

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 Masses	5pm Sat Vigil (Standard Time) 6pm Sat Vigil (Daylight Saving) 8am Sun 10am Sun (Miha) (live-streamed)	5pm Sat Vigil (Standard Time) 6pm Sat Vigil (Daylight Saving) 8am Sun 10am Sun (live-streamed)	5pm Sat Vigil (Standard Time) 6pm Sat Vigil (Daylight Saving) 8am Sun 10am Sun (live-streamed)	5pm Sat Vigil (Standard Time) 6pm Sat Vigil (Daylight Saving) 8am Sun 10am Sun (live-streamed)	5pm Sat Vigil (Standard Time) 6pm Sat Vigil (Daylight Saving) 8am Sun 10am Sun (live-streamed)
Ruakaka	10.30 am *Liturgy	10.30am Mass	10.30 am *Liturgy	10.30am Mass	10.30 am *Liturgy
Hikurangi	8:00am Mass	10:00am *Liturgy	10:00am Mass	10:00am *Liturgy	10:00am *Liturgy
Whangarei Heads	5pm Sat Vigil Mass May –October 6pm Nov - April	8:30am *Liturgy	///	8:30am *Liturgy	10am. Combined Community Service
Maungatapere	///	///	8.30am *Liturgy	8.30am Mass	///
Maungakaramea	10.30am Mass	///	///	///	///
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 Mass		
Poroti, Miha	12 noon 3rd Sunday of Month: - Feb; April; June; Aug; Oct; Dec				
Pipiwai, Miha	12 noon 5th Sunday of the month				
Weekday Masses and Other Ceremonies					
Monday 7am Mass	Tuesday 9am Mass	Wednesday 12.10pm Mass	Thursday 7am Mass	Friday 12.10pm Mass	Saturday 8am Mass
Exposition: Fri 6am; & 11am - Midday. Rosary: Sat following 8am Mass				Reconciliation Rite I: 11.30am Fri & Saturday.	
5.30pm. 2nd Tuesday of the month. Mass - Syro Malabar 5pm. 5th Sunday of month. Mass - Filipino Community. 6pm. Every Wednesday of the month. Novena - Filipino Community.					



NZpray2day - An app to encourage people to seek a moment to reflect, pray and respond to the ancient Christian cycle of seasons, saints and readings. Available from Apple's App Store or the Google Play Store; search for NZpray2day. It is a free gift for you from *Te Kupenga – the Catholic Leadership Institute*.

2023 Enrolments for Boarding at Sacred Heart College are still open. We welcome your application. Visit our website sacredheart.school.nz; or email enoments@sacredheart.school.nz Phone 09 529 3660 ext 714

Prayers please for these people and their families.... and those who are sick and their caregivers especially: Brian Reed, Pat Kinsella (*Australia, brother of Theresa Kinsella*), Anna Morris (*Australia, daughter-in-law of Tony*), John Bolton, Prue Torkington, Bill Gibson (*husband of Mary*), Wiremu Manuera.

Anniversaries: .Sally Roughan, Ben Wortelboer, Delia Leefe.



St Francis Xavier Catholic Parish



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

Ruakaka; Hikurangi; Whangarei Heads; Maungatapere;
Maungakaramea; Matapouri; Poroti; Pipiwai.

Priests: Fr Brian Prendeville sm (pp), Fr Peter McDermott sm, Fr Trevor Tindall sm.

Deacons: Jim Nees, Nimo Ponifasio.

Parish Secretary: Janet Ponifasio, Administration Manager: Lalyn Luna

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

Facebook Search: [Catholic Parish of Whangarei - St Francis Xavier](https://www.facebook.com/CatholicParishofWhangarei-StFrancisXavier)
whangareicatholic.org.nz Email: sfx@whangareicatholic.org.nz

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT

27 November 2022 Year A

Next Week's Readings: (Second Sunday of Advent)

Isaiah 11: 1-10; Romans 15:4-9; Matthew 3: 1-12

Mount Advent

Today we celebrate the first Sunday of Advent. We begin our yearly re-enactment of the story of our salvation, starting with the mystery of the Incarnation (Christmas) and culminating in the celebration of Christ's ultimate victory (Christ the King). Advent is a time for looking both backward and forward. We look backward as we prepare to celebrate the historical birth of Jesus. At the same time, we look forward to his *'Second Coming'* as we prepare ourselves to welcome Him into all areas of our lives during the Advent season.

It might be helpful to think of our Advent preparations in terms of climbing a mountain. If you ask any mountain climber, they will tell you that the climb to the top is not just about reaching the final destination at the top. It's also about the journey that got them there. What they find at the peak might be rewarding, but what they have experienced and learned along the way is just as profitable.

And, so it is with our 4 weeks climb up our Advent mountain. There isn't any spiritual elevator that will take us to the top without any input from us. We have to work at it ourselves, and believe that we are making progress, however slowly. Advent issues us a spiritual wake-up call. To be awake spiritually means to be open and receptive, vigilant and active. It means to be attentive to God and to others.

How do we begin our climb up the Advent mountain? The starting point will be different for each of us. But, I can give you a general rule of thumb and it begins with something that Mother Teresa used to say, "Whatever you do in your family, for your children, for your spouse, you do for Jesus." At the end of the day let's ask ourselves, "Where have I found Christ today?" The answer you get will be God's Advent gift to you that day. By being alert and watchful we'll be getting an extra gift: Christ himself.

