

Holy Family Parish Timaru



St Thomas the Apostle Church
12 Mountain View Road
Timaru
Ph 686 2010



Sacred Heart Basilica
7 Craigie Avenue
Timaru
Ph 684 4263



THIRD SUNDAY IN ADVENT—GAUDETE SUNDAY

12 DECEMBER 2021

When people come to John the Baptist asking, "What must we do?" he gives them the most reasonable, common sense reply. He says in effect, "Live reality. God is asking you to be faithful to the ordinary circumstances of your life. He will make himself evident there." And with that advice, "a feeling of expectancy had grown among the people, who were beginning to think that John might be the Christ". The Baptist exhorts us by making us more attentive to our own hearts. He tells us of One who will answer all the needs of the human heart. We need not be anxious about what we must do: for the Lord is as near as the next moment and whatever it brings.

TODAY'S READINGS

First Reading — Zephaniah 3:14-18
Jerusalem is urged to rejoice because God stands in her midst. We too can take heart from this message of hope.

Second Reading — Philippians 4:4-7
Paul urges us to rejoice in the Lord, and to let go of anxiety by living in the spirit of prayer and thanksgiving.

Gospel — Luke 3:10-18
John the Baptist tells the people what they must do to prepare for the Lord's coming and to escape his searching judgement.



"Then do not be a pond. Be a bay."

There is a story told about a young monk who approached an experienced desert Father. He expressed his frustration, **"I feel so restricted. I am stagnating like a pond or a puddle."** The elderly monk responded, **"Then do not be a pond. Be a bay."** --

A bay of course is joined with the immense ocean. Each day it has a fresh exchange of water. It rarely stagnates. St. John the Baptist was like that. He was in an extremely lonely spot - the Judean desert. But a desert is a place where one encounters God. Also, he did not stagnate, for he always connected himself with the great ocean, viz. God's mercy. So, during this Holy Period of Advent when we prepare ourselves for the coming of Our Lord, what should our response be? There can be two responses on our part: First, we need once more to hear the challenging call of John the Baptist to baptism of repentance and forgiveness, and connect ourselves to the ocean of God's mercy, and second, we have to realise that our own role is not unlike that of John the Baptist. Like him, each one of us has a mission to communicate the message of hope, love, freedom and peace to others, so that -
"All flesh shall see the salvation of the Lord!"

OUR PRIESTS

Parish Priest:
Fr Christopher Friel Mobile 021 474308
Email: cristoforofriel@xtra.co.nz

Assistant Priest:
Fr Do Nguyen: Mobile 021 2171604
Email:nguyenthanh_do2008@yahoo.com

Residence:
Presbytery, 7 Craigie Avenue, Timaru
Phone: 684 4263

Facebook: facebook.com/groups/hfptim
Youtube: com/hfptimaru

PARISH OFFICE

St Thomas the Apostle Church
12 Mountain View Road, Timaru

Sacred Heart Basilica
7 Craigie Avenue, Timaru

Office Hours:
Tuesday - Friday: 8.30am—12.00pm
Phone: 686 2010

Parish Secretary: Helen Simmons
Email: parishoffice@holyfamilytimaru.org.nz

Accounting Services: Mike Batchelor
Email: accounts@holyfamilytimaru.org.nz

Pastoral Assistant: Pauline Berry
Phone 684 4263, 9.30am—12.00pm, Tues-Fri
Email: pastoralassistant@holyfamilytimaru.org.nz

Chairperson Parish Council
Kevin Brosnahan: Phone Ph 6887268

Chairperson Finance & Property Committee
Jim Anderson: Phone 6848343

Sacred Heart Primary School Principal
David Armstrong Phone: 688 8188

St Joseph's Primary School Principal
Carmel Brosnahan-Pye Phone: 688 1376

Roncalli College Principal
Chris Comeau Phone: 688 6003

New Parishioners to Holy Family Parish

A warm welcome is offered to you. Make yourself known to one of the priests, or fill out this slip and place it in the collection basket or post to: Holy Family Parish, 12 Mountain View Road, Timaru.

Name (Mr/Mrs)

Address:

Phone

Email Address

Require:

Planned Giving envelopes:
Weekly, Fortnightly, Monthly, Yes/No
Automatic Payments: Yes/No
Parish PG Bank A/c 03 1592 0602308 23

CHRISTMAS MASS TIMES

St Thomas' Church -

Vigil Mass 7.00pm

Sacred Heart Basilica -

Vigil Mass 9.00pm

Sacred Heart Basilica -

Christmas Day— 8.00am
(strictly limited to 50 people)

Sacred Heart Basilica -

Christmas Day - 9.30am

Feast of the Holy Family— Sunday 26 December

Sacred Heart Basilica 9.00am

St Thomas' Church 10.30am

Sacred Heart Basilica 5.00pm

(strictly limited to 50 people)

New Year's Day 10.00am

Sacred Heart Basilica. (Vaccination Pass required)



What Mass can I attend?

