

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. Rite II: 7.30pm 4th Wednesday	
6pm. Wednesdays of the month. Novena - Filipino Community. 5pm. 5th Sunday of month. Mass - Filipino Community.					

St Francis Xavier Children's Christmas Activity Morning, Thursday 17 December, 9am -12 noon, in the Parish Hall. Christmas crafts, face painting, snacks, games, prizes, and fun - maybe even a visit from Santa. All kids welcome, but please can under 5's have an adult stay with them. We'd love to have more volunteers to make this event a success. Any questions please contact: Katharine (021 529 663) or Glynis (022 689 0787).

Prayers please for these people and their families.... and those who are sick and their caregivers especially: Ben Hutton, Tom Pow, Francis van Altvorst (Netherlands).

Recently deceased: .Carla Moore (husband of Chris, daughter of Gloria and Charles Frische, niece of Fr Emile Frische MHM), Rudy Taylor. Dr. Ponifasio (Sio) Ponifasio (Auckland, brother of Dcn Nimo), Stijpo Mistic (husband of Lucij), Stacey Sadlier (grandson of Cameron and Ana Muriwai), Wayne Young (nephew of Martha Dawson).

Anniversaries: Sally Roughan, Joan Estaugh, Margaret Page, Alberta Epskamp, Rickie Fogliani, Ante Milina, Ivan Markovina.



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)

**29 November 2020 Year B
FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

Next Week's Readings: (Second Sunday of Advent)
Isaiah 40: 1-5, 9-11; 2 Peter 3: 8-14; Mark 1: 1-8

Back to the Future

Today we enter the Season of Advent, the beginning of a new year in the Church. We look at the past and what we have experienced and we plan for the future.

Looking to the future Bishop Pat asks us to launch a **Diocesan Mission Map**.

The Mission Map has three priorities:

- 1 - Strengthen our Catholic communities for missionary discipleship
- 2 - Build up the spirituality of young people
- 3- Care for the poor.

Advent is a fitting time to be alert to new opportunities for us as individuals and communities to become creative promoters of evangelisation.

Looking to the past:

On the 30th of November to 11th December the Royal Commission into Abuse in Care and Faith based Institutions, begin Redress hearings based on the Catholic and Anglican Churches and the Salvation Army.

The commission will receive statements from those who have suffered abuse. The Churches have volunteered to be part of this process so as to further enable healing for the victims of abuse.

Do pray in this time.

"God of Compassion, we pray for the survivors of abuse.

May you continue to give them strength and courage to seek justice and reconciliation and share their story".

All blessings for our renewed faith Journey

Please pray for me whilst I am away on my annual Retreat next week.

Chris M s.m.

Parish Pastoral Council Elections.

We received one nomination for the three vacancies on the Parish Pastoral Council. Congratulations to Bill Thiele.

Holy Hour with Exposition of The Blessed Sacrament

every Friday 11am - 12 noon. Come and spend some time with the Lord.

Golden Jubilee Celebration. Fr Emile Frische, MHM celebrated 50 years of priesthood this year. He was ordained here in our parish. To mark his anniversary, Fr Emile will celebrate 12.10pm Mass on Friday 4 December here in our Church. Parishioners are warmly invited to attend this Mass and the luncheon in the gathering area following. We ask parishioners to please bring a plate of finger food. Thank you.

Request for Parish Budgets: The Management and Finance committee is about to commence planning for the next financial year - 1 January to 31 December 2021. Parish groups/areas requiring funding are requested to present a detailed budget email admin@whangareicatholic.org.nz or to the office before 30 November 2020. Please give a contact name & address for your group or area. Thank you

Planned Giving and Cheque Usage The Parish has been advised that several of the larger trading banks are ceasing cheque transactions in 2021. For those who use this medium to transact Planned Giving Donations would you consider changing to a Direct Credit/Automatic Payment option in the coming financial year? We can assist with the set up of this at the Parish Office and Glennis & Marion are available on Mondays and Wednesdays 09-4377902 or can be emailed at admin@whangareicatholic.org.nz if you wish to discuss this alternative option. Cash can be continued to be used going forward as far as we understand.

