



LEVIN-TAITOKO

“A COMMUNITY RADIATING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST”

ST. JOSEPH CATHOLIC PARISH

56 Weraroa Road, Levin

Website: www.stjosephlevin.com

Facebook: [St Josephs Catholic Church Levin](https://www.facebook.com/StJosephsCatholicChurchLevin)

Parish Community Line: 022 3144642

Email: Father Bruce — pp@stjosephlevin.com

Office — office@stjosephlevin.com.

FORTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT - 22nd DECEMBER 2024

Merry Christmas Dear Friends

As Christmas draws near, we thank God for His greatest gift, Jesus, born in Bethlehem. We also celebrate Jesus' presence among us—in our hearts, in our homes, and in the many ways we serve one another. This year, we are especially grateful for the loyal and steadfast support of you, our parishioners, whose love for our Parish and dedication to our mission have been a blessing to all.

Your willingness to embrace the values and vision of Divine Renovation has been inspiring. Together, we are building a Parish that is vibrant, welcoming, and committed to growth. Thank you for being part of this journey toward renewal and for helping create a Parish where everyone feels connected, valued, and empowered to live out their daily faith.



We extend a special note of appreciation to Brian Nolan, who, in his role as Parish Coordinator, has led with dedication and compassion, guiding us with a vision that reflects the true spirit of our Parish community. We also sincerely thank the Parish Council, the Parish Finance Committee, the Liturgy Committee, the Tuesday Social Group and our Faith Formation Teams, and St. Joseph's School Community for their tireless work to nurture and support our Parish family.

Our gratitude extends to the Youth Ministry and Ethnic Leadership Teams, who continue to inspire unity and engage our young people and diverse communities. To our wonderful Musician Teams, we are grateful for the gift of song that enhances our worship and draws us closer to God.

This Christmas, may we remember that Jesus is born not only in the manger but also in our hearts and in our service to one another. Thank you, each one of you, for your commitment, generosity, and faith. May God bless you abundantly this Christmas and in the New Year, and may we continue to grow together as a Parish community in faith, love, and service.

Christmas Blessings to you all and your families

Fr Bruce

LAST NEWSLETTER OF THE YEAR and time to thank all the contributors. Kilian for always, always, being there with Susan Aubert. Bernie and Bridget for the StVdeP Corner. The little notices on Page 2 and the big one on Page 1 - thank you Father Bruce. Thank you Dave the Printer. Thank you Gemma the WebPager. Thank you readers. Happy New Year from Bruce (Not the Priest).



HOSPITAL CHAPLAIN

Going to the hospital? Just phone the Community Line at 022 314 4642 and let us know your details before you go. The chaplain will be there for you.

VOCATION TO PRIESTHOOD Visit wellingtonpriests.org to find out more about the call to diocesan priesthood in the archdiocese or contact Fr Andrew Kim at wellingtonpriests@gmail.com or Lucienne Hensel at l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz



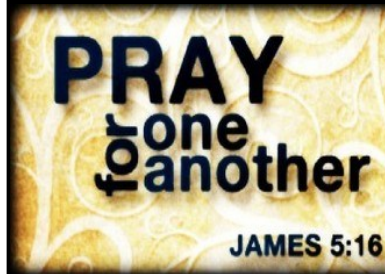
ARE YOU HOUSEBOUND?

Or do you know anyone who is? You are still welcome to receive Communion in your own home. You can also enjoy a visit from the ministers, Just phone the

PARISH COMMUNITY LINE: 022 314 4642

CONFIDENTIAL PRAYER INTENTIONS

- Prayer Intentions are collected twice a week
- They are given to the Prayer Chain in complete privacy.
- You can use the language with which they feel comfortable because we have people in the Prayer Chain able to translate
- The Prayer Intentions will then be destroyed.



Submit your prayer request.

PRAYER CHAIN

Pray for the intentions of your fellow

parishioners in your own home and in your own time. Phone the Parish Community Line: 022 314 4642.

ADVENT GIFTING TREE Once again there will be a tree at the back of the church during Advent to donate gifts for Birthright. Please take a set of tags. Buy a gift for the age and gender on your tag. Attach one tag to your wrapped gift and the other tag to the tree. Thank you for your generosity.



