

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 *Liturgy	8.30am Mass	///
Maungakareama	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
<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.					

**Voice For Life: The New Zealand Catholic bishops** have recently updated and released an important document entitled: "Te Kahu o te Ora - A Consistent Ethic of Life". Originally released in 1997, the updated version has been expanded to address not only traditional life issues but new problems we face in today's society. The concept of a "consistent ethic of life" refers to the fact that since all human life is sacred, there is a need to value and protect human life in all circumstances. For more pro-life information, visit Voice for Life at [www.voiceforlife.org.nz](http://www.voiceforlife.org.nz)

**Prayers please for these people and their families... and those who are sick and their caregivers especially:** Ben Hutton, Margaret Hibbert, Truus Kaptein, Margaret Kernot, Liz and Jim Nicholls, (Auckland, brother and sister-in-law of Mary Ann Reed.

**Recently deceased:** Don Hewitt, Judith Mieckle, Sally Osmena., Antje van Dijk.

**Anniversaries:** Doug Simpson, Jim Kelly, Raymond Linwood, Kevin Pomeroy, Siril Perera, , Colleen Miller, Norma Valido.



# St Francis Xavier Catholic Parish

Cnr. Kamo Road and Park Avenue, P.O. Box 8061, Kensington, Whangarei  
Phone: 437 7902. House: 437 5266.

**PARISH STAFF:** Fr Brian Prendeville sm (pp), 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](https://www.facebook.com/CatholicChurchWhangarei).

**FOURTH SUNDAY OF LENT**

**10 March 2021 Year B**

**Next Week's Readings: (Fifth Sunday of Lent)**

**Jeremiah 31: 31-34; Hebrews 5: 7-9; John 12:20-30**

## Light, Dark, or Twilight?

In today's gospel, the image of light and darkness is central to Jesus' teaching. It paints the two in stark opposition to one another, seeming to leave no space in between. Either we do things that could be best defined as being in darkness, or doing things that reflect living in the light (Jesus). Yet, our personal experience is that we all do things that would fit into both categories. We do things that we need to confess to, while at the same time we carry that spark of light that urges us forwards towards Jesus. Coming to the Light is presented as a conscious choice and our personal experience shows us that our journey towards Jesus is a gradual process.

While we take hope that these points of light will grow over our lifetime, perhaps the greatest danger facing us is that we might settle for a kind of twilight existence. Our lives reflect what we currently see about 8 in the evening.....it's neither light nor dark. We never decisively declare for the Light. We never totally opt for the dark. The result is a mediocre person---neither a great saint nor a great sinner.

When St. Paul wrote in today's second reading that. "We are God's work of art", it gives us time to pause and think. Every artist, including the Creator of us all, rightly takes pride in their work. Each piece is valued and honoured in the artist's catalogue of work. God, as an artistic creator, has invested heavily in His work, and so each of us somehow bears his signature. The challenge and question before all of us, especially during this Lenten season is. "Am I a Twi-lighter?" and if so, "What changes do I need to make so that the Light of Jesus shines more brightly in God's work of art.....ME.

Dcn Jim Nees

**Stations of the Cross.** Fridays at 7pm.

**Pre-Easter Rite II Reconciliation.**  
**St Francis Xavier:** Wednesday 13 March 7pm  
**Ruakaka:** Wednesday 20 March 7pm

**Ready the Way - Sacramental Programme 2024**

To prepare for the Sacraments of: **Reconciliation, Confirmation, and First Holy Eucharist.** Enrolment forms available from the Parish Office.


**Registrations close on Thursday 11 April.**

**Information and Orientation meeting for all the Parents/ Guardians on Friday 3 May at 7pm here in our Church.**

This will explain the requirements of the programme and the Kaupapa (purpose). . (Parents only please)

**Programme starts:** Sunday 12 May 2024 at 10am Mass at Saint Francis Xavier Church for parents and children, followed by preparation session in St Joseph's Room at St Francis Xavier Catholic School.

