

**Mass times:**

Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm Karori  
Sunday: 8.30am Wilton and 10.00am Karori  
Weekdays: Tue-Fri 9.30am, Saturday 9.00am  
Reconciliation: Saturday 9.30—10.00am

**St Teresa's School,** Karori. Principal Mary-Angela Tombs  
939 1725

**Cardinal McKeefry School,** Wilton. Principal Tania Savage  
475 3262

St Teresa 301 Karori Rd. Karori and St Thomas More 30 Worcester St, Wilton. Website [www.otariparish.co.nz](http://www.otariparish.co.nz)

**19 and 20th December 2020**

**4th Sunday of Advent**

**Year B**

**Liturgy of the Word:**

**Response:** For ever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.

**Readings:** 4th Sunday of Advent Year B: 2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12. 14, 16; Rom 16:25-27; Lk 1:26-38

**Next Sunday: THE HOLY FAMILY Gen 15:1-6, 21:1-3; Heb 11:8, 11-12, 17-19; Lk 2:22-40**

## God's Promise

Today's scriptures are about God's promises.

David's desire to 'do something for God' is rejected but God's response is to offer him an heir that will change the world.



This promise is fulfilled in Mary. Mary is someone who has nothing obvious to offer – except her faith - and yet she receives the promise that she will be the dwelling place of Jesus, 'God with us' who will be born of her.

Both David and Mary receive these unprecedented promises – and both promises point to the reality of the Incarnation, 'God with us' that we celebrate at Christmas.

These promises tell of God's plan for humankind, they remind us of the faith we have received, but they also expect something of us.

Like David and Mary, we approach God with nothing of our own to offer. All that we have and are is given by grace, and though we are able to receive it and respond to it – that too is only through grace.

In the rosary prayer, Mary is simply greeted as 'Hail Mary, full of grace'. David comes from nothing to be king with an eternal descendance; Mary comes with nothing to become Mother of God.

We too have nothing of our own. All is gift. Only by responding to God as Mary and David did, can we fulfill God's Plan for our lives.

*Fr Ron*



*PLEASE JOIN US IN CELEBRATING THE BIRTH  
OF OUR LORD JESUS  
CHRISTMAS EVE MASS FOR CHILDREN  
5PM AT ST TERESA'S CHURCH  
COME ALONG DRESSED AS A CHARACTER  
FROM THE NATIVITY SCENE AND JOIN IN  
SINGING  
CHRISTMAS CAROLS.*

## Christmas Sing-Along



### Carol Singing—Busking

Just a reminder of the busking (carol singing) in the Karori Mall for the Food Bank this coming Saturday 19th December and Thursday 24th December from 10.30am to 11.30am. It would be good to truly make this a combined churches event once again so come and join us if you can for as long as you can!

*The Parish would like to wish Celia Betty a wonderful 90th birthday this weekend!*

### Altar Servers:

Thank you to those altar servers who have now retired from this role and a BIG welcome and thank you to those who have taken up this important ministry. Also, thanks to Pat Gee who organised training and an end of year lunch to the team earlier this month.



### St Thomas More Christmas Eve Family Mass Thursday 24<sup>th</sup> December 7pm

Traditionally the Christmas Eve Family Mass at St Thomas More features a Christmas Nativity Play. If your child/grandchild, neighbour's child, friend's child.... would like to be involved please add their name to the sign-up sheet in the St Thomas More Church foyer or email Estelle [ev.henrys@gmail.com](mailto:ev.henrys@gmail.com)

No acting experience necessary – all ages and stages welcome.

(There will be two morning practices this week of Christmas – Tuesday and Wednesday 9.30 – 11am)



*How many times Jesus comes into our lives, and how many times he sends us an angel, and how many times we don't notice because we are so taken, immersed in our own thoughts, in our own affairs and even, in these days, in our Christmas preparations, so as not to notice Him who comes and knocks at the door of our hearts, asking for acceptance, asking for a "yes" like Mary's.*

Pope Francis: [Angelus 21 December 2014](#)



**PLEASE REMEMBER TO SCAN IN USING YOUR CONTRACT TRACING APP TO HELP KEEP US ALL SAFE OVER THIS JOYFILLED SEASON.**

# fundraising

## Cathedral Parish Fundraising

Further fundraising efforts leading are on-going in the lead-up to Christmas. Over the next three weekends there will be several raffles on offer. Raffle tickets are available after all weekend Masses or from the parish office. Please bring cash to Mass. Also available \$15 are limited release 2021 Wellington calendars featuring iconic scenes of Wellington and the Cathedral.



*Please pray for those who have passed away recently  
And for all those whose anniversaries occur in December.*



Our bishops and congregational leaders requested that churches and faith-based organisations be included in the Royal Commission process in order to have this significant opportunity to acknowledge the past, listen and learn from the experiences of survivors, and participate in seeking justice.  
<https://tautoko.catholic.org.nz/>



Readings for 21st to 26th December 2020

**Monday:** Song 2:8-14; Luke 1:39-45

**Tuesday:** 1 Sam 1:24-28; Lk 1:46-56

**Wednesday:** Malachi 3:1-4, 23-24; Lk 1:57-66

**Thursday:** 2 Sam 7:1-5, 8-12, 14, 16; Lk 1:67-79

**Friday: Christmas Day**  
Is 52:7-10; Heb 1:1-6; Jn 1:1-18

**Saturday: St Stephen**  
Acts 6:8-10, 7:54-59; Mt 10:17-22



## **CHRISTMAS and HOLIDAY Mass times 2020/21**

### **Thursday 24 DECEMBER**

**5:00pm** Children's Mass *St Teresas* (Music Group)

**7:00pm** Children's Mass *St Thomas More (Wilton)*

**7:00pm** Filipino Mass *St Teresas*

**8.30pm** Christmas Carols followed by Otari Parish family Mass (9.00pm) *St Teresas* (Choir)

**11:15pm** Office of Readings with carols followed by Midnight Mass with the Cathedral Choir and Orchestra. *St Teresas*

### **CHRISTMAS DAY**

**10:00am** Mass *St Teresas* (Tongan choir)

### **NEW YEARS DAY**

**9.30am** Mass *St Teresas*

Weekday Masses will be held in the chapel on WEDNESDAYS and FRIDAYS only beginning 30<sup>th</sup> December at 9.30am.

The usual schedule will resume 2 February.