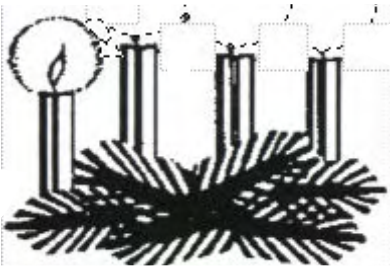




The Parishioner

St Mary's Parish, Nelson
First Sunday of Advent - 2 December 2007

WELCOME TO THE SEASON OF ANTICIPATION, REPENTANCE, HOPE AND JOY.



Advent is a time to give thanks for God's great act of love - sharing our lives, becoming one like us. It is a great time to realise that indeed, we are so important that he has chosen to participate fully in our lives

Advent is also a time to open ourselves up that he may enter into our lives more deeply and bring about that needed transformation that leads us to peace in ourselves, peace with others, and peace with our God. He gives us the grace to discover within ourselves aspects of our lives that may be in need of healing and forgiveness, and we enter again into this grace-filled opportunity.



Advent is likewise time to stay awake, anticipating with joy Christ's second coming. It is not only a time to wait in remembrance of his historical birth. Our celebrations during this season share a great deal about our own preparation for his second coming, inviting us to eagerly and joyfully work for the fullness of joy in his Kingdom.

May the pace and the commercial side of Christmas not take away the importance of the season.

Cheers and God bless,

- Fr Raymond

ADVENT GIVING



Throughout Advent you are invited to contribute non-perishable food items as a gift from the Parish to the less fortunate through St VdP, Night Shelter, Seafarers' Mission etc. No need to gift wrap. Please put tins, packets, boxes etc in the box under the tree in the foyer.

STOKE PARISH SECRETARY POSITION

Our Parish Secretary moves to Dunedin early January. We seek applications for this position from suitably skilled people. The position currently is for 4 hrs on Thursday. Skills are required in office administration, MsWord, email. Some familiarity with PowerPoint and MSAccess would be an advantage. A job description can be obtained from, and application made to Dan McGettigan, Tel 5479745, email: dan.mcg@xtra.co.nz

WORKING BEE. THANK YOU

to the 40-50 people who did such a good job at last week's working bee. The church interior is looking wonderful. Many thanks also to Hirepool for the use of the hoist which allowed us to clean the very high places. - Gerry Quin, Organiser

And I would like to swap ladders with the person who has inadvertently taken mine home from the working bee. Thanks. - Tim James 548 8937

PLEASE PRAY FOR

the sick

the recently deceased: David Huggins (Wgtn - son of Mona, br of Elizabeth), Mary Cotterell (Timaru - sr-in-law of Joe) Sr M Jane Costello RNDM (Acklnd)), Wynand Schryvers, Val Mead, Frank Tourell, Faye Glausiuss, Leslie McGirr

those whose anniversaries are near: Cataldo (Jim) Romano, Iris Hughes-Sparrow, Alexander Griffin, Ray Hartstonge, John Hawthorn, Zoe Coman, John Fulton, Paul Rees

deceased family and friends: Emma Romano, Cataldo Miccio





The St Vincent de Paul Society
invites elderly, sick and other Parishioners to a
CELEBRATORY MASS OF ANOINTING

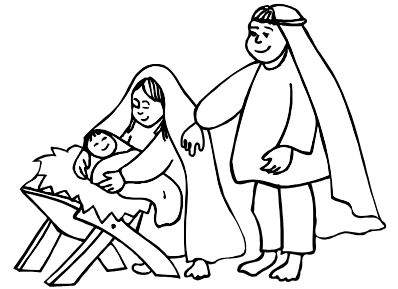
1.30pm - THIS Tuesday - 4 December
followed by a festival afternoon tea in the school hall with
raffles, fellowship and fun. For transport ph 548 3591.

CWL POT LUCK CHRISTMAS PARTY

NEXT Mon 5 Dec - 6.00pm
(Joy Fitzgeralds') 416 Trafalgar St Sth
Please bring - a party plate
and a small gift for Women's Refuge

FAMILIES

Will you be coming to Christmas Eve 6pm
Mass ? If your children would like to take
part - Nativity scene, offertory procession,
readers etc - ph Mandy 539 1221 asap



TAIZE HOUR

All are welcome to prepare for Christmas in a quiet reflective
hour of prayer, scripture and gentle music at
St Francis' Chapel, Stoke 7 30pm Tuesday 11 December.
Invite your non-Catholic friends.

