

Sacred Heart Parish

7th December 2025 – 2nd Sunday of Advent

FR BRIAN'S PRAYER & REFLECTION

Hi, I have brain fatigue, only joking, but instead of writing something original, I found these interesting reflections. I also found some sites about the prophet ISAIAH. I hope you enjoy the learning experience. God Bless, Fr. Brian



One year during Advent, our parish priest invited us to write down on a slip of paper a word that named something that is keeping us from getting closer to God. He suggested it might be a fear, a resentment, or an attitude that shuts us off from the love God so wants to give. We were to fold the paper over a few times, grasp it tightly in one hand, and make a fist around it while he began to preach on the Scripture readings.

After a minute, my hand began to ache. After two minutes, my hand grew numb. At three minutes, the hand started shaking uncontrollably. He told us to open our hands. I found how hard it was to do that. After grasping the piece of paper so tightly, my hand had stiffened and seemed to have a mind of its own. I can't remember what else he said that day, but I have never forgotten that lesson. Hold on to a resentment, fear, or bad attitude long enough, and you will become paralysed.

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I know how it feels to be on the receiving end of the gift of prayer. The fear and anxiety it relieves are replaced with peace and sometimes even joy. I've been offering this to others, and when I am on the phone with a friend, and she tells me a story of her frustrations, I say, "Can I pray for you, right now? On the phone?" Not later, not on my own time, but there together. And we both feel God's presence and peace and comfort together. We feel closer to each other and closer to our God, who can take care of it all.



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He is the first and greatest of the four major prophets. Standing at the head of Jeremiah, Ezekiel, and Daniel, Isaiah's writings constitute the single most important prophetic book of the Old Testament

His book is known as the fifth Gospel. More than any other prophet, Isaiah points forward in time and again to Christ. Appropriately, therefore, the book of Isaiah is second only to the Psalms in being the biblical book most quoted in the New Testament.

Isaiah spoke about a servant. This servant would bring justice. He would not shout or fight. He would be gentle and kind. But he would also suffer. Isaiah said the servant would be rejected. He would be beaten and hurt. People would think God was punishing him. But he would carry their sins. He said the servant would be like a lamb led to slaughter. He would not open his mouth. He would die, though he had done nothing wrong. Christians see this as a picture of Jesus. Jesus was rejected. He was beaten and killed. But He took the sin of the world on Himself. This matches Isaiah's words in chapter 53. Isaiah also said the servant would not stay dead. He would see light again. He would bring healing. He would make many people right with God. These passages show that suffering can bring healing. They show God's plan to save people. Isaiah saw it many years before Jesus was born.

God Bless, Fr. Brian

ALLOCATIONS COMMITTEE

The Parish Council are currently looking for two people to be a representative for them on the Allocations Committee. The Works & Finance Committee are currently looking for one person to be a representative for them on the Allocations Committee. If you would like to express your interest in being a representative on the Allocations Committee for either one of these committee's, can you please email Nicky in the parish office, shparish@xtra.co.nz, by the 19th December 2025.

THE VISION *of* SACRED HEART PARISH, INGLEWOOD IS:

Parish communities empowered by the Holy Spirit to grow in faith, hope and love.

Ngā Hāpori Pariha i whakamanahia e te wairua tapu
ki te tupu i roto i te whakapono, te tūmanako me te aroha.

PLEASE PRAY FOR OUR DECEASED RELATIVES AND FRIENDS: Josephine Fabish, Otilla Dodunski, Bill Duignan, Fred Gibbins, Noel Bennett, Monica Beagle

We remember in our prayers: All those who are unwell in our Parish, those who are caring for sick loved ones and those who are still living in their own homes, the lonely, the elderly, those suffering Bereavements and all Parishioners in Rest Homes and Hospitals.

ROSARY AT FORRESTAL LODGE

Every Tuesday at 7pm. Entry is through the sliding door. Everyone is welcome.

PRAYER GROUP with ADORATION

Every Thursday from 9 am-10am.

