

**First Reading**

**Isaiah 2:1-5**

The vision of Isaiah son of Amoz, concerning Judah and Jerusalem.  
In the days to come the mountain of the Temple of the Lord shall tower above the mountains and be lifted higher than the hills. All the nations will stream to it, peoples without number will come to it; and they will say:  
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord, to the Temple of the God of Jacob that he may teach us his ways so that we may walk in his paths; since the Law will go out from Zion, and the oracle of the Lord from Jerusalem.'  
He will wield authority over the nations and adjudicate between many peoples; these will hammer their swords into ploughshares, their spears into sickles. Nation will not lift sword against nation, there will be no more training for war.  
O House of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord.

*The word of the Lord*

**Psalm 121 (122):1-2,4-5,6-9**

**R: Let us go rejoicing to the house of the Lord.**

**Second Reading**

**Romans 13:11-14**

You know 'the time' has come: you must wake up now: our salvation is even nearer than it was when we were converted. The night is almost over, it will be daylight soon – let us give up all the things we prefer to do under cover of the dark; let us arm ourselves and appear in the light. Let us live decently as people do in the daytime: no drunken orgies, no promiscuity or licentiousness, and no wrangling or jealousy. Let your armour be the Lord Jesus Christ.

*The word of the Lord*

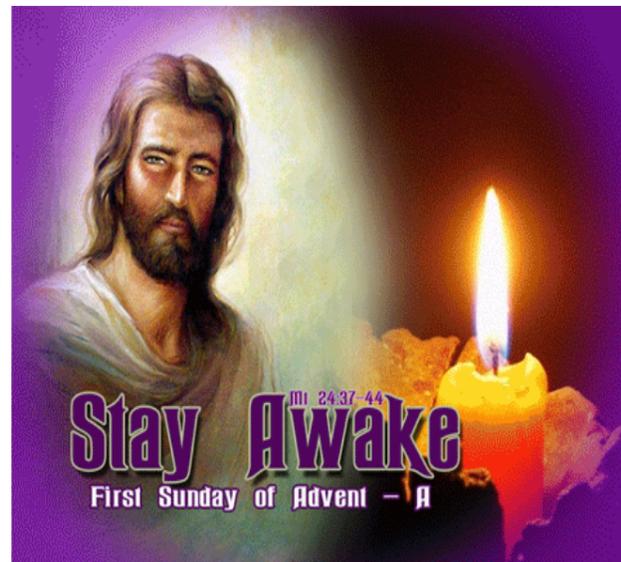
**Gospel**

**Matthew 24:37-44**

Jesus said to his disciples: 'As it was in Noah's day, so will it be when the Son of Man comes. For in those days before the Flood people were eating, drinking, taking wives, taking husbands, right up to the day Noah went into the ark, and they suspected nothing till the Flood came and swept all away. It will be like this when the Son of Man comes. Then of two men in the fields one is taken, one left; of two women at the millstone grinding, one is taken, one left.  
'So stay awake, because you do not know the day when your master is coming. You may be quite sure of this, that if the householder had known at what time of the night the burglar would come, he would have stayed awake and would not have allowed anyone to break through the wall of his house. Therefore, you too must stand ready because the Son of Man is coming at an hour you do not expect.'

*The Gospel of the Lord*

**'you too must stand ready'**



**Readings for next week 2nd Sunday of Advent**

**1st Reading Isaiah 11:1-10; Psalm 71(72): 1,2,7,8,12,13,17;**

**2nd Reading Romans 15:4-9; Gospel Matthew 3: 1-12**



# Te Kura Katorika o Hato Hohepa



Parish Priest  
Father Joe Stack  
Te Awamutu  
07 8716109

Resident Priest  
Fr. Matt McAuslin  
Ph: 07 878 6417

**St. George's Parish**

**Community Newsletter**

**Panui 38 – 29 November 2019**

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*Together we will provide a quality all round education, developing valuable contributors to society who reflect the teachings of Jesus Christ*

