

St Francis Xavier Parish Usual Timetable

	1st Sun of Month	2nd Sun of Month	3rd Sun of Month	4th Sun of Month	5th Sun of Month
St Francis Xavier	6pm Sat Vigil 8am Sun 10am Sun (Miha)	6pm Sat Vigil (Youth Mass) 8am & 10am Sun	6pm Sat Vigil 8am & 10am Sun	6pm Sat Vigil 8am Sun 10am Sun (Family Mass)	6pm Sat Vigil 8am & 10am Sun
Ruakaka	10.30 am *Liturgy	10.30am Eucharist	10.30 am *Liturgy	10.30am Eucharist	10.30 am *Liturgy
Hikurangi	8:00am Eucharist	10:00am *Liturgy	10:00am Eucharist	10:00am *Liturgy	10:00am *Liturgy
Whangarei Heads	6pm Sat Vigil	8:30am *Liturgy	///	8:30am *Liturgy	10am. Combined Community Service
Maungata-pere	///	8.30am *Liturgy	///	8.30am Eucharist	///
Maungakamea	10.30am Eucharist	///	///	///	///
Matapouri, Miha	12 noon 3rd Sunday of Month: - March; May; July; Sept; Nov			* Liturgy means Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion /// means no LOW or Eucharist.	
Poroti, Miha	12 noon 3rd Sunday of Month: - Feb; April; June; Aug; Oct; Dec				
Pipiwai, Miha	12 noon 5th Sunday of the month				
Eucharist Weekdays and Other Ceremonies					
Monday 7am Eucharist	Tuesday 9am Eucharist; 12.10pm LOWHC	Wednesday 7am LOWHC; 12.10pm Eucharist	Thursday 7am Eucharist; 12.10pm LOWHC	Friday 7am LOWHC; 12.10pm Eucharist	Saturday 8am Eucharist
Exposition: Fri 6am; & 11am - Midday. Rosary: Sat 7.30am..				Reconciliation Rite I : 11.30am Fri & Saturday. 4th Wednesday 5.30pm - 6pm (June - August)	
6pm. Wednesdays of the month. Novena - Filipino Community. 5pm. 5th Sunday of month. Mass - Filipino Community.					

Mark this date in next year's diary—Pompallier Catholic College Jubilee. Pompallier Catholic College will be celebrating 50 years since the College was opened on Queen's Birthday weekend (5 and 6 June) 2021. Go onto the College website and click the "jubilee" link for further details. All past pupils, families, benefactors and staff are warmly welcome to be part of the celebrations.

Prayers please for these people and their families.... and those who are sick and their caregivers especially: Dora Hampton, Christopher Henare, Ben Hutton, Roseline Mary Nacbrayne,

Anniversaries: Doris Holmes, Maria Kleyngeld, Maureen Pinnington, Ewa Dworakowska, Netta Anderson



St Francis Xavier Catholic Parish

Cnr. Kamo Road and Park Avenue, P.O. Box 8061, Kensington, Whangarei
Phone: 437 7902. Fax: 437 7904. House: 437 5266.

PARISH STAFF: Fr Chris Martin sm (pp), Fr Peter McDermott sm,
Fr Trevor Tindall sm, Deacon Jim Nees, Deacon Nimo Ponifasio.
Janet Ponifasio, Glennis McSherry.

Online at: www.whangareicatholic.org.nz Email: sfx@whangareicatholic.org.nz

Facebook: [Catholic Parish of Whangarei - St Francis Xavier](https://www.facebook.com/CatholicParishofWhangarei-StFrancisXavier)

TWENTY SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

27 September 2020 Year A

Next Week's Readings: (Twenty Seventh Sunday in Ordinary Time)
Isaiah 5:1-7; Philippians 4:6-9; Matthew 21:33-43

Two steps forward, One step back

In this Sunday's gospel Jesus tells a simple story about two imperfect sons to illustrate the way of God's kingdom. Both sons disobeyed their father; but one repented and then did what the father told him. The message of the story illustrates a point. First, there are people whose words are better than their actions. Secondly, there are those whose actions are better than their words.

All of us struggle to get things right all of the time or even most of the time. Perhaps we say to ourselves, "After all of these years I'm still stumbling at the same old places on the road. Same old places. Same old cuts and bruises. It can be discouraging and may even make us want to give up. But before we do that, it might be a good idea to see what God has to say about it. He's trying to catch our attention.

Maybe that's why Jesus told us today's parable about the two sons. Perhaps Jesus would say to us today, "you are like the both of them: Sometimes you say 'yes' to me, but then get distracted or tired and your 'yes' accidentally turns into a 'no'." Sometimes we don't see the progress we are making in our relationship with God. You know the saying...two steps forwards, one step back. But Jesus knew that when he created us. So, don't get discouraged whenever that "one step back" happens.

Jesus knew that we would be a "work in progress" for our entire lifetime. And when we reach the end of our pilgrimage, we know that Jesus will help us with that final 'push'.

That is God's word to us! Trust Him. God is as good as His word.

Deacon Jim Nees

Be informed about the End of Life Choice Act Referendum:

• Approximately 10% of our elders are the victims of abuse, mostly from their own families. Elder abuse continues to rise in New Zealand. Our elder abuse laws are not able to protect our elders. It is naive to expect that the End of Life Choice Act can keep people safe. Medical groups have stated that it will be impossible for doctors to detect if people are being pressured or coerced, whether by others or by their own feelings of being a burden.