CHILDREN'S CHRISTMAS MOVIE

Sunday 7th December at 11.30am.

CHRISTMAS DINNER

Sunday 7th December from 6.00pm in the parish hall, this will be a pot luck dinner.

MEN'S GROUP

Wednesday 10th December at 6.00pm.

Meet for Mass at 5.30pm (if you can) at St Joseph's Parish, Waitara. Then it's onto the Waitara RSA for dinner. All men welcome. Please ring Fr. Brian before noon on the Wednesday so he can book the restaurant.

PARISH OFFICE HOURS

The office will be closed from Friday 19th December at 3pm and reopen again as normal on Monday 19th January from 9am - 12 noon.

WORKS & FINANCE MEETING

Sunday 25th January at 11.30am

CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE MEETING

Thursday 5th February after the 10am Mass.

PARISH COUNCIL MEETING

Tuesday 10th February at 10.00am

FOOD / VIDEO / CONVERSATION

We are excited to bring you Alpha. This is a 10-week course that creates a space, in person, where you can bring your friends for a conversation about life and faith.

Invite your non church or non-Christian friends who might want to know more about Christianity.

Beginning Wednesday 11th February 2025
(Registrations need to be in by the 2nd February)
5.45pm to 8.00pm,
St Joseph's School, Waitara

There is a registration form on the foyer table or please contact the parish office if you would like one emailed to you - stjpwaitara@xtra.co.nz

COMBINED CHURCHES LADIES CHRISTMAS SOCIAL: You are warmly invited to this on Monday 8th December at 7:00pm at the Anglican Church Hall. Please bring a Foodbank Item.

2026 COLUNBAN ART CALENDARS: These can be purchased for $13 from the foyer table.

DAILY REFLECTIONS FOR ADVENT & CHRISTMAS: These can now be purchased for $8 from the foyer table. Can you please put the money for these in the parish office letterbox (beside the office).

WHEN IS THE SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT:
The second Sunday of Advent is December 7th, 2025. On the second Sunday of Advent, the second candle on the Advent wreath, often called the "Bethlehem Candle" or the "Candle of Peace," is lit. This candle symbolizes the peace that Christ brings to the world, fulfilling the prophecy of peace found in Scripture.

PARISH CONTACTS

23 Standish Street, PO Box 109, Inglewood Phone: 756 7164 or 027 672 2514
Email: shparish@xtra.co.nz

Parish Priest: Fr. Brian Carmine – 756 7164 or 027 516 3758
Secretary / Administrator / Parish Planned Giving: Nicky Kuklinski – 756 7164
Parish Office Hours: Monday - Thursday 9am – 12noon, Friday 12noon – 3pm
Donations: If you would like to make a donation to our Church, you can use the following details:
Bank: Sacred Heart Parish Account Inglewood Bank: BNZ, Palmerston North
Account Number: 02-0630-0288002-011 Reference: Your name
(If you would like a receipt, can you please email the Parish Office)

PARISH CONTACT PEOPLE

Parish Prayer Support (Prayer Line): Theresa Gibbon – 756 8349
Parish Hall Hire & Religious Stall: Parish Office – 756 7164
Gluten Free Hosts: Nicky Kuklinski – 027 672 2514
Floral Arrangement Roster: Tess Johnston – 756 8452
St Patrick's School Principal: April Baylis – 756 7908, email: office@stpatsinglewood.school.nz
Foodbank: Open at Forrestal House on Fridays – 9.30am – 10.30am.