**TE KUITI HIGH SCHOOL ENROLLMENT INTERVIEWS**

This is a reminder to please send the interview timetable form, sent out earlier this week, back to school by tomorrow, Friday, 29 November 2019, if you want to attend the interview your student will be having with Mr. Thomas Tumai, Principal of Te Kuiti High School. We've only received two forms back so far. The interviews will be on **Monday, 02 December 2019 from 10am onwards**. If we have not received a form back by tomorrow, a time will be allocated to you and an interview slip indicating your time slot will be sent home tomorrow afternoon with your Year 8 student. Please send the completed enrollment documents to school with your Year 8 student on Monday, alternatively bring them to the interview. Thank you.



**YEAR 8 RETREAT - THURSDAY, 5 DECEMBER 2019**

Our Year 8 retreat will be held in Te Kuiti. The students will walk to the venue. The retreat will last the whole school day and the students will be back at school in time to go home on the bus.



**PLEASE TAKE NOTE OF THESE IMPORTANT DATES: YOU'RE INVITED TO**

**10 December:** We will be hosting our Leavers Mass on Tuesday, December 10th at St. George's Parish at 9.15 am

**16 December:** Our Nativity play and End of Year Assembly will be held on this day, from 11.30am at the Indoor Bowling Club on Queen Street.

**WHAT ARE WE UP TO ?**

**NOVEMBER**

**29: SWIMMING - 1.30PM-2.30PM, MINIBALL FINALS - SENIORS**

**DECEMBER 2019**

**5: YEAR 8 RETREAT, SWIMMING - 1.30PM TO 2.30PM**

**6: STUBBS FARM VISIT - YEAR 7 & 8, SWIMMING 1.30 PM - 2.30PM**

**9: STUBBS FARM VISIT - YEAR 5 & 6**

**10: LEAVERS MASS, SWIMMING - 1.30PM TO 2.30PM; AMAZING RACE AND LEAVERS DINNER**

**11: ROOM 4 TRIP TO THE ZOO; ROAD PATROL WARDENS FUN DAY**

**12: SWIMMING - 1.30PM TO 2.30PM**

**16: FINAL ASSEMBLY 11.30 AM, LAST DAY FOR BUSES TO AND FROM SCHOOL**

**18: END OF TERM 4**

## FROM MRS DOWNEY'S DESK ...

Hoki mai ki te kura o Katorika o Hato Hohepa

On Sunday it is 'New Years Day' for Catholics. It marks the beginning of our Liturgical Year, starting with the season of Advent which is 25 days before Christmas. Our family have some significant birthdays today, and I was reflecting on the word 'waiting',

It occurred to me that to wait for anything demands preparation, patience, hope and a total focus on what we are waiting for.

Mary waited in patience and hope for our Saviours' birth. Advent is a time of waiting. As we remember Mary's waiting - we wait, and prepare ourselves for Jesus' second coming and the promise of everlasting life.

Catholics mark our waiting with an Advent wreath that has four candles. One candle is lit each Sunday. Why not make one for your family, and light it each evening?



### Swimming:

Swimming has begun! The water safety programme at the Te Kuiti Pools is engaging our students in safe practices coming into summer. They are really enjoying what is being taught.

Our school has never charged for swimming pool entry or the bus that takes the children there. The cost is significant but one that is prioritised. No donation money in 2020 is allocated to swimming expenses.

We do our best to keep the swimming days and times in front of our children and parent community. Please note these down on the calendar. The dates are contained in this newsletter on page 1 and Page 4. Unless there is a note or a phone call to the teacher or office all students are expected to take part in our swimming programme.



### **REBUILD UPDATE - Flexible Learning Environment**

Our rebuild is coming along well. We now have decks and framing for the sliding door and the covered roof should be completed next week. A second container has arrived to store furniture from Rooms 3 and 4 over the summer.

**WE NEED HELP! There is to be an emptying out day of the classrooms and resources - into the container on TUESDAY 17th DECEMBER.**

This is still a school day and I'm asking if you can come and offer some time to help - even if it is half an hour, I know the teachers would really appreciate the assistance. **WE NEED BOXES** - If you have any strong boxes at home or know where we get them could you please bring them in or call the office and we can collect.



