

*The following deaths and Anniversaries are about this time*

- 22 Peter Yeo (father of Sharon Lam)  
23 Julia Mary Donovan  
Akenese Sapa'u (mother of Flo Sapa'u)  
Gerry Rogers  
26 Laurie McMahan  
Mary O'Leary  
Kathleen McKeirnan  
Francis "Graham" Holz  
27 Mary Patricia Holz  
28 Jacqueline Sullivan  
Josephine McMurray  
Philip McMurray

**Eternal rest grant unto them, O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon them. May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.**

### **Volunteers**

We are also looking for volunteers to assist as **Ministers of the Word** and **Eucharistic Ministers**.

If you're able to help, please contact:

**Litia Lockington** – 021 0832 9971

**Clare Williams** – 021 178 0667

**Reconciliation Times** during Advent with the below dates will start at 4pm.

Saturday 13<sup>th</sup> December 2025

Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> December 2025

**Your support is greatly appreciated!**



# Welcome to St. Andrew's Catholic Church, Tuakau

*The Nativity of the Lord (Christmas) Mass, Dec 24th 2025*



### **Physical Address**

186 George Street, Tuakau

### **Postal Address**

24 Domain Street, Waiuku  
2123

### **Website:**

www.tuakacatholic.org.nz

### **Parish Priest**

Fr. Robert Steele  
office@pukekohecatholic.org.nz  
Mobile: 021 1133840

### **Assistant Priest:**

Fr Joseph Doan

### **Mass Times:**

Saturday Vigil, 5:00 pm

Wed & Fri, 11:00 am

### **Reconciliation:**

Saturday: 4:30 to 4:45 pm or  
by appointment

### **Anointing of the sick:**

First Friday, during Mass at  
11:00 am

### **Introduction:**

*A Son is Given to Us.*

*Prayer Thought: The darkness of this night is transformed by the birth of our Saviour. As and stillness descent upon the earth we bear ones more the joyful song, 'Glory to God in the highest and peace to his people on earth.' May that blessing of peace upon us, our family, our friends, our world.*

### **Readings from Sacred Scripture:**

**First Reading:** *Isaiah 9:1-6*

*To those in darkness, a child will be born who will have dominion over the earth.*

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Psalm 23:1-6*

*R/. Today a saviour has been born to us. He is Christ the Lord.*

**Second Reading:** *Titus 2:11-14*

*God has appeared, bringing salvation to all.*

**Gospel Acclamation:-** *Luke 2:10-11 Alleluia, Alleluia!*

*I bring you news of great joy: today a saviour has been born to us, Christ the Lord.. Alleluia!*

**Gospel Reading:** *Luke 2:1-14*

*Jesus is born in a manger in Bethlehem as the angel*

### **WEEKLY INSPIRATION –EMMANUEL**



**““Do not be afraid; for see—I am bringing you good news of great joy for all the people”**

**— Luke 2:10**

God enters the world not in power, but in humility, reminding us that greatness often begins small.

In the quiet of a manger, we learn that God is closest to us in our ordinary moments. Even when life feels unsettled, Christ's birth assures us that we are never alone.

Peace grows when we trust God's presence rather than our circumstances.

Let this season renew our hope and invite us to welcome Emmanuel into our hearts.

## Scripture note :-

During the Christmas season, our liturgy invites us to consider the birth of the Lord from many vantage points. As we begin this season, it is useful to remember that the stories of Jesus' birth and childhood are found in only two of our Gospels, Matthew and Luke.

Throughout this season, we will hear stories from both Gospels. Those Gospels tell different but complementary stories about Jesus' birth, highlighting items of theological importance about the Incarnation and the salvation that Jesus brings.

On this day, the Feast of Christmas, we are given the details of Christ's birth as found in the Gospel of Luke. Here we learn about the census that brings Mary and Joseph from Nazareth to Bethlehem, where Jesus is born. We also hear about the angel's announcement of this good news to the shepherds. In these details, we find two of Luke's particular concerns: (1) to locate the coming of Christ in the wider framework of salvation history as good news for all people, Gentiles and Jews, and (2) to show the Lord's favor upon the poor and lowly.

In Luke's Gospel, Jesus is born as one of the poor. Laid in a manger in a stable, because there was no room at the inn, he comes into the world through obscure and surprising means. Yet, as the angel proclaims this good news to the shepherds, this infant is announced as the Messiah and Lord. In the song of the angels, all are invited to give glory to God for this miraculous birth, in which God comes to share our humanity.

