


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.					

Titipounamu Study & Joy. Christmas Traditions – Advent Wreaths & Christmas Trees with Beate Matthies. Monday 5 December, 7-8pm. Koha/Donation.

ZOOM. <https://www.studyjoy.nz/2022/11/20/christmas-traditions/>.

Online Sessions (Evening): Stories, Films & the Bible with Fr Kevin Waldie SM.

Monday, 12 December: **The Father** (2020). Koha/Donation. ZOOM. <https://www.studyjoy.nz/2022/11/15/stories-films-the-bible-2/>

 **Thank you.** Special thanks to the teams who did the Mass Count each Sunday of November both here and the Outlying Areas. Great job.

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, Wiremu Manuera, Bruce Head (*husband of Pam*).

Recently deceased: Bill Crum (*father of Richard*), Carmen Del Amo (*Spain, mother of Luis Guio*)

Anniversaries: Frank Yovich.



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
whangareicatholic.org.nz Email: sfx@whangareicatholic.org.nz

SECOND SUNDAY OF ADVENT

4 December 2022 Year A

Next Week's Readings: Third Sunday of Advent)

Isaiah 35:1-6, 10; James 5:7-10; Matthew 11:2-11

Those Symbols

Our Jesse Tree has a number of symbols on it. The symbols represent the people who are part of the family tree of Jesus. The symbol isn't the person. Rather it is a representation of the whole story of who that person is, what they may have done and how they are connected to Jesus. Each small symbol leads us into something far greater than what we can see. By taking the time to explore the symbol we increase our knowledge and appreciation of what or who it symbolises.

There are some symbols associated with our reading for this weekend.

One is the symbol of a scion springing from the base of a tree. The word "scion" has two meanings; firstly, a scion is a young shoot or twig of a plant, especially one cut for grafting or rooting. Secondly, a scion is a descendant of a notable family. Both meanings can be related to Jesus and his connection to the family of Jesse. The "scion" becomes a symbol that opens for us a wider world of the relationships in the life of Jesus and others.

I would suggest that John the Baptist in the Gospel is another symbol. We all know who he is. But he is a symbol for a whole way of living and connecting with God and Jesus. By exploring his story, we grow in appreciation of Jesus and God's plans.

In our own way, each of us can be a symbol. By living out our faith and belief in Jesus, especially at this time of the year, we can represent something and Someone far greater than ourselves. By seeing us, others are able to see into the wider story of God's love for them.

The Pope's Monthly Intentions. You are invited to answer the Holy Father's request and to join with many people worldwide in praying for this intention each month. The Intention for December is: **For volunteer not-for-profit organisations.** We pray that volunteer non-profit organisations committed to human development find people dedicated to the common good and ceaselessly seek out new paths to international cooperation.



**Pre Christmas Rite II Reconciliation: SFX: Thursday 8 December 7pm
Ruakaka: Tuesday 13 December 6pm**



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**

Vespers – Evening Prayer – Dates & Timing

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



We welcome into our parish family those baptised in November:
Ahyeon Cho and Luffy Drilon.

Announcement of Music Leadership Group. Over the last few months the Parish Liturgy Committee has been working on forming a Music Leadership group. This is a subcommittee of the Liturgy Committee and is responsible for the Music Ministry in the Parish. This committee is comprised of Fr Peter, Maree Hudson, Emily Malone, Aileen Cordiner, Josh Lim and Johanna Heffey. The committee has been doing its work of getting established and agreeing upon a vision for the Parish music. We are working on co-ordinating the repertoire of music for Advent and Christmas seasons. It has been in the process of contacting and working with the various music groups and sharing with them suggestions for repertoire. In the new year we will be holding formation sessions for musicians. Please continue to support and pray for our musicians.

Journey to the Holy Land with Bishop Steve Lowe. Commences 5 March 2023. 17 nights / 20 days. Contact Harvest Journeys. **AU Toll-Free:** 1800 819 156 | **NZ Toll-Free:** 0800 819 156 **NZ Toll-Free:** 0800 819 156. See flyer on noticeboard. www.harvestjourneys.com

DATES TO NOTE IN YOUR DIARY

- Thursday 8 December:** Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary
- Sunday 11 December:** Third Sunday of Advent

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

CAROL SERVICE "Get into the true spirit of Christmas" Here in our Church. Sunday 18 December at 5pm.



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



A warm invitation for all families to join with the parish in celebrating Mass on Christmas Eve at 6pm in our Church. Any child wishing to be part of the Gospel dramatisation should come dressed as an Angel or Shepherd and sit with your families till you are called.



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.

An Invitation to Spiritual Direction. *Spiritual Direction*, also known as *Spiritual Companionship*, is a reflective practice of helping you to awaken to the Mystery called God in all of life. It's about being encouraged to draw closer in your relationship with God who seeks you wherever you are in life's journey. For more information see the noticeboard or phone Liz 027 471 4120

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



Society of St Vincent de Paul

Christmas Gifts: 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 instant noodles, tinned fruit, baked beans, pasta 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.



Parish Working Bee. As you would have noticed, our church grounds are in desperate need of tidying up with: gardens needing weeding; bushes and trees to be trimmed; car parks to be swept and a big pile of rubbish to be removed. We need your help! **Please mark your calendar for Saturday 17/12/22 at 10am** to come and help us tidy up our grounds before Christmas. All are welcome. If you can pull one weed – come! Bring your gardening tools, gloves, leaf blower, weed eater, yard brooms, trimmers, shovels, wheelbarrows etc... We will have a sausage sizzle to finish up at about midday. Looking forward to seeing you all there.

Ride to Mass needed. Parishioners living in the Regent kindly ask if they could get a ride to either 8am or 10am Mass. Please phone Rosemary 021 235 8357



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 \$3,927.60 from all collections. Thank you.



Eftpos Machine is at the rear of the Church

Please remember the Parish in your Will