INGLEWOOD

SUNDAY MASS TIMETABLE

Sunday 10.30am

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Sunday 10.30am *Every week*

WEEK DAY MASS TIMETABLE

Tuesday 9.00am
Thursday 10.00am
Saturday 9.00am *Every 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturday*

BENEDICTION & RECONCILIATION

Saturday 8.30am *Every 1st, 3rd & 5th Saturday*

WAITARA

SUNDAY MASS TIMETABLE

Sunday 9.00am *Every Sunday*

CHILDREN'S LITURGY

Sunday 9.00am *Every Week*

WEEK DAY MASS TIMETABLE

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament takes place for 30 minutes as shown below (before or after)

Tuesday	9.00am	Liturgy of the Word	*(after)*
Wednesday	5.30pm	Mass	*(before)*
Thursday	9.00am	Liturgy of the Word	*(after)*
Friday	9.00am	Mass	*(after)*
Saturday	9.00am	Every 2nd & 4th Saturday	*(before)*
Saturday	9.00am	Liturgy of the Word	*(after)*

All other Saturday's

RECONCILIATION

Saturday 8.30am *Every 2nd & 4th Saturday*

MOKAU

Saturday 5.00pm 20th December

NGA PEKANGA

Sunday 10.30am 14th December

BAPTISMS (INGLEWOOD): 1st Sunday of every month (except January). For more information contact Fr. Brian or the Parish Office

BAPTISMS (WAITARA): 2nd Saturday of every month (except January). For more information contact Fr. Brian or the Parish Office

SCRIPTURE READINGS

7th December – Psalm Response: Justice shall flourish in his time, and fullness of peace for ever.
Isaiah: 11.1-10 **Romans:** 15.4-9 **Matthew:** 3.1-12
14th December – Psalm Response: Lord, come and save us.
Isaiah: 35.1-6, 10 **James:** 5.7-10 **Matthew:** 11.2-11

