SUNDAYS AFTER CHRISTMAS

ST FRANCIS XAVIER: (From Sunday 1 January)

Mass 6:00pm (Saturday Vigil)
8:00am, 10:00am (Sunday)

RUAKAKA

10:30am Mass 1,8, 22 January.
10:30am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion 15 January.

HIKURANGI

8:00am Mass 1 January
10:00am Mass 15 January
10:00am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion 8, 22 and 29 January

WHANGAREI HEADS

6:00pm Vigil Mass Saturday 31 December
8:30am Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion 8 and 22 January.

MAUNGATAPERE & MAUNGAKARAMEA

No Mass or Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion until February 2023.

MAORI MIHA

No Māori Miha until February 2023.

WEEKDAY MASS AFTER CHRISTMAS

Weekday Mass, Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday,
Thursday, Friday and Saturday at 8:00am to Tuesday 31 January.

Last Midday Mass is Friday 23 December 2022
Midday Mass resumes Wednesday 1 February 2023

The usual weekday Mass Schedule will resume on Wednesday 1 February 2023

From after Christmas until normal programme resumes,
Sacrament of Reconciliation will be by appointment.
(You may like to contact one of the priests after weekday Mass)

The Parish office will be closed from
1pm Thursday 22 December 2022
and reopens 8:30am on Tuesday 24 January 2023.

The first Bulletin for 2023 will be published
on Sunday 29 January.

Auckland Anniversary: Monday 30 January 2023
Saint Francis Xavier School - Term I starts Tuesday 31 January 2023

We wish you all of God's Blessings
for Christmas and the New Year

Prayers please for these people and their families.... **and those who are sick and their caregivers especially**:
Young Suk Kim *(Korea)*.

Recently deceased: Teresa Davis, Prue Torkington *(former teacher at Pompallier Catholic College)*, Bill McCarthy *(Hobart, father of Lyn Hutchinson)*.

Anniversaries: Bob Klenner, Harry Aben, Jack Cebalo, Ken McKay, Graeme Palmer, Peter Cox, Pat Hayes, Vic Treacher, Richard McLeod.

REQUESTS FOR PRAYER

Oh Holy Night

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.
PARISH STAFF: Fr Brian Prendeville sm (pp), Fr Peter McDermott sm, Fr Trevor Tindall sm, Deacon Jim Nees, Deacon Nimo Ponifasio. Janet Ponifasio, Lalyn Luna.
Online at: www.whangareicatholic.org.nz Email: sfx@whangareicatholic.org.nz Facebook Search: Catholic Parish of Whangarei - St Francis Xavier

Christmas Day 2022

Christmas message from the Parish Team

The human spirit never grows tired of seeing a new birth. Christmas is not only the time we celebrate the birth of Jesus, but the new birth within ourselves. This last year has been a very challenging one for our Parish. Not only have we had to deal with Covid 19 but Fr Brian has been out of action for most of the year after his accident and that has placed increased demands on all of us. I have marveled at the way people have rallied around to support Fr Trevor and I. We are grateful especially to Deacon Jim and Nimo and our Katekita Patrick and Camron. But many others in great and small ways have shown their support. New growth has happened because of it. Thank you all for your patience. Christmas time is when we look forward with hope to a better and brighter future and as we celebrate this one, with all the challenges that 2022 has dished up, we are hopeful yet confident that we move ahead into brighter days. Fr Brian continues to make a good recovery and other things are stirring into life. May God's Spirit that rested upon Mary and Joseph and the Christ child also bring peace to your home and family. Kia tau te rangimarie ki a koutou katoa i tēnei wā o te Kirihimete. Kia ora koutou katoa

Fr Peter McDermott sm.

Thank you to those who have visited us in the Parish Office over the past year. It has been a pleasure to have been of service to you all. We have enjoyed meeting the many new parishioners and families. To the kind parishioners who have helped in the Office, folding Bulletins etc, you have considerably lightened our work load, we thank you.

"*Volunteers wear working boots but leave a trail of angel footsteps*"

May the timeless message of Christmas fill your heart and home with joy now and throughout the coming year.

Janet and Lalyn

DATES TO NOTE IN YOUR DIARY

- ☐ **Friday 30 December:** The Holy Family of Jesus, Mary and Joseph.
- ☐ **Sunday 1 January 2023:** Mary The Holy Mother of God.
- ☐ **Sunday 8 January:** The Epiphany
- ☐ **Monday 9 January:** The Baptism of The Lord

CHRISTMAS THOUGHT: May God grant you the light of Christmas, which is faith; the warmth of Christmas, which is love; the radiance of Christmas, which is purity; the righteousness of Christmas, which is justice; the belief in Christmas, which is truth; the all of Christmas, which is Christ.

From the Parish Pastoral Council. May the miracle of Christmas fill your heart with joy and peace.

Next Week's Readings:
(Mary The Holy Mother of God)
Numbers 6: 22-27; Galatians 4:4-7; Luke2;16-21

Merry Christmas from St Francis Xavier Catholic School. The staff, Board of Trustees and children wish to pass on their thanks to the parish community for their support over the past year. God bless you all and have a wonderful, Holy Christmas.
Craig McKernan

Society of St Vincent de Paul wish to thank parishioners for their generous support this year with donations and food. To those who have purchased gifts and food to be given out for Christmas, we thank you so much for your kindness and spirit of giving. We were able to assist 130 families, 600 people in total.
May God bless you all for your kindness. Wishing you all a very blessed Christmas.
Anna Williams

The Catholic Caring Foundation: ***Our Christmas Appeal.*** Your Christmas gift will help families and communities in need. Give a more impactful gift this Christmas. Give a gift of joy to our most vulnerable. To donate, visit www.caringfoundation.org.nz. Or online: BNZ 02-0100-0242648-00

Youth News: 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

Registrations are open for **Ngā Tapuwae - Sacred Footsteps 2023**.
Our Northland pilgrimage will be from 6 January to 8 January 2023. All are welcome to hikoi with us to learn more of our Catholic heritage. See noticeboard for more information.
https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/nga-tapuwae-pilgrimage/

Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help

The Filipino community have finished for the year. Their first Novena in 2023 will be Wednesday 25 January at 6pm in the side Chapel. All welcome to join them.

Christian Meditation have finished for the year. There first gathering in 2023 will be Wednesday 25 January in Eymard House 7.30pm-8.30pm. All welcome.

Thank you. A massive thank you everyone who was able to come and help at the working bee last Saturday. Many hands indeed made light work of some big tasks. The Church grounds look amazing.

Newcomers - please make yourself known to a greeter before 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 $4,408.00 from all collections.
Thank you.
Eftpos Machine is at the rear of the Church

Please remember the Parish in your Will