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

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Advent 2024 Bulletin

Christ Has Come, He Will Return

The prophets announced the coming of Christ in the Old Testament. But their words correspond to two historically distinct events. On the one hand there is the advent of mercy, the humble condition of the human existence of the Son of God made man to redeem us; on the other hand, the advent of justice when Jesus Christ, full of glory and majesty, will appear at the end of the world to judge the living and the dead. In the Advent liturgical texts, the Church speaks in turn of one and the other, sometimes without transition as the prophets did.

Justice Follows Mercy

The sentence that Jesus Christ will then pass, when He returns to this world, depends on the reception He received when He came the first time. This divine judgment is a separation between the good and the bad.

He will distance all those who have denied Christ on earth from Him and will separate them forever from those who are faithful to Him, whereas He will gather around Him those who have followed Him, to make them children of God.

We Must Welcome His Coming

Between these two historical events, there is a third advent of Christ: His advent of grace in our souls. The acceptance of His coming with all its consequences (Redemption, Revelation, Church, sacraments) produces a new life of grace in our souls. And the sentence He will pronounce at His last advent will depend on this acceptance. He will lead all those who received Him with faith and love to enter after Him into the kingdom of His Father.

Enter into Advent

Does not this triple advent have the same goal? Indeed, the Son of God lowered Himself by becoming man to offer us the treasures of His grace in order to bring us back to His Father by introducing us into His celestial kingdom.

During Advent, the Church invites us to embrace the desires and confidence of the patriarchs and prophets.

As Christmas approaches, the anniversary of the Incarnation, the Church wants us to aspire to the coming of Jesus into our souls by grace and so that we may thereby be among the number of His chosen ones when He returns as Sovereign Judge at the end of time.

Mass Schedule for Advent 2024

Please note the changes for Saturday, Dec 7 and Sunday, Dec. 8.

Confessions are heard before each Mass except on Mondays.

Sun. 01. First Sunday of Advent	Mass at 9:00 Mass in Hamilton 14:30
Mon. 02. <i>St. Bibiana</i>	6:00 Mass, 17:30 Rosary
Tue. 03. <i>St. Francis Xavier</i>	No Mass, 17:30 Rosary
Wed. 04. <i>St. Peter Chrysologus</i>	No Mass, 17:30 Rosary
Thu. 05. <i>Advent Feria</i>	No Mass, 17:30 Rosary
Fri. 06. <i>St. Nicholas (1st Friday)</i>	19:00 Mass, followed by Adoration until Midnight
Sat. 07. <i>St. Ambrose (1st Saturday)</i>	7:00 Mass, followed by Benediction and Rosary
Sun. 08. Feast of the Immaculate Conception	Mass at 9:30 (No Catechism) Mass in Whangarei 14:30
Mon. 09. <i>Advent Feria</i>	6:00 Mass, 17:30 Rosary
Tue. 10. <i>Advent Feria</i>	No Mass, 17:30 Rosary
Wed. 11. <i>St. Damasus</i>	No Mass, 17:30 Rosary
Thu. 12. <i>St. Advent Feria</i>	No Mass, 17:30 Rosary
Fri. 13. <i>St. Lucy</i>	19:00 Mass
Sat. 14. <i>Advent Feria</i>	8:00 Mass
Sun. 15. Third Sunday of Advent (Gaudete)	Mass at 9:00 Mass in Hamilton 14:30
Mon. 16. <i>St. Eusebius</i>	6:00 Mass, 17:30 Rosary
Tue. 17. <i>Advent Feria</i>	No Mass, 17:30 Rosary
Wed. 18. <i>Ember Wednesday in Advent</i>	No Mass, 17:30 Rosary
Thu. 19. <i>Advent Feria</i>	No Mass, 17:30 Rosary
Fri. 20. <i>Ember Friday in Advent</i>	19:00 Mass
Sat. 21. <i>St. Thomas</i>	8:00 Mass
Sun. 22. Fourth Sunday of Advent	Mass at 9:00

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.