

**RĀTAPU TUAWHĀ O TE AWENETI
FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT****Miha Māori i ngā Rātapu
11am every Sunday****Tomorrow is Christmas Day****Midnight Mass starts at 11^{pm} tonight
which is Christmas Eve****We also have a Miha Awatea at 11^{am}
BAPTISMS After Mass on Sundays**

Or by special arrangement.

RECONCILIATION available before
or after weekday Mass or by arrangement.**Pope Francis -Tihema***Mō te hunga kaumātua: kia tautokongia
rātou e ō rātou whaamere me te rōpū
Karaitiana, ā, mā rātou e homai to rātou
whakaaronui me te hinengaro, e horahia ai
te whakaponu me te hinengaro ki ngā
whakatapuranga hou.***Pāpā Werahiko – Mō Te Aweneti**Advent encourages us to reflect on the
contrast between our daily routine and the
unexpected coming of the Lord. The
Gospel is not trying to frighten us, but to
“open our horizons” **GIVING MEANING
EVEN TO EVERDAY OCCURENCES****HE AITUA****WYNARD SLADE** - funeral took
place at Rangī Point on Tuesday 12th
December.**ALBERT WITANA**, son of Gertie and
Jimmy the Hook, ara ko Heretute me
Āperahama Witana. He was brought
back to Waimirirangi on Friday 21st
His funeral was the following day in
Waihou. *Takoto rā e koro me ōu mātua
me te tini o ngā whanaunga ki te wā
kāinga. Haere haere haere.***PAT THOMAS** in his 80s, husband of
Nan, a faithful Katekita who never
missed a tangi ahakoa e mauui ana.
The Requiem Mass was in St Peter's
Panguru and he was buried in Nahareta,
*Haere e te Heparā te Katekita pai. Kua
mutu ou mamae me te ngokoretanga.
Haere ahē haere.***FRANK TOPIA** and **GEORGE
WILLIAMS** 57, nephew of Tom and
Mabel Green) also had Miha in Panguru
church and were interred in Nahareta,**HENRY DAVIS** died on Tuesday 12th
December. He had a heart event while
at work and died at the scene. Henry
has worked for Downers Roadworks for
48 years. He is survived by wife Moana,
three daughters and one son and five
mokopuna. He had a beautiful Karakia
Tangihanga in Maria Assumpta
(Motukara) and was buried in RemanaWāhi Tapu. *Kua ngaro atu koe i te
kanohi tangata, otirā e moe rā e moe e
moe e moe. Ā te wā ka tūtaki anō tāua i
a tāua.***ANNIVERSARIES**25th Dec - **Billy Bercich**26th Dec **Kogie Morunga**28th Dec **Ripeka Howard,
Desmond Nightingale**29th Dec **Phillip Hoani,
Justin Ngākuru.**31st Dec - **Victoria Morunga**1st Jan **Sarah Tate, Tau Noa,
Dalton Neho**8th Jan - **Tumoana Witana**9th Jan - **Frances Leef****INOINGA MŌ NGĀ TÜRORO**Fr. Paddy Collins, Bishop Pat Dunn, Pā
Anton Timmerman, Pā David Whelan, Fr.
Edmund Slowey, Pā Sean O'Brien, Pā Tony
Brown, King Tuheitia, Anthony Smith,
Agnes Cherrington, Anna Haines, Arahi
Ashby, Basil Brown, Bubby Mokaraka,
Boss Pomare, Carol King, Cherish Pomare,
Christine Lewis, Chum Murphy, Dave Toia,
David Brown, David Puckey, David
Robinson, Dawn Hawke, Delia Tinklin,
Derek Carmichael, Des-Chanel Toalepai,
Elizabeth Glover-Tepania, Ellen Martin, Eve
Gallen, Gemma Leef, George and Dot Houghton,
George Stephens, George Tepania, Gloria
Nightingale, Grace Henry, Hēmi and Hine-Mei,
Henry Tepania*, Hilda Tumata, Hine Wikaira,
Janet Greeks, Joseph Tepania, Joe Te Whiu, Joe
Morunga, John Hancy, John Moynihan, Judy
Rogers, Kaleb Savelio Thompson, Katarina
Jamieson, Lawrence Kelly, Labby Matthews,
Kevin O'Brien Lorraine Knutson, Lorraine
Sutherland, Louise Katene Riwhi and sister Joy,
Margaret Paparua, Martha Henry, Martha
Lundon, Martha Perham, Martin Hoani, Matthew
Brown, Maria Clarke, Matthew Hoani, Maudie
Harris, Maudie Puku, Mere Harris, Moana
MacDonald, Moka Te Wake, Monica Manaena,
Monica Te Hira, Nan & Pearl, Nan Thomas, Neta
Gregory, Nikau Gardiner, Patricia Millar, Paul
Hughes, Paul Lundon, Paul Tukere, Pauline
Matiu, Percy Davis, Peter Peita, Phyllis Pomare,
Reg Dargaville, Rewa Lepper, Robert Tuiloma,
Rose Jacobs, Selina Cummings (née Peita), Sorra
Matchit, Stephen Dawson, Tamara Grace, Teresa
Morris, Teresa Rerekura, Tina & Allen Francis,
Tom Hurst, Tom Tepania, Trevor Ellery, Ulalia
Kaio, Urania Peita, Vincent Martin and Wesley
Henry. ***George Tepania flew up from
Christchurch for his third new treatment
and has returned home and all is well.****TAMATEA MOTUTĪ**The **Taiatea Project** update
Raiatea Resources and Archive Centre
Project and Builders were blessed at the
end of November nā Pā Anahera me
ngā Katekita Piripi Daniels rāua ko Joe
Andrews nā rāua i hiki i te hiki tapu o te
whenua. Work commenced on
Monday 4th December.**PRIESTS APPOINTMENTS FOR 2018****CLOVER PARK/OTARA** Fr. Aleki
Piula PP Fr. Michael Endemann Asst &
Samoan chaplain.**EPSOM** Fr. Jude Algama, Asst & Sri
Lanka Community.**MANUREWA** Fr. Brian Prenderville PP