• The End of Life Choice Act is broader than similar laws passed overseas. Key medical groups, including the New Zealand Medical Association, Hospice New Zealand, Palliative Care Nurses and Palliative Medicine Doctors all oppose the EOLC Act as unsafe. **The EOLC Act is badly drafted and seriously flawed.**

Whatever one's views about the idea of euthanasia, it is not 'compassion' to vote for a dangerous law. See www.riskylaw.nz or www.votesafe.nz or www.carealliance.org.nz or www.nathaniel.org.nz

Authorised by John Kleinsman, 15 Guildford Terrace, Thorndon, Wellington

NZ Catholic Bishops Statement. The Bishops' 2020 Election Statement- *Whakapuaki Pōti* has just been published. Limited printed copies of the Election Statement will be available from pastoraloffice@cda.org.nz A PDF of the Statement is available at www.catholic.org.nz/assets/Uploads/Catholic-Bishops-Election-Statement-2020.pdf

"Vote for the Vulnerable" - An Impacting Pro-Life Flyer from Voice for Life.

Please Take One (or More!) These flyers are designed to make voters aware of the appalling abortion legislation that was passed by our Parliament, and to direct people to the Vote for the Vulnerable website (www.vfv.nz) so they can make a wise and informed decision on how to vote. **Flyers are in the foyer.** Please take one for yourself, and some for your friends, family or work colleagues.

Level 1. Whilst Auckland is in Level 2, we will continue to have Communion under the one kind. Holy Communion will not be distributed from the Chalice. Communion is only to be distributed in the hand, not on the tongue. You may wish not to shake hands at the Sign of Peace. Fr Chris.

OCIA Enquiry Evening this coming Tuesday 29 September at 7pm in the side room of the Parish Hall. The Order of Christian Initiation for Adults (OCIA) is a programme where you can ask questions, become more acquainted with the Catholic community and the Gospel values by which we try to live. It is also for adults wishing to become Catholic. A warm welcome is assured. Come, bring a friend, neighbour or anyone interested. Queries to Janet at the Parish Office.

ALONE AGAIN? Widowed, Separated or Divorced? The Beginning Experience is a non-profit organization with the motto "a weekend away for a lifetime of change". The retreat will help you work through your painful loss. Participants find new hope, increased emotional health and renewed energy. Friday 6 to Sunday 8 November. Cost \$350.00 (accommodation and all meals included) early Bird price of \$325.00 (pay by 2 October) Contact Kelly 027 686 4416 or Bev 027 248 1631. Visit www.beginningexperience.org.nz.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK "Decisions can take you out of God's will but never out of His reach". 2 Timothy 2: 13. if we are faithless, he remains faithful-- for he cannot deny himself.

Society of St Vincent de Paul. Parish Food Basket: Thank you for your generous help to the needy. We are in need of tinned sweetcorn, tinned tomatoes and packets of jelly Thank you.

♦ **Meetings: First and third Thursday** at Eymard House at 5pm. .

♦ **Christmas Cards** are available from the Parish Office. \$3.00 for a pack of 5 cards.

♦ **Christmas Gifts:** We are looking for **unwrapped** gifts for our Christmas parcels for teens and younger children. e.g. cars, balls, blocks, books, body wash, playing cards, hair and nail products. Chocolate and tinned biscuits are always welcome. Donations need to be taken to the Parish Office by Friday 4 December please. Gifts will then be delivered to families. Thank you.

Joshua Men's Fellowship meet on Wednesday 21 October here in our Church at 7pm. All men welcome.

Martha and Mary meet on Friday 2 October in our Parish Hall commencing with a cup of tea at 10am. Our Guest Speaker is Sr Susan Smith. All welcome. Enquiries to Joan 435 4012.

RETREAT IN THE MIDST OF DAILY LIFE (RIMDL)

Sunday 11 October to Sunday 8 November.

You participate as you go about your normal life!

It involves: Two group sessions (at the beginning and at the end); A commitment to 30 minutes daily prayer; Resources and support to cultivate new spiritual practices ; Three one on one sessions, held weekly via zoom or in person, with a trained spiritual companion. See flyer on noticeboard.

Our Parish Playgroup starts again in Term 4 on Tuesday 13 October 9am-11.30am.

No Pax Christi meeting in October. On Monday 2 November we will have a study meeting at SFX Catholic School Staffroom at 7pm. The topic is "Black Lives Matter" All welcome.

Christian Meditation. Every Wednesday in Eymard House 7.30pm to 8.30pm.

Kamo Prayer Group will have a break during School holidays and resume Tuesday 13 October

Choir practice 9, 12, 16 and 30 October.

MAORI COMMUNITY - KO NGA PANUI.

Himene practice, (2nd & 4th Thursdays) 7pm in the gathering area of the Church.

Filipino community gather every Wednesday at 6pm, here in our Church to pray a Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help.

Season of Creation. To live better means we all make a commitment to be kind to each other and to all creatures who inhabit this planet. " We cannot say we love the land and then take steps to destroy it for future generations. This responsibility knows no boundaries" *Pope Francis*. This week take part in a coastal clean up with other families or clean up the roadsides near you. Give thanks and praise to our Creator. *Pax Christi*.



CELTICA



As part of this year's Whangarei Fringe Festival, our Catholic Parish will be hosting a fun night of Celtic music and dance for all ages. To be held in our Parish Hall on Saturday 17 October 7.15pm. Adults \$10; Children \$2; Family Pass \$22. Please bring a plate of finger food for supper. BYO Drinks. Water, tea and coffee supplied. Tickets available through Eventfinda www.eventfinda.co.nz



It costs \$5,270.24 to run the parish each week. This week we received \$4,325.10 from all collections. Thank you.



Please remember the Parish in your Will