

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
<b>Exposition:</b> Fri 6am; & 11am - Midday. <b>Rosary:</b> Sat 7.30am..				<b>Reconciliation Rite I :</b> 11.30am Fri & Saturday. <b>Rite II:</b> 7.30pm 4th Wednesday	
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:** Ben Hutton, Tom Pow, Francis van Altvorst (*Netherlands*), Jessie Woods, Ngarie Matthews.

**Recently deceased:** Edwin Burnett (*husband of Gail*), Lucy Day (*sister of Millie Aperahama*), Walter Heta, Tony Rudolph (*Katekita*), Monica Topia (*Auckland, sister of Patrick Butler*), Mary Cooney, Ewan Nathan, John McLoughlin (*Auckland, cousin of Rosemary Rundlett*), Ngapera (Shirley) Hathaway, Sophie Cross.

**Anniversaries:** Augustus (Gus) Karels, Lena Williams.



## 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, Glenn McSherry.

Online at: [www.whangareicatholic.org.nz](http://www.whangareicatholic.org.nz) Email: [sfx@whangareicatholic.org.nz](mailto:sfx@whangareicatholic.org.nz)

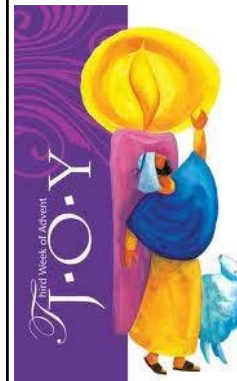
Facebook: [Catholic Parish of Whangarei - St Francis Xavier](https://www.facebook.com/CatholicParishofWhangarei-StFrancisXavier)

**13 December 2020 Year B  
THIRD SUNDAY OF ADVENT**

**Next Week's Readings: (Fourth Sunday of Advent)**

**2 Samuel 7:1-5, 8-12, 14-16; Romans 16: 25-27; Luke 1: 26-38.**

## Gaudete Sunday



Today the third Sunday of Advent is called Gaudete Sunday. It is the Sunday we light the Rose coloured candle. The theme of today's Sunday is JOY.

"Gaudete" means rejoice. The candle is a lighter colour from the purple candles and we too are meant to be a little lighter in our mood and a bit more joyful. Why? Because the colour of the candle is the colour of the pink flush of dawn, the reminder to us that the night and the darkness are almost over and the light will soon be with us.

That is why we are joyful on this day. John the Baptist emerges from the desert and reminds us who he is...a voice that is calling us to prepare our hearts for the arrival of the Messiah. The desert is a tough place to live. It reminds us of the most important things for survival in our lives.

So too, in this time before Christmas, we are invited to joyfully wait and to strip away the things of our lives, that are not so important so that we can make a place for Christ. It's time to declutter our hearts and focus on the most essential things: The gift of life and gratitude for it. Our families and friends.

May the coming of Christ be a rebirth for us too in compassion and kindness and in a deep unwavering joy.

Fr Peter McDermott S.M.

**Sacrament of Reconciliation Pre Christmas Opportunities at St Francis Xavier Church**

**Friday 18 December** - 11:30am - 12 noon

**Saturday 19 December** - 11:30am - 12 noon

**Tuesday 22 December** – RITE II 7:30pm.

**Monday 23 December** 11:30am - 12 noon, 4pm – 5pm.

**Ruakaka Reconciliation Rite II**

Tuesday 15 December 7pm at Holy Family Church.



**Holy Hour with Exposition of Blessed Sacrament**

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



**The Presentation of the Lord**

**Sunday 2 February**

**2021. The Blessing of Candles** will take place on 2 February at 8am Mass. Please bring any candles you wish to have blessed.



**Solemnity of Mary The Holy Mother of God.**

You are invited to start the New Year in a prayerful way. All are welcome to attend 8am Mass here in our Church Friday 1 January 2021.

**Miha Maori at Hato Petera Chapel.** Miha Māori (Mass in Te Reo Māori) will once again be celebrated in the Hāto Petera Chapel, 103 College Road, Northcote. The Miha will be celebrated on Sunday 13 December at 9.30am. You are very welcome to join us as we celebrate our return to the Chapel. For more information please call Manuel Beazley, Vicar for Māori on (09) 360 3058. *Nau mai, haere mai*

**Syro Malabar Community** will celebrate Mass at 6pm on Wednesday 23 December here in our Church.

**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. Thank you.

**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 your name is not entered please add it.

**Proclaimers of the Word for Christmas Masses**

**Christmas Eve**

**6pm Family Mass:** C Stenberg, A Waggott

**9.30pm Carols:** C Beentjes, A Williams

**10pm Night Mass:** E Kearins, L Croucher

**Christmas Day**

**8am Mass:** K Sturge, M Hudson

**10am Mass:** L Luna, J Lim



**Baptism Course.** The next Baptism Course is in February 2021. If you are expecting your first child, now is a good time to do the Course. For further information and to register please phone Janet at the Parish Office 437 7902.

**Photos.** Confirmation, First Holy Communion and Baptism photos are available to order from the Parish Office.

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

♦ **Thank you.** On behalf of the Society of St Vincent de Paul a very big thank you to everyone for the food and gifts that have been donated to our food bank. This food will be used to help families who are struggling. Your generosity has made this possible and you are following Jesus' commandment to look after each other. Again a big thank you and God bless you all.

*Anna Williams - President, Northland area council*



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



**Martha and Mary** have finished for 2020. They begin again on 5 February 2021.



**Christian Meditation**

Our last gathering for 2020 will be on Wednesday 16 December at 7.30pm in Eymard House. All welcome.

Queries to Michael 436 5663. We will begin in 2021 on Wednesday 27 January.

**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 children welcome, but please can under 5's have an adult stay with them? We would love to have more volunteers to make this event a success. Any questions please contact: Katharine (021 529 663) or Glynis (022 689 0787).



**Our Parish Playgroup** has finished for 2020. Will begin again on Tuesday 2 February at 9am in the Parish Hall.

**Available at the Parish Office:**

Daily Mass Calendar \$3.50  
2021 Columban Calendar - \$12.00.  
NZ Catholic - \$4.00.



**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.



It costs \$5,270.24 to run the parish each week. This week we received \$5,316.45 from all collections. Thank you.



Please remember the Parish in your Will