


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 8am Sun 10am Sun (Miha) (live-streamed)	5pm Sat Vigil 8am Sun 10am Sun (live-streamed)	5pm Sat Vigil 8am Sun 10am Sun (live-streamed)	5pm Sat Vigil (Youth Mass) 8am Sun 10am Sun Family Mass (live-streamed)	5pm Sat Vigil 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	8:30am *Liturgy	///	8:30am *Liturgy	10am. Combined Community Service
Ngunguru	///	5pm Mass	///	///	///
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 ///	Tuesday 9am Mass	Wednesday 12.10pm Mass	Thursday 7am Mass	Friday 12.10pm Mass	Saturday 8am Mass
Reconciliation Rite I : 11.30am Friday & Saturday.				Exposition: Friday 11am - Midday.	
5.30pm. 2nd Tuesday of the month; 4th Sunday of the month - Mass - Syro Malabar				Rosary: Tuesdays, after 9am Mass,	
5pm. 5th Sunday of month. Mass - Filipino Community.				11.30am every Wednesday	
6pm. Every Wednesday of the month. Novena - Filipino Community.				Saturday following 8am Mass.	

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

Our Parish Playgroup meet every Tuesday during term time, 9am to 11.30am in the Parish Hall. We invite all parents and caregivers - bring along your preschoolers and join in the fun. Gold coin donation.

Prayers please for these people and their families.. and those who are sick and their caregivers especially: Rob Giles, (*Auckland*), Selena Bercic (*Mitimiti*), Ken Doran, Les Barker, Frency-Mae (*Philippines, niece of Fenita Spragg*).

Recently deceased: Josie Spring, Doug Findlay, Nick Kaptein, Hipolito Sadang (*Philippines, brother of Fenita Spragg*), Ellen Blair (*Scotland, mother of David Hepburn*), Gemma Leef (*Mitimiti*), Hazel Robinson, (*wife of Steve, daughter of Lu and Graeme Mackay*).

Anniversaries: Maureen McMonagle, Celerina Manalili.



St Francis Xavier Catholic Parish

Hikurangi; Maungakareama; Maungatapere; Matapouri; Ngunguru;
Poroti; Pipiwai; Ruakaka; Whangarei Heads;

Entry: 63 Park Avenue, Kensington. Mail: 1B Bedlington Street, Whau Valley.
Phone: 437 7902. House: 437 5266.

PARISH STAFF: Pa Peter Tipene (pp), pp@whangareicatholic.org.nz, Fr Mark Napa,
Dcn Jim Nees, Dcn Nimo Ponifasio, Janet Ponifasio, Arjay Ferrer.

Online at: www.whangareicatholic.org.nz Email: sfx@whangareicatholic.org.nz

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

1 February 2026 (Year A)

Next Week's Readings: (Fifth Sunday in Ordinary Time)

Isaiah 58:7-10; 1 Corinthians 2: 1-5; Matthew 5:13-16

The Beatitudes.

We all want to be happy. But where do we find true happiness?

Pope Benedict XVI wrote that one of the great tragedies in this world is that so many people never find true happiness, because they look for it in the wrong places. In his teachings, our Lord Jesus gives us the answer: true happiness is found only in God.

When we think about how to live a Christian life faithfully, we often think first of the Ten Commandments. The Ten Commandments are important. They give us a solid foundation and show us how to live justly. That's a good start, however, Jesus calls us to go further and take a deeper step. In our Gospel passage this Sunday, our Lord delivers his Sermon on the Mount in which he gives us what we call the Beatitudes.

The word "*beatitude*" comes from a Latin word that means "happy" or "blessed." Through the Beatitudes, Jesus shows us what true happiness really is and how we should live if we want to find it. This happiness is not just a feeling that comes and goes. It is a close relationship with God. It begins now, as we follow Christ in our daily lives, and is completed in heaven. This is the happiness God created us for.

We cannot create true happiness on our own. It's a gift from God, a supernatural grace. The Beatitudes, together with the Ten Commandments, Jesus' moral teachings, and the teachings of the Apostles, together lead us to authentic happiness. This path always points outward. Jesus teaches us that true happiness is found in loving and serving others, especially the "least among us." When we do this, we are loving and serving Christ himself.

See next page

This is why, the Beatitudes are often called the heart of Jesus' preaching. They invite us to a higher and new way of being that reflects the very heart of Christ. Pope Francis often referred to the Beatitudes as a Christian's "identity card." They are not just rules to follow; they are a description or a portrait of Jesus himself. When we live the Beatitudes, we begin to look more like Christ in our own lives.

