



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 *LOW	10.30am Mass	10.30 am *LOW	10.30am Mass	10.30 am *LOW
Hikurangi	8:00am Mass	10:00am *LOW	10:00am Mass	10:00am *LOW	10:00am *LOW
Whangarei Heads	5pm Sat Vigil Mass (Standard Time) 6pm Sat Vigil (Daylight Saving)	8:30am *LOW	///	8:30am *LOW	10am. Combined Community Service
Maungatapere	///	///	8.30am *LOW	8.30am Mass	///
Maungakareama	10.30am Mass	///	///	///	///
Matapouri, 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
Exposition: Fri 6am; & 11am - Midday. Rosary: Sat following 8am Mass				Reconciliation Rite I : 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.					


 **Balls of Wool and Buttons Needed.** We are asking for donations of balls of wool and buttons to use for lunch time crafts for students at Pompallier Catholic College and St Francis Xavier Catholic School. Odd balls or half balls. Please drop off to the Parish Office. Thank you. 


Charismata Singers Present. Behold The Lamb of God. The true tall tale of the coming of Christ. Saturday 7 December, 7pm at Whangarei Central Baptist Church. 202 Bank Street. Tickets at the door: Adults \$20, students \$10. <https://charismatia.nz> See flyer on Church noticeboard.

Prayers please for these people and their families... and those who are sick and their caregivers especially: Ben Hutton, Margaret Kernot, Anna Williams, Ken Doran, Merle O'Shea, Lien Thi Pham, Johanna Heffey, Karl Guttenbieil (*nephew of Ella Schaumkel*), Paul Sorensen, Bridie French.

Recently deceased: Bridie Southall (*wife of John*), Mark Meyer (*husband of Roz*).

Anniversaries: Sally Roughan.

 REQUESTS FOR PRAYER



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, Arjay Ferrer

Online at: www.whangareicatholic.org.nz Email: sfx@whangareicatholic.org.nz
Facebook Search: [Catholic Church Whangarei](https://www.facebook.com/CatholicChurchWhangarei).
whangareicatholic.org.nz Email: sfx@whangareicatholic.org.nz

FIRST SUNDAY OF ADVENT
1 December 2024 Year C

Next Week's Readings: (Second Sunday of Advent)
Baruch 5:1-9; Philippians 1: 3-6, 8-11; Luke 3: 1-6



Advent 2024 getting ready to be travellers for a Year of Hope:

If you want to travel to Rome, or travel in Whangarei, let us get ready.

“Hope does not disappoint” (Rom 5:5).

In the spirit of hope, the Apostle Paul addressed these words of encouragement to the Christian community of Rome. Hope is also the central message of the coming Jubilee that, in accordance with an ancient tradition, the Pope proclaims every twenty-five years.

Many people will travel to visit Rome for the Holy Year, and to all those others who, though unable to visit the City of the Apostles Peter and Paul, will celebrate it in their local Churches. For everyone, may the Jubilee be a moment of genuine, personal encounter with the Lord Jesus, the “door” (cf. Jn 10:7.9) of our salvation, whom the Church is charged to proclaim always, everywhere and to all as “our hope” (1 Tim 1:1).

Everyone knows what it is to hope. In the heart of each person, hope dwells as the desire and expectation of good things to come, despite our not knowing what the future may bring. Even so, uncertainty about the future may at times give rise to conflicting feelings, ranging from confident trust to apprehensiveness, from serenity to anxiety, from firm conviction to hesitation and doubt. Often, we come across people who are discouraged, pessimistic and cynical about the future, as if nothing could possibly bring them happiness. For all of us, may the Jubilee be an opportunity to be renewed in hope. God’s word helps us find reasons for that hope. Taking it as our guide, let us return to the message that the Apostle Paul wished to communicate to the Christians of Rome.

Hope does not disappoint. Pope Francis

Pre Christmas Rite II Reconciliation:

SFX: Wednesday 11 December 7pm

Ruakaka: Wednesday 18 December 7pm

Solemnity of The Immaculate Conception of The Blessed Virgin Mary - Monday 9 December.



