



GOOD SHEPHERD CATHOLIC CHURCH

27 Telford Avenue, Balmoral, Auckland 1041

09 620 9515 office@balmoralcatholic.org.nz

www.balmoralcatholic.org.nz



Good Shepherd Catholic
Church Balmoral

~ 1 DECEMBER 2024 ~ CELEBRATING THE 1ST SUNDAY OF ADVENT ~

Kia ora koutou katoa

Welcome to visitors and newcomers as we
celebrate the first Sunday of Advent

Today we commence the beautiful season of Advent - a time of preparation, hope, and renewal. Advent invites us to journey together toward the celebration of Christ's birth and the anticipation of His glorious return. It is a season rich in meaning, offering us a chance to pause amidst life's busyness and realign our hearts with God.

Advent calls us to reflect
on three powerful themes.

Hope ~ the prophets of old proclaimed the coming of the Messiah, and their words remind us to trust in God's promises, even in times of uncertainty. Let us carry this hope into our lives, trusting that God's light shines in the darkest moments.

Repentance and preparation ~

John the Baptist cried out in the wilderness,
"Prepare the way of the Lord!"

During Advent, we are called to examine our lives, turn away from sin, and create space in our hearts for Jesus. This is a time for reconciliation, prayer, and acts of charity, as we prepare to welcome the Savior.

Joy ~ Advent culminates in the celebration
of Christ's birth,
the fulfilment of God's love made flesh.

This joy is not fleeting but rooted in the
knowledge that
God is with us ~ Emmanuel.

Let us embrace Advent as a sacred
opportunity to grow in faith, hope, and love.

As we light the candles of the Advent
wreath, may their flames remind us that
Christ is our eternal light,
guiding us ever closer to Him.

We welcome to Good Shepherd today
members of the Young Vinnies community
who once again invite us, as we are able, to
support their 'Feed a Family' campaign
as we journey to Christmas.

It's an opportunity to support their amazing
work and to make a tangible difference in a
family's life as they endeavour to celebrate
Christmas. The Vinnies operate out of their
centre in Henderson Place in Onehunga .

They are there to help you, if you yourselves,
are in need of assistance. They are very
discrete. Contact Phone 0800 680 090
Food Bank email foodbank@svdpak.org.nz

Our thanks to the young people who have
prepared so well for the 9.30am Sunday
Mass. Youth activities recommenced in Good
Shepherd Parish this year.

Our thanks Kat and Therese for their
enthusiasm and care for our Tamariki!

Lets encourage them as best we can!