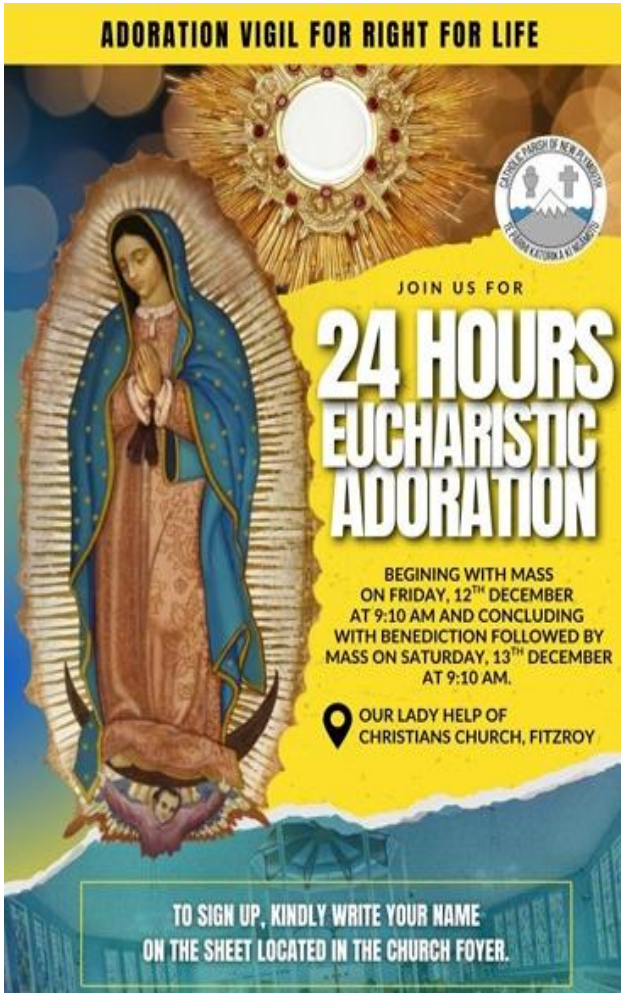
SUNDAY MINISTRIES

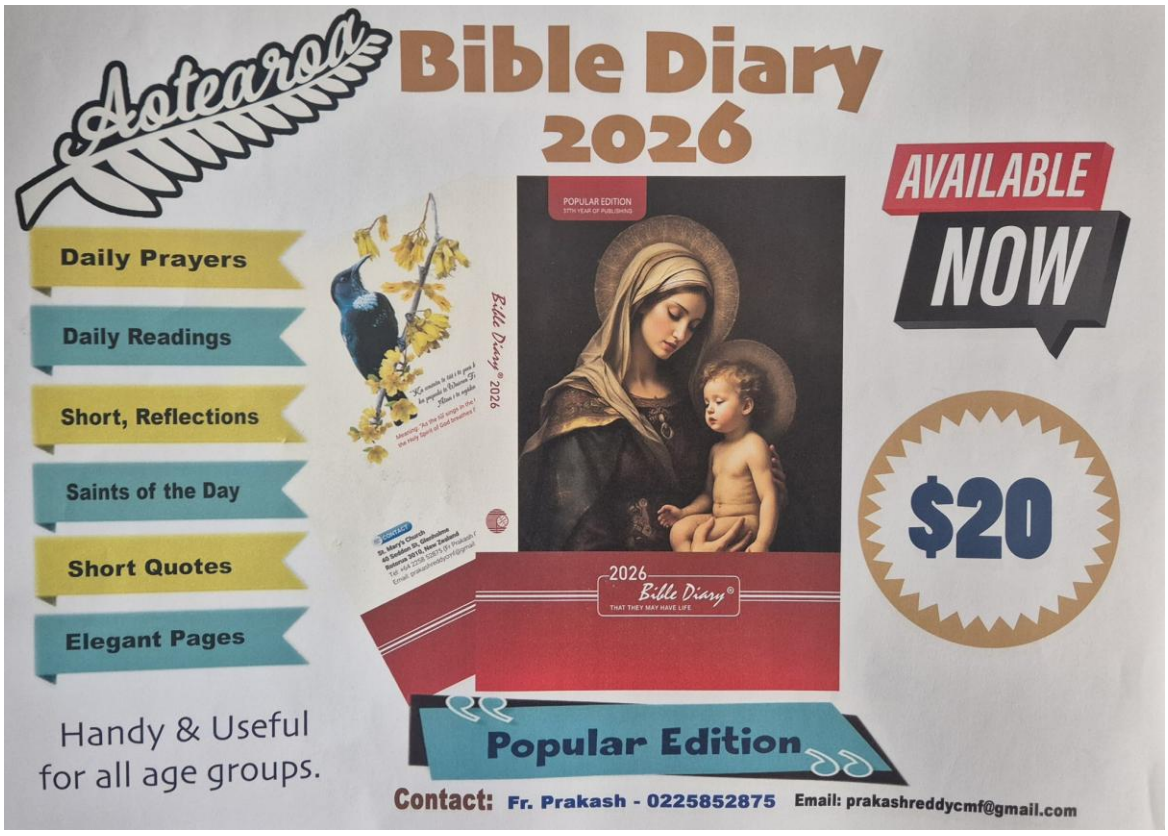
	This Week Sun 7th December	Next Week Sun 14th December
Readers	Val Young Alan Spurdle	Dennis Dravitzki Daniel Chow
Prayers of Faithful	Alan Gibbins	Val Young
Presentation of Gifts	Lyn Potroz Cecelia Stachurski	Ray Potroz & Family
Communion Ministers	Vonna Parsons Emma Dravitzki Pat Kuklinski	Jim Mahony Alan Gibbins Marg Evans
Altar Servers	Casey Chloe	Toby Abiel
Music	Music – Sue Marsh	Music Group
Power Points	Mark	Tanius
Counters	Pat Kuklinski Betty Dravitzki	Stan Duoba Sue Duoba
Cup of Tea	D'Ath Family	Kevin & Helena Hartfield
Church Cleaning	Ranee D'Ath & Family 5 / 6 December	Susanne Duynhoven & Karla Campbell 12 / 13 December

Mass Readings for the 2nd Sunday of Advent

First Reading – Isaiah 11:1-10: The branch from Jesse brings justice and peace, uniting the world under God's spirit. Nature is restored, and the earth is filled with the knowledge of the Lord.
Responsorial Psalm – Psalm 72: The king will rule with justice and fairness, bringing lasting peace. He will help the poor and needy. His name will be blessed forever, and all nations will find joy in him.
Second Reading – Romans 15:4-9: The Scriptures teach us endurance and hope. God helps us to live in harmony and glorify Him together. Christ serves Jews and Gentiles, confirming God's promises and mercy.
Gospel – Matthew 3:1-12: John the Baptist preached repentance in Judea. He baptized many in the Jordan, warning Pharisees and Sadducees to produce good fruit. He announced one mightier who will baptize with the Holy Spirit and fire.







