

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	///	///	///	///
Matapourī, Miha	12 noon 3rd Sunday of Month: - March; May; July; Sept; Nov			* LOW 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.					

**Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy: Ulm Minster - The highest church building in the world** with Beate Matthes. A journey through the history and architecture of the German Ulm Minster from the laying of the foundation stone in 1377 to today. Monday, 02 September 2024, 7-8.30pm (Zoom). Koha. <https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/ulm-minster-the-tallest-church/> For more information: [www.studyjoy.nz](http://www.studyjoy.nz)

**Prayers please for these people and their families.... and those who are sick and their caregivers especially:** Ben Hutton, Rory O'Connor (*husband of Colleen*), Margaret Hibbert, Margaret Kernot, Anna Williams, Ken Doran, Merle O'Shea, Margaret Pool, Bishop Denis Browne DD.

**Recently deceased:** KJ Tomy, Fr Denis O'Hagan SM, Br John Stevenson sm, Milagros (Gracie) Brasch, (*wife of Wayne*), Vargheese (*India*).

**Anniversaries:** John McNabney, Martin Cribb, Joan Lambeth-Gilmour, Barry Boundy, Evan Hampton, James McCreedy, Jack March, Ave Maria Russell, Arapeta (Snowy) Smith.



# 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

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.](#)

**TWENTY FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME**

**25 August 2024 Year B**

**Next Week's Readings: Twenty Second Sunday of Ordinary Time.**

**Deuteronomy 4:1-2, 6-8; James 1:17-18, 21-22, 27; Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23**

God allows us to make our own decisions. He won't stop us doing the wrong thing, but we need to remember that our choices can have everlasting consequences.

Our Gospel reading this Sunday is from the end of John's *Bread of life* discourse. It is a turning point in the life of the disciples. Jesus gives them a choice: either to stay and accept that he is the Bread of Life come down from heaven and accept the Eucharistic gift of eating his flesh and drinking his blood, or to leave with those who can't understand him or who refuse to change. "Do you want to leave me, too?" Jesus asks the apostles, and Peter replies, "Lord, where else would we go? You have the words of everlasting life."

CS Lewis once wrote, "*If you want to get warm, you must stand near the fire. If you want to be wet, you must get into the water. If you want joy, power, peace and eternal life, you must get close to or even into the thing that has them. Once a person is united to God, how could they not live forever? Once a person is separated from God, what can they do but wither and die?*"

Many people leave the Church, often because of disappointment. But it is precisely in these moments that Christ is asking us to stick with him, to walk with him and his Church. It is easier to walk away, but by keeping a deep commitment going we draw closer to God. Being a disciple of Jesus is all about staying with him, being committed to him.

The author and theologian William Barclay wrote: '*Once someone was talking to a great scholar about a younger man. He said, "So and so tells me that he was one of your students." The teacher answered devastatingly, "He may have attended my lectures, but he was not one of my students." You see, there is a world of difference between attending lectures and being a student.'* And so is being a disciple of Christ. It's about discipleship, and not just being a passive follower. Ultimately, it's not our wishes, not our words or our promises, but it's our choices that matter.

Dcn Nimo Ponifasio

**RCIA** meet this Sunday 25 August at 11am at SFX School staffroom.

There will be a one hour meeting for **All** Extraordinary Ministers of Communion on **Saturday 31 August from 10am to 11am**. We will review the distribution of Holy Communion under both kinds which will be offered at our Masses from September.

**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.

### World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation. 1 September.

The **Season of Creation** is a global ecumenical celebration of prayer and action to protect our common home, starting each year on **1 September and finishing on the feast of St Francis, 4 October**. The theme is "Hope and Act with Creation" The theme is drawn from Saint Paul's Letter to the Romans (8:19-25), where the Apostle explains what it means for us to live according to the Spirit and focuses on the sure hope of salvation that is born of faith, namely, newness of life in Christ.

**Social Justice Week: 8-14 September 2024.** Choose *forgiveness, know peace / Kōwhiria te murunga hara, kia mōhio ki te rangimārie.* Each year, the New Zealand Catholic Bishops lead us in Social Justice Week to consider an issue of social justice in Aotearoa. This year we are looking at the importance of forgiveness and reconciliation for building lasting peace. Join us in reflecting on how these values can transform our lives and communities. Through prayer, education, and action, we can work together to create a more just and peaceful society. For resources and more information visit [www.caritas.org.nz/parishes/social-justice-week](http://www.caritas.org.nz/parishes/social-justice-week). Reflection Booklets available from the Parish Office

**Family Life International Speaking Tour. Proclaiming The Gospel of Life in a Post-Cultural Culture.** Join us for an informative conference discussing foundational pro-life principles. Friday 30 August 7pm-9pm and Saturday 31 August 10am-4.30pm. **Holy Family Parish Hall. 94 Taikata Road, Te Atatu Peninsular.** Keynote Speaker Fr Shenan Boquet (*President of Human Life International*). Free registration. Morning & Afternoon Tea, Supper & Saturday Lunch all provided. A collection will be taken to help defray expenses. Contact: Simon: 021 400 729 or email [simon@fli.org.nz](mailto:simon@fli.org.nz) See flyer on noticeboard.

