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Office open 9.00am—Midday Tuesday to Friday
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

26th July 2026

17th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

WISDOM *for the Soul*

In today's first reading we see God offering Solomon an amazing opportunity: "Ask me, what would you like me to give you?"

Then we see Solomon humbly admitting that in order to lead his country he needs neither riches, nor a long life, nor the defeat of his enemies. Solomon could have asked for anything, yet he chose the capacity to serve others well; he asks God for an "understanding heart". His description of himself as a "little child" shows a profound awareness that human authority requires divine direction. True wisdom begins when we recognize our limits and surrender our own desires for the betterment of others.

Today's culture too often measures success by material gain, personal achievement and/or status. Do we have the wisdom to echo Solomon's prayer? Can we ask for a listening heart, and with it the wisdom to discern between good and evil, and to make the choices that will lead not just to our own personal salvation but to the betterment of our community, our country and in some small part, with God's help, to a better world.

Diane Glynnan (Catholic Women's League)

Liturgy of the Word

This week: 17th Sunday in Ordinary Time: 1 Kings 3:5, 7-12: Ps 118: Rom 8:28-30: Mt 13:44-52:

Psalm Response: *Lord, you are good and forgiving.*

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

Upcoming Parish Events



A wonderful celebration of the lives and contributions of past parishioners of Saint Thomas More was held on Friday the 17th of July as part of a Matariki Remembrance Liturgy. A special thank you to Estelle Henrys for all her preparation to make this a special event and to Fathers Jim Dooley, Joy, Ron, Matt and Cirilo for their attendance.

There will only be a Liturgy of the Word with Communion services from Tuesday (28th July) to Friday (31st July) as the clergy will be away attending a seminar for the clergy in Wellington.

Mass Times Review Update

Following feedback from members of the St Teresa's community after the Parish AGM, the proposed review of weekend Mass times has been paused. The Parish Pastoral Council has agreed that any future consideration of Mass times should take place as part of a wider parish consultation process regarding the refurbishment and future requirements of St Teresa's Church, and in the context of broader diocesan Mass arrangements. Following the closure of Saint Thomas More, weekend Mass times will remain unchanged:

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5.30pm
Sunday Mass: 10.00am

Bring your grandparents and elderly neighbours along to our Masses this weekend 25th & 26th July to celebrate the 6th World Day for Grandparents and the Elderly.



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

St Thomas More Church, Wilton Events:

The church is to close permanently on Sunday, 30th August 2026.

The organising Committee have some events planned for that weekend to mark this farewell and would like to invite any ex parishioners or people associated with the Church to join them. The events are on **Saturday, 29th August** and the Farewell Mass on **Sunday, 30th August**.

DELARGEY AWARDS 2026:

Nominations are now open for the 2026 Delargey Awards, which recognise significant and outstanding ministry with young people. In addition to identifying key contributors to youth ministry, the awards provide a chance to highlight the Church's outreach to teens and young adults. The awards are named for Cardinal Reginald Delargey, former Archbishop of Wellington and Bishop of Auckland. Nominations close on **Friday, 31 July**. Find out more at: [Delargey 2026](#)

HOLY HOUR for vocations to the priesthood and religious life.

JOIN US for an hour of adoration, reflection and prayer that the Lord may send more workers to the harvest! 7.30 - 8.30pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hill Street, Thorndon on **Tuesday, 28th July** and every 4th Tuesday of the month.

Readings

27-31
July
1 August

2026

Mon: Jer 13:1-11: Deut 32: Mt 13:31-35:

Tues: Jer 14:17-22: Ps 78: Mt 13:36-43:

Wed: 1 Jn 4:7-16: Ps 33: Jn 11:19-27:

Thurs: Jer 18:1-6: Ps 145: Mt 13:47-53:

Friday: Jer 26:1-9: Ps 68: Mt 13:54-48:

Sat: Jer 26:11-16, 24: Ps 68: Mt 14:1-12:

Retreat Days and themes at Pā Maria 2026

Take time and space for a guided day of prayer and reflection.

Prayer days at Pā Maria during the year. 9.00am-3.15pm

- **19 September** **Season of Creation**
- **17 October** **Mary**
- **5 December** **Advent**

Presenters: Neil Vaney SM, Chris Skinner SM and Judith Moroney rsm.

Pā Maria. 78 Hobson St, Thorndon, Wellington 6011

Please bring your own lunch. Tea and coffee will be provided. Entry by koha.

Maximum of 20 people so please **RSVP by the Tuesday before the prayer day** to pamariabookings@gmail.com and indicate which prayer day you wish to attend.

Upcoming Online Safeguarding Workshops:

Safeguarding is the responsibility of us all. Whether you are involved directly in Parish Ministry or not, enrol to attend an Online Safeguarding Workshop to learn about the actions we, as a Church, are taking to keep each other safe.

Monday the 20th of July 7-8.15pm

Tuesday the 28th of July 7-8.15pm

Register with Kevin Plant by email-ing: k.plant@cadw.nz The Microsoft Teams link to join the workshop will be sent out two days prior to the Workshop. See church noticeboard for full list of workshop dates for July - September.



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.

Valuing our Senior Parishioners



Thank you!

On behalf of Ōtari Parish we would like to thank Bernadette White for her faithful service as an extraordinary minister, her prayers and support to our Parish life.



**St. Francis of Assisi, Founder
of the Franciscan Order, Patron
of Italy**

Francis of Assisi was a poor little man who astounded and inspired the church by taking the gospel literally, not in a narrow fundamentalist sense but by following everything that Jesus said joyfully without limit or a mite of self importance. Serious illness brought the young Francis to see the emptiness of his frolicking life as leader of Assisi's youth. Prayer lengthy and difficult, led him to a self emptying like that of Christ climaxed by his embracing a leper he met on the road. It symbolised his complete obedience to what he had heard in prayer.

We, as Inquirers in the Third Order of Francis were able, encouraged, to make use of the Franciscan library at the Friary and at that time there were many 'lives' available through Pleroma particularly. A number of catholic friends in the Parish were interested and we met joyfully as a Fraternity each month. Eventually, following 18 months of meetings we were Professed.

From the cross in the neglected field chapel of San Damiano, Christ told Francis "Go and build up my house, for it is nearly falling down." Francis became the totally poor and humble workman.

Vonnie Nunns (Lay Franciscan)