Enjoy your weekend  
God Bless your families.

Suzanne

## FROM FATHER MATT ...

This Sunday we begin the liturgical season of Advent. With this in mind here is a very good (edited) article from lay theologian, Jimmy Akin about key aspects of Advent.

Blessings

Fr. Matt

### What Is the Purpose of Advent?

Advent has a twofold character:

as a season to prepare for Christmas when Christ's first coming to us is remembered;

as a season when that remembrance directs the mind and heart to await Christ's Second Coming at the end of time.

Advent is thus a period for devout and joyful expectation [Norms 39]. Properly speaking, Advent is a season that brings to mind the Two Comings of Christ.

### What Liturgical Colors Are Used in Advent?

The normal color for Advent is violet.

The color rose may be used, where it is the practice, on Gaudete Sunday (Third Sunday of Advent) and on Laetare Sunday (Fourth Sunday of Lent) [GIRM 346f].

### When Does Advent Begin and End?

Advent begins with the Sunday falling on or closest to 30 November and ends before Christmas [Norms 40].

### What Is the Role of Sundays in Advent?

There are four Sundays of Advent. The General Norms state:

The Sundays of this season are named the First, Second, Third, and Fourth Sundays of Advent [Norms 41].

We have already mentioned that the Third Sunday of Advent has a special name--Gaudete Sunday. Gaudete is the Latin word for "Rejoice," which is the first word of the introit of the Mass for this day.

The Church ascribes particular importance to these Sundays, and they take precedence over other liturgical celebrations.

### How Is Music Performed During Advent?

The General Instruction of the Roman Missal notes: In Advent the use of the organ and other musical instruments should be marked by a moderation suited to the character of this time of year, without expressing in anticipation the full joy of the Nativity of the Lord.

### Is the Gloria Said or Sung During Advent?

Neither. The General Instruction of the Roman Missal provides:

[The Gloria or "Glory to God in the highest"] is sung or said on Sundays outside Advent and Lent, and also on Solemnities and Feasts, and at particular celebrations of a more solemn character [GIRM 53].

### What Private Devotions Can We Use to Grow Closer to God During Advent?

There are a variety of private devotions that the Church has recognized for use during Advent. The most famous is the Advent Wreath.

## PARISH AND DIOCESAN NEWS

### HILLVIEW CHURCH SERVICE

It is back to St Georges turn in December. Held on Thursdays at 4.15pm in the main lounge. We are in need of singers and a pianist or a guitarist.

### FOOD FOR FAITH - FR JOHN O'CONNOR

Fr. John O'Connor is again offering daily reflections online for Advent through his Food for Faith website. To receive daily advent reflections please sign up at [www.foodforfaith.org.nz](http://www.foodforfaith.org.nz)

**PLEASE TAKE NOTE**

**END OF YEAR AND START OF 2020 DATES**

- \*Last bus day is Monday 16th of December (our final assembly day)
- \*Last school day is Wednesday 18th December
- \*Start of 2020 is Monday 3rd of February



**ROAD PATROL FUN DAY**

Our students who have worked hard this year, to keep everyone crossing the road at the end of the school day safe, will be enjoying the annual Fun Day with Katheryn Watkins from the New Zealand Police on Wednesday, 11th December 2019.

It will start at 10am on the Te Kuiti Domain where they will have some fun activities provided by Sports Waikato. They will be enjoying a BBQ lunch and head off to the Te Kuiti pools until 2.30pm. They can head home after that or return to school to go home on the bus.



**FROM THE BOT**

*Our school works with SchoolDocs to maintain, update, and review our policies.*

*The Sun Protection and Education Outside the Classroom policies are currently up for review, and we would welcome any feedback from our school families on these policies.*

To read and review the policies, please visit the Schooldocs website at <https://stjosephk.schooldocs.co.nz> (note that there's no "www."). Our username is "stjosephk" and password "catholic". Once there, click on the "current review" button, and that will take you to the current review – follow the "Instructions for reviewers" to read the policies and take part in the review. Thank you for your help.



