at St Mary's

N.Z. CATHOLIC - On Sale Today \$4

Headlines from this issue of NZ Catholic: 1200 in March for Life in Wellington... Translation wars running out of steam?... Mary comes back to her Tuakau grotto... Abrahamic faiths deepen understanding. The next issue of NZ Catholic will be published on December 23.

CAROL SINGING – ST MARY'S CHURCH

Parishioners are invited to attend and participate in Christmas Carol singing at St Mary's Church on Saturday 22/12/2018 from 5.00pm to 6.00pm.

WORLD YOUTH DAY 2019

The theme of World Youth Day this year is "I am the servant of the Lord. May it be done to me according to thy word" (Lk 1:38). It is going to be held in Panama from the 22nd to the 27th of January. It is a time when youth from all around the world meet the Pope and spend days in prayer and celebration of their faith. I will also be going to Mexico to visit my brother and the order he is a part of. I will be doing mission work and will be visiting the Cathedral of Our Lady of Guadalupe. I leave for Mexico on the 1st of January and return on the 4th of February. Please pray for me and all the youth going to World Youth Day. God Bless, Jerome Kilkelly

STUDENT GOING TO W.Y.D. 2019

A student travelling to World Youth Day in Panama requires work. Please phone Jerome 348 3155.

55th WEDDING ANNIVERSARY

On Friday 28 December Mary and Joe Kilkelly celebrate their 55th wedding anniversary with Mass at St Mary's at 9.00am followed by morning tea. We thank the Catholic parishioners of both St Mary's and St Michael's for their love and support and invite you to share with us in this celebration.

PILGRIMAGES

Departing in 2019 to The Holy Land, Medjugorje and within NZ. Expressions of interest welcome. Visit: www.pilgrimage.nz or see noticeboard for details. Contact Patricia Parsons on 0274 219 064. E: info@mirpilgrimages.co.nz

ST MICHAELS SCHOOL

A big thank you to the junior teachers who put on the nativity play on Monday for parents and grandparents. The children were delightful - dressed up in their costumes and singing their hearts out. What a wonderful way for the children to learn about the birth of Jesus and for adults to be reminded of the real reason for the season of Christmas. Thank you to everyone who joined us for our end of year Mass on Thursday and the presentation of Bibles for our Year 6 students from our PTA.

Marion Brits - Director of Religious Studies, *Kristina Crouch* - Principal

ST MARYS SCHOOL

Our school production was a massive success! 'Noah the Musical' involved all students in our school, over 440 children!. Thanks to the students, parents and teachers who over the last six weeks have worked hard to make it happen. On Friday we celebrated our end of year Mass. At this Mass we said farewell to our year 6 students as they depart primary school. We wish them well and pray they continue to **listen to** and **listen for** the Word of God as he watches over them.

Bernadette Hall - Director of Religious Studies, *David Macmillan* - Principal

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE

(Christmas carols will be sung 30 minutes before each Mass)

24th December Christmas Eve

5.00 pm St Michael's

7. 00 pm St Mary's

10.00 pm St Michael's

Midnight Mass (12.00 am) St Mary's

Christmas Day

8.00 am St Michael's

10.00 am St Mary's

1st January

9.00 am St Mary's

5.30 pm St Michael's



COMBINED CHURCHES CHRISTMAS DAY COMMUNITY LUNCH

To be held again this year at the Event Centre. We are preparing to provide a great meal for up to 500 people who can't afford a special Christmas meal or who will be on their own on Christmas Day. We need your help in 4 ways.

1. Volunteers to help prepare food & venue on 24 December 1-3pm and/or to host, serve or help provide children's activities on Christmas Day
Volunteers can register to Josie Groot on our volunteer phone 027 262 6096 or on line at <https://goo.gl/forms/xGkNQlyAAEBQImEF2>
2. Financial donations- please invite your congregation to consider donating towards this event- it costs us approx. \$10 per person for the meal or approx. \$4000 for the event. Churches may choose to receive individual donations and/or donate from church funds. Donations can be banked into the Rotorua Ministers Assn ANZ account 116100 0017915 11.
3. Encourage those in need or alone to register for the meal. Registrations can be made at Citizens Advice, Salvation Army or at the Events Centre.
4. We have room in our schedule for church based individuals or groups to help provide entertainment on Christmas Day.

PLEASE NOTE: If you wish to use St Mary's Church Hall or St Michael's Crypt, you must book through the Parish Office. Contact Andrea 348 0289 ext. 2

Eftpos is now available for all payments at the Parish Office, excluding Mass Intentions.

FOR NEW PARISHIONERS OR UPDATING DETAILS

NAME:

ADDRESS:

PHONE NUMBERS: (HOME) / (MOBILE)

EMAIL:

Please Circle One of the following.

PLANNED GIVING ENVELOPES / INTERNET BANKING / AUTOMATIC PAYMENT

(Please cut out and return to the Parish Office or place in the Collection Basket)



CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Leaders: Melanie



COMMUNITY MASSES

MIHA MAORI - First Saturday of the month, 5pm Vigil Mass at St Michael's. All are welcome.

TOKELAUAN COMMUNITY - Third Saturday of the month, 5pm Vigil Mass at St Michael's. All are welcome.

INDIAN COMMUNITY - Fourth Friday of the month, 6pm at St Michael's. All are welcome.

FILIPINO COMMUNITY - Third Friday of the month, 7pm at St Michael's. All are welcome.

POPE FRANCIS QUOTES:

"During Advent we not only wait for Christmas, we are invited to reawaken the expectation of Christ's glorious return - **when He will return at the end of time** - preparing ourselves for the final encounter with Him with consistent and courageous choices".



THE ROSARY

Is prayed on week days 30 minutes before the Mass on that day, except Wednesday. There is a rosary for our PRIESTS every Sunday at 3pm, at St Michael's Church.

THE CHAPLET OF DIVINE MERCY

Is prayed after Holy Mass at St Mary's, in the Chapel of God's Mercy, Monday Wednesday & Friday, also on Tuesday and Thursdays at St Michael's following the Mass.

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK:

1. Zephaniah 3:14-18
2. Philippians 4:4-7
3. Gospel: Luke 3:10-18



READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:

1. Micah 5:1-4
2. Hebrews 10:5-10
3. Gospel: Luke 1:39-44



RESPONSE TO THE PSALM:

Cry out with joy and gladness: for among you is the great and Holy One of Israel.

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

ST MARY'S CHURCH

MASS TIMES	INTENTIONS	CONFESSIONS	MASS TIMES	INTENTIONS	CONFESSIONS
Saturday 5pm (Vigil)	Gregory Plummer RIP	4.20pm to 4.45pm	Sunday 10am	Parishioners' Intentions	
Sunday 8am	Deceased Members Mullins, Downey & Duane Families		Sunday 5pm	Deceased Members Mullervy Family	
Tuesday 5.30pm	Cooper Family Intentions	5.05pm to 5.20pm	Monday 9am	Theresa Jordon Intentions	
Thursday 9am	Kathy Robertson- WhitneyRIP	Straight After Mass	Wed. 12.05pm	Deceased Members Brownie Family	11.15am to 11.45am
			Friday 9am	Nieza Zabala Doel Intentions	8am to 8.30am

LAST WORD

Remember: The birth of Baby Jesus is the reason we celebrate Christmas.