

*Weekly Income*

*Thank you for your contributions.*

10-Dec-17	St Anthony	St Thérèse
Envelopes	\$828.70	\$1,706.20
Loose	\$189.90	\$766.30
<b>Totals</b>	<b>\$1,018.60</b>	<b>\$2,472.50</b>
<b>Aps Nov 2017</b>	<b>\$1,365.00</b>	<b>\$1,050.00</b>
<b>St Therese Parish Fair 2017</b>	<b>\$42,415.40</b>	
<b>St Anthony Multicultural Fair</b>	<b>\$41,039.70</b>	
<b>St Anthony Gold Coin Collection</b>	<b>\$194.00</b>	
<b>St Therese Loan as at 31/10/17</b>	<b>\$413,375.39</b>	

*Advent encourages us to reflect on the contrast between our daily routine and the unexpected coming of the Lord. The Gospel, the Pope said, is not trying to frighten us, but "to open our horizons" to further dimensions, giving meaning even to everyday occurrences*

*What seemingly small incident has opened your eyes to God's grace?*

**UPCOMING EVENTS**

**PPC Meeting:**

*St Anthony First Wednesday.*

*St Therese Third Wednesday.*

**Finance Meeting:**

*St Anthony Second Tuesday of the month. St Therese Third Friday of the month.*

**Liturgy Meeting Combined:**

*Last Wednesday of the month. St Therese Small Hall*

**Baptism Combined:**

*Every Second Saturday of the month. Parishes take turns.*

**Adoration:** *St Therese every first Saturday of the month.*

**ANointing MASS:** *St Anthony First Tuesday, 9am. St. Therese First Friday. 11am*

**SACRAMENT OF PENANCE** at St. Anthony • Saturday 9:45am  
at St. Thérèse • Friday 10:30am,  
• Saturday 8:45am (on request after mass)  
• And with an appointment at anytime.

**EVENING PRAYER OF THE CHURCH** at St. Thérèse • Tuesday, Thursday 5:30pm

**CSsR Morning Prayer with Parishioners** - St Anthony • Friday 8:15am

**Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help and Benediction: Saturday**

**St. Therese 8am.**

**St. Anthony 9am**

**ROSARY** at St Anthony • Monday to Sunday 8:30am  
at St Thérèse • Tuesday, Thursday 6.10pm and Saturday 7.30am

**EUCCHARISTIC HOLY HOUR** at St Thérèse • Friday 9am–10:45am First Friday of the month before anointing Mass at 11am

**BAPTISMS** 2nd Saturday of the month at 9:30am, *except January*

**MARRIAGES** require at least SIX months' notice ☎ 275 3559



**Mangere Catholic Parishes**

**Pastoral Team**

Parish Priest Manoj Kunnath, CSsR ☎ 0226821008  
Assistant Priest Alfonsus Roynaldo Noeng, CSsR ☎ 275 3559  
Parishes' Office Parishes' Secretary ☎ 275 5401



Diocese of Auckland

**The Mangere Catholic**

**Bulletin of the Parishes of**

**St Anthony**  
20 Kirkbride Road  
Mangere Bridge

**St Thérèse**  
10 Wickman Way  
Mangere East



**Parish Office** • 10 Wickman Way • Mangere East • ☎ 275 5401 • ☎ 275 5390  
**PO Box 59027 • Mangere Bridge • Auckland 2022 • office@mangerecatholic.org.nz**

**Presbytery** • 20 Kirkbride Road • Mangere Bridge • ☎ 2753559

**St Anthony Family Support Trust 0272533537 & 09 2750357**

**SCHOOLS IN THE PARISHES**

**Pacific Islands Catholic Childcare Centre** • 20 Kirkbride Road ☎ 275 5155 ☎ 275 5159  
**St Mary MacKillop Primary** Years 1-8 • McNaughton Avenue ☎ 257 1435 ☎ 257 1436