Dcn Jim Nees



The Jesse Tree will be decorated with the Jesse symbols each Sunday. A list of the symbols along with Bible references is available from under the tree and in the foyer. You can use these to set up your own Jesse Tree at home.

Liturgy of the Hours

Vespers (Evening Prayers) During Advent

@ St Francis Xavier Church: 28 November – 22 December 2022

At St Francis Xavier Parish we are praying the Liturgy of the Hours – Vespers (Evening Prayers) during Advent in preparation for the Christmas season.

While it is the practise for the clergy and most religious orders to pray the Liturgy of the Hours daily, it is in fact all the peoples' prayer. In the early church, the faithful gathered with their priest twice daily to pray the psalms – Liturgy of the Hours. Both the Council of Trent and the Second Vatican Council warmly encourage all to pray the Liturgy of the Hours, or Divine Office as it is also known. This is an official, public prayer of the Church, a liturgy.

We will pray The Liturgy of the Hours twice every week during Advent except the 4th week. It will be prayed 3 times that week.

Please come and pray The Liturgy of the Hours with your fellow parishioners at our church.

Vespers – Evening Prayer – Dates & Timing

Week 1 Monday	28 November	6 - 6.30pm
Week 1 Wednesday	30 November	6 - 6.30pm
Week 2 Monday	5 December	6 - 6.30pm
Week 2 Wednesday	7 December	6 - 6.30pm
Week 3 Monday	12 December	6 - 6.30pm
Week 3 Wednesday	14 December	6 - 6.30pm
Week 4 Monday	19 December	6 - 6.30pm
Week 4 Wednesday	21 December	6 - 6.30pm
Week 4 Thursday	22 December	6 - 6.30pm

Request for Parish Budgets: The Management and Finance committee is about to commence planning for the next financial year - 1 January to 31 December 2023. Parish groups/areas requiring funding are requested to present a detailed budget to admin@whangareicatholic.org.nz before 30 November 2022. Please give a contact name & address for your group or area. Thank you.



National March For Life 2022. Saturday, December 3, 2022 1pm - 4pm, Civic Square, 101 Wakefield Street, Wellington. The National March for Life is an important opportunity to come together in solidarity to stand for life; to stand for mothers and fathers; to stand for love. For more information and to sign up for March for Life updates visit www.marchforlife.nz

DATES TO NOTE IN YOUR DIARY

- Saturday 3 December:** Feast Day of St Francis Xavier.
- Sunday 4 December:** Second Sunday of Advent.
- Thursday 8 December:** Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "May this Advent season be a time for bringing hope, transformation and fulfilment into the Advent of our lives"



Every Wednesday at 6pm, the Filipino community pray a Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help in the side Chapel of our Church.



Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every Friday 11am - 12 noon.

Youth News- Blaze Youth Group (secondary age). Join us each Friday during term time, 7pm-9pm in the Parish Hall. Queries to the Parish Office.

Life Teen Summer Camp 2023. Registrations are now open! We want your parish or group to join us (AND 400 YOUNG PEOPLE!) at Life Teen Summer Camp 2023, 18-22 January. To find out more and to register your group, head to www.lifeteen.nz

CALLING FOR PRAYER AND ACTION (Pax Christi) UN International Day in Solidarity with Palestine. Tuesday 29 November 12 Noon. Please join us for a flag raising ceremony at the **Town Basin flag pole**, honouring the Palestinian people's rights to self determination. (*Palestine Solidarity Network Whangarei*)

West Papua Independence Day. Thursday 1 December 12 Noon
Please join us at the Town Basin Flag Pole, to answer the call for the 61st anniversary of the raising of the Morning Star flag, an event that is banned in occupied West Papua. This is to stand in solidarity with these Pacific neighbours and affirm their right to self determination. (*West Papua Action Whangarei*).

St Francis Xavier Catholic School is continuing their initiative to spread the Word of God and ensure that all new, new entrant families coming to our school will have a family Bible. Our school wishes to gift a Bible to each new entrant family. The cost of each Bible is \$10.00. If you are able to assist us towards the cost of this initiative please contact Maria Wilson, St Francis Xavier Catholic School. Thank you.



Society of St Vincent de Paul

Our Annual Christmas Gift Appeal for children is underway.

We are looking for donations of **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 9 December please. Gifts will then be delivered to families. Thank you for your generosity.

Parish Food Basket. Thank you for your continued support. Donations of cereal, tinned sweetcorn, tinned fruit, baked beans and jellies are welcome.

We gather at 5pm on the First and third Thursday of the month. First Thursday we pray the Rosary and 3rd Thursday we have a meeting. All welcome.

Available from the Parish Office: 2023 Daily Mass Calendar \$3.50
2023 Columban Calendar \$12.00. Christmas Card Packs \$2.00 per pack of 5.



Christian Meditation meet every Wednesday in Eymard House 7.30pm-8.30pm. All welcome.

Kamo Prayer Group meet every Tuesday during term time, 10am to 12 noon. Phone Anne Marie for details 021 140 4657



Newcomers - please make yourself known to a greeter before Mass. Please take a *New Parishioner Pack* from the 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 \$4,291.10 from all collections. Thank you.



Eftpos Machine is at the rear of the Church

Please remember the Parish in your Will