



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	///
Maungakaramea	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, 11.30am every Wednesday Saturday following 8am Mass.	
5pm. 5th Sunday of month. Mass - Filipino Community.					
6pm. Every Wednesday of the month. Novena - Filipino Community.					

 **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. Enquiries to the Parish Office.

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, Frenzy-Mae (*Philippines, niece of Fenita Spragg*), Patricia Thornton.

Recently deceased: Gemma Leef (*Mitimiti*), Hazel Robinson, (*wife of Steve, daughter of Lu and Graeme Mackay*), Truus Cox.

Anniversaries: Mary McDermott, Sam Jelavich, Fr Mikaere (Mick) Ryan MHM.





St Francis Xavier Catholic Parish

Hikurangi; Maungakaramea; 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, Pearl Tattersall.

Online at: www.whangareicatholic.org.nz Email: sfx@whangareicatholic.org.nz
Facebook Search: [Catholic Church Whangarei](#).

FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME
8 February 2026 (Year A)

Next Week's Readings: (Sixth Sunday of Ordinary Time)
Ecclesiasticus 15:15-20; 1 Corinthians 2:6-10; Matthew 5:17-37

When friends compliment us on our goodness and reliability stating that we are salt of the earth, they are paying us a great tribute. Just as salt acts as a preservative and adds taste to food, so does christianity lend flavour to life by helping people to live correctly, keeping society wholesome. In the story of the creation of the world God's first act was to dispel darkness and bring order out of chaos by producing light. The gospel reminds us of our noble calling of bringing Jesus into the world. The brightness of our lives as we follow in the footsteps of Christ enlightens the path of God for those around us. Christ's own life was short-lived and his mission was confined to Palestine. The good news of salvation can only reach others through his followers.

Christ has placed his gospel into our hands and it depends on us whether or not it is proclaimed. His message is seen for what it is when we put it into practice in our lives. Truly good people who take their religion seriously may be quite unaware of the effect they have on others, but their influence does not go unnoticed. There is a warmth and attractiveness about those whose good deeds and actions reflect the image of Jesus, the light of the world. The presence of a genuine Christ-like character enriches the community and enables the best in others to come forth.

We can celebrate the presence of God at home and at work without going out of our way to do anything exceptional. It is evident in ordinary things, like the selfless love of a home-help caring for the every need of a senior citizen or of parents who are loyal to each other and completely dedicated to their children. Likewise, the darkness which is brought about in a community by jealousy, spite and hatred is dispelled and a legacy of shadows lifted when Christ is reflected by neighbours talking and acting in a friendly manner. Such acts of service create an environment where Christ can be known, loved and cherished. These and similar good works are the salt which gives flavour and sparkle to daily life and lets the light of Christ shine forth for all to see.

Pa Peter

Welcome Bishop Paul. Fr Mark is presently in the Phillipines enjoying a well deserved holiday break and returns to Whangarei on Saturday 7 March. This weekend we warmly welcome Bishop Paul Donoghue SM, who will help us out during Fr Mark's absence. Bishop Paul is a retired bishop who was the sixth bishop of Rarotonga in the Cook Islands from 2011 to 2024. Bishop Paul was born in Te Puke and is looking forward to helping out in the Parish and exploring the beautiful North.

LITURGY CALENDAR: Please mark your diary.

Wednesday 18 February: Ash Wednesday. (Day of Fasting and Abstinence).
Masses: 9am (SFX School); 12.10pm; 5.30pm.

Stations of the Cross: Fridays at 6pm. 20, 27 February, March 13, 20, 27 March. **Please note:** No Stations on Friday 6 March. We need groups / individuals to lead on the above dates. Please register your willingness to lead by contacting the Parish Office. Thank you.

"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.

St Francis Xavier Parish & Pompallier Catholic College Statement.

Two Catholic Priests with links to Pompallier Catholic College and St Francis Xavier Parish Whangārei are currently before the courts in relation to the sexual abuse of minors. Father Rowan Donoghue has recently pleaded guilty to offending at St. Bede's College in Christchurch between 1996 and 2000. He was on placement here at St Francis Xavier Parish in 2002 and was Pompallier Catholic College Chaplain in 2002. Father Michael O'Donnell has pleaded guilty to offending at Hato Pāora College in Feilding from 1986-1990. He was at Pompallier Catholic College from 1992-1994 and here at St Francis Xavier Parish in 2010.

For Those with Concerns

The Auckland Catholic Diocese and the Society of Mary are committed to making the Church and our communities safe. Anyone with concerns or complaints is encouraged to contact the Police. Additionally, please contact the National Office for Professional Standards on 0800 114 622 or Email: prof.standards@nzcbc.org.nz. Or to obtain a list of agencies who can provide you with ongoing support contact our Diocesan Safeguarding Co-ordinator - Lisa-May Gray lisam@cda.org.nz or <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/services/safeguarding/>



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 2026. Please phone the Parish Office for details and to register. Queries to Nigel 022 133 2460. Registrations close Sunday 15 February.



Sacramental Programme for Baptism and other Sacraments (Yr 4 to Yr 8). Registrations close **13 March 2026. 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 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. Queries to the Parish Office 437 7902

THOUGHT FOR THE WEEK: The first step to wisdom is silence; the second is listening. A wise man will hear, and will increase learning; and a man of understanding shall attain unto wise counsels. Proverbs 1:5

Auckland Catholic Diocese News. Praise in the Park - 15 February at Selwyn Domain, along Mission Bay. **4pm – 6pm.** All are welcome. For more details and parking information visit praiseinthepark.nz or contact Engelbert on engelbert.dsouza@yahoo.com

Blessing of School Teachers and Staff.

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.

Blaze Youth Group



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



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. Your help keeps our parish grounds looking beautiful.



St. Francis Xavier Catholic School News. We have welcomed back all our students and staff. We pray especially for the families who have lost loved ones in recent times and those who are very unwell. Our prayers are with them all at this time. Our senior school -years 4, 5, & 6, have swimming lessons and trips to Waitangi and Reotahi Marine Reserve this term. We welcome lots of new families to SFX and hope you all settle in quickly and smoothly. God bless. *Bernadette Hall (Principal)*

Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help. Our Filipino community meet again on Wednesday 18 February to pray a Novena to Our Mother of Perpetual Help in the side Chapel of our Church. All welcome.



Joshua Men's Fellowship next meet on Tuesday 17 February at 6pm here in our Church. All men very welcome.

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.

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.

"Notification of Triennial General Meeting of the Hato Werahiko Kawerio Roopu Katorika Māori (Catholic Maori Committee), Sunday 3 May 2026 at 12 noon in the Parish Hall.



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

Choir practices. 4.30-6pm on Thursday 12 February, 5 and 12 March. Newcomers most welcome.



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