Fr. Kerry Prenderville Asst

MASSEY Fr. Mosese Tui PP**NORTHCOTE** Fr. Soane Lomu Asst**OKAIHAU** Fr. Emile Frische PP

Fr. Maliu 'Otutaha Asst

PANGURU Fr. Richard Cortes PP

after Easter.

PAKURANGA Fr. Oliver Aro PP**PAPAKURA** Fr. James Mulligan Asst**PUKEKOHE**

Seminararian Romano Tikotikoca

TAKAPUNA Fr. Lolesio Tupa Asst

Fr. Christopher Brady Asst

THAMES Fr. Valerian D'Souza PP

Fr. Albert Suprpto Asst

WHANGAREI Fr. John Craddock Asst

Fr. Trevor Tindall Asst

AUCKLAND CITY HOSPITAL

Priest Chaplain Fr. Talipope Valifale

VOCATIONS DIRECTOR

Fr. Sherwin Lapaan [at Cathedral]

Fr. Jun Peralto in Panguru will return to
his home province of Japan after Easter
Fr. Larry Rustia (Devonport) leaves for
Rome in mid-year to undertake studies
for seminary formation work.**MARAE NOTICES**The Board and Runanga of Te Unga
Waka wish you all a Happy Christmas.
The marae will be closed for a couple of
weeks after Christmas. So after today
for the next two Sundays our “Cuppa”
after Mass (a big meal usually) will
only be a cup of tea and a biscuit. But
after Midnight Mass let's share our kai,
- bring a plate along kia hari tahi tatou
For tonight “Midnight” Mass, starting
11pm, Pa has prepared Mass pamphlets
with hymns to choose from, so let us
practise after the cuppa.Richard Puanaki (the famous com-
poser) and his Rōpū from Waitara will
be staying for a few days. They come
every year to sing a Miha for the
Carmelites of Mt Albert. They will
also join us at Mass on the 7th before
returning home.A group of students from Fiji will also
be visiting Auckland and staying at the
marae for some days.*Katekita Ani is teaching her class of 56
year olds She explains the command
Honour thy father and thy mother Is
there a commandment which teaches you
how to treat your brothers and sisters
Without missing a beat little boy replies
Thou shalt not kill***FOURTH SUNDAY OF ADVENT
READINGS** Year B-Tau Tuarua

