

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 Family Mass (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 (Standard Time) 6pm Sat Vigil (Daylight Saving)	8:30am *Liturgy	///	8:30am *Liturgy	10am. Combined Community Service
Maungatapere	///	///	///	8.30am Mass	///
Maungakaramea	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 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 1: 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.					

Board Needed. Sr. Fatima Lemisio RSM has just moved to Whangarei to work as a Chaplain at Whangarei Hospital. She is looking for short term Board with a lady parishioner whilst she looks for a permanent two bedroom home. If you can help, please phone her on 021 084 29440. Thank you

Prayers please for these people and their families.... and those who are sick and their caregivers especially: Margaret Hibbert, Ida Moroney, Michael Pukeroa, Barbara Ashwell, Lorraine Merito, Elinor Jackson (mother of Kate McKenzie), Brian Reed, Ben Hutton, Dora Hampton.

Recently deceased: Marguerite Osborne, Bryan Chapman, Jeanette Yovich (*wife of Wallie*), Bertha Keys, Joe Carroll, Lorna Draffin, Patrick Mehana.

Anniversaries: Patricia Welsh.



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 Brian Prendeville sm (pp), Fr Peter McDermott sm,
Fr Trevor Tindall sm, Fr Peter Janssen sm, Deacon Jim Nees, Deacon Nimo Ponifasio
Janet Ponifasio, Marjorie Abraham-Quinn

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Facebook Search: [Catholic Church Whangarei.](#)

TWENTY EIGHTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME

15 October 2023 Year A

Next Week's Readings: (Twenty Ninth Sunday in Ordinary Time)
Isaiah 45:1, 4-6; 1 Thessalonians 1:1-5; Matthew 22:15-21

A Wedding Feast!

When we think of wedding feasts we think mostly of joyful celebrations of love. But they are also celebrations of unity, of oneness, of a woman and a man becoming one flesh.

In our Scripture readings this weekend, our Lord is inviting us to a wedding feast in Heaven. But it's a special wedding feast with him. It's a communion invitation with him. This is not a small occasion, it's a big deal. This wedding feast is an outpouring of the Father's love. We can see that in our 1st Reading from Isaiah describing the feast for all at the kingdom of God as a banquet with rich juicy food and pure choice wine. With God, there will only be joy, and all tears will be wiped away from every cheek. No one will be left wanting of anything. The Lord satisfies the desires of our hearts in every way imaginable.

However in the Gospel we see that when the Lord invites, we have people who refuse to come, or ignore the invitation, make excuses, or put it off and have their businesses and their farms come first. So how should we respond to this invitation? The answer is in our 2nd Reading. St Paul writes: *"I know how to be poor and I know how to be rich too... I am ready for anything anywhere: full stomach or empty stomach, poverty or plenty."* So how do we respond in all circumstance whether good or bad? St Paul says: *"There is nothing I cannot master with the help of the One who gives me strength."*

Clearly the key to responding to the invitation is Jesus. Jesus who strengthens us in all situations and who helps us to be ready at every moment to encounter this communion with God, to say yes to the Father's invitation. The Collect for Mass this Sunday affirms this and says: *"May your grace, O Lord, we pray, at all times go before us and follow after and make us always determined to carry out good works."* So this week, friends let us respond to the Father's invitation with Jesus at the centre of our lives, Jesus going forward ahead of us and Jesus following us behind.

Dcn Nimo Ponifasio



Holy Hour with Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament every Friday 11am - 12 noon. Come and spend some time



Please note: Monday 23 October being a Public Holiday (Labour Day) Mass will be celebrated at 8am.

World Mission Sunday 29 October 2023. Theme. "Hearts on Fire, feet on the move" Pope Francis' message for World Mission Sunday this year reflects on the theme: **"You shall be my witnesses"** (Acts 1:8). He reminds us that, "every Christian is called to be a missionary and witness to Christ.

