



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

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: 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

13th September 26

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

Forgiveness

We are called to rise above everyday social expectations to the radical love expressed by God in Jesus for us. God's unlimited, unconditional love and forgiveness are a challenge for us to go and do the same. While we do not ignore the hurt or forget what has happened to affect us negatively, we must be willing to forgive, ask for forgiveness and be reconciled.



There are many examples in the world today of people holding on to hate, looking for revenge or just withholding forgiveness. Being able to forgive is essential for moving on and healing the hurt that has been caused. Holding onto hurts seldom harms the person who is not being forgiven, but invariably causes emotional harm and bitterness to the one who does not forgive.

Forgiveness brings freedom, a freedom which enables us to shine with the light of Christ.

Patricia Lynch (Parish Pastoral Council)

Liturgy of the Word

This week: 24th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Sirach 27:30 –28:7: Ps 102: Rom 14:7-9: Mt 18:21-35:

Psalm Response: *The Lord is kind and merciful; slow to anger and rich in compassion.*

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

Upcoming Parish Events



Procession and reception of Taonga from Saint Thomas More Church at Saint Teresa's 10am Mass

Lectionary

**Te Miha Tuituia
(A Mass that weaves or binds
together—composed by
Helen Fisher)**

Portrait of St Thomas More

Sacred Oils

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 - it will
be directly after the
10am Mass.

Feast of the Exaltation of the Cross

You're invited to evening
Mass at 6:30 pm to
celebrate the Feast of the
Exaltation of the Cross on
Monday 14th September.
All are welcome.



Sunday 4th October St Francis of Assisi Feast Day

10am Mass
1.30pm Transitus
2pm Pet Blessing
Liturgy



Valuing our Senior Parishioners

*Once again we would like to thank all our
senior parishioners (over 80 years old)
who continue to serve within our parish
community, for those who have featured
in our recent