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMETABLE

Christmas Eve - December 24

5pm Family Mass

11.30pm Christmas Eve Mass

~~~~~

Christmas Day - December 25

Parish Mass 9.30am

Maronite Christmas Mass 11.30am

## ADVENT AT GOOD SHEPHERD

There are a number of opportunities to prepare for Christmas .....

### Advent Anointing of the Sick

Saturday 21 December at the 9.30am Mass

### Advent Reconciliation - Rite II

Wednesday 18 December 6pm

## REFUGES - Preparing a way for the Lord

Sundays of Advent at 7.30 a contemplative hour of song and silence before the Blessed Sacrament.

Led by Rachel Wilson and Niamh O'Neil.

## ADVENT CALENDAR FOR CHILDREN

Today we will be handing out Advent calendars with a suggested daily activity as we 'prepare a way for the Lord' as we journey to Christmas.

### ADVENT GIFT BASKET

Children - Bring along something that you'd like to give to another child for Christmas. It may even be something of your own that you love or enjoy!

Gifts should be marked re age and gender

## 'THE BELOVED' PREPARING THE WAY

An adult faith enrichment/sharing/formation group meets weekly on Thursday evenings at 7pm at Good Shepherd..... spiritual books, shared wisdom. Contact [eamon\\_david@hotmail.com](mailto:eamon_david@hotmail.com)

### ADVENT PRAYER SERIES

This Advent consider joining Dianna Fouhy on Wednesday evenings reflecting on Pope Francis' latest encyclical *Dilexit Nos* - 'He loved Us'

Wednesday Evenings 4th, 11th, 18th December

contact [diannaf@cda.org.nz](mailto:diannaf@cda.org.nz)

## COLUMBAN CALENDARS & BIBLE DIARIES

Available next week

## FOYER DEFIBRILLATOR

The parish has a defibrillator in the foyer.

Please check out its location, especially those who are familiar with its functioning.

### THE DEFIBRILLATOR CABINET

ACCESS CODE IS C2017

## LOCAL YOUTH MINISTER VACANCIES

Looking for self motivated leaders to become paid

Local Youth Ministers, working across both a secondary school and parish. Make a difference in the lives of young people

[www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/staff-vacancies/)

### YEAR OF JUBILEE 2025

Pope Francis has proclaimed 2025 as a Year of Jubilee – Pilgrims of Hope. As well as local initiatives the diocese has a calendar of Jubilee Events.

Explore [www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/jubilee2025/jubilee-calendar/](http://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/jubilee2025/jubilee-calendar/)

## ST FRANCIS RETREAT CENTRE

The Friary offers many opportunities for

'Time Out Days' and retreats visit

[www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz](http://www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz)

## NGA TAPUWAE JUBILEE HIKOI 2025

A pilgrimage to the north, the cradle of Catholicism. Following in the footsteps of Bishop Pompallier, 10th to 12th January 2025.

Information Evening 20th November 7pm-8pm.

Register and enquiries at [stephenf@cda.org.nz](mailto:stephenf@cda.org.nz)

### FIRST MASS CELEBRATION

Celebrating the anniversary of the first Mass by Bishop Pompallier in 1838. Coach day trip \$15 on January 12, 2025. Enq at [stephenf@cda.org.nz](mailto:stephenf@cda.org.nz)

### 2025 SACRED PILGRIMAGE

From Lyon to Rome in the Holy Year.

Led by Auckland Bishop Steve Lowe departs 29 September for 21 days. Visit

[www.harvestjourneys.com/2566](http://www.harvestjourneys.com/2566)

## TE KUPENGA THEOLOGICAL COLLEGE

Enrol for 2025 Courses offered in catholic Theology, Diploma and Certificate in Christian Studies. Visit [admin@ctc.ac.nz](mailto:admin@ctc.ac.nz)

## READINGS FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

FIRST READING - Jeremiah 33:14-16

The Lord, who fulfils all his promises, will bring the people a new integrity.

SECOND READING - Thessalonians 3:12-4:2

Progress in the Christian life means an ever-deepening care for others

In the knowledge that this is to share in God's care for them.

GOSPEL - Luke 21:25-28.34-36

Stay awake, praying at all times..... Prepare.



|                                                                                    |                                                                                    |                                                                                   |                                                                                   |                                                                                   |
|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|-----------------------------------------------------------------------------------|
|   |   |  |  |  |