ENGLISH TEXT: CEV
REO MĀORI: PĀ HOANE PĀPITA

TUHITUHI TAPU TUATAHI

Hamuera, Pukapuka 2 7^{1-5, 8-11, 16}

King David moved into his new palace, and the LORD let his kingdom be at peace. Then one day, as David was talking with Nathan the prophet, David said, "Look around! I live in a palace made of cedar, but the sacred chest has to stay in a tent." Nathan replied, "The LORD is with you so do what you want!" That night the LORD told Nathan to go to David and give him this message: "David, you are my servant, so listen to what I say. Why should you build a temple for me? I brought you in from the fields where you took care of sheep, and I made you the leader of my people. Wherever you went, I helped you and destroyed your enemies right in front of your eyes. I have made you one of the most famous people in the world. I have given my people Israel a land of their own where they can live in peace, and they won't have to tremble with fear any more. Evil nations won't bother them, as they did when I let judges rule my people. And I have kept your enemies from attacking you. Now I promise that you and your descendants will be kings. I will make sure that one of your descendants will always be king. Te kupu a te Ariki.

Whakamoemiti ki te Atua

WAIATA WHAKAUTU 48/49

Ψ Ka waiatatia e ahau ngā mahi tohu a te Ariki, āke, āke. [I will sing for ever of your love O Lord.]

Ka whakapuakina e töku mǎngai töu pono ki ngā whakatupuranga katoa. I mea hoki ahau, "Ka hanga ake te mahi tohu mö āke tonu atu. Ka whakapūmautia e koe töu pono ki ngā tino rangi raanö." *Ψ Ka*

Kua whakarite kawenata ahau ki täku i whiriwhiri ai: kua oati ki taku pononga ki a Rāwiri. Ka pūmau i ahau öu uri āke āke; ka hangä töu toröna ki ngā whakatupuranga katoa. *Ψ Ka ...*

Ka karanga ia ki ahau: ko koe töku Pāpā, töku Atua, te köhatu o töku whakaoranga. Ka rongoatia e ahau täku mahi tohu möna āke tonu atu: ka mau tonu täku kawenata ki ä ia."

Ψ Ka ...

(Reo Pākheha verses:)

[I will sing for ever of your love O Lord.]

Our Lord, I will sing of your love for ever. Everyone yet to be born will hear me praise your faithfulness. I will tell them, "God's love can always be trusted, and his faithfulness lasts as long as the heavens." *V* You said, "David, my servant, is my chosen one, and this is the agreement I made with him: David, one of your descendants will always be king." *Ψ*

He will say to me, "You are my Father and my God, as well as the mighty rock where I am safe. My love for him will last and my agreement with him will never be broken." *Ψ*

TUHITUHI TAPU TUARUA

Pauro ki te hunga o Roma

Praise God! He can make you strong by means of my good news, which is the message about Jesus Christ. For ages and ages this message was kept secret, but now at last it has been told. The eternal God commanded his prophets to write about the good news, so that all nations would obey and have faith. And now, because of Jesus Christ, we can praise the only wise God forever! Amen. Ko te kupu a te Ariki. **Whakamoemiti ...**

Areruia. Ko te pononga ahau a te Ariki. Kia rite ki täu i körero ai te meatanga ki a au. Areruia.