These are on sale from the Parish Office or before Mass on Sunday's (please see Nicky)

DONATIONS COLLECTION - Sunday 7th December 2025

Parish	$404.20	Clergy Trust Fund	$149.50
Sick & Aged Priests	$70.00		

READINGS FOR NEXT WEEK - Third Sunday of Advent

1st Reading: Isaiah 35:1-6a, 10
The desert and the parched land will exult; The steppe will rejoice and bloom. They will bloom with abundant flowers, and rejoice with joyful song. The glory of Lebanon will be given to them, the splendour of Carmel and Sharon; they will see the glory of the LORD, the splendour of our God. Strengthen the hands that are feeble, make firm the knees that are weak, Say to those whose hearts are frightened: Be strong, fear not! Here is your God, he comes with vindication. with divine recompense he comes to save you. Then will the eyes of the blind be opened, the ears of the deaf be cleared; then will the lame leap like a stag, then the tongue of the mute will sing.

Those whom the LORD has ransomed will return and enter Zion singing, crowned with everlasting joy; they will meet with joy and gladness, sorrow and mourning will flee.

Responsorial Psalm: 146:6-7, 8-9, 9-10.
The LORD God keeps faith forever, secures justice for the oppressed, gives food to the hungry.
The LORD sets captives free.
R. Lord, come and save us.

The LORD gives sight to the blind; the LORD raises up those who were bowed down.
The LORD loves the just; the LORD protects strangers.
R. Lord, come and save us.

The fatherless and the widow he sustains, but the way of the wicked he thwarts.
The LORD shall reign forever; your God, O Zion, through all generations.
R. Lord, come and save us.

Reading 2: James 5:7-10
Be patient, brothers and sisters, until the coming of the Lord. See how the farmer waits for the precious fruit of the earth, being patient with it until it receives the early and the late rains. You too must be patient. Make your hearts firm, because the coming of the Lord is at hand. Do not complain, brothers and sisters, about one another, that you may not be judged. Behold, the Judge is standing before the gates. Take as an example of hardship and patience, brothers and sisters, the prophets who spoke in the name of the Lord.

Alleluia: Isaiah 61:1 (cited in Lk 4:18)
R. Alleluia, alleluia.
The Spirit of the Lord is upon me, because he has anointed me to bring glad tidings to the poor.
R. Alleluia, alleluia.

Gospel Matthew 11:2-11
When John the Baptist heard in prison of the works of the Christ, he sent his disciples to Jesus with this question, "Are you the one who is to come, or should we look for another?" Jesus said to them in reply, "Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind regain their sight, the lame walk, lepers are cleansed, the deaf hear, the dead are raised, and the poor have the good news proclaimed to them. And blessed is the one who takes no offense at me." As they were going off, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John, "What did you go out to the desert to see? A reed swayed by the wind? Then what did you go out to see? Someone dressed in fine clothing? Those who wear fine clothing are in royal palaces. Then why did you go out? To see a prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written: Behold, I am sending my messenger ahead of you; he will prepare your way before you. Amen, I say to you, among those born of women, there has been none greater than John the Baptist.



MOKAU - **CHRISTMAS MASS -** Saturday 20th December at 5.00pm

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WAITARA - **CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASS** Wednesday 24th December.
Carols start at 7.00pm, Mass starts at 7.30pm

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INGLEWOOD - **CHRISTMAS DAY MASS**
Thursday 25th December at 10am

Please note: There will be no Masses or Liturgy of the Words on Boxing Day.

PLANNED GIVING: If anyone is interested in going on planned giving or would like more information on planned giving, then please give Nicky a call in the parish office – 756 7164 or email her on shparish@xtra.co.nz