Baptism Course for Parents of infants is on Sundays 29 October and 5 November 2pm - 3.30pm here in our Church. If you are expecting your first child, now is a good time to do the Course. For further information and to register please phone the Parish Office 437 7902. Thank you.

Correction: Parish Social and Information Night @ Day at the Parish Hall. Saturday 11 November after 6pm Mass Sunday 12 November following 10am Mass
Bring a little food. "A plate of chicken wings". Receive an update of Parish organisation and socialise. All within an hour.

An Invitation to the Sacrament of Baptism for Children Between the ages of 7-12. Walk in the Light- Hikoi i te Mārama is based on the Sunday Gospel and the programme will run after 10am Mass on Sundays until 12:30. There is an expectation that at least one parent will accompany the child/children to Mass and to the sessions. The programme will be as follows:
10am Mass
11am - Gather in the St Joseph's Room at St Francis Xavier Catholic School.
Morning tea
11:00-12:00- Learning session
The dates will be as follows:
December 3rd and 10th
February 11th, 18th, 25th
March 3rd, 10th, 17th, 24th
Baptism on Easter Sunday 31st March
The WITL team includes Fr Peter McDermott sm, Karen Sturge, Jeanette Atabelo and Glenys Jakicevich. Queries to glenys@sfx.school.nz. Registration forms are available from the Parish Office.

St Francis Xavier Catholic School News.

Playground: As you have possibly seen we are beginning a significant project at school to upgrade the playground areas and include a new landscape, shade, games and assembly space for our 515 students.
The project has been in the planning stages for a number of years so we are delighted that it is now underway. Work is due to be completed during the Christmas holidays so it will be ready for the children when they return to school in 2024.

If you would like to contribute to this mammoth fundraiser we would appreciate your help. Donations can be made to the school by contacting the office, phone (09)4371039. God bless you and thank you for your support.
Craig McKernan (Principal)

Thought for the Week: "The heart is happiest when it beats for others".

John 15:13 No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends.



Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help. Every Wednesday at 6pm here in our Church. All welcome.



Blaze Youth Group (secondary age) meet every Friday during term time 7pm-9pm in the Parish Hall.

Coming Soon: Catholic Women's Breakfast - Saturday 11 November at Whangarei Cruising Club, Riverside Drive. This is a Parish social event for all women to connect and celebrate our unique fellowship as Catholic women over Breakfast. Contact details and Tickets available soon.



Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship meet for prayers, praise and worship on Wednesday 18 October here in the Church at 7pm. All men welcome.



Kamo Prayer Group will start meeting again on Tuesday 24 October, 10am to 12 noon. Phone Anne Marie for details 021 140 4657



Martha and Mary next meet on Friday 3 November at 10am in Eymard House. All welcome

MAORI COMMUNITY - KO NGA PANUI.
Himene practice, (2nd & 4th Thursdays) 7pm in the gathering area of the Church.
Miha Maori: First Sunday of the month at 10am.



Christian Meditation meet every Wednesday in Eymard House. 5pm to 6pm. All welcome.



Society of St Vincent de Paul: Parish Food Basket: Thank you for your continued support. Donations of tinned spaghetti, tinned sweetcorn and pasta are very welcome.
Meetings: 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.

Life Teen Summer Camp Aotearoa. 16 - 20 January 2024 at Cambridge. A camp run by the Auckland Diocese for youth aged 13-17, with fun outdoor activities and an opportunity to make new friends and grow in faith. Enquiries to Angela Murray – Summer Camp Staff Coordinator summercamp@lifeteen.nz. **Register at www.lifeteen.nz**



Congratulations to Brian and Mary Ann Reed on celebrating their Diamond Anniversary, 60 years of marriage. May God continue to bless you. Everyone should give you both a bottle of champagne.

Auckland Diocese Special Collections: World Mission Sunday 29 October. This money is distributed by the National Missions Office to help in the running expenses of a diocese for 12 months in a missionary country.



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 per week to meet running costs of our Parish including our Outlying Areas.



Please remember the Parish in your Will