

### Holy Week and Easter Timetable

#### **Monday 25 March: Chrism Mass 11am. (Please note change of time)**

Chrism Mass is the only Mass today The Celebrant is Bishop Steve Lowe. Please bring a plate of finger food for our shared luncheon, which you can leave in the Parish Hall from 10am onwards.



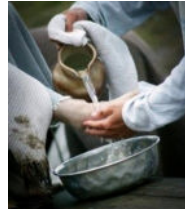
#### **Tuesday 26 March: 9am Mass**

#### **Wednesday 27 March: 12.10pm Mass**

#### **Thursday 28 March: Holy Thursday. (One Mass only)**

##### **Mass of the Lord's Supper 7.30pm.**

Bring food for the needy - Society of St Vincent de Paul food baskets will be brought up at the Offertory Procession. (Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament following Mass till 10pm)



**Ecumenical Service:** 7pm, St Paul's Anglican church Ruakaka

#### **Good Friday 29 March:**

- **Stations of the Cross:** 10.30am St Francis Xavier School Grounds. (Church if wet)
- **Solemn Liturgy: 3pm** at St Francis Xavier Church. Retiring Collection for the Holy Places.
- **Other Services at other Places on Good Friday:**
  - † Stations of the Cross: Maungakarama 11am.
  - † Ecumenical Service 10am, St Peter's Anglican Church Waipu.



#### • **HOLY SATURDAY: "The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night"**

- **30 March: 8pm.** (only Mass) (RCIA receiving Sacraments)

#### • **SUNDAY OF THE RESURRECTION 31 March:**

*(Please leave your watches at home on Easter Sunday)*

**St Francis Xavier:** 8am Mass;

10am Mass. (RCIC Baptisms) This Mass will take considerably longer due to RCIC baptisms (35)

**Whangarei Heads:** 7.30am.

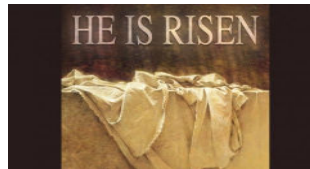
**Hikurangi:** 10.30 am.

**Ruakaka:** 10.30 am.

**Please Note: No Mass at Maungakarama on Easter Sunday.**

**Easter Monday 1 April:** 8am Mass. (*\*Mystery word - Hope is in the middle of the word Violence*)

**Please note:** Parish Office closed Tuesday 2 April.



**Ride Needed to Mass.** One of our older parishioners needs a ride to 10am Mass from Park Avenue, Kensington. If you can help, please phone Janet at the Parish Office. Thank you.

**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:** Sally Osmena., Antje van Dijk, Ann Luiten, Cornelia (Nelly) Koopman.

**Anniversaries:** Margaret Cadwgan, Clive Chamberlain .



# 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 Trevor Tindall sm, Fr Peter Janssen sm,  
Deacon Jim Nees, Deacon Nimo Ponifasio  
Janet Ponifasio, Marjorie Abraham-Quinn.

Online at: [www.whangareicatholic.org.nz](http://www.whangareicatholic.org.nz) Email: [sfx@whangareicatholic.org.nz](mailto:sfx@whangareicatholic.org.nz)

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

**PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD**

**24 March 2023/24 Year B**

**Next Week's Readings: (Sunday of the Resurrection)**

**Acts 10:34, 37-43; 1 Corinthians 5:6-8; John 20:1-9.**

## Violence\* Sunday

Our Readings this Sunday are among the most brutal Readings for our year. They speak of a violence towards another that we don't hear about on any other Sunday. Perhaps it is appropriate that year on year we are reminded of how awful we can be to each other. From beyond the time of the prophet Isaiah to the present day, there are constant examples of suffering that is inflicted by people on other people. It can be easy to ignore what is happening. This Sunday challenges us to face into the truth.

Yet, in the midst of it all, there is a spark of hope. On this Passion Sunday, that spark of hope comes from the One who suffers the most. That spark of hope is a love that leads to the laying down of His life. Year on year such love continues to be an example for us and an antidote to violence that can so easily dominate our lives.

Ponder the love of Jesus in undergoing this suffering out of love for you. Reach out to others with small deeds of love that will cost you something. Bring hope to people. Show them that love, respect, compassion, justice, kindness and much more overcome violence with good.

\* Find the meaning of this word in the Bulletin. Prize for 1<sup>st</sup> reply

### Opportunities for Rite I Reconciliation.

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



### Good Friday Outdoor Stations of The Cross. 29 March 10.30am.

is always been a tradition for our Schools to come together with the parish on Good Friday.

**Installation of Acolytes.** Over the weekend, eight men were commissioned to the order of Acolyte by Bishop Stephen Lowe. One of those installed was Camron Muriwai from our Parish. This is the final step in the journey of ordination to the Permanent Diaconate sometime next year. We continue to pray for these men while on this journey and look forward to the day where they receive Holy Orders to serve the Auckland Diocese.

### Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land

The traditional Good Friday Collection for the Holy Land is an effort by the Church to maintain a strong bond between the faithful across the world and the Holy Places. It is the main source of material support for Christian life in the Holy Land and a tool for the universal Church to express solidarity with the Christian communities of the Middle East.

Through the funds collected on Good Friday, the Church is able to carry out the important mission in the Holy Land of: preserving the Sacred Places, the stones of memory and promoting the Christian presence, the living stones, through its many pastoral, educational, welfare, health and social facilities. \$7.19 million was collected in 2023 - down over 25% from the \$9.04 million collected in 2022. With war, persecutions and the uncertainty of life in the Middle East, Christians are suffering and many are migrating out of the region. The Dicastery for the Eastern Churches has issued an appeal for prayerful and financial support for the Holy Land Christians.

Please support your brothers and sisters in Christ in the Holy Land, the land of our Lord Jesus Christ. A collection will be taken up for this appeal on Good Friday after the Veneration of The Cross liturgy.

### **From Fr Brian.**

◆ **Holy Water: Please bring containers** for Holy Water with you on Easter Sunday to take home. You may wish also to bring candles to be blessed.

◆ **If you are travelling** to India or the Philippines, we would love some Rosary Beads and small statues. You will be reimbursed.

### 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. (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.

**PALM SUNDAY REFLECTION:** They took branches of palm trees and went forth to meet him, and cried, Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!" John 12:13



**Baptism Course.** The next Baptism Course is on Sunday 28 April and Sunday 5 May, 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.



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

**SFX Prayer Group** meet every Tuesday in Eymard House. 10am to 12 noon. Phone Anne Marie for details 021 140 4657

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

**Choir Practices:** 11 and 18 April 4.30 -6pm; 9 and 16 May. New members needed. Contact Maree 027 597 9893



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

**Pregnancy Choice.** Can you spare 3 ½ hours per fortnight? Pregnancy Choice has opened in Whangarei and is looking for volunteers and donations. For more information phone Sharlene 0231 459 002. Thank you.

### **SFX Catholic School News:**

We continue to pray for those students doing the Sacramental programme - "Come Holy Spirit, fill the hearts of your faithful, and kindle in them the fire of your love."

This term we have students playing basketball, we had our senior swimming sports and girls Super Smash Cricket sessions. It is great to see so many students making the most of sporting opportunities. Sport- besides skill development teaches children; resilience, patience, collaboration and will power. These traits are the same strengths and traits we need throughout life and take time to develop.

We thank all those who coach and give their time to help students nurture these skills. Bernadette Hall (Principal)



**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*