

### 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					
<b>Monday</b> 7am Mass	<b>Tuesday</b> 9am Mass	<b>Wednesday</b> 12.10pm Mass	<b>Thursday</b> 7am Mass	<b>Friday</b> 12.10pm Mass	<b>Saturday</b> 8am Mass
<b>Exposition:</b> Fri 6am; & 11am - Midday. <b>Rosary:</b> Sat following 8am Mass				<b>Reconciliation Rite I:</b> 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.					



Paul Sorensen has written a book - **A Call to Love**. ...A story of a couples deep faith..... spanning the globe and four generations this is a warm narrative story of three families, each steeped in a strong love of family life and the Christian faith. Copies are available from the Parish Office \$30.00. Paul has kindly gifted all proceeds for our Parish Music Scholarships.

**Prayers please for these people and their families.... and those who are sick and their caregivers especially:** Barbara Ashwell, Ben Hutton, Ray Timmins. Pat Kinsella (*brother of Theresa Kinsella*)

**Recently deceased:** Hugh Vercoe, (*brother of Jill Heenan*), Jenny McMath.

**Anniversaries:** Raymond van der Veen, Nicolette Buisman.



## St Francis Xavier Catholic Parish

Cnr. Kamo Road and Park Avenue, P.O. Box 8061, Kensington, Whangarei  
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**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.](#)

**THIRTY SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**

**12 November 2023 Year A**

**Next Week's Readings: (19 November 2023)**

**Proverbs 31:10-13, 19-20, 30-31; 1 Thessalonians 5:1-6; Matthew 25:14-30**

The wise bridesmaids are far less likeable characters than the foolish. If you were in trouble, you would be more likely to get help from one of those foolish bridesmaids than from any of the wise ones. Why are these being described as 'wise'?

We should remember that a parable is not an allegory. An allegory is a story that has many points of reference to human experience – many punch-lines, so to speak – but a parable has only one. In a parable the detail of the story itself has only one purpose: to add strength to that one point. For that reason, the refusal of the wise to help the foolish is not being held up as model behaviour for us. Jesus himself had a partiality for “the weak, the sick, the wounded, the strayed, the lost”. The one point of this parable of the bridesmaids is *readiness*. Jesus was continuously telling people to wake up and stay awake.

Many people try to draw out multiple meanings from this parable by turning it into an allegory e.g. likening the lamp to our soul and the oil to prayer which together can make us the light of the world with the spark of the Holy Spirit. Worthwhile as such insights might be, they distract from the one central point of the parable which is to be always *awake* and *ready* for the Lord's arrival.

Wisdom is to the soul what health is to the body. It is of no use to you unless it is yours. Information and knowledge can be anybody's: you can find it in Wikipedia or by Google. But wisdom has to be your own. The Latin word for wisdom is '*sapientia*'. It comes from '*sapor*', which means 'taste'. Wisdom is '*sapida scientia*', *tasted* knowledge. Not knowledge in a book or in someone else's head, but in me: in my mouth, so to speak, in my heart, living through me.

What encouragement are we to get from today's gospel passage? It has to be the punch-line of the parable itself: be awake, be alert, be ready.

Fr Peter Janssen S.M.

**Postponement:** The Parish Social and Information Night @ Day at the Parish Hall, Saturday 11 November after 6pm Mass and Sunday 12 November following 10am Mass has been postponed till 2024.

**World Day of The Poor - 19 November 2023.** "Do not turn your face away from anyone who is poor" (Tob 4:7) This, the seventh annual World Day of the Poor, is a fruitful sign of the Father's mercy and a support for the lives of our communities. As its celebration becomes more and more rooted in the pastoral life of the Church, it enables us to discover ever anew the heart of the Gospel. Our daily efforts to welcome the poor are still not enough. A great river of poverty is traversing our cities and swelling to the point of overflowing; it seems to overwhelm us, so great are the needs of our brothers and sisters who plead for our help, support and solidarity. For this reason, on the Sunday before the Solemnity of Jesus Christ King of the Universe, we gather around his Table to receive from him once more the gift and strength to live lives of poverty and to serve the poor.



**Feast of Christ The King Sunday 26 November.**

**World map:** We have a World map in the foyer for parishioners to place a pin on their country of origin.

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



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

**An Invitation to the Sacrament of Baptism for Children** Between the ages of 7-12. Walk in the Light- Hikoi i te Marama 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 10am Mass. Queries to [glens@sfx.school.nz](mailto:glens@sfx.school.nz). Registration forms are available from the Parish Office.

**SCHOLARSHIPS:** The Auckland Diocese is now accepting applications for scholarship for 2024. The Ruth Miller scholarship is available towards a Bachelor Degree or Graduate Diploma in Theology. The Jubilee Bursary is offered for theological and religious education studies. These programmes are offered at Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College. Enrolment for 2024 is ongoing. For more information, go to [www.tekupenga.ac.nz/scholarships](http://www.tekupenga.ac.nz/scholarships) **The closing date for applications is 18 November 2023.** To enrol, go to [www.tekupenga.ac.nz/apply](http://www.tekupenga.ac.nz/apply)

**DATES TO NOTE IN YOUR DIARY.**

- ◆ **Sunday 19 November:** World Day of the Poor
- ◆ **Sunday 26 November:** Feast of Christ the King
- ◆ **Sunday 3 December:** First Sunday of Advent. Year B begins.

**"Thought for the Week "Knowledge comes, but wisdom lingers"**

Proverbs 2:6 For the Lord gives wisdom, and from His mouth come knowledge and understanding

✠ **Remembrance Cards:** The Basket of Remembrance cards is in sanctuary of the church until the end of November. You can still add the names of your loved ones and they will be remembered at Mass throughout November. Blank cards are in the foyer.



**Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship** meet for prayers, praise and worship on Wednesday 15 November here in the Church at 7pm. **Colin Lamb will be speaking about his trip to the Holy Land. All parishioners welcome to attend.**

**AN INVITATION TO PRAYER. Pax Christi is a Social Justice group.** We invite you to come and join us on Sunday, 19th November at 5:30pm at St Francis Xavier Church to pray for justice and peace in our world. This will be an interdenominational gathering, where people of all faiths and all Nations can come together in prayer.

You are invited to a Christmas Service of Nine Lessons & Carols  
Sunday 10 December 6pm  
Te Karaiti Te Aranga  
(The Risen Christ)  
Anglican Church  
10 Boswell St, Kamo  
Bring something to contribute to shared kai afterwards

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



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

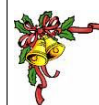
**MAORI COMMUNITY - KO NGA PANUI.** Himene practice, (2nd & 4th Thursdays) 7pm in the gathering area of the Church.

**Our Parish Playgroup** every Tuesday during term time from 9am to 11.30am in the Parish Hall. Special invite to all Mums, Dads and Caregivers - bring along your preschoolers and join in the fun. Gold coin donation. Enquiries to the Parish Office.



**Society of St Vincent de Paul: Parish Food Basket:** Thank you for your continued support. Donations of tinned sweetcorn, tinned vegetables and jelly are very 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.



**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 3 December please. Gifts will then be delivered to families for Christmas. Thank you.



**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*