



**Parish Priest:** Fr Joy Raphael 476 6131 or 027 312 1869  
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**Parish Office:** Catherine Vernon, Maria Nunns, Justina Yong  
476 6131 office@otariparish.co.nz PO Box 17-011, Karori 6147  
Office open 9.00am—Midday Tuesday to Friday  
Hall Bookings: Mira 022 682 5600

**Mass times:**

Saturday Vigil: 5.30pm Karori  
Sunday: 8.30am Wilton and 10.00am Karori  
Weekdays: Tue-Fri 9.30am, Saturday 9.00am  
Reconciliation: Saturday 9.30—10.00am

**St Teresa's School,** Karori. Principal: Pip Cook  
939 1725

**Cardinal McKeefry School,** Wilton.  
Acting Principal: Kerry de Graaf 475 3262

St Teresa 301 Karori Rd. Karori and St Thomas More 30 Worcester St, Wilton. Website [www.otariparish.co.nz](http://www.otariparish.co.nz)

16 February 2025

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year C

## Beatitudes

### Reflection: Sunday 16 February 2025: Luke 6: 17,20 - 26

Today, from Luke, we get the short version of the Beatitudes: four blessings, four maledictions. Jesus is making it very clear that God's favour, his blessing, falls on those whose lives are poor and hard. He himself is one of the poor and he is challenging the idea, prevalent in Judaic culture, that riches in life were a sign of God's blessing. That a good life is to be had in the here and now. Jesus knows what the life of the poor is like. The hardships they endure, especially in living the life of Christ, will be more than compensated for in the life to come. He is raising our perspective, above the flat land he is preaching on, to the high reaches of God's kingdom. A good name there is not earned by empty praise on earth. We are warmly encouraged to persevere in living the life of God's truth through all hardships.



*Chris Orsman, Parish Councillor*

*Lord we thank you for your Blessings extended to us when facing struggles—help us to see God's grace even in challenging times.*

#### Liturgy of the Word

**This week: 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Jer 17:5-8: Ps 1: 1 Cor 15:12, 16-20: Lk 6:17, 20-26:**

**Psalm Response: Happy are they who hope in the Lord.**

**Next Week: 7th Sunday in Ordinary Time: 1 Sam 26:2, 7-9< 12-13, 22-23: Ps 102: 1 Cor 15:45-49: Lk 6:27-38:**

## Parish Events

### **Otari Parish 2025 Sacramental Program**

This Programme is for baptised children aged 8 and over to receive the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Holy Eucharist and Confirmation.

We are now accepting enrolments for this year's Sacramental Programme. Please contact the Parish Office for an application form.

A Parent Information Evening for this year's programme will be on **Tuesday 18th February at 7pm in the St Thomas More Church, 30 Worchester Street, Wilton.**

***It is a requirement of the programme that at least one parent of each candidate attends this meeting.***

### **Otari Parish Youth Group Event**

Sunday 23rd February at 11.30am in the Parish Hall . All youth aged 12 years and up are most welcome.

Come along to enjoy faith, food and fun.  
Any queries, call Amanda on 027 315 8503

### **Jubilee of Married Couples Celebration**

This weekend 15<sup>th</sup> and 16<sup>th</sup> February will be observed as the Jubilee of Married Couples in the parish. All married couples are invited to attend the Holy Masses this weekend and join the special celebration. Special prayers will be held to mark the occasion. ***Parishioners are welcome to bring a plate along to add colour to the celebration on Sunday morning.***

### **Divine Mercy Devotion**

Chaplet of the Divine Mercy: prayed every Saturday evening from 5pm .  
St Teresa's Church, Karori.



**Reconciliation is available  
after 9am Mass on Saturday mornings or  
upon request**

### **Otari parish starts " No Greater Love-A Biblical walk through Christ's passion"**

**Thursday 13th March** from 6.30 to 8.30 pm for 5 consecutive Thursdays ending on 10th April just before Holy week. Filmed on location in the Holy Land, *No Greater Love* is a biblical pilgrimage that reveals Christ's amazing love for each one of us. You will walk step-by-step with Jesus from the garden of Gethsemane to Mount Calvary and will experience a deeper understanding and appreciation of God's immeasurable and unconditional love for you.

