



S S P X

Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel of the Society of Saint Pius X

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Christmas 2024 Bulletin

From the Christmas Sermons of Pope St. Leo the Great

Dearly beloved brethren, unto us is born this day a Saviour. Let us rejoice. It would be unlawful to be sad today, for today is Life's Birthday; the Birthday of that Life, Which, for us dying creatures, taketh away the sting of death, and bringeth the bright promise of the eternal gladness hereafter. It would be unlawful for any man to refuse to partake in our rejoicing. All men have an equal share in the great cause of our joy, for, since our Lord, who is the destroyer of sin and of death, findeth that all are bound under the condemnation, He is come to make all free. Rejoice, O thou that art holy, thou drawest nearer to thy crown! Rejoice, O thou that art sinful, thy Saviour offereth thee pardon! Rejoice also, O thou Gentile, God calleth thee to life! For the Son of God, when the fulness of the time was come, which had been fixed by the unsearchable counsel of God, took upon Him the nature of man, that He might reconcile that nature to Him Who made it, and so the devil, the inventor of death, is met and beaten in that very flesh which hath been the field of his victory.

When our Lord entered the field of battle against the devil, He did so with a great and wonderful fairness. Being Himself the Almighty, He laid aside His uncreated Majesty to fight with our cruel enemy in our weak flesh. He brought against him the very shape, the very nature of our mortality, yet without sin. His birth however was not a birth like other births for no other is born pure, nay, not the little child whose life endureth but a day on the earth. To His birth alone the throes of human passion had not contributed, in His alone no consequence of sin had had part. For His Mother was chosen a Virgin of the kingly lineage of David, and when she was to grow heavy with the sacred Child, her soul had already conceived Him before her body. She knew the counsel of God announced to her by the Angel, lest the unwonted events should alarm her. The future Mother of God knew what was to be wrought in her by the Holy Ghost, and that her modesty was absolutely safe.

Therefore, dearly beloved brethren, let us give thanks to God the Father, through His Son, in the Holy Ghost: Who, for His great love wherewith He loved us, hath had mercy on us and, even when we were dead in sins, hath quickened us together with Christ, that in Him we might be a new creature, and a new workmanship. Let us then put off the old man with

his deeds and, having obtained a share in the Sonship of Christ, let us renounce the deeds of the flesh. Learn, O Christian, how great thou art, who hast been made partaker of the Divine nature, and fall not again by corrupt conversation into the beggarly elements above which thou art lifted. Remember Whose Body it is Whereof thou art made a member, and Who is its Head. Remember that it is He That hath delivered thee from the power of darkness and hath translated thee into God's light, and God's kingdom.

Mass Schedule for Christmas 2024

Sun. 22. *Fourth Sunday of Advent* Mass at 9:00

Mon. 23. *Advent Feria* 8:30 Mass, 17:30 Rosary

Tue. 24. *Vigil of the Nativity* 8:30 Mass

Wednesday, December 25, *The Nativity of Our Lord*

22:30 – 23:50 Confessions

23:00 Christmas Carols

23:30 Rosary

00:00 Midnight Mass

7:30 Confessions

8:00 2nd Mass

9:00 Confessions

9:30 3rd Mass

Thu. 26. *St. Stephen* 8:30 Mass, 17:30 Rosary

Fri. 27. *St. John* 8:30 Mass

Sat. 28. *The Holy Innocents* 8:00 Mass

**Sun. 29. *Sunday within the Octave of the Nativity* Mass at 9:00
Mass in Hamilton 14:30**

Mon. 30. *6th Day within the Octave* 6:00 Mass, 17:30 Rosary

Tue. 31. *7th Day within the Octave* No Mass, 17:30 Rosary

General Information

Legion of Mary Meetings are held every Saturday after Mass. Visitors are welcome. (Please contact Geoff Dale if you are interested.)

Adult Catechism is scheduled for every Sunday, starting 10 minutes after mass, unless otherwise noted. Classes will be given by Fr. Lipp, and they are recommended for everyone, especially those new to the faith or to tradition. Currently, there is no scheduled catechism class for children. Please approach Fr. Lipp if you have children who need to prepare for the Sacraments, and we will arrange catechism and testing.

Sick Calls can be arranged to happen every 2-4 weeks. Please contact Fr. Lipp if you want to arrange a sick call for a family member or friend or if you know of a sick parishioner who has not been able to come to mass for more than two weeks.

Extreme Unction should be given whenever there is a reasonable danger of death from some disease or an internal cause. Please consult the pastor early along, as this sacrament can often aid in physical healing. Contact the pastor ideally before any immediate risk of death to arrange to receive this anointing.

Sacramental Emergencies: If a parishioner is in *immediate danger of death* call Fr. Lipp immediately at [+64 21-045 8558](tel:+64210458558) and leave a message, clearly indicating the nature of the emergency, your name, and the name of the person in danger of death. If no response, call [+64 6-281 3976](tel:+6462813976) (Whanganui Emergency Number).

Baptism: Contact the Pastor well before the due date of any children. Children should be Baptized as soon as possible, and parents cannot be excused from serious sin if they delay more than a month.

Confirmation is usually offered in August or December once every 1-2 years. Contact the pastor to arrange classes well in advance of the bishops' visit.

Marriages must be arranged with the pastor at least 6-12 months before the proposed date of marriage to allow for instruction and a canonical investigation. No date can be set until after the investigation is complete.

Blessing of Religious Items on Sundays after Mass (just before catechism) Please bring your smaller items to the communion rail on the gospel side. Larger items like vehicles can be blessed after catechism.