

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 Crescent, 348 I362 & St Mary's, 37 Carnot Street, 348 I701
and John Paul College, Whitworth Road, 347 8795

Third Sunday of Advent Year B- 17th December 2017

Parish Priest:

Fr. Eamon Kennedy Email:
freamonkennedy@gmail.com

Assistant Priest:

Fr. Tovio 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

Pastoral Assistant:

Sister Carina Cobb RSJ

Secretary: Andrea Tuki

Finance Chairperson:

Beverly Simpkins

simpkins@slingshot.co.nz

Parish Council Chairperson:

Eddie Kirk Email:

Edward.kirk@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 - 3pm

Phone: (07) 348 0289

Email:

catholicrotorua@xtra.co.nz

Website:

www.catholicrotorua.org.nz

Postal Address:

40 Seddon St, Rotorua 3010

Deadline for newsletter:

Thursday 11am

Dear Parishioners and Visitors,

Christmas Timetable

Please take note of the Christmas timetable for our Parish in the newsletter.

Singing Christmas Carols

This weekend at 2.00 pm at St Michael's we are singing Christmas carols with different groups in the parish please do come.

Parish Finances

This weekend the Parish Finance Council presents the financial figures for 2016 with a comparison with 2015. During 2016 we started using Xero which is different to the old system we had been using; this has made it difficult to make a comparison between the two years.

I thank Bev Simpkins for her report and to the other members of the Finance Council for the work they do. I also take this opportunity to thank everyone for your generosity towards the Parish; the Parish is totally dependent on your financial support.

Kind Regards and God Bless,

Fr. Eamon Kennedy

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

Headlines from this issue of NZ Catholic: Marist to be new Bishop of Christchurch... Seriousness of diocese priest shortage brought home... Hundreds at Catholic Youth Festival... Pope worried about Trump Jerusalem move. The next issue of NZ Catholic will be published December 24.

CHRISTMAS CAROLS SING A LONG

Come join our Christmas celebrations with Christmas carol singing at St Michaels Church on Sunday the 17th December from 2.00 to 3.00pm. Everyone is welcome.

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE - Christmas Raffle

Winners were

1st prize, Hamper: Pauline Lawrence

2nd prize, Decorated Christmas Cake: Caitlyn Hart.

Thank you to all who supported our raffle. From all the members we wish you all a very happy and Holy Christmas.

MORNING TEA

There will be a morning tea after the 10 am Mass at St Mary's Church next Sunday (24th December) to welcome new parishioners. Please bring a plate if you are able. All welcome.

PRAY THE ROSARY IN TE REO

Rosary in Te Reo every Monday evening 6.30pm, at 7 Whitworth Road, everyone is welcome.

For enquiries phone Chris on 021 197 2022.

CHRISTIAN MEDITATION

Tuesday 4.30 pm and Wednesday 10.30 am each week at 117 Ranolf Street.

CHRISTMAS DAY COMMUNITY LUNCH

The Rotorua Community Lunch will be held this year at the Rotorua Energy Events Centre at 12.00 noon on Christmas Day. Registrations for this can be made at the Citizens Advice Bureau or Salvation Army (corner of Haupapa St). If you wish to volunteer to help please contact 027 262 6096

Voluntary activities

Friday 22 Dec, 2.00 - 3.00 p.m. (Table decorating)

Sunday 24 Dec, 1.00 - 3.00 p.m. (Vegies prep)

Monday 25 Dec, 11.00 - 1.00 p.m (Hosts at tables)

Monday 25 Dec, 11.00 - 12.00 p.m. (Chn. activities)

ST VINCENT DE PAUL

The Rotorua Society of Saint Vincent de Paul thank you from the bottom of our hearts for the generous donations of items donated to our food cupboard for us to distribute to families in need throughout the year and especially to the run up to the festive season. Words cannot say how much we appreciate your kind donations and can assure you that many families in need will benefit from your generous donations. We are a Catholic lay organization inspired by the words of Jesus Christ, and as Vincentians work to promote human dignity through personal contact with those in need and our work can only be achieved through your generous help over the year. This year we achieved 150 years' service in New Zealand and 60 years in Rotorua and seeing the smile we receive when we assist the needy be it in food, companionship, home visits clothing furniture, and all are greatly received and makes our work worthwhile. Again the conference of the Rotorua Society thanks you very much for your overwhelming generosity and wishes you a safe a blessed Christmas.

God bless Alan Scicluna, President.

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)



CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

ST MARY'S

SUNDAY DECEMBER 24TH

10am - Mass

CHRISTMAS EVE

7.00pm Mass

10.00pm Mass

CHRISTMAS DAY

10.00am



ST MICHAEL'S

SUNDAY DECEMBER 24TH

8am -Mass

CHRISTMAS EVE

5.00pm

CHRISTMAS DAY

12.00am Midnight Mass

8.00am Mass

ST MICHAELS SCHOOL

School closes for the year on Wednesday, 20 December. We would like to take this opportunity to wish all of our parish whanau a safe, holy and joyful Christmas. On a personal note, I would like to thank all of the St Michael's parishioners for making me so welcome over the past four and a half years and a special thank you to those parishioners who helped "hand me over" at my powhiri in Te Awamutu last week. St Michael's Church and parish will always have a special place in my heart and I'm sure I will be back to visit. God bless you all. Shelly Fitness

Marion Brits - Director of Religious Studies

ST MARYS SCHOOL

Our End of Year Mass, as always was a special one for our year 6 students. We celebrated their time with us and prayed for their next journey of faith and education. The young Vinnies also presented the food bank a collection of food our students have donated this term. This week we held 'Christmas on the Field', where classes sang Christmas carols to our families. We also held our school prize giving, and our school Triathlon event. On Friday we had our missioning for our year 6 students. I would like to take this opportunity to say

Thank You to our community for your help and generosity over the year. We have had many celebrations, community events and activities. All of which are possible due to our supportive PTA, BOT, families and staff. We wish you and your families a Holy Christmas and a safe and happy holiday.

Bernadette Hall - Director of Religious Studies

David Macmillan - Principal

ENGAGEMENT NOTICE

Alyssa Yalong is to be married to Alexander Hardy. Ms Yalong is the daughter of Mr Benjamin and Harriet Yalong of Rotorua. Mr Hardy is the son of Andrew and Judith Hardy of Ngongotaha, Rotorua. The couple are to be married this January in the Philippines.

BLACK SAMOAN ORATORY STICK

A big thank you to Francie Watson who found the Samoan Oratory stick that belonged to the Vulu's. We are truly grateful. *Fua Vuku*

PLEASE NOTE:

If you wish to use the Church Hall at St Mary's or the Crypt at St Michael's you must book through the Parish Office with Andrea 348 0289 ext 2

HEALTH AND SAFETY

There is a First Aid Kit in the kitchen and foyer at St Mary's and for St Michael's in the kitchen in the crypt and in the sacristy. The Assemble Points for St Mary's are the car park in front of the Presbytery and the corner of the car park by the 38 Seddon Street section, for St Michael's the corner of Lake Road and Lakefront Drive

All accidents are to be recorded in the Accidents and First Aid Register kept with the First Aid Kits.

Also all hazards can recorded in the Hazard Register.

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Leader: There is no Children's Liturgy during the School Holidays.



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, also 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

POPE FRANCIS QUOTES:

"Let us allow ourselves to be guided by (Mary this Advent) she who is mother, a mamma and knows how to guide us. Let us allow ourselves to be guided by her this season of active waiting and watchfulness."



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

Second Friday of the month, 6pm at St Michael's. All are welcome.

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK:

1. Isaiah 61:1-2, 10-11
2. 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24
3. John 6-8, 19-28

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK:

1. 2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16
2. Romans 16:25-27
3. Luke 1:26-38

RESPONSE TO THE PSALM

My soul rejoices in my God.

ST MICHAEL'S CHURCH

ST MARY'S CHURCH

MASS TIMES	INTENTIONS	CONFESSIONS	MASS TIMES	INTENTIONS	CONFESSIONS
Saturday 5pm (Vigil)	Mark Connellan Intentions	4.20pm to 4.45pm	Sunday 10am	Parishioners' Intentions	
Sunday 8am	Merehini Hooker Intentions & Sid Davey RIP		Sunday 5pm	Tuki Family Intentions	
Tuesday 5.30pm	Mel Donlon Intentions	5.05pm to 5.20pm	Monday 9am	Mass of Peace	
Thursday 9am	Deceased Members Mullervy Family RIP	Straight After Mass	Wed. 12.05pm	Deceased Members Robertson Family	11.15am to 11.45am
			Friday 9am	Kilkelly Family Intentions	8am to 8.30am

LAST WORD - PRAY the prayer to St Michael daily that David Seymour's End of Life Choice Bill will be defeated. Copies of the prayer will be available after all Masses. As Catholics we must fight against Euthanasia and Assisted Suicide becoming legal in New Zealand.