**LIBRARY BOOKS**

**Please return all St Joseph's School library books** by Friday, 6 December 2019. We need to prepare stock take documentation for audit purposes. If you are not sure whether your student/s have books outstanding, we are able to let you know which books are outstanding. Thank you for your support with this.



**AMAZING RACE**

Our annual "Amazing Race" for the Year 8 students will take place on the afternoon of the 10th December after the school bell has gone at the end of the day.

The students have to complete tasks similar to the television programme (although it does not involve travelling all over the world, they do travel around Te Kuiti ) and have lots of fun in the process. Parents will be driving them to their various destinations in town. Should you have any questions, please call the office.



**LEAVERS DINNER**

At 6pm on the 10th December the Year 8 students will have their Leavers Dinner at the Panorama Motor Inn. An invitation will be sent home to each family, that will contain more information. The Year 8 students and their families enjoy a lovely buffet dinner and it is an opportunity for the students to say farewell to staff members and their fellow classmates, some who have been here since they started school. We ask that you RSVP as soon as you've received the invitation, so we can give numbers through to Panorama Motor Inn. Thank you



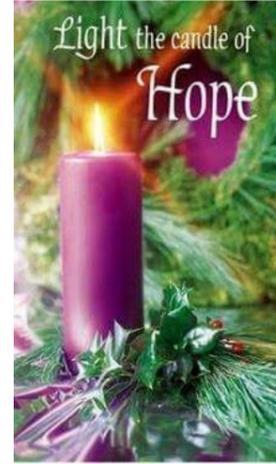
**Religious Education**

**1st week of Advent**

**Advent** is the period of four Sundays and weeks before Christmas. **Advent** means 'Coming' in Latin. This is the coming of Jesus into the world. Christians use the four Sundays and weeks of **Advent** to prepare and remember the real meaning of Christmas.

Week 1: We light the candle of Hope (purple) or the *Prophecy* candle in remembrance of the Prophets especially Isaiah whose prophecies foretold the coming of the Messiah.

There are many Advent traditions both new and old, here are some of the familiar as well as some from around the world observed by our school and Parish families.



**Advent Wreath**

These can also be purchased or made. Each candle is lit on the Sundays leading up to Christmas Day.



**Advent Calendar**

These can be purchased (with or without chocolate!) but much more fun to make.



**Fasting**

A tradition with the Indian community, to eat only vegetarian food from 1-25 December before celebrating the birth of Christ.



**SVDP Brown Bag Appeal**

Now a familiar Advent tradition by the school. Food items are collected during Advent in partnership with SVDP for families in need in our Te Kuiti Community. Our trolley kindly lent by New World needs filling ..!! In the past we have always filled over 20 bags !!



**Window Candle**

A candle in the window (LED light these days) through Advent to light the way for Joseph and Mary to the stable. A popular Irish tradition.



**Jesse Tree**

A real or made tree, decorated with symbols which mark the journey from creation to the birth of Christ. The symbols represent the ancestral characters depicted in the Jewish scriptures and the gospels. Eg The ark, the burning bush, Jonah's whale, etc.



**Simbang Gabi**

A nine day Novena of dawn Masses from 16 -24 December celebrated in the Philippines.



**Nativity Set**

Depicting the scene and characters at the birth of Christ displayed in home and public places.