St VINCENT de PAUL CORNER

While being the 4th Sunday in Advent we are only a few days away from celebrating Christmas Day. From Vinnies we wish you all the blessings of this time as we reflect on a year that has been busy and quite demanding in terms of the needs of the less fortunate. We cannot do this alone and thank you all for your continued prayers and material support as we all work together to care for and love our "neighbours". May you be greatly blessed for your generosity and backing the Vinnies ministry. If you feel inspired to join the Vinnies team helping others, then give us a call – anytime.

SVdP Levin Bank Account for donations: 11 6932 0308328 11



BABY ASSIST

- Bernie** 021 406 427
- John** 027 626 4792
- Kilian** 022 695 0056
- Bridget** 021 482 178

As Christmas approaches maybe you know of a family who would appreciate some help in the form of clothes or gifts for their small children. If so, please let Bridget know on 021482178. Thank you for your support.

POPE FRANCIS' PRAYER INTENTION FOR DECEMBER 2024

We pray that this Jubilee Year strengthen our faith, helping us to recognise the Risen Christ in our daily lives, and that it may transform us into pilgrims of Christian hope.

FORTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Now is a time of anticipation and reflection as we prepare for the coming of Christ. This Sunday, we light the final candle on the Advent wreath, symbolising peace. The readings remind us of the fulfilment of God's promises and the peace that comes with the birth of Jesus.



In the Gospel of Luke, we hear the story of the Annunciation, where the angel Gabriel visits Mary to announce that she will bear the Son of God. Mary's response is one of faith and obedience, saying, "Behold, I am the handmaid of the Lord; let it be to me according to your word." Her acceptance of God's will brings peace to her heart and sets the stage for the birth of the Savior.



As we reflect on this story, we are reminded of the importance of saying "yes" to God's plan for our lives. Just as Mary trusted in God's promise, we too are called to trust in His intention for us. This trust brings peace, even in the midst of uncertainty and challenges.



The Fourth Sunday of Advent also calls us to prepare our hearts for the coming of Christ. This preparation involves not only external actions, such as decorating our homes and buying gifts, but also internal actions, such as prayer, reflection, and repentance. By focusing on our spiritual preparation, we can experience the true peace that comes from knowing and loving Christ.



As we light the final candle on the Advent wreath, let us remember the peace that Christ brings to our hearts and our world. May we be filled with hope and joy as we await His coming.

Suzanne Aubert says...

How strong we are when we do the Holy Will of God! When we work solely for Him and for His glory! Sufferings well supported are the measure of the love of God in a soul. He refuses nothing to those who have only one will with Him.

Reflection:

I seem to hear Jesus' parable about the house built on rock. "The rain fell, the floods came, and the winds blew and beat on that house, but it did not fall, because it had been founded on rock."

On what kind of foundation is my life based? Can I honestly say I find my strength in doing what God wants of me? Or do I delude myself and do what I want, hoping it is also what God wants? Sure, this is a human way of acting, but it is not holiness.



Prayer:

Lord, teach me to seek and do your will.

W E E K L Y S C H E D U L E

Monday, 23rd Dec	9:30am	Liturgy of the Word with Communion, St John of Kanty
Tuesday, 24th	11:00am	Holy Mass
	12:00pm	Tuesday Social Group
Wednesday, 25th	9:30am	Holy Mass, The Nativity of the Lord
	10:00am	Rosary in the Chapel
Thursday, 26th	9:30am	Holy Mass, St Stephen
	7:00pm	Christian Meditation in the Side Chapel
Friday, 27th	11:10am	Exposition. St John, Apostle, Evangelist
	12:10pm	Holy Mass, Reconciliation
Saturday, 28th	5:30pm	Vigil Mass, The Holy Innocents, Martyrs
Sunday, 29th	9:30am	Holy Mass
	11:00am	Legion of Mary Kiribati Group (Chapel)

BOOKINGS
Please book the venues of your events/activities at the foyer of the Church. Those who have booked will have priority. Please follow the **Guidelines for Use**.
Clean the kitchen, close the windows, turn off the water heater, etc.

Readings at Sunday Mass

(22/12/2024) **1st Reading:** Micah 5:1-4 **2nd Reading:** Hebrews 10:5-10

Gospel: Luke 1:39-45

Psalm Response: *Lord, make us turn to you; let us see your face and we shall be saved.*

(29/12/2024) **1st Reading:** 1 Samuel 1:20-22,24-28:1-4 **2nd Reading:** 1 John 3:1-2,21-24

Gospel: Luke 2:41-52