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Hall Bookings: Mira 022 682 5600

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

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 301 Karori Rd. Karori and St Thomas More 30 Worcester St, Wilton. Website www.otariparish.co.nz

2nd August 2026

18th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

In the 1st Reading from Isaiah we are invited to the heavenly banquet where there is an abundance of good rich food to eat. The Psalm continues the feeding theme, 'The Lord feeds us; he answers all our needs.'



In Matthew's Gospel we have the familiar Miracle of the Loaves and Fishes. 'God provides' is the message. Jesus was mourning the death of John the Baptist and wanted to be alone. But he puts the dignity of the crowd before his personal need, and so responds to their physical need for food. Jesus says to his disciples: 'Give them something to eat yourselves.' When the disciples give Jesus all they have - a scant five loaves and two fish, Jesus blesses these gifts and returns them to the disciples who then have enough to feed the crowds, even with "fragments left over." The

abundance that results shows a vision of God's kingdom in which resources are distributed so that no one is excluded, and everyone has enough. The passage therefore invites us to consider our responsibility toward those experiencing poverty and hunger. Jesus models compassion, inclusion, and the equitable sharing of what is available to the whole community.

Just over a week ago the Ministry of Social Development published its Child Poverty in New Zealand Report. It revealed a growing number of children in material hardship, reaching 13 percent between 2023 and 2024, up from 11 percent three years prior. Material hardship means that there are children and their families going hungry. The St Vincent de Paul Society recently spoke out for the Living Wage as a replacement for the Minimum Wage to relieve the pressure on the working poor in New Zealand. Ōtari Parish Justice Peace and Development (JPD) group joined the Living Wage Movement to support a just wage. The Living Wage is a proactive step towards reducing poverty in New Zealand. See the inside notice about the Living Wage Election Forum and join the JPD group for this event.

Let's do as Christ instructed and seek ways to feed the hungry.

Estelle Henrys (Member of the Ōtari Parish JPD Group)

Liturgy of the Word

This week: 18th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Is 55:1-3: Ps 144: Rom 8:35,37-39: Mt 14:13-21:

Psalm Response: The hand of the Lord feeds us: he answers all our needs.

Next Week: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time: 1 Kgs 19:9, 11-13: Ps 84: Rom 9:1-5: Mt 14:22-33:

Upcoming Parish Events

OTARI PARISH YOUTH GROUP
Join us for our next meeting on
Sunday, 16th August
11:30am - 1pm
in St. Teresa's Parish Hall.

Come along for food, faith and fun!

Please call Amanda Kleiner on
027-315-8503 for more details.



Prayer Request

Please pray for our parishioners who are unwell. For those who passed away recently and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time.



Congratulations to St Teresa's Senior Netball who won Division One at the Wellington West Netball Competition and are now part of the Greater Wellington Competition held at Hataitai. Well done to all involved!



Con Anima 2026

The Big Sing finale Fundraising Concert

Tuesday 18 August

6:30-7:45pm (doors open 5:45pm)
O'Shea Performing Arts Centre, St Patrick's College

Tickets online via the QR code
\$15 adults
\$10 school students



Readings

3-8 August

2026

Mon: Jer 28:1-17: Ps 118: Mt 14:22-36:
Tues: Jer 30:1-2, 12-15, 18-22: Ps 101: Mt 15:1-2, 10-14:
Wed: Jer 31:1-7: Jer 31: Mt 15:21-28:
Thurs: Dan 7:9-10, 13-14: Ps 96: Mt 17:1-9:
Friday: Nahum 2:1,3:1-3, 6-7: Deut 32: Mt 16:24-28:
Sat: St Mary of the Cross

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

Exposition of Blessed Sacrament is from 8:30am and Holy Eucharist at 9:30am on weekdays (Except Monday) in the Chapel. On the first Friday of each month, Adoration will resume after the 9:30am Mass, through out the day, and conclude at 6.30pm with Holy Mass at 6.30pm.



All welcome.

Parish and Archdiocesan Events



Clergy Jubilee Mass

On Wednesday this week at Sacred Heart Cathedral, a special Mass was held to celebrate several priests' jubilees of their ordination.

Fr Frank Whitaker – 65 years

Fr David Gledhill SM – 60 years

Cardinal John Dew – 50 years

Fr Joe Keegan – 50 years

Fr Tom Rouse SSC – 50 years

Fr Simi Volavola MSC – 25 years

We thank God for the gift of clergy and pray more young men may take up the call to serve His Church.

As well as recognising the service of the priests and Cardinal John, within the Mass, Archbishop Paul presented Simon Manning with a Papal award; the Benemerenti Medal for services to the Clergy.

Valuing our Senior Parishioners at St Thomas More Church



Thank you!

On behalf of Ōtari Parish we would like to thank Brian Bellet, Tony Mahoney, Chris and Bernadine Reid, Marion Thompson and Helen Fisher for their faithful and dedicated service to St Thomas More Church and community across various ministries, and to John Craig who has served at St Thomas More and St Teresa's Churches over many years.
Ngā mihi nui.

LIVING WAGE ELECTION

2 SEPTEMBER, ARRIVE AT
6PM FOR 6:30PM START
NAENAE COLLEGE, 910 HIGH
STREET, LOWER HUTT



FORUM

Join the members of the Ōtari Parish Justice Peace and Development Group to attend the **Living Wage Movement Election Forum**.

At this event, politicians from all parties will be asked for a commitment to supporting the Living Wage across the state and wider public sector. The Living Wage allows people to exist with human dignity, a basic premise of Catholic Social Teaching.

Please contact Bernadine Reid

cjb.reid@xtra.co.nz for more information. If you are interested in coming with us as one of the Faith Organisation groups to make our voices heard at this meeting please fill out the Registration Form in the foyer.