Every session starts with a small group discussion, followed by a tea & coffee break and ends with a powerful 30 minute video.

Please sign up after mass in the foyer or register at the parish office

**office@otariparish.co.nz before 8th March.** A Koha would be appreciated.

### **Otari JPD (Justice, Peace and Development) Group**

Please see the web site for our latest minutes and for the submission made to Parliament concerning the Treaty Principles Bill.



### **World Day of Prayer (WDP)**

**Place:** St Thomas More Church,

**Date & Time:** Friday 7th March 7.00pm

Followed by supper after the service

This year the WDP service has been prepared by the WDP Committee of Cook Islands with the theme :

**"I MADE YOU WONDERFULLY"**

Join Ōtari Parish (Hosting Parish), St Anne's Anglican Church Northland and St Luke's Anglican Parish Wadestown, for the WDP service in your local area.

**All are welcome.**

**CATHNEWS NEW ZEALAND:** The Bishops Conference this week launched the renewed CathNews New Zealand project. This ministry supports Catholics and people interested in the Church in accessing news and other content of interest. It draws from material that has already been published and includes original content. The best way to receive CathNews New Zealand is by signing up to the newsletter, which is sent on Tuesday and Friday mornings. Visit the CathNews New Zealand website and sign up at <https://cathnewsnz.com>

**GENE TECHNOLOGY BILL:** The New Zealand Parliament is currently considering changes to legislation related to gene technology and genetic editing. The Nathaniel Centre for Bioethics, a Catholic agency, and the InterChurch Bioethics Council have prepared a resource to explain this complex area of science and law. The Parliament is receiving submissions on the Gene Technology Bill until next Monday, February 17. Find out more at: <https://bit.ly/ICBCNathaniel>

## WE NEED



### **PowerPoint Operators** needed

We want to create a roster for the 5:30 pm Saturday Vigil and 10 am Sunday Masses at St Teresa's Church. Can you help? If you are interested in serving the Parish community in this ministry, please contact the Parish Office. We especially invite young people!

## FOR RENT:

One of our **Parish Flats** at Cardinal McKeefry School grounds has become available for rent. We would prefer to rent this lovely light 3 bedroom flat to someone in/or connection to our Parish. The rent is a very reasonable \$650 per week.

If you or someone you know is interested please contact the parish office on 4766 131 or email [office@otariparish.co.nz](mailto:office@otariparish.co.nz) to obtain more information and arrange a viewing.

Readings  
17-21

February

**Mon:** Gen 4:1-15,25: Ps 49: Mk 8:22-26:

**Tues:** Gen 6:5-8, 7:1-5, 10: Ps 28: Mk 8:14-21:

**Wed:** Gen 8:6-13: 20-22: Ps 115: Mk 8:22-26:

**Thurs:** Gen 9:1-13: Ps 101: Mk 8:27-33:

**Friday:** Gen 11:1-9: Ps 32: Mk 8:34 9:1:

**Sat:** 1 Pet 5:1-4: Ps 22: Mt 16:13-19:

## Joshua Wellington



extends an open invitation to everyone to a **MASS**

followed by a light supper on Thursday 20<sup>th</sup> February 2025 at 7:30pm in the SHC Chapel..

Ring David Monastra 027-4477-280 or email: [joshua.wgtn@gmail.com](mailto:joshua.wgtn@gmail.com)

## The Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation

**Course** – Love is a Decision - online registration is open for the first course for the year, consecutive **Sundays 2 & 9 March 2025**, Wellington.

Couples are encouraged to attend the course well before their wedding date and register early to ensure there is space on the course. For queries, please email [marriage@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:marriage@wn.catholic.org.nz)

## COME AND SEE VOCATIONS WEEKEND

**7 - 9 MARCH 2025**

A discernment retreat for young men discerning a call to the priesthood in the Archdiocese of Wellington.

