



## An invitation to the Sacrament of Baptism for School Age Children Walk in the Light-Hikoi i te Mārama

*"For all of you who were baptised into Christ have clothed yourselves with Christ. "Galatians 3:27*

The Parish of St Francis Xavier Whangarei extends a warm invitation to families and whānau to be part of **Walk in the Light-Hikoi i te Mārama**. This a programme of learning and growing in our Catholic faith will lead to the children receiving the Sacrament of Baptism. After receiving the Sacrament of Baptism, the children can be part of the sacramental programme which leads to First Eucharist, Reconciliation and Confirmation, later in the year. 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.

11:10- Morning tea

11:30-12:30- Learning session

The team includes Fr Peter McDermott sm, Karen Sturge, Jeanette Atabelo and Glenys Jakicevich

### **Session Dates and Gospel Focus:**

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> December 2023:** First Sunday of Advent. Gospel Mark 13: 33-37. Stay awake, be ready. Meet and greet. A time to get to know one another and ask questions.

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> December:** Second Sunday of Advent. Gospel Mark 1:1-8. Ready the Way.

**Sunday 11<sup>th</sup> February:** Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time. Gospel Mark 1:29-39. Jesus went off to pray

**Sunday 18<sup>th</sup> February:** First Sunday of Lent: Gospel Mark 1:12-15. Jesus in the desert

**Sunday 25<sup>th</sup> February:** Second Sunday of Lent. Gospel Mark 9:2-10. The Transfiguration.

**Sunday 3<sup>rd</sup> March:** Third Sunday of Lent. Gospel John 2:13-25. Jesus in the Temple

**Sunday 10<sup>th</sup> March:** Fourth Sunday of Lent. Gospel John 3:14-21. God so loved the world

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> March:** Fifth Sunday of Lent. Gospel John 12: 20-30. Unless a grain of wheat falls...

**Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> March:** Palm Sunday. Gospel Mark 11:1-10 Jesus enters Jerusalem

***Easter Sunday 31<sup>st</sup> March 10am Mass-Baptism of the children.***

If you would like more information, please contact Glenys Jakicevich [glenys@sfx.school.nz](mailto:glenys@sfx.school.nz) 4371039. To register your child or children for this programme please see Janet the Parish secretary or phone 4377902.

***Nau mai, haere mai! We hope to see you there!***