



Parish Priest: Fr Joy Raphael 476 6131 or 027 312 1869 frjoy@otariparish.co.nz

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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: 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

St Teresa's Church 301 Karori Rd. Karori www.otariparish.co.nz

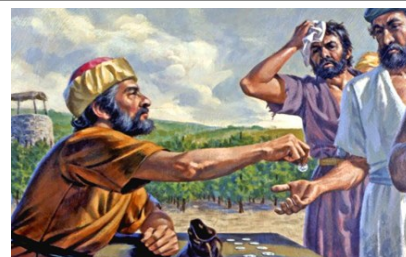
20th September 26

25th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

Envy mistakes generosity for injustice

Today's Gospel strikes at the heart of our DEEPLY engrained human reaction to what we deem as 'unfairness'. It seems to be something hardwired in our DNA! Research shows this is not just a human concern but one that is shared by many primates!



In biblical times, September marked the time of the grape harvest. Crops could be wiped out by one downpour of rain. This meant that the vineyard owners were under pressure to complete the harvest before the rains came.

Very early in the day, the owners would go to the Market Place, where unskilled labourers congregated, to select the strongest and most able of them. What was considered a fair price for a days labour, 1 Dinari, had to be paid on the day or the following (exhorted in passages in Leviticus and Deuteronomy) so that the workers could feed themselves and their families—without this the unemployed would just go hungry.

The Vineyard owner in today's parable went to the market place several times during the day but apart from the earliest visit where he said how much the labourers would be paid, only assured the workers that they would be paid a just amount.

When the laborers hired at the very last hour received the exact same daily wage as those who toiled all day in the scorching sun the cry came out 'that is not fair'. The answer of 'Why should you be envious because I am generous?' highlights that we are suspicious of generosity because we instinctively think in terms of merit that is earned.

Generosity, or GRACE (by which we are saved), cannot be earned and is a gift NOT a wage. We should be grateful that our GOD is so generous with his GRACE, giving us great hope for obtaining eternal life with him in heaven even when we never do enough to earn it.

Maria Nunns (Office Administrator and Finance Committee Member)

Liturgy of the Word

This week: 25th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Is 55:6-9: Ps 144: Phil 1:20-24, 27: Mt 20:1-16:

Psalm Response: Remember your mercies, O Lord.

Next Week: 26th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Ezek 18:25-28: Ps: 24: Phil 2:1-11: Mt 21:28-32:

Upcoming Parish Events

Novena for St Thérèse of Lisieux in preparation for our Patron Saint's Feast day



18th - 26th September
Novena in St Teresa's Church
at 6:30 pm each day except for Sunday
20th September when it will be held
directly after the 10am Mass.

St Thérèse of Lisieux Feast Day Mass at St Teresa's Church

followed by shared kai, celebrations
and
activities in the church hall.

All are welcome.

**Children, please come along
dressed up as your
favourite saint!**



Sunday 4th October St Francis of Assisi Feast Day

Please join our final celebrations of the
Jubilee Year of St Francis of Assisi
commencing with our **10am Sunday Mass**.
Then, we shall gather at **1:30pm** for
The Transitus Prayer followed by our
2pm Pet Blessing liturgy in front of
St Teresa's Church.
All are welcome.



TRANSITUS FOR ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

Around the world in October, Franciscans
celebrate the Feast of St. Francis (**October
4**). One part of the annual observance is a
service on the evening of October 3, known
as the "*Transitus*," or "passing" of St. Francis.
It's a simple time of storytelling and prayers
that recall how, at the moment of his death,
Francis called out "Welcome, Sister Death!"

As part of our parish celebrations for the
Feast Day of St Francis of Assisi, we will pray
the **Transitus of St Francis at 1:30pm on
Sunday 4th October**, prior to the Pet
Blessing Liturgy at 2pm. **Please join us in
prayer at St Teresa's Church.**

Readings

21st to the
25th
September

2026

Mon: Eph 4:1-7, 11-13: Ps 18: Mt 9:9-13:
Tues: Prov 21:1-6, 10-13: Ps 118: Lk 8:19-21:
Wed: Prov 30:5-9: Ps 118: Lk 9:1-6:
Thurs: Eccl 1:2-11: Ps 89: Lk 9:7-9:
Friday: Eccl 3:1-11: Ps 143: Lk 9:18-22:
Sat: Eccl 11:9—12:8 Ps 89: Lk 9:43-45:

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 Mass.
All are welcome.