**Our parish is hosting a Scripture Prayer Workshop "Praying with the Sunday Readings"**. Fr Frank Bird sm will lead this workshop on praying with scripture using the [livingtheword.org.nz](http://livingtheword.org.nz) website which he created. Come along for a practical workshop learning about catholic reflective practices such as lectio divina, imaginative prayer, centering prayer, praying with a psalm, to help you pray, reflect and grow. The workshop will be on Tuesday 3 September 7pm-8pm in the side room of our Parish Hall. Participants will receive a reflective practices booklet to download and have an experience of praying with the Sunday Readings.



**Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship One day Men's Retreat. Saturday 19 October, 8am-4pm at St Thomas More Church, 336 Wairau Road, Glenfield.** Directed by Bishop Steve Lowe. Bring your Bible and a packed lunch. Suggested Koha \$20. Please pay online to account number 12-3035-0511285-00. To register online <https://nsjoshua.wufoo.com/forms/z1orcm750bqcubb/> See noticeboard for flyer.

### DATES TO NOTE IN YOUR DIARY

- ◆ **Thursday 28 August:** The Passion of St John the Baptist.
- ◆ **Sunday 1 September:** Day of Prayer for Care of Creation

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "The minute you settle for less than you deserve, you get even less than you settled for"

**ALONE AGAIN? A weekend away to help those suffering the heartache of Separation, Divorce, or Widowhood on 6-8 September.** The Beginning Experience facilitates the grief resolution process for adults and children who have suffered a loss through death, divorce or separation, thereby enabling them to again love themselves, others and God. The cost for 2 nights accommodation, meals, and materials and follow up event is \$350. Please phone Lynda 027 489 8003 or Kelly evenings 027 686 4416 or go to [www.beginningexperience.org.nz](http://www.beginningexperience.org.nz) They are also looking for new members of the Core team. Enquiries to David 027 440 2105



**Society of St Vincent de Paul: Parish Food Basket.** Thank you for your continued support. Donations of tinned tomatoes, tinned sweetcorn and peanut butter are very welcome. We are in need of **empty jam jars with lids**. Please drop off at the Parish office. Thank you. **Please note change of dates: Meetings are now at 5pm on the second and fourth Thursday of the month.** Second Thursday we pray the Rosary and fourth Thursday we have a meeting.

**MAORI COMMUNITY - KO NGA PANUI. Himene practice,** (2nd & 4th Thursdays) 7pm in the gathering area of the Church. **Miha Māori:** First Sunday of the month at 10am, followed by morning tea and the Māori Committee meeting at 12 noon.

**St Francis School News:** This week we held our Cross Country for the whole school. Thanks to our supportive parents and helpers of the school and teachers who volunteered their time to make this a successful event. This week we also had the blessing and presentation of a remarkable art piece of St Francis Xavier. A massive thank you to Mrs Sharlene Crawford for donating her time and talent to create this feature for our school foyer. Outstanding. We pray for all those amazing people in our community who continue to give where they see a need. May St Francis Xavier bless them. Amen. God bless, Bernadette Hall (Principal).

**St Francis Xavier Catholic School year 5 and 6 upcoming Show-"Cats"!** At the end of this term our Year 5 and 6 pupils will be performing the stage show "Cats" at the Riverbank theatre. A programme will be available for our show. We will be charging a gold coin donation and expect to sell at least 300 copies. Would you like to advertise your business in our programme? We are offering an A5 size full colour ad for \$250. Please contact Mrs J if you would like to take advantage of this fabulous offer and support our school!

**Special Collections in Auckland Diocese. Cathedral Appeal: Sunday 22 September.** This money is used to support long-term maintenance of our Mother Church —St Patrick's Cathedral — A Precious Heritage entrusted to us.



**New to our Parish?** Welcome. Please make yourself known to a greeter before Mass. Please take a *New Parishioner Pack* from the Church foyer, fill it out and return it 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*



**Blaze Youth Group** (secondary age) meet every Friday during term time 7pm-9pm in the Parish Hall. Come along and meet new friends and join in the fun. All teens welcome. Enquiries to the Parish Office.



**Martha and Mary** next meet on Friday 6 September at 10am in Eymard House.

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