**THIS WEEK AT A GLANCE**

MONDAY	18th December	FRIDAY	22nd December
<b><u>ADVENT WEEK 3, YEAR B.</u></b>		<b><u>ADVENT WEEK 3, YEAR B.</u></b>	
Jeremiah 23:5-8 Psalm 72		1 Samuel 1:24-28 1 Samuel	
Matthew 1:18-24		Luke 1:46-56	
Mass 9am St Anthony		<b>Mass</b>	<b>9am</b>
		<b>Mass</b>	<b>11am</b>
		<b>St Anthony</b>	
		<b>St Therese</b>	
TUESDAY	19th December		
<b><u>ADVENT WEEK 3, YEAR B</u></b>		<b><u>ADVENT WEEK 3, YEAR B</u></b>	
Judges 13:2-7,24-25 Psalm 71		SATURDAY 23rd December	
Luke 1:5-25		<b><u>ADVENT WEEK 3, YEAR B</u></b>	
<b>Mass</b>	<b>9am</b>	Malachi 3:1-4,23-24 Psalm 25	
<b>Mass</b>	<b>7pm</b>	Luke 1:57-66	
		<b>Mass</b>	<b>9am</b>
		<b>Mass</b>	<b>8am</b>
		<b>St Anthony</b>	
		<b>St Therese</b>	
WEDNESDAY	20th December		
<b><u>ADVENT WEEK 3, YEAR B</u></b>		<b>SUNDAY 24th December</b>	
Isaiah 7:1-25 Psalm 24		2 SAMUEL 7:1-5,8-12,14,16: ROMANS	
Luke 1:26-38		16:25-27: PSALM 89: LUKE 1:26-38	
<b>Mass</b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>St. Anthony Saturday Vigil 5pm &amp; Sun-</b>	
<b>Mass</b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>day 9am. St Therese 9am Mass.</b>	
		<b><u>HOLY FAMILY 31ST DECEMBER.</u></b>	
		<b><u>ECCLESIASTICUS 3:2-6,12-14:</u></b>	
		<b><u>COLOSSIANS 3:12-21: PSALM 128:</u></b>	
		<b><u>LUKE 2:16-21.</u></b>	
		<b>MASS TIMES : ST ANTHONY 5PM VIG-</b>	
		<b>IL MASS &amp; 9AM. ST THERESE 9AM.</b>	
THURSDAY	21st November		
<b><u>ADVENT WEEK 3, YEAR B</u></b>			
Songs 2:8-14 Psalm 33			
Luke 1:39-45			
<b>Mass</b>	<b>9am</b>	<b>St Anthony</b>	
<b>Mass</b>	<b>7pm</b>	<b>St Therese</b>	

### **CHRISTMAS GIFTS FOR FAMILIES AND CHILDREN.**

Please think of the needy around us while we exchange gifts with our friends and relatives for Christmas. If you wish to gift food or presents for the needy families and children please bring them to Mass on Sundays, please leave them at the back of the Church, or bring them to the office until the 22nd of December. Many thanks to you all for your generous support over the year.

### **CHURCH GROUNDS CLEANING ST. THERESE.**

Thank you to the working bees, all the members of the ethnic groups, prayer groups, youth group, PPC, finance and liturgy committees' who helped with the cleaning for the Church grounds this weekend. Well Done to all of you.

### **SUNDAY MASSES ON THE 23RD AND THE 24TH DECEMBER.**

**4th Sunday of Advent Sunday Mass:**

**St Anthony:** 5pm Vigil Mass [23rd Dec] and 9am Mass.

**St Therese:** 9am(Only one Mass).

Our Sunday obligation for the 4th Sunday of Advent still remains even when we attend Christmas Mass.

### **CHRISTMAS VIGIL MASSES.**

St Therese: 7pm, Children's Mass for both parishes.

St Anthony's: 10pm Carols followed by Vigil Mass at 11pm.

St. Therese's: 10pm Carols followed by Vigil Mass at 11pm.

The carols in both parishes will be in different languages. Please come early with your family members to witness this colorful Christmas celebration.

### **CHRISTMAS DAY MASSES [25TH DECEMBER]**

St Anthony's: 9am Mass.

St Therese: 9am Mass.