RITE 2 RECONCILIATION

7.30pm
Sunday 16 December
St Mary's Church
Come as you are -
Go away better !



HEALING MINISTRY

Take time to experience the wonderful love of God.
Many people have had miraculous healings
through the powerful ministry of
Lorna and Thom Lisk
who have ministered to
thousands of Catholic groups around the world.
Lorna was 2002's Catholic Woman of the Year.
We are privileged to host Lorna and Thom NEXT WEEK

PROGRAMME

Venues: St Mary's Church
and Parish Centre



Fri 7 Dec; 7.00pm

CHARISMATIC MASS

Theme: *The Healing Power of God.*

SUPPER follows.

A love offering will be taken up
to assist the Lisks in their ministry

Sat 8 Dec; 7.00am

MEN'S BREAKFAST *

Thom Lisk: *Maximising Your Prayer Life*

* *Please ring Peter McBride 548 8723 to
give numbers for catering purposes*

Sat 8 Dec; 9.30am - (Changed time)

LADIES' COFFEE MORNING

Lorna Lisk: *Living your life in the fullness of Christ*

Lorna and Thom will be available after the above events
and after Saturday's 6.00pm Vigil Mass
for those wanting healing prayer.

For more info: Ph Paula and Willie 548 3507,

YOUTH AND FAMILIES MASS

6.00pm

NEXT Saturday 8 December

Liturgy led by youth.

All welcome.

Bring a plate and stay for

supper afterwards

THE GROVE COMMUNITY

a Marist Brothers' young adult

(19-35 yrs) community

in Lower Hutt has three vacancies

for 2008 - 1 female, 2 males.

If you are interested or would like

more information contact Br Doug

brdoug@paradise.net.nz or

Br Kieran kieranfenn@hotmail.com

or ph (04)972 6926

Applications close November 30

UNIQUE ROSARIES, CARDS,

GIFTS ETC FOR SALE

Ph Elizabeth 546 6469

or

Stephanie 547 4544.

Proceeds to **WYD**

MORNING TEA TODAY

Jubilee Fellowship prayer group

invites you to stay after

10.00am Mass to socialise.

Also an opportunity to give a gold

coin donation to our young

people's WYD travel funds.

WELCOME

NEW TO THE PARISH ???

Please give your contact details and drop this in the plate at Mass or call in to the Parish Office.

On Sunday 30 December 2007 falls the
**125TH ANNIVERSARY OF THE
FIRST MASS CELEBRATED IN ST MARY'S**



To mark the occasion we will have ONLY ONE morning Mass at 10.00 am that day and then socialise over morning tea provided by the Parish.

We URGENTLY need people to be trained to use our
LAPTOP/DATAPROJECTOR

for weekend Masses and the Christmas season. All aged 10+ accepted. Full simple training given (it's easy). If we do not get enough volunteers we will need to revert to using hymn books. Please contact Tony 546 8999

CHURCH TOILET AND PARISH CENTRE

The Parish needs volunteers to help keep these facilities tidy. Can you give some time once a week to checking that they are OK for use? Please phone the Parish Office 546 8442

**ATTENTION ALL PARISH GROUPS,
ORGANISATIONS**

Please, asap give the Parish Office up-to-date details (leader's or secretary's name and ph number, meeting day and time if applicable) so an updated directory can be produced in the new year

NZ CATHOLIC ON SALE TODAY

Electoral bill improved but questions remain . . . NZ opposed to unborn at UN . . . TV3 turns down complaints over Californication . . . How to go back to Confession . . . Caring Foundation set up in Dunedin . . . Catholic Enquiry Centre, Auckland retreat centre sell . . . The BSA and anti-Catholic broadcasts . . . Church hails advance in growing stem cells.