The Catechism of the Catholic Church explains that these promises, although they seem contradictory, give us hope, especially in difficult times. They guide us toward the Kingdom of Heaven, where God's truth, justice, and love reign fully. Living the Beatitudes means learning to see the world differently. Instead of chasing comfort or avoiding pain at all costs, we are called to stand with those who mourn, to show mercy, and to be peacemakers in our families, our neighbourhoods, and our wider community.

Above all, the Beatitudes call us to place our deepest hopes in God alone, not in money, possessions, careers, success, or even other people. Only God can truly satisfy the deepest longings of our hearts.

Dcn Nimo

Kia ora e te whanau! My name is Pearl & I'm excited to be your local youth minister here at St Francis Xavier parish and Pompallier Catholic College this year. I have been doing youth ministry since I was 16 at my parish in Blenheim and for 8 years in Wellington. I can't wait to meet you all and start growing lasting friendships. Manaaki te Atua ia koutou, may God bless you all. *Pearl Tattersall*

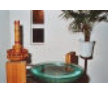
LITURGY CALENDAR: Please mark your diary.

Wednesday 18 February: Ash Wednesday. (Day of Fasting and Abstinence).
Masses: 9am (SFX School); 12.10pm; 5.30pm.
"Blessed Palms" Please put your Blessed Palms in the basket (in the foyer) for burning for Ash Wednesday. Outlying Churches can place their blessed palms in a bag and place in the suitcase.

Pope Leo has proclaimed a Franciscan Jubilee Year for the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi. The Holy Father has arranged that, from the 10th January 2026 to the 10th January, 2027, this Year of St Francis will be celebrated, during which all the Christian faithful are invited to follow the example of the Saint of Assisi, becoming models of holiness of life and constant witnesses of peace.

The Presentation of the Lord. (Candlemass Day) Monday 2 February. The Blessing of Candles will take place on Tuesday 3 February at 9am Mass. Please bring any candles you wish to have blessed.


◆ **Waitangi Day Friday 6 February - 8am Mass. No Rite I Reconciliation** due to the Public Holiday. Rite I continues on Saturday 7 February at 11.30am.

 **We welcome into our parish family those baptised in December and January:** Yeramaaya De Rozario, Miles Nguyan, Lennox Dunne, Ezra Antido, Jaxtyn Critchley, Ailaya Palmer, Jayda Lafleur, Athelstan and Austin Estrella, Jayden Nunez, Monty Villafuente, Qrst Cimafranca.

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: "Live so that when people get to know you, they will want to get to know Christ."

Blessing of School Teachers and Staff at Mass If you are a teacher, Board of Trustee member or staff member at St Francis Xavier Catholic School, Pompallier Catholic College, or at any other school, you are warmly invited to attend our 5pm Vigil Mass on Saturday 14 February for a blessing for the coming school year.

Gardening Working Bee – Saturday, 21 February. Volunteers are needed for our gardening working bee on **21 February, 9am–12 noon**. Please bring your own gardening tools and a plate to share for lunch. Your help keeps our parish grounds looking beautiful.

 **Blaze Youth Group** (secondary age) starts on Friday 13 February at 7pm in our Parish Hall. All teens welcome. Enquiries to the Parish Office.

Sacramental Programme 2026. Preparation programme for Baptism and other Sacraments (Year 4 to Year 8). Queries to the Parish Office 437 7902
Registrations close 13 March. Information and Orientation meeting for all the Parents/ Guardians on 19 March 2026, 6pm to 7pm here in our Church. Programme starts 29 March at 10am Mass here at Saint Francis Xavier Church for parents and children, followed by preparation session in St Joseph's Room at St Francis Xavier Catholic School. Registration forms available from the Parish Office.

 **Journey of Faith for Teens** (13 to 18 years of age) for **Baptism and other Sacraments "Into The Light - Ki Roto Ki Te Marama"**. The Programme begins on Sunday 22 February. Please contact the Parish Office for details and to register. Queries to Nigel 022 133 2460. Registrations close on Sunday 15 February.

Joshua Men's Fellowship next meet on Tuesday 19 February at 7pm here in our Church. All men very welcome.


Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help. Our Filipino community are having a break and will start again on Wednesday 18 February at 6pm in the side Chapel of our Church.

World Day of Prayer for Women is celebrated worldwide on the first Friday in March. (Friday 6 March 2026). **Theme: "I Will Give You Rest: Come"** comes from Nigeria. This year the Whangarei World Day of Prayer Service will be hosted by St John's Golden Church, 149 Kamo Road on Friday 6 March at 10am.

Our Parish Foodbank thanks you for your support. There is a list in the Church foyer of items needed. Otherwise we are in need of toilet paper, tinned fruit and tinned tomatoes. Thank you

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.

Choir practices - 4.30 - 6pm Thursday 5 and 12 February here in our Church..

 **Christian Meditation** meet every Wednesday at 4.30pm in the gathering area of our Church. All welcome.