Parish and Archdiocesan Events

HOUSING ELECTION FORUM 2026

REALISING THE RIGHT TO A DECENT HOME



Date: Wednesday 23 September

5.45pm refreshments for 6.30pm start

Venue: Wellington Cathedral of St Paul

(cnr. Hill St & Molesworth St)

Co-Hosted By Archbishop Paul Martin and Archbishop Justin Duckworth

Listen to Church and community voices on housing issues facing Aotearoa New Zealand. Panel discussion and party representatives.

Details and livestream link here: <https://www.facebook.com/share/1DdC1kd3i1/>

Today's Mass for the Care of Creation

Our Mass for the Care of Creation is a new Mass promulgated by Pope Leo XIV in 2025. It is part of the Season of Creation, a special time when Christians around the world unite in prayer and action to care for our common home. From the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation on 1 September to 4 October (Feast of St Francis of Assisi), we are invited to renew our relationship with God, one another, and all of creation.

Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross

We celebrated an evening Mass for the Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross on *Monday 14th September*.

Thank you to the parishioners who attended.

Keep **Saturday 10th October**

free for a Men's 1-Day Retreat at the Home of Compassion,

Island Bay. Murray Adams, Ignatian Spiritual Director from Palmerston North, leading "I am ready for anything anywhere" **Want to know more?** Ring David Monastra 027-4477-280 email: joshua.wgtn@gmail.com

JOSHUA

Living in the Divine Will The Sole Purpose of Creation

Find out 10/11th October
Suzanne Aubert Catholic School
60 Monticola Drive, Papamoa Beach,
Tauranga 3118

Speaker Rev Dr Kevin Connors

To find out more please see the poster in the Church Foyer.



Father Joy saying Mass and Blessing Relics that resided on the altar during the ceremony.



Prayer Request

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

The Responsorial Psalm in the Mass



At the end of the first reading, the lector or reader says: "The word of the Lord".

We respond: Thanks be to God. After the First Reading the psalmist or cantor sings or says the Psalm, with the people making the response.

The Psalms speak to our hearts, expressing every human emotion, joy, sadness, anger, repentance and so on. The Catechism of the Catholic Church calls prayer, "a reciprocal call

between God and the human family" (2591) and mentions the psalms as prayers that best illustrate how God calls each person into a mysterious encounter with him. The Psalms are beautiful prayers that give us a language when we don't know how to pray. Over half of them are attributed to King David.

Through the First Reading, we've been listening attentively to the Word of God, and the Responsorial Psalm gives us our turn to respond. We respond with God's own inspired words to praise and thanksgiving from the book of Psalms. Responsorial Psalm is lovingly conversing with God using his own inspired words of praise and thanksgiving.

The chanting or recitation of the Psalm helps to create an atmosphere of prayer conducive to meditation on the reading. Paul exhorted his followers to sing Psalms (Cf. Colossians 3:16).

The psalm is not only something addressed to the listeners by the cantor, but a prayer addressed to God. In this moment the cantor leads the faithful praying to God, and even the priest or bishop celebrating responds: together all of us gathered in worship praise God through the psalm, and we become the chorus of that prayer through reciting or singing the refrain.

Through our liturgical prayer, the whole Church prays to God. Sometimes our moods or concerns may not reflect what we're saying in the psalm: they could be joyful and filled with gratitude when we are suffering and in need of consolation. The psalm enables us to go beyond our own prayer to that of the Church's: we join our hearts in joyful psalms to everyone with cause for rejoicing and join our hearts in psalms of supplication with everyone suffering trials and in need of consolation. Sometimes they serve to sober us or cheer us when the reasons for our happiness or discomfort are superficial. (To be continued...)