RONGO PAI Ruka. 1: 26-38

Ka tona te ähere, a Kaperiere e te Atua ki tētahi pā o Karirea ko Nahareta te ingoa, ki tētahi takakau i taumautia mā tētahi tangata, ko Hohepa te ingoa, nö te Whare o Rāwiri. Te ingoa hoki o taua takakau ko Maria. Na ka tomo te ähere ki te wāhi kei reira ia, ka mea, "Tēnā koe e kī ana i te mana me te tapu. Kei ä koe te Ariki, ko koe e whakapaingia ana i roto i ngā wāhine." Anö ka rongo a Maria, ka oho ki taua kupu a te ähere, ka whakaaroaro he öwhatanga pēhea rānei tēnei. Na ka mea te ähere ki ä ia, "Aua e mataku, e Maria; kua paingia hoki koe e te Atua; na ka hapü koe, ka whānau he tama, ä, me hua e koe töna ingoa ko Hēhu. E nui ia, e karangatia hoki ko te Tama a te Atua i runga rawa, ä, ka hoatu ki ä ia e te Ariki te toröna o Rāwiri o

töna matua, ä ka whakahaere tikanga ia mö te whare o Hākopa äke äke. Ekore anö e mutu töna rangatiratanga." Na, ka mea a Maria ki te ähere, "E pēheatia tēnei, kähore nei hoki ahau e möhio ki te täne?" Na, ka whakahokia e te ähere, ka mea ki ä ia, "Ka tae mai te Wairua Tapu ki runga ki ä koe e te kaha o te Atua i runga rawa. Mö reira hoki ka karangatia te Mea tapu e whānau i ä koe, ko te Tama a te Atua. Na, kua hapü hoki a Erihapeti to whanaunga, he tama, i tona ruruhitanga; ä, ko te ono tēnei o ngā marama ki ä ia i kīia nei he pākoko; kähore hoki he mea ekore e taea e te Atua." Ä, ka mea a Maria, "Na, ko te pononga ahau a te Ariki, kia pērätia ki a au me täu i körero ai." Ä, whaka-rere ana te ähere i ä ia. Te Rongo Pai a te Ariki. **Kia whakanuia rä koe e te Ariki e Hēhu ...**

HOLY GOSPEL

Saint Luke. 1: 26-38

God sent the angel Gabriel to the town of Nazareth in Galilee with a message for a virgin named Mary. She was engaged to Joseph, from the family of King David. The angel greeted Mary and said, "You are truly blessed! The Lord is with you." Mary was confused by the angel's words and wondered what they meant. Then the angel told Mary, "Don't be afraid! God is pleased with you, and you will have a son. His name will be Jesus. He will be great and will be called the Son of God Most High. The Lord God will make him king, as his ancestor David was. He will rule the people of Israel forever and his kingdom will never end." Mary asked the angel, "How can this happen? I am not married!" The angel answered, "The Holy Spirit will come down to you, and God's power will come over you. So your child will be called the holy Son of God. Your relative, Elizabeth is also going to have a son, even though she is old. No one thought she could ever have a baby, but in three months she will have a son. Nothing is impossible for God!" Mary said, "I am the Lord's servant! Let it happen as you have said." And the angel left her. This is the Gospel of the Lord.

Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.

4th Sunday of Advent, Year B

2 Samuel 7. 1-5, 8-12, 14-

16 Romans 16. 25-

27 Luke 1. 26-38

**Tēnā koutou te whānau.
Peka mai anō i te ao
hurihuri Turn aside again
from that busy world
outside.**

**In the 1st Reading, taken
from the book of Samuel,
we hear that David was
king over the Jewish
nation and that the Lord
had given him rest from
all the enemies around
him. There was peace in
the land. David didn't
think it right that he
himself was living in a
beautiful house, whilst the
Lord God dwelled in a
tent. Now, a tent might
have been suitable for God
when the Jews were
moving around the desert
having escaped from
slavery in Egypt. because
of persecution. Now that
their kingdom had been
established and victory
had been secured, surely
God deserved something
better than a tent.**

**King David entertained
the idea of building a
beautiful temple for the
Lord and told about his
plans to the prophet
Nathan who thought it was
a good idea. But God had
other plans and told
Nathan to convey a**

**message to King David..
This message implied that
no human being could
build a house that could
hold God.**

**Considering King David's
love for God and his
righteous heart that
desired to provide the best
for the lord, God made a
promise to King David.
God promised to build an
eternal kingdom through
his (David's) offspring:
"your throne, David, shall
be established forever".
Like the Māori, the Jewish
people were very good at
whakapapa.**

**Jesus was a descendant of
the house of David, and
the promise we heard
today said: "I will be a
father to him and he shall
be a son to me".**