From Friday 3 December weekday masses (Monday to Saturday) in both St Thomas Church and the Basilica can be attended by vaccinated and unvaccinated parishioners. Maximum attendance is 50 people. A vaccine pass will not have to be shown.

The Saturday Vigil at 6.00pm and the 9.00am & 10.30am Sunday Masses can be attended by you (and unlimited numbers) if you can show your vaccine pass.

In our region (Timaru, Pleasant Point, Geraldine, Fairlie, Temuka and Waimate) the 5.00pm Sunday Mass and the 6pm Saturday evening at Pleasant Point can be attended by vaccinated and unvaccinated parishioners with a maximum attendance of 50 people.

Please note that after your vaccine pass has been checked (where needed) you are still required to scan in or record your name on the attendance sheet.

From next weekend masks will be **mandatory** at all Masses..

Please be kind to the greeting staff over the next few weekends who have extra duties to perform. Please remember that we are only undertaking these measures to comply with Government regulations. Our church can be liable for a \$15,000 fine if we breach these health provisions. Any difficulties will result in the Mass not being celebrated.



CATHOLIC WOMEN'S LEAGUE final meeting for 2021 will be held this Wednesday 15 December at 2.00pm in Parish Centre. Instead of our usual pot-luck

lunch we will have a short meeting and afternoon tea. Please bring a Christmas food item for Saint Vincent de Paul's food bank. Thank you.

MASS OFFERINGS: We pray for the sick of the parish and those for who Mass is requested:

Anniversary: 8/12 Nellie Fountaine, 16/12 Mary Brosnahan.

Other Intentions: Dec'd Members of the Brosnahan, Beeby, McAuley, Nolan & Tatnell families.

Intentions of: Special Intention

MASS TIME TABLE

Saturday Vigil	6.00pm St Thomas'
Sunday	9.00am Sacred Heart
Sunday	10.30am St Thomas
Sunday	5.00pm Sacred Heart
Monday	9.00am Sacred Heart
Tuesday	9.00am St Thomas' Communion Service
Wednesday	9.00am St Thomas'
Thursday	9.00am St Thomas'
Friday	9.00am Sacred Heart
Saturday	9.30am Sacred Heart

A Funeral Mass will replace the scheduled Mass.

RECONCILIATION: 10.00am—10.30am after Mass.



Could PARISHIONERS who don't have a land line phone anymore and are now using a cell phone, please give the office your new number, so we can update our records. Thanking you.



ST VINCENT DE PAUL and the office have Christmas Calendars and Christmas Cards for sale. Calendars \$12.00, Cards \$4.00.

St Vincent de Paul monthly meeting will be held Tuesday 14 December at 7.00pm in the parish centre.

More instrumentalists needed to accompany/lead singing at 6pm Saturday, 10.30am and 5pm Sunday Masses over 2022. If you're happy to help out once a month or so, contact martin@organist.kiwi



SACRED HEART Christmas spring clean this Monday 13 December at 6.00pm. Come along with dusters, mops, buckets etc. Many hands make light work. Thanking you.



FAREWELL MUSICAL AFTERNOON TEA:

You are invited to an afternoon of music, song and fun at the Holy Family Parish Centre on Saturday 18 December at 3.00pm. We will sadly be saying thank you and goodbye to the Kim family who have contributed generously to enriching liturgy and music in our Parish over the last five years. Do come along, bring a plate if you can and our line-up of talent will surprise you! Vaccine passport necessary.

LATIN MASS will be held this Friday 17 December in Sacred Heart Basilica at 6.00pm. Reconciliation 5.30pm.



CONGRATULATIONS to Tammy & Scott Bagrie and Maleyne & Ronnel Tique who were recently married in Sacred Heart Basilica.

FAREWELL to Betty Fitzgerald who leaves our parish after 90yrs to her new home in Christchurch. May God bless you.

VACCINATION PASSPORT

If you are unable to access a 'vaccine passport' the Timaru Library will be available on Tuesdays and Wednesdays, but an appointment must be made—ph 6877202. You must have a valid driving licence or passport for ID and take along your device.

If you have none of these phone 0800 222 478 to request a physical copy and have your NHI number ready. Some chemist shops also complete them for you with your NHI number.

19 December 2021— 4th Sunday in Advent
Micah 5:1-4, Hebrews 10:5-10, Luke 1:39-44