## SPORTS NEWS

### SWIMMING TIMETABLE FOR TERM 4, 2019

Friday, November 29th at 1.30pm to 2.30pm  
Thursday, December 5th at 1.30pm to 2.30pm  
Friday, December: 6th; at 1.30pm to 2.30pm  
Tuesday, December 10th at 1.30pm to 2.30pm  
Thursday, December 12th at 1.30pm to 2.30pm.  
**Please mark this in your diaries!**



### MINIBALL FINALS

We would like to wish the St Joseph's Panthers and St Joseph's Thunder all the best for their games in the Miniball Finals tomorrow. Play hard and play fair!! Those teams who have finished the season, **please return your clean and tidy Miniball shirts to school as soon as possible.**



### INTERSCHOOL ATHLETICS RESULTS

Our students attended the Interschools Athletics on Friday 22 November, and these were our results:

#### Shotput:

Junior Boys: Cruz Te Wao - 2nd;  
Senior Boys: Uday Singh - 2nd

#### Discus:

Intermediate Girls: Mya Roberts - 3rd;  
Senior Boys: Uday Singh - 1st  
Senior Boys: Sloane Davis - 3rd

#### Long Jump:

Junior Boys: Cruz Te Wao - 2nd  
Intermediate Girls: Libby Kearins Te Whare - 2nd  
Senior Boys: Matthew Riley - 3rd

#### High Jump:

Junior Girls: Sarah D'Ath - 3rd  
Intermediate Girls: Libby Kearins Te Whare - 1st  
Senior Girls: Jasmine Holmes - 1st

#### Sprints - 400m

Intermediate Girls: Libby Kearins Te Whare - 3rd  
Senior Girls: Jasmine Holmes - 1st

#### Sprints - 200m

Intermediate Girls: Libby Kearins Te Whare - 3rd

#### Sprints - 100m

Intermediate Girls: Libby Kearins Te Whare - 1st  
Intermediate Boys: Luke Riley - 3rd

#### Relays

Intermediate Boys: St Joseph's - 3rd  
Intermediate Girls: St Joseph's - 3rd  
Senior Boys: St Joseph's - 2nd  
Senior Girls: St Joseph's - 2nd



## PLEASE TAKE NOTE

### ATTENDANCE DUES

The whanau of every child enrolled in a State Integrated school like St Joseph's has to pay Attendance Dues to the Diocese. This is \$444 at the moment. For some families this is an impossible amount to pay but parishioners may be able to help. We have a great little school here and no child should be unable to attend because of the lack of family financial resources. An anonymous donation to the Diocesan Charity earmarked for Attendance Dues at St Joseph's will be used to support a child who needs help. The donation could be for the whole amount for a child or a contribution. As this is a charitable donation the donor can claim tax back at the end of the year.

If you would like more information about how to do this, please contact:  
Elmarie in the School Office or Mary Scobie by phone on 021069 4128 or by email on [mary.l.scobie@gmail.com](mailto:mary.l.scobie@gmail.com).

Attendance Dues are not the same as the fees payable to the School. Attendance Dues must be paid to the Diocese. Sports Fees and other costs (overnight camps) are payable to the school. Next year we will not be asking for the donation per child or per family, as our school has opted into the Government's Donation Scheme.

We will need to charge for Sports Fees as the School receives invoices from the various sports affiliations (North King Country Junior Hockey, North King Country Junior Football, North King Country Miniball etc.) that needs payment. They charge for students to play the various sports, just like you would pay to play for a club.

### STUDENT STATIONERY 2020

In 2020 the process of providing your student/s stationery for the year will be different to how we did it in the past. **No stationery packs will be available from the school.** We will keep a small amount of individual items in stock should your student need an item immediately, but will not be making up packs. We will provide the necessary to them, and invoice you for it via our Student Management System.

We use Officemax as we have an All of Government agreement with them to provide us with more reasonable prices than other stationery providers and the Back to School order is considered bulk buying which also keep prices low. Officemax, our stationery provider will be supplied with the lists, compiled by the teachers, for the different year groups.

The process will be as follows:

\*You will be provided with an internet link and password which will take you to the website containing the lists for our school.

\*You will be able to order the stationery from Officemax direct and have the stationery sent to your home.

\*Payment will be made directly to Officemax via Credit or Debit card. The school will not be collecting money for student stationery packs.

Please see the flyer added to this newsletter.

Should you wish to purchase the items on the list at another store, it is your choice. We ask that you please ensure that you student/s are equipped with the necessary stationery they are going to need for their learning by February 10th, 2020. This is five (5) days after we start school.

Thank you