**In the second Reading we
hear St. Paul telling his
people to listen to and to
obey the words of Jesus
Christ. For through Jesus
the salvation of mankind
has come to all, Jews as
well as Gentiles. The
Kingdom of God has come
on earth**

**How did all this come to
pass? Today's Reading
from the Gospel of Luke
answers that question.
God sent an angel, called
Gabriel, to a small town in
Galilee, called Nazareth.
The angel appeared to a
virgin, called Mary, who
was engaged to be married**

**to Joseph, a descendant of
the House of David.**

**We are only given three
names of angels in the
Scripture: Raphael – who
healed Tobias, Michael
and Gabriel. The English
word 'angel' comes from
the Greek 'angelos', which
means "messenger".**

**Angel Gabriel announced
both the birth of John the
Baptist to Zechariah, and
the birth of Jesus to Mary.**

**I also have a sneaking
suspicion that Gabriel was
the angel who announced
both the birth of Isaac to
Abraham in the Book of
Genesis, and also
announced the birth of
Samson to his mother in
the Book of Judges.**

**Angel Gabriel came to
Mary and said: "Hail, full
of grace, the Lord is with
thee; blessed art thou
among women".**

**Being human as we are,
the Blessed Virgin Mary
was confused and
wondered what kind of
greeting she was receiving.
For Mary the visit by an
angel came as something
completely unexpected.
God disrupted the daily
course of her life,
overturning its settled
rhythms and conventional
expectations. Like
Abraham, Mary had done
nothing until her visitation
to distinguish her for
election to be the Mother**

of God. Only her membership in Israel (a matter not of her own choosing) offers any basis for God to regard her in a special way. No wonder Mary was confused and wondered what kind of greeting she was receiving. During the time of Advent the Church has frequently spoken to us of John the Baptist who was sent ahead of Jesus to 'prepare the way of the Lord'. John the Baptist was sent ahead of Jesus, but when the Son of God took on flesh in the womb of the Virgin Mary, John the Baptist had only been conceived six months earlier. This explains why Mary was troubled by the words of the Angel Gabriel, which came out of the blue, we might say. The angel said to Mary: "Do not be afraid, Mary, for you have found favour with God: you will conceive in your womb and bear a son, and you will name him Jesus". But while Mary was indeed full of grace, she remains nonetheless a human being who reasons and searches for explanations for what she does not understand: "How shall this be, since I have no husband?" The Angel gives her the answer to that: "The Holy Spirit will come upon you, and the power of the Most

High will overshadow you." This means that God can do anything, for he is all-powerful. And as the Angel said a little later, speaking of Elizabeth, Mary's cousin: "Nothing is impossible to God." When the Angel told Mary: "You will conceive in your womb and bear a son and you will name him Jesus", there is no indication in that text that the Angel is waiting for Mary's acceptance of his offer, or even that it is an offer. Everything the angel says is in the indicative: 'You will conceive, you will bear, you will call'. And Mary's 'fiat' is prefaced by an admission that she does not expect a choice.: "Behold, I am the handmaid ("slave girl") of the Lord". She simply hears the message and consents. Mary is not forced. God's grace is not working against her will. It is causing her will. The pregnancy of Mary is very special, but it does not stand alone – it is a sign to all fathers and mothers, that their child too can be a source of hope, of joy, of wisdom and compassion, of life and love for others. A gift not just to them, but for a wider group, just as Mary understands that her child is not for her to

possess and hold and cling on to. That's why Mary calls herself the handmaid, the servant of the Lord. Let us listen to the Gospel carefully: Mary was the servant of the Lord, because she was going to have a child. She was not just a servant of the Lord because she was going to do extraordinary other holy things. She was the servant of the Lord by becoming and being a mother. In that way Mary has so much to say to all fathers and mothers, about their path to holiness. It is in the first place as father or mother that they are servants of the Lord. Fatherhood and motherhood should be exercised in that spirit of service. During the feast of Christmas the Lord will come into the life of each of us. He makes us members of his Body, so let us try to answer him without hesitation: "Fiat voluntas tua – May your will be done. And Mary will help us.