



Senior Christmas Luncheon
Friday, 14 December
@ 11.30am
 in the Parish Centre.
 Final gathering for the year.
 Enquiries: Dorothy Bennett 575 6511

Reconciliation
Rite II
 in preparation for Christmas
Tuesday 18 December
7pm



Mother of Perpetual Help Parish

510 Riddell Road, Glendowie 1071

Parish Office: 575 9296
Parish Priest: Fr Anthony Tran CSsR 0226543680
Office Hours: Mon - Wed: 1.30 - 5pm
 Friday: 9.30am - 11.30
E-Mail: glendowiemph@xtra.co.nz
Parish Website: www.glendowiecatholic.org.nz
Parish Assistant: Ingrid Coakley 575 9296
Pastoral Worker: Maureen Keenan 575 4354(Home)
Redemptorist Website: www.cssr.org.au
The Redemptorists: 575 8767

Youth and Young Adult Christmas Party and Games Night
Sunday 16th December 5-7pm

All young people (14 years and over) are welcome to join us for our final youth and young adult gathering for the year. Please bring a plate to share and your favourite board game. ALL WELCOME. For more information contact Maria 0272105050 or ria.ctk.wyd@gmail.com

Christmas Raffle – Fund Raiser for St. Vincent de Paul

1st Prize: \$100.00 Festive Season Food Hamper
 2nd Prize: \$50.00 Movie Voucher and Chocolate
 3rd Prize: \$25.00 Gift Box of Items
 \$3.00 per ticket or 2 tickets for \$5.00
 Tickets for sale after Mass or contact Maureen at the Parish Office.



Next Week: Third Sunday of Advent 15 & 16 December 18

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

ROSTERS	5.30pm	8.00am	10.00am
Welcomer	Maria Pais	Shirley Rivera	Manuela Doherty
Greeters	Desley King Shona Gardner	Carmella Cheval Sidwell Truscott	Odelia d'Souza Amanda Gibbs
Musicians	Marion James		Samoan Community
PowerPoint	Maureen Keenan	Liz Pascal	Samoan Community
Children's Liturgy	'3rd Sunday of Advent' Make decorations for the crib		
Prayers of the Faithful	Dcn Mark Rivalland		
Ministers of Communion	Glenda Everitt Louise Morton	Lillian Fletcher Delreen Rayen	Karen Rassie Greg Rassie
Readers	Cristy Pontiveros Louise Morton	Thelma Correa Loyola Correa	Kathryn Redmore
Cleaners	Kolotita & Tuakalau Makalio		
Grace Joel	Liturgy of the Word and Communion:10.30am Alex & Helene		

Masses:

Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm
Sunday: 8.00am & 10.00am
Monday-Saturday: 9.00am
Saturday: 8.45am

Prayer of the Church

Novena at 9am Mass

Reconciliation:

Saturday morning after 9am Mass & Sat afternoon 4pm

Exposition: Thursday, 9.30am - 7pm with Benediction at 6.45pm



Second Sunday of Advent
Saturday 08 & Sunday 09 December 18

The Pastor's Pen

Dear Parishioners,

The Gospel on the second Sunday of Advent invites us to take to heart the full message of John the Baptist. We are asked to prepare a worthy way to walk with the Lord with full integrity. We are called to listen to God's word and to renew ourselves so that we can be ready to celebrate the coming of the Lord. We are open to the transforming power of God's grace which works in the lives of each of us. John the Baptist's call for repentance challenges us radically.

Repentance is about change that enables to break out of our comfort zone so that we can start afresh and respond fully to God's call to integrity and holiness. Please get yourself prepared in mind and heart for the parish Advent Reconciliation service on 18 December @ 7pm.

After more than two years of servicing the Redemptorist Auckland Community and our parish in Glendowie **Fr Brian Johnston** came to his time of returning to Australia. We sincerely thank him for his generosity and pastoral service during his time with us. On behalf of the Redemptorists of Auckland I would like to thank all the parishioners for your hospitality and love shown to him. Please continue to keep him in your prayers.

We welcome baby **Jean Miguel Tee** into our Christian community. He is the son of Rosa Tuquero and John Tee. He was baptised in our Church on Saturday 8 December. May God always bless him in his christian life.