| <b>4 WEEKS</b><br>of food, fuel,<br>utilities &<br>Christmas gifts<br>for a family | <b>2 WEEKS</b><br>of food, fuel,<br>utilities &<br>Christmas gifts<br>for a family | <b>1 WEEK</b><br>of food, fuel,<br>utilities &<br>Christmas gifts<br>for a family | <b>1 WEEK</b><br>of food<br>for a family                                          | <b>GIFT</b><br>Christmas<br>family gifts                                          |
| <b>\$1000</b>                                                                      | <b>\$500</b>                                                                       | <b>\$250</b>                                                                      | <b>\$150</b>                                                                      | <b>\$50</b>                                                                       |

**We remember those who have died recently and those whose anniversaries occur in December... Eternal rest grant unto them...**

Cardinal Thomas Stafford Williams, Zelma Farnsworth, Gloria Maria Petica, Paddy Mulrennan, Brian Walsh, Kristie Larsen, Wilfreda Aguila, Clementina Sanchez, Sr Rosello rsm, Maria Belcher, Eileen Prendiville, Des Clarke, Patrick Mullin, Jennifer Spicer, Patrick Gillespie, Richard Mihaljevich, Vincent Santos, Leonarda Edge, Rosanne Brennan, Edward Murphy, Sr Marcella rsm, Tony Shanly, Carmel Henderson, Maria Henrys, Felix Antunovich, Margaret Mathieson, Joe Moodabe, Olga Wolk, Margaret Doran, Grace Millane, Fay Hudner, Ken Osborne, Angelia Ruth Kwok, Angela Rosser, Charlie & Pat Langdon, Louise Perkins, Nellie Cheyne, Jim Turner, Matt Murphy, Michael Tipene, Michael Shanahan, Nanette Peterson, Jesse Main, Dorothy Calder, Gabrielle Kjellberg, Anauli Muavae, Quintin Montelara, Norma Millares, Verona Edwards, Ana Pome'e, Gavin Michie, Gwendoline Henwood, Thomas Stitt, Gerard Stockman, Margaret Bebbington, Wilhelmina Helmink, Vera Henry, John Murray, Enid Naylor, Joseph Benson, Tui Hayter, Olive Dominikovich, Thomas Hoy, Anthony Parker, Sandra McQuarrie, Ellen Rae, John Brennan, George Pohl, Susan Koroly,



## **SAFEGUARDING MATTERS**

As a parish it is important that we foster an environment which is welcoming and safe for all. While WE ARE ALL CALLED to be mindful of safe environments for children, those who minister directly with children and vulnerable adults are required to complete diocesan safeguarding courses and to be police vetted. Thank you to Jane Hahn who is our parish Safeguarding coordinator and is overseeing the implementation of Church policies and protocols within GS Parish. Her contact email is [janehahnnz@gmail.com](mailto:janehahnnz@gmail.com).

Safeguarding information is available via the parish website and on our notice boards. The Catholic Church's overseeing Safeguarding Agency is NOPS the National Office for Professional Standards - Tel 0800114662 [www.safeguarding.catholic.org.nz](http://www.safeguarding.catholic.org.nz)

### Sunday Masses

**Saturday Vigil:** 6pm

**Sunday:** 9.30am

### Weekday Masses

**Tuesday to Saturday:** Mass: 9.30am  
(including Public Holidays)

### Saturday

**Saturday:** Exposition & Rosary from 8am  
followed by Mass at 9.30am

### Reconciliation

Saturday 9am before the 9.30am Mass

Wellness reminder—if you are sick  
please stay home

### GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH

**Parish Priest:** Msgr Bernard Kiely

Seminarian: Ryan Sy  
[ryan@balmoralcatholic.org.nz](mailto:ryan@balmoralcatholic.org.nz)

PARISH OFFICE - 096209515

**Parish Secretary:**

Kristelle Thomsen

Office Hours Tuesday, Thursday Friday  
10am to 3pm

[office@balmoralcatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@balmoralcatholic.org.nz)

CHURCH & HALL BOOKINGS

[office@balmoralcatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@balmoralcatholic.org.nz)

### GOOD SHEPHERD PARISH SCHOOL

[admin@goodshepherd.school.nz](mailto:admin@goodshepherd.school.nz)

**Principal:** Ben Fahey

[principal@goodshepherd.school.nz](mailto:principal@goodshepherd.school.nz)

For enrolments please phone the school office  
on 09 620 4962 for further  
information or download the forms from the school website  
[www.goodshepherd.school.nz](http://www.goodshepherd.school.nz) School visits welcome.

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL & FOODBANK

6A Henderson Place, Onehunga

If you, or someone you know, need assistance  
Contact Phone (09) 815 6122 or 0800 680 090

email [auckland@stvinnies.co.nz](mailto:auckland@stvinnies.co.nz)

Food Bank email [foodbank@svdpak.org.nz](mailto:foodbank@svdpak.org.nz)

**Thank you for your food donations  
left in the foyer basket**