We welcome to our parish family those baptised in November:

Leon Maxwell, Kawa Manahi, Eili Ocampo. Mateo Magsino, Connor Dawes and Oscar Dawes.



Year of Jubilee 2025. Te Hunga Hiko i roto i te Tūmanako.

The Year of Jubilee in 2025 begins in Advent 2024 and runs until the Feast of the Epiphany in 2026. Pope Francis has declared 2025 as a year of Jubilee with the theme 'Pilgrims of Hope', giving voice to his desire for the year to foster a greater sense of global sisterhood and brotherhood, solidarity with the poor, and caring for the environment. Jubilee Prayer cards available from the foyer and in the suitcase for Outlying Areas.

Congratulations to the following Pompallier Catholic College students who received the Sacraments of Baptism, Confirmation and first Holy Communion this past week: Elise Waenink, Leanna Waenink, Laycee Wright, Logan Massicks, Kafta Bradshaw Gomez, Naia Bradshaw Gomez, Jordi Calonge Velasco, Zara Massicks, Zachary Smedley, Abigael Wilson, Maria Wilson.

Bench Seats: Some Year 13 students from Pompallier Catholic College have made bench seats for our lawn area next to the School courts. They have done an amazing job. Wonderful workmanship. Thank you.

Catholic Women's Breakfast. An absolutely wonderful turnout for the recent breakfast. A wonderful time of gathering and sharing. Special thanks to the organisers for making this happen.



2025 Journey of Faith for Teens (13 to 18 years of age) for Baptism, Confirmation and First Holy Eucharist. "Into The Light - Ki Roto Ki Te Marama" Programme begins on Sunday 23 February 2025. Please see Janet in the Parish Office for details and to register. Queries to Nigel 022 133 2460.



2025 Baptism programme for school aged children (7-12 years of age). The "Walk in the Light-Hiko i te Mārama" programme will begin on February 23rd 2025.

Please see Janet in the Parish Office for details and to register. Alternatively contact Mrs J at St Francis Xavier Catholic School glenys@sfx.school.nz We are looking for keen people who can support Mrs J and Whaea Anna with this programme. If you would like to be part of the team, please contact Mrs J. Thank you! Registrations close on Sunday 26 January 2025.

DATES TO NOTE IN YOUR DIARY.

Sunday 8 December: Second Sunday of Advent.

Sunday 15 December: Third Sunday of Advent.

THOUGHT FOR THE ADVENT: "May this Advent season be a time for bringing hope, transformation and fulfillment into the Advent of our lives"

Bible Diary 2025 is available from the Parish Office. \$20. The Diary has Daily Prayers; Daily Readings; Short Reflections; Saints of the Day and Short Quotes.

Daily Mass Calendars 2025 also available from the Parish Office \$3.50.



"Carols and Chicken Wings"

All are cordially invited to come to St Francis Xavier Church Sunday 15 December at 5pm for our Carol Night. All organisations and parish groups welcome to come along and sing only one carol and share with others. We ask parishioners to please bring a plate for our shared supper.



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.



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



SFX Prayer Group has finished for the year. Start in Term 1 2025.



Society of St Vincent de Paul:

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



St Francis School News:

Our Year 6 students had their retreats this week. We thank Margaret from the Diocese who came to help with these. Retreats are a great way to help young people to take time to reflect and appreciate their faith. Faith is a gift given, that has to be nurtured for it to grow and have real meaning. We continue to pray for all young people in Aotearoa that they always know they are already enough. God bless, Bernadette Hall (Principal)

Choir Practices:

Thursday 5 December, 4.30-6pm
Thursday 12 December, 4.30-6pm
Thursday 19 December, 4.30-6pm
(This last practice is for Christmas singers.)



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.



Thank you. Special thanks to the teams who did the Mass Count each Sunday of November both here and the Outlying Areas. Great job.



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.