



The Parishioner

St Mary's Parish, Nelson

Feast of the Holy Family - 28 December, 2008

The Feast of the Holy Family

While still enjoying the glow of Christmas, let us think what the Holy Family means for us. God placed them in the world for our benefit. They spent themselves completely, working to attain the one objective, that we would have hope of eternal life. Without the Holy Family our lives today would achieve nothing of lasting value.

As Jesus told the disciples

“Many prophets and Kings have longed to see the things that you see and did not see them and to hear the things that you hear, but did not hear them.”

Well, we are seeing and hearing them today and because of that we are able to be filled with spiritual joy even in the midst of life's most bitter sorrows.

The life of the Holy Family shows us where the true gold is to be found in family life. The first and second readings reveal the secret of how it is achieved, namely by spending our energies making life easier for the other members of the family.

“You should be clothed in sincere compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience”

Through an atmosphere of faith and prayer in our home and a lifetime of commitment we find that

“the peace of Christ will reign in your hearts”

Can you think of a better New Year resolution?

Patrick.



Saints Corner

St Thomas a Becket - bishop & martyr Feast Day 29 December

Thomas Becket was born in c.1118 in Cheapside, London. Thomas learned to ride a horse, hunt, behave like a gentleman, and engage in popular sports such as jousting. Beginning when he was 10, Becket received an excellent education in civil and canon law at Merton Priory in England, and then overseas at Paris, Bologna, and Auxerre.

When Thomas became Chancellor, King Henry 11 sent his son Henry to live in Becket's household, it being the custom for noble children to be fostered out to other noble houses. The younger Henry was reported to have said Becket showed him more fatherly love in a day than his father did for his entire life.

Thomas achieved his position as Archbishop of Canterbury in 1162. St. Thomas seems all along to have suspected King Henry of a design to strike at the independence of what the king regarded as a too powerful Church. On 29 December 1170 four knights assassinated Becket in Canterbury Cathedral following what they took as a direction from King Henry 11.

Soon after his death, the faithful throughout Europe began venerating Becket as a martyr, and in 1173 - barely three years after his death - he was canonised by Pope Alexander in St. Peter's Church in Segni. On 12 July, 1174, King Henry II repented of the killing and did public penance, and was scourged at the archbishop's tomb. An immense number of miracles were worked, and for the rest of the Middle Ages the shrine of St. Thomas of Canterbury (Canterbury Cathedral) was one of the wealthiest and most famous in Europe

He is venerated as a saint and martyr by both the Catholic and Anglican Churches



WE PRAY FOR OUR BELOVED DEAD

Teresa Waite, Frank Huggins, Patrick Beban, John Fulton, Catherine Bamfield, Brian Ross, Sr. Anne Bulman R.N.D.M, Antoon Ikink. Giovanni Gargiulo

Recently Deceased: Patricia Barry [sister of Shelagh McBride]

May their souls and the souls of all the faithful departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace



GREETERS URGENTLY NEEDED

We are desperately short of greeters for next year's roster. This is an important role in our Parish and the only requirement is a happy smiling face! If this is you...then please contact the Parish office on 5468442.

Holiday Mass times

December

Sun 21	*Vigil	6 pm 8:30 am and 10 am
Mon 22 - Wed 24		8 am
Wed 24	Christmas Vigil	6 pm 9 pm 12mn
Thurs 25	Christmas Day	10 am
Fri 26		8 am
Sat 27		10 am
	Vigil	6 pm
Sun 28		8:30 and 10 am
Mon 29 - Wed 31		8 am
New Year's Eve	Vigil	8 pm
<u>January</u> 1		10 am and 6 pm

Weekday Masses until the 19th 8 am
Weekends regular schedule

After 19th

Mon: 8am Tue - Fri 12:05 pm Sat: 10 am

Vigil Mass of Sunday 6 pm

Sundays: 8:30am and 10am

Mon 2 February - Nelson Anniversary Day 9 am

Fri 6 February - Waitangi Day 9 am

PARISH CLERGY
PRESBYTERY
(incl PARISH OFFICE)
PARISH WEBSITE
PARISH CONTACTS

Fr Raymond Soriano (PP), Fr Lou Leuthard
 195 Collingwood Street, Nelson Ph: (03)546 8442
 E.mail: nelson.stmarys@paradise.net.nz Fax: (03)548 1951
 www.stmarysnelson.org.nz Mob: 021 613 953
 Alternative e-mail: rasorsvd@gmail.com

ST VINCENT DE PAUL Shop: 77 Vanguard St; Tue - Fri: 9:30am-3.30pm 548 9372
 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
 ADORATION Fridays: 11am-noon Sundays: 7-8pm
 WEEKEND MASSES Vigil: 6pm Sundays: 8:30am 10:00am
 Stoke Sundays: 9:30am 7pm
 Richmond Vigil: 6:30pm Sundays: 9:30am
 Wakefield Sundays: 8am

THIS WEEK'S MASS TIMES AND READINGS

(except where a Requiem replaces the Mass of the Day)

Mon - 8.00am - 1 John 2:3-11 Psalm 95:1-3,5-6 Luke 2:22-35
 Tue -12.05pm - 1 John 2:12-17 Psalm 95:7-10 Luke 2:36-40
 Wed - 12.05pm - 1 John 2:18-21 Psalm 95:1-2,11-13 John 1:1-18
 Thurs - 12.05pm -**MARY THE MOTHER OF GOD (Solemnity)**
 Numbers 6:22-27 Psalm 66:2-3,5,6,8 Galatians 4:4-7 Luke 2:16-21
 Fri - 12.05pm - **Ss. Basil the Great & Gregory Nazianzen, bishops & doctors (Memorial)**
 1 John 2:22-28 Psalm 97:1-4 John 1:19-28
 Sat - 10.00am - 1 John 2:29-3:6 Psalm 97:1,3-6 John 1:29-34
 Sat (Vigil) - 6.00pm **THE EPIPHANY OF THE LORD** Isaiah 60:1-6
 Sun - 8.30am, 10.00am Psalm 71:1-2,7-8,10-13 Ephesians 3:2-3 Matthew 2:1-12



ROSTERS			
Counter	Pauline Robertson	Gifted last wk (excl APs) House \$865 Parish \$1,720	
Vacuuming	Dec 29 - Jan 3		
3-4 Jan	6.00pm	8.30am	10.00am
Greeters	Light of Christ	Mary Smith Rose Brown	Tom McInerney Judy McInerney
Readers	B Gibbs V Redding	K Rose P Gillin	G Warner B Tohill
Ministers of the Eucharist	K Cleary S Meria M Lagrutta T Romano A McBride	B van Deursen (K Curtis J Greaney A McAlpine G Wratt ALL C S) S Ellis - HOSP	V Hambly A Achterberg M Achterberg D Fisk P van den Elzen