Advent is a time of preparation and of expectation as we welcome the mystery of God coming in new ways in our lives. It is a season of hope. You are invited to join us each Tuesday evening at 7pm at 13 Tuatara Drive, Kamo, commencing on Tuesday 1st December. Phone Liz and Mike 027 471 4120 or 435 2216.

FIRST COMMUNION SACRAMENTAL PROGRAMME 2021

Reconciliation, Confirmation & First Communion. For **baptised** children who will be 8 years of age, or older by Easter 2021 (4 April). Enrolment forms are available from the Parish Office. The programme begins Sunday 21 February 2021 in our Parish Hall. Enquiries to the Parish Office.

Christmas Masses: Extraordinary Ministers of Communion. Please consider which Mass you will be willing to assist at this Christmas. Please tick your name on the sheet on the table in the gathering area. If you are a commissioned EMOc and your name is not entered please add it. Thank you

DATES TO NOTE IN YOUR DIARY

Thursday 3 December: Feast Day of St Francis Xavier.

Tuesday 8 December: Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary

THOUGHT FOR ADVENT: "May this Advent season be a time for bringing hope, transformation and fulfillment into the Advent of our lives."

CAROL SERVICES "Get into the true spirit of Christmas"

- **Sunday 6 December: Maungatapere Carol Service** is at 5pm followed by Carols in the Street. Meet at Primary School Bus Bay. Children are welcome to dress up. Please bring a plate for the supper which will be held in the Rest Home, after Carols. All very welcome to join us.
- **Sunday 13 December: Combined Anglican and Catholic Carol Service** is at 5pm at the Anglican Church, (Christ Church) Regent. Come and join in this celebration of **Christmas with family and friends!**
- **Sunday 13 December: Whangarei Heads Pioneer Church Open Air Community Carol Service** is at 6.30pm at Mcleod Bay Hall. Kai and Carols. (Sausages and Hamburgers provided). Please bring a seat or rug to sit on. The Carol Service will be led by Salvation Army band and Music Makers Singers. All very welcome.



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.

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.



Martha and Mary last gathering for 2020 will be on Friday 4 December in our Parish Hall commencing with a cup of tea at 10am. All welcome. Enquiries to Joan 435 4012.

Christian Meditation meet every Wednesday 7.30pm in Eymard House. All welcome. Queries to Michael 436 5663

Kamo Prayer Group gather every Tuesday from 10am to 11.45am during term time for prayer, praise & worship. 40 Percy Street. Phone Anne Marie: 021 140 4657. Our last gathering for 2020 will be on 8 December.

Our Parish Playgroup meet every Tuesday during term time, 9am to 11.30am in the Parish Hall. Special invite to all Mums, Dads and Caregivers - bring along your pre-schoolers and join in the fun. Gold coin donation. Enquiries to the Parish Office.



Newcomers - please introduce yourself to one of our priests before or after Mass. Please take a *New Parishioner Pack* from the Church foyer, fill out and return to the Parish Office. Thank you.



Blaze Youth Group (secondary age) Will start again in February 2021.

The Filipino community gather every Wednesday at 6pm, the Filipino community pray a Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help.

National March for Life - You're invited to love them both by attending the fourth annual NATIONAL March for Life in Wellington on Saturday 5 December. Join pro-life Kiwis from all over NZ in a family-friendly celebration of life that also peacefully protests the practice and legality of abortion - right where those laws are made. Gather at Civic Square from 1pm for family-friendly entertainment, sausage sizzle, and pro-life stalls. March to Parliament Grounds begins at 2pm. Learn more about this important event at a critical moment in NZ's history: www.marchforlife.nz

Choir practice 11, 14 and 18 December at 5.30pm in our Church.



It costs \$5,270.24 to run the parish each week. This week we received \$5,149.50 from all collections. Thank you.



Please remember the Parish in your Will