Registrations essential, contact Lucienne at [l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz) by Friday 14th February 2025



**Deacon Matt White** will be ordained next Saturday 22nd Feb at Sacred Heart Cathedral at 11.00am.

He will then be coming to celebrate Mass at St Teresas on 16th March when we will have a special celebration for him.

If you would like to make a donation for Matt, you can deposit into our parish account 02 0536 0392292 00 with a reference of MATT or pop cash into an envelope .

## Cleaner wanted at Viard House.

5 hrs per week. Contact Jude McKee at [ea-abp@wn.catholic.org](mailto:ea-abp@wn.catholic.org) or 021 562 096



## Prayer Request

*Please pray for the sick, those who passed away recently and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time.*

## JUBILEE HOLY YEAR 2025

**Expressions of Hope:** The jubilee year with its theme: “Pilgrims of Hope”, calls Christians to action. Pope Francis called for “signs of hope” in the Jubilee Year, including the desire for peace in the world, openness to life and responsible parenthood, and closeness to prisoners, the poor, the sick, the young, the elderly, migrants and people “in difficult situations.” Pope Francis has called on affluent countries to forgive the debts of countries that would never be able to repay them, and address “ecological debt,” which he described as “connected to commercial imbalances with effects on the environment and the disproportionate use of natural resources by certain countries over long periods of time.”

**Let us think:** Hope can be nurtured within our families and shared with others. A simple smile can ignite hope in someone who feels lonely, while kind words like 'please,' 'sorry,' and 'thank you' are powerful gestures that can be practiced anytime, anywhere, to spread hope and kindness.

**Jubilee Indulgence:** Drawing on their Jewish roots, jubilee years emphasize the sacrament of reconciliation and restoring relationships with God. They also provide an opportunity for a special jubilee indulgence, which can remove the residual effects of sin through the grace of Christ.

**Let us think:** No indulgence is automatically granted; it requires the sacraments of confession and Holy Communion, along with fulfilling the specific conditions of the indulgence. **The Catholic Parish of Otari offers opportunity for Sacrament of Confession and personal prayer before the Blessed Sacrament on every Friday from 6pm to 7pm throughout the jubilee year.** With a pure heart, we can receive a plenary indulgence daily, even outside a Jubilee year, through acts such as praying the Rosary, making the Stations of the Cross, or devoutly reading Scripture for at least 30 minutes.

**Pilgrimage:** In this jubilee year, they are expecting an influx of pilgrims in the Eternal City. Italy's National Tourist Research Institute projects 35 million visitors in 2025, nearly triple of its 13 million visitors in 2023. Pilgrimage is a “fundamental” part of jubilee events, Pope Francis said in “*Spes Non Confundit*.” “Setting out on a journey is traditionally associated with our human quest for meaning in life. A pilgrimage on foot is a great aid for rediscovering the value of silence, effort and simplicity of life,” he wrote. He noted that jubilee pilgrims are likely to visit Rome's Christian catacombs and its seven pilgrim churches — the basilicas of St. Peter, St. Mary Major, St. John Lateran, St. Paul Outside the Walls, St. Lawrence, Holy Cross and St. Sebastian — destinations St. Philip Neri popularized in the 16th century with a 15-mile walk. Twelve other Roman churches, including the Sanctuary of Divine Love in southeast Rome, are designated “jubilee churches” intended as gathering spots for pilgrims during the jubilee.

**Let us think:** Most of us may not have the opportunity to make a pilgrimage to Rome, but a pilgrimage doesn't always mean traveling to faraway places. Our pilgrimage can be as simple as visiting our parish church and spending some time before the Blessed Sacrament or visiting neighbourhood churches like the Sacred Heart Cathedral or St. Mary of Angels in the town. **The Catholic Parish of Otari will be undertaking a Marian Pilgrimage to Our Lady of Kapi on Saturday, 18<sup>th</sup> of October 2025.** Hope most of us can make it as part of our pilgrimage in this jubilee year!

**Fr. Joy Raphael.**