**Age Guideline:** A candidate should be 8 years old to start the programme.

 **Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship** next meet for prayers, praise and worship on Wednesday 20 March here in the Church at 7pm.



**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 to join them.

**Market Day: Sunday 10 March.** The Syro-Malabar Catechism children are hosting a Market Day to fundraise for the replacement of the carpets within the Church. This is happening on Sunday 10 March straight after the 10 am Mass till 1:30 pm at the Parish Hall. There will be games, face painting, food, and a lemonade stand. Come along and have fun.

If you wish to donate any items to sell (no clothing please), please drop off all donations at the Parish Hall on 10 March after the 10 am Mass. For any other queries contact either: Jisha 021 022 87446 or Swapna 021 081 59266

**Palms Needed:** We need large palm fronds or Nikau palm fronds to decorate our Church for Palm Sunday. Please contact the Parish Office if you can help. Thank you.



**Good Friday Outdoor Stations of The Cross. 10.30am.**

Like to draw your attention to our Outdoor Stations of The Cross on Good Friday (29 March). It is always been a tradition for our Schools to come together with the parish on Good Friday.

**IMPORTANT DATES TO NOTE IN YOUR DIARY**

- o **Sunday 17 March:** Fifth Sunday of Lent
- o **Sunday 24 March:** The Passion of The Lord (Palm Sunday)
- o **Saturday 30 March:** Holy Saturday. Easter Vigil RCIA receiving Sacraments.

**Opportunities for Rite I Reconciliation.**

**Holy Thursday- 4.30pm-5.30pm**  
**Good Friday- immediately after the Solemn Liturgy.**  
**Holy Saturday - 11am - 12 noon**

**LENTE REFLECTION:** Give up complaining—focus on gratitude. Give up pessimism—become an optimist. Give up discouragement—be full of hope. Give up bitterness—turn to forgiveness. Give up harsh judgments—think kindly thoughts.



**SFX Prayer Group, (formerly Kamo Prayer Group)** meet every Tuesday 10am to 12 noon in Eymard House during the school term. Phone Anne Marie for details 021 140 4657



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

**St Francis Xavier Catholic School News:** Meditation is a type of prayer that helps and reminds us to be still. Thanks to Margaret Chapman and our DRS-Maria Wilson, our students have been encouraged and supported to practice mediation in class time. Teachers have also reported that doing meditation simultaneously throughout the school at times, helps even more with the stillness of the prayerful moment. God bless and we hope you have a wonderful week. Bernadette Hall (Principal)

**Society of St Vincent de Paul: Parish Food Basket.** Thank you for your continued support. Donations of tinned tomatoes, tinned sweetcorn and baked beans 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.

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



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



**Choir.** Our practices are: Thursday 14 March, 4.30-6pm; Thursday 21 March, 4.30-6pm.



**St Francis Xavier Parish Playgroup.** Alternate Tuesdays in the Parish Hall 9-11.30am during school term. **12 March:** Making Music. **26 March:** Easter Crafts, Easter Egg Hunt. All ages welcome. Tea and Coffee provided. Phone Katharine 021 529 663



**Can You Help? Computer Operators needed to operate the laptop for 10am Mass on Sundays.** Adults and Secondary School students that attend the 10am Mass on Sunday. If we get enough people volunteering you will be rostered once a month. Simply load the Service Plan then click through the Mass. Training given. Please contact Janet at the Parish Office 437 7902. Thank you.

**Special Collections in the Auckland Diocese: Lenten Appeal.** Each year the Lent Appeal is run by Caritas on behalf of the New Zealand Catholic Bishops' Conference (NZCBC) to support our work of charity and justice for the poorest and most vulnerable around the world, including in New Zealand.



**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.



**Eftpos Machine** is at the rear of the Church.

*Please remember the Parish in your Will*