The angels sing that Jesus' coming brings peace. Yet there is little in the details of this Gospel that gives evidence of peace. Jesus is born as a traveler away from home, born in a stable in a crowded city under the occupation of foreigners. The appearance of the angel to the shepherds frightens them. When the angels proclaim Jesus' birth as the harbinger of "peace on earth," the evangelist Luke clearly wants us to take the long view. The shepherds are invited to claim a faith that will enable them to see this infant as a sign God's promise of a messiah. It is through such faith that one finds the peace of which the angels sing.

**Mothers Group:** All mothers and their children under the age of 5 are invited to "St Gianna's Mothers and Children Group". The morning starts with an element of formation and group discussions while your children enjoy a safe area to play, followed by Mass and lunch (provided). Join us on the **second and fourth Tuesdays** of the month from **10am - 1pm**. This group is run by Family Life International at their 'St Gianna's Home for Mothers and Babies' in Pukekohe Auckland. First session will be on Tuesday 29th of April.

Contact Amie for the address: 027 350 8227; werthenextgen@gmail.com

**OneLicense** exciting Update. Are you struggling to have musicians to play at each Mass? OneLicense has launched a new Recorded Audio License. With this add-on you can legally play master recordings and self-produced recordings in worship services, embed them into slides, and more! For more information please see <https://www.onelicense.net/how-it-works#recorded-audio> If you wish to add one on to your current license, please email your Auckland Diocese Group Manager Tina Coll on [tinac@cda.org.nz](mailto:tinac@cda.org.nz)

## Engaged / Planning a wedding? Catholic Diocese of Auckland – Approved Marriage Preparation Course

Book your Marriage Preparation Course early 1 year for NZ and 18months for overseas weddings. Register & Book here: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/our-courses/> For more information contact: Gerry at [gerrys@cda.org.nz](mailto:gerrys@cda.org.nz) M: 021 02247442 Please contact Father Robert as soon as possible in planning your marriage.

## The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary, and Joseph, Cycle A

Theme:- A Home for God's love

**First Reading:** *Sirach 3:2-7,12-14*  
*Honor to one's parents will be rewarded.*

**Responsorial Psalm:** *Psalm 127:1-5*  
*R/. O blessed are those who fear the Lord and walk in his ways.*

**Second Reading:** *Colossians 3:12-21*  
*Do all things in the name of Jesus and give thanks to God.*

**Gospel Acclamation:-** *Mark 11:9-10 Alleluia, Alleluia! May the peace of Christ reign in your hearts; let the message of Christ find a home with you. Alleluia!*

**Gospel Reading:** *Matthew 2:13-15,19-23*  
*In a dream, God tells Joseph to flee to Egypt to protect Jesus from King Herod.*

## Donation envelopes

We have discovered a small mix-up with our current gifting envelopes. If you are using envelope numbers 55 or 58, please see Clare after Mass or contact Karen Betty – 0274 303 385 so we can record your details for receipt purposes and for next year's envelopes.

If you would like a new set of envelopes, we also have a few spare numbers available. Please speak with Clare or Karen, and we will assign a set for the January 2026 distribution.

## Altar Flower Donations

A donation box for the **Church Altar flowers** will be placed at the back of the church and collected after each weekend Mass. Your generous contributions help keep our altar beautiful and welcoming.

Any donations and assistance are deeply appreciated — thank you for your continued support.

## Saints of the week

**Monday, 22nd of Dec:- Saint Frances Xavier Cabrini**

**Tuesday, 23rd of Dec:- Saint John of Kanti**

**Wednesday, 24th of Dec:- Saint Adam and Eve**

**Thursday, 25th of Dec:- The Birth of the Lord**

**Friday, 26th of Dec:- Saint Stephen**

**Saturday, 27th of Dec:- Saint John the Evangelist**

**Sunday, 28th of Dec:- The Holy Innocents**

Please email items for the newsletter or Memorial book to [minu\\_mathew@hotmail.com](mailto:minu_mathew@hotmail.com) or text to 021 926 935 – Minu Mathew

## CATHOLIC NEWS IN YOUR INBOX:

What's happening in the Catholic Church in New Zealand? What is Pope Leo doing and saying? What are the big stories affecting people of faith in our country? Get Catholic headlines delivered to your inbox each Tuesday and Friday. Sign up today at: <https://cathnewsnz.com/>