Fr Anthony Tran CSsR

We remember in prayer our parishioners whose anniversaries occur during December:

Hendrina van den Brink 7th; Catherine Welch 8th; Clarence Hewson, John Porter 11th; Muriel Grant, John Free 12th

Parish Notices & Coming Events

Also see our Christmas Activities on back page

Parish Administration

After more than a decade in the role, Ingrid Coakley, who manages our administration, has made the decision to retire. Ingrid has done a wonderful job for the Parish and on behalf of the whole community I thank her for her commitment and service. She has generously offered to continue in her role until we find a replacement. As the administration tasks that the Parish undertakes have increased significantly in recent years the decision has been made that in appointing a replacement we will take the opportunity to open our office on a part time basis for five days a week, and expand the role.

We are currently advertising the position and applications close on December 23.

Bernie Culpan Parish Pastoral Council

Glendowie Parish Sacramental Programme 2019

Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and First Holy Communion

This parish based programme is for **Year 4** Children. If your child will be **Year 4** in **2019** please email Parish Office: glendowiemph@xtra.co.nz to apply.

APPLY NOW Spaces will be limited **APPLICATIONS CLOSE 20 DECEMBER**

Appeal for CSsR Students

This weekend, you are invited to make an offering to help with the education of Redemptorist students in Indonesia. The offering box is in the foyer. Thank you.

Single Collection update

November was our first month of having only one collection. Via cash, envelopes and direct credits we collected \$11,860. This is significantly less than the average monthly collection over the last six months of \$13,170. Parishioners overwhelmingly supported the move to one collection and the Finance Committee clearly articulated the associated risks so this result is very disappointing.

We ask you all to consider any changes that you could make to your contribution to the Redemptorists and the Parish to remedy the position.

Parish Finance Committee

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

finished for the year
Thursday 6 December
and will resume in 2019
Thursday 14 February



Feast Days this week

Thurs 13 December: St Lucy, Virgin, Martyr
Fri 14 December: St John of the Cross, Priest, Dr

A New Day Dawns

Maybe the most basic prayer of Jewish faith is the Shema: 'Hear O Israel: the LORD our God, the LORD is one.' It is found in Deuteronomy 6:4 and prayed in the traditional prayer service, morning and evening.

Jesus quoted the Shema when asked about the greatest commandment (Mark 12:29), and St Paul presents to the Corinthians a revised and expanded version of the Shema in his first letter to them: "yet for us there is one God, the Father, from whom are all things and for whom we exist, and one Lord, Jesus Christ, through whom are all things and through whom we exist" (8:6).

St Paul transfigured the prayer at the very heart of Israel's faith. It is hard to underestimate how radical this was for him and for the early Christians. This transformation was not because St Paul (or Peter, or James or any of the other apostles) stopped being Jewish. Rather, they recognised something happened so monumental for Israel and for the entire world that it changed everything. What happened?

The answer of course is the answer to the questions our children respond to every question during children's liturgy. Jesus happened. His death and resurrection changed everything so fundamentally that St Paul had to transfigure the Shema in order to be faithful to the God of Israel who acted definitively in these events, just like he acted in the exodus (rescuing Israel from Egypt and delivering them through the Red Sea) and, many years later, in the return of his people to the Holy Land after years of exile. The death and resurrection

of Jesus signify the culmination of the whole story: a new exodus and new restoration, *through Israel for the whole world.*

If you take a look at the Second Reading today you will see St Paul transfigure another core element of Israel's ancient faith: the "Day of the Lord." The idea is traced back to the song Israel sings on far shore of the Red Sea after the armies of Egypt are washed away before their eyes. In this song (found in Exodus 15) the people of Israel refer to this moment of liberation as "the day."

Through the history of Israel, that day, remembered annually at Passover, came to represent the hope that God would bring a similar "day" and deliver them from evil. In the prophetic books of the Bible the "Day of the Lord" means the ultimate moment of reckoning, when God will rid his good creation of evil and bring about his liberating justice once and for all. And St Paul uses the term in his fresh way: the "day of the Lord" of the prophets is now, finally, the "day of Christ Jesus."

Jesus's death and resurrection means the defeat of evil and the neutralisation of its power. His Day has already dawned.

Chris Hackett
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