### **ALTAR SERVERS TRAINING ST. THERESE.**

The altar servers are back from their retreat at Mary Mackillop Center, Mission Bay. Thank you to the boys, parents and

the coordinators. The training for altar servers on the 18th & 21st of December, from 7:45pm to 8:30pm.

### **ADVENT CONFESSIONS FOR BOTH PARISHES.**

During the season of Advent we are given an invitation from Jesus to come back to Him. "Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near." [Mt.3:2]. We have around 15 priests coming on the 20th of December to hear our confessions. It starts at 7:30pm in St. Therese parish. Please come and experience the mercy of God and make our hearts ready for a meaningful Christmas.

### **WELCOME BACK FR BERNARD TEO.**

Fr Bernard Teo will be spending Christmas with the parishes and will be working in the parishes until July. Fr Bernard will also be teaching at the Good Shepherd Seminary.

### **CHRISTMAS PARTY OF THE TREASURED ADULTS.**

Leviticus 19:32 "Stand up in the presence of the elderly, and show respect for the aged, says the Lord." It was a memorable end of year celebration with so many cultures. Thanks to all our treasured adults who gathered together for the Christmas celebration on Monday. Thanks to the families that made it possible for the elderly. Thank you to Filipo Motulalo and the team for organizing it. The gathering of the treasured adults will restart in the month of February.

### **St. Anthony Parish – Mangere Bridge 50th Anniversary Year.**

There will be a special Mass on 13th January, 2018, at 5pm and on the 14th at 9am. All are welcome to join us for this weekend of Mass celebrations and refreshments after both services.

**\*\*\* RESERVE THIS DATE \*\*\***

### **St. Anthony Parish Mangere Bridge 50th Anniversary**

**Black Tie Banquet Event**  
**Saturday 16<sup>th</sup> June 2018.**

### ***THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT YEAR B .[Psalter W.3]***

**December 17th ,2017**

**Isaiah 61:1-2,10-11;Magnificat**

**1 Thessalonians 5:16-24;**

**John 1:6-8,19-28**

**2835**

## **" REAFFIRMING GOD'S PROMISE."**

In our technological world today, most people are familiar with codes. When we go online to see our emails or download a program, we use a password to gain access. We may be told the password must contain a mixture of numbers and letters, both small and capital. We are told the combination is necessary to make it more difficult for others to hack into our computers. Our passwords are a form of code.

People in the bible also speak in code. In Mark's gospel, Jesus speaks about a mysterious evil figure with the unintelligible name "the desolating sacrilege." We don't really know what this expression means, but people did in Jesus' time. Mark 13:14 reads: "When you see the desolating sacrilege set up where it ought not be (let the reader understand) ...". There are other places in the scriptures where numbers and animals have symbolic meanings that we do not always comprehend.

In today's gospel, John the Baptist speaks in code. When John says he is not the Christ, the Jewish leaders put a series of questions to him about his identity: Is he Elijah or the prophet? He answers these by saying "I am not." When he does answer, he uses those well-known words from the prophet Isaiah: "I am a voice that cries in the wilderness: prepare a way for the Lord." Here he is speaking in a kind of code.

Why does the gospel use these words? Why does John quote from the prophet Isaiah? The reasons are not immediately clear to us, but people back then would have understood what he meant. Those words from Isaiah were written more than 500 years before Jesus. They were addressed to a group of Jewish people who were exiled from their homeland and living as captives in a foreign land.

Isaiah spoke as a messenger from God, and was telling them that God was about to intervene in their world, forgive them their sin, free them from captivity and bring them back to their homeland. Isaiah presented a vision of a wonderful future which would be blessed by God.

However, when they eventually returned, the reality did not live up to the vision. They returned to conflict and were still captive, as their land was occupied by a foreign power. Despite this, the people still clung to the idea that at some point in the future, God would again intervene, and this time they would be free and live as a people blessed by God.

John the Baptist uses the words from Isaiah to tell the people that God was about to intervene by sending Jesus as the Messiah. Jesus would free them from sin and bring about the wonderful future promised by God through Isaiah those 500 or so years earlier.

John Hill CSsR

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