PARISH PROPERTY UPDATE

- The Parish/School building project continues to progress well with the joint committee signing off on the final layout with the Architect. At the same meeting we were given an elevation view which is pinned up in the church foyer. This will give you an idea of what the building will look like when completed. The Catholic Schools Board property manager estimates that working drawings should be completed by February 2008, when tenders will be called and the regulatory process will begin. Building should commence in August 2008. The quantity surveyor confirmed that the estimated cost is still within the proposed budget. Once tenders have been submitted he will have a firmer picture of the end cost.
- We are still looking at landscaping the eastern side of the church and now that the roof is complete we will push this along. It may not occur until early next year as we have missed the window of opportunity for planting.
- As mentioned in the *Parishioner* last week, would there be someone in the Parish who could clean the hall toilet once a week? Please phone the parish Office if you can.

Graham Warner

Chairman - St Mary's Finance Committee

PARISH CLERGY

Fr Raymond Soriano (PP), Fr Lou Leuthard

PRESBYTERY

195 Collingwood Street, Nelson

Ph: (03)546 8442

(incl PARISH OFFICE)

E.mail: nelson.stmarys@paradise.net.nz

Fax: (03)548 1951

PARISH SECRETARY

Helen Coleman

Mon/Tue, Thur/Fri

9.00am - 3.00pm

PARISH WEBSITE

www.stmarysnelson.org.nz

PARISH CONTACTS**ST VINCENT DE PAUL**

Shop: 77 Vanguard St;

548 9372

Mon - Fri: 10.00am-3.30pm; Sat 10.00am - 1.00pm

ST JOSEPH'S SCHOOL

Principal: Mike Burton

548 4050

GARIN COLLEGE

Principal: John Boyce

543 9488

REGULAR PARISH SERVICES**RECONCILIATION**

After Saturday 10am Mass or by Appointment Ph 546 8442

ROSARY

Before Tues - Thurs 12.05pm and after Sat 10.00am Masses

EXPOSITION

Fridays: 11am - noon; Second Sunday each month: 4 - 5pm

THIS WEEK'S MASS TIMES AND READINGS*(except where a Requiem replaces the Mass of the Day)*

Mon - 8.00am - Francis Xavier - Is 4: 2-6/ Ps 122: 1-2. 3-4b. 4cd-5. 6-7. 8-9/ Mt 8: 5-11

Tue - 12.05pm - John of Damascus - Is 11: 1-10/ Ps 72: 1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17/ Lk 10: 21-24

Wed - 12.05pm - Is 25: 6-10a/ Ps 23: 1-3a. 3b-4. 5. 6/ Mt 15: 29-37

Thurs - 12.05pm - Nicholas - Is 26: 1-6/ Ps 118: 1 and 8-9. 19-21. 25-27a/ Mt 7: 21. 24-27

Fri - 12.05pm - Ambrose - Is 29: 17-24/ Ps 27: 1. 4. 13-14/ Mt 9: 27-31

Sat - 10am - IMMACULATE CONCEPTION OF THE BLESSED VIRGIN MARY - Gn 3: 9-15,20/Ps 98:1-4/ Eph 1:3-6,11-12/Lk 1:26-38

Sat (Vigil) - 6.00pm

Sun - 8.30am, 10.00am

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

Is 11: 1-10/ Ps 72: 1-2. 7-8. 12-13. 17/ Rom 15: 4-9/ Mt 3: 1-12

LITURGY ROSTERS

Counter	J van der Laan	Gifted last wk (excl APs): Hse - \$462 Parish - \$924	
Vacuuming	Catherine Murphy		
8-9/12/07	Sat Mass - 6.00pm	Sun Mass - 8.30am	Sun Mass - 10.00am
Music	Youth	Guitar	Choir
Greeters	C Rivers, S Affleck	T and J McInerney	M Musso, B Gargiulo
Readers	A Oertly, B Tohill	D O'Regan, A Bentley	V Redding, S Schryvers
Ministers of the Eucharist	S Schryvers, P Schipper, K Older, P Schryvers, A Nother	P van den Elzen, Dimas, Speers, Hunt, Preston - <i>All CS</i> ; A Bakulich - <i>Hosp</i>	T Barkley, V Hambly, M Cameron, K Cleary, J Tohill