



## EASTERN BAYS PASTORAL AREA

### SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~ 7<sup>TH</sup> DECEMBER 2025

Kia Ora koutou katoa.

A special welcome to visitors and newcomers to our parishes this weekend.

As we enter the Second Sunday of Advent, the liturgy turns our eyes toward the promise of hope and renewal that God longs to bring to His people. The prophet Isaiah offers one of the most beautiful visions in all of Scripture—

a world transformed by the reign of God: *“He shall judge the poor with justice... The wolf shall live with the lamb... and a little child shall lead them”* (Isaiah 11:4, 6).

Isaiah speaks of a peace so deep, so surprising, that even the natural order is healed.

This is not wishful thinking; it is God’s dream for humanity, a dream fulfilled in the person of Jesus Christ.

In today’s Gospel, John the Baptist cries out in the wilderness, calling us to prepare our hearts for the Lord who is coming: *“Repent, for the kingdom of heaven is close at hand!”* (Matthew 3:2).

John’s message is urgent but hopeful. He does not ask us to fear God’s approach, but rather to clear away whatever keeps us from receiving Christ with joy.

Advent invites us to slow down, listen deeply, and make space for the One who brings true peace, justice, and renewal.

This spirit of preparation and generosity is alive in our parishes as we encourage and support the work of St Vincent de Paul, and in the annual Christmas Hamper outreach at St Ignatius.

The effort was nothing short of epic. Volunteers of every age packed, sorted, wrapped, lifted, delivered, and gave with full hearts. Families will sit at their tables this Christmas with dignity and gratitude because of your compassion.

I want to extend sincere thanks to all who contributed—whether through time, donations, organisation, or prayer.

You revealed the face of Christ to our community.

As we continue our Advent journey, may Isaiah’s vision inspire us, and may John’s call challenge us. Let us open our hearts to

the peace Christ brings, live generously, and prepare well for His coming.

May the God of hope fill you with joy and peace that comes as we ‘prepare the way of the Lord’

*Blessings, Bernard*

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#### **MASS FOR SHINE TELEVISION**

**Mass on the 3rd Sunday of Advent, 14<sup>th</sup> December at 9.00am at St Ignatius Church, will be recorded for Shine Television.**

**For the purposes of the recording the Mass celebrated will be the 4th Sunday of Advent.**

## Today's Readings

### First Reading

Isaiah 11:1-10

We hear about the coming of the Messiah, and the kind of justice and peace he would bring.

### Second Reading

Romans 15:4-9

This reading talks about the importance of hope, and how we should treat others in the same friendly way Christ has treated us.

### Gospel Matthew 3:1-12

We hear once again the voice of John the Baptist, saying to us what he said to his contemporaries: 'Repent, for the Kingdom of Heaven is close at hand'.



**God of mercy,  
cleanse our hearts  
and renew our spirits.  
May we prepare a straight path  
for Your Son  
and welcome Him with joy.  
Amen.**

## Columban Calendars 2026

Last Orders for those who have not yet bought their Calendar. \$15.00.



Kindly contact Maureen at [adminsupport@easternbayscatholic.org.nz](mailto:adminsupport@easternbayscatholic.org.nz) or Shona at [office@easternbayscatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@easternbayscatholic.org.nz)  
With thanks.

## DEACON RYAN'S ORDINATION DATE

Deacon Ryan will be ordained a Priest on **Saturday 31<sup>ST</sup> January at 11.00am at St Luke's Church, Flatbush.**

You are all most welcome to attend and celebrate this wonderful occasion with Ryan.

## SCHOOL PREFERENCE ENROLMENTS

**If you require a Preference enrolment form signed there is availability by appointment on Friday mornings at St Ignatius between 8.00am – 10.00am.**

## CURRENT PARISH OFFICE HOURS

**MPH** Mon & Wed – 1.30pm – 5.30pm  
Thursday – 8.30am – 12.30pm  
**St Ignatius** Tues & Fri – 8.30am – 11.30am

**MOPH and St Ignatius offices will be closed all of January and re-open on 2<sup>nd</sup> February 2026. There will NO newsletter.**

Preference Forms by appointment on  
Fridays: 8.00am – 10.00am

Please email Shona at  
[office@easternbayscatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@easternbayscatholic.org.nz)

## MOPH END OF YEAR DATES

ADORATION –

Thursday 18 December, recommencing  
on Thursday 29<sup>th</sup> January 2026

FRIDAY ROSARY GROUP –

Friday 12<sup>th</sup> December, recommencing on  
Friday 30<sup>th</sup> January 2026

## 2026 BIBLE DIARIES NOW AVAILABLE

Diaries are for sale in both Parishes ~  
Daily Readings, Prayers, Reflections.  
Cost: \$25.00

A/c Name: St Ignatius St Heliers Bay  
A/c No: 02 0108 0707227 000  
Code: 2026 Bible Diary



## DO YOU LOVE PLAYING CARDS?

Come and join with us every  
Wednesday, 1.00pm at  
St Ignatius Parish Centre foyer.  
Contact Bob on 575 7622



## St Vincent de Paul Society

Summer clothing needed for families in our local area.

Donations including beach towels and swim wear for both adults and children would be most appreciated.

Kindly leave your donations in the basket in the MPH Church foyer. With thanks.

### Our 'Keep Christ in Christmas' theme

cards are now available for purchase, 5 Cards with envelopes are \$5.00 per pack.

We are also commencing our Christmas Raffle, there are 3 prizes to be won. Tickets are \$5.00 each or pay \$10.00 for 3 tickets.

See us in the entrance foyer at 10.30am Mass.

**Your support is much appreciated**

### DECEMBER TIMETABLE

13 Dec	Anointing of the Sick Mass	9.30am MOPH
16 Dec	Reconciliation Rite II	7.00pm MOPH
19 Dec	Anointing of the Sick Mass	9.00am St Ignatius
24 Dec	Christmas Vigil Mass	5.00pm SHC Auditorium
24 Dec	Midnight Mass With Carols from 11.00pm	MOPH
25 Dec	Christmas Day Mass	9.00am SHC Chapel
27 Dec	Holiday Mass Timetable to be advised.	

## ADVENT RECONCILIATION RITE II



***There will be Reconciliation at Mother of Perpetual Help Church On Tuesday 16 December at 7.00pm.***

### Musical Instruments for Samoa

Students at Marist Brothers Primary School in Apia are keen to learn music but lack musical instruments.

If you have any spare instruments at home - particularly recorders, ukuleles, guitars, keyboards and small speakers or anything brass please contact the parish office ~

[office@easternbayscatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@easternbayscatholic.org.nz) or Peter at [petergarrick20@gmail.com](mailto:petergarrick20@gmail.com) or call +64 22 1300 730 Peter will be visiting Auckland from Samoa from 6<sup>th</sup> December until early January.

### Christmas Gifts

At Family Life Catholic Gifts, we have many lovely Christmas gifts as we begin the Advent Season and move closer to the birth of our Saviour.

We have a good variety of Nativities and other Christmas gifts. In addition, we have a great new selection of Bibles and Books for both Children and Adults.

All proceeds from sales, support our life-saving work defending Life, Faith and Family.

Our last day of business for the year is 24<sup>th</sup> December – 9.00am-2.00pm.

### BABYSITTER AVAILABLE

A Baradene College student is offering babysitting within our Community. She holds a Plunket Certificate in Babysitting.

Please contact Lily at [Suttonlily02@gmail.com](mailto:Suttonlily02@gmail.com)



## Catholic Caring Foundation's Christmas Appeal

Give a gift to help families and people in need.

Please support the Caring Foundation's Christmas appeal through your donations and prayers.

"Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God."

Envelopes and donation cards in the Foyer.



### Anniversaries

**We remember those who have died recently, and whose anniversaries occur during the month of December**

*Semisi Kalu, Paddy Mulrennan, Louise Perkins, Brian Walsh, Catherine Brady, Nellie Cheyne, Matthew Murphy, Michael Tipene, Pat Langdon, Nannette Peterson, June Rodrigues, Emile Stredwick, Janet Roache, Francis Newland, Brian Gulson, Elizabeth Heller, John Porter, Colleen O'Loughlin, Peter Alder, Dorothy Urlich-Cloher, Margaret Farrell, Catherine MacDonald, Dorita Hannah, Kevin Finnegan, Mary Heeney, Beatrice Mortimer, Matthew Connolly, Mary Ann Woods, Eileen Posa, Kay Kirkup, Branko Paladin, Patricia Xanthopol, Anthony Kelliher, Vernon Bell, Clara Bayer, Jim Hackshaw, Niko Curin, David Pfahlert, Inez Fullerton, Andrea Pragnell, Arthur Grigg, Gregory Lornie, Phyllis Agnew, Patrick Lonergan, Vicki O'Connor, Frank Galantai, John Free, Judith Goddard, Paul Callaghan, Marie-Louise Revell, Jack McCormick, Maurice Cervin.*

**... Eternal rest grant to them**

## Eastern Bays Area Mass Schedule

### Monday

9.00am Liturgy of the Word  
with Holy Communion at St Ignatius

### Tuesday

9.00am Mass at St Pius X Glen Innes

### Wednesday

9:00am at St Ignatius  
(School Mass. All welcome!)

### Thursday

9:00am Mass Mother of Perpetual Help  
(with Adoration to follow)

### Friday

9:00am Mass at St Ignatius

### Saturday

9:30am Mass at Mother of Perpetual Help  
(Rosary at 8.50am)

### Sacrament of Reconciliation

8.45am Saturday at Mother of Perpetual Help

**Saturday Vigil Mass - 5:00pm at St Ignatius**

### Sunday Mass

9:00am St Ignatius

10:30am Mother of Perpetual Help

### Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursdays following 9.00am Mass at MPH  
Rosary 8.30am and Benediction at 6.30pm

### Rosary Group

Mother of Perpetual Help Parish  
Fridays at 3.00pm in the Parish Centre

### Weekly Rosters

Please see the Noticeboards in either Church  
for the current Rosters for all Ministries.

Thank you.

### Visit our website for

~New Parishioner Registration

~Sacramental Programmes: including for  
Adults (RCIA) and Children (RCIC)

E: [sacraments@easternbayscatholic.org.nz](mailto:sacraments@easternbayscatholic.org.nz)

~Diocesan Marriage Preparation Course

For more information please contact

[gerrys@cda.org.nz](mailto:gerrys@cda.org.nz) M: 021 022 47442

Email: [office@easternbayscatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@easternbayscatholic.org.nz) Website: [www.easternbayscatholic.org.nz](http://www.easternbayscatholic.org.nz)

Parish Priest: Monsignor Bernard Kiely Deacon: Ryan Sy

### ST IGNATIUS

12 Kotiri Street, St Heliers

Ph: 09 575 5227

### MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP

510 Riddell Rd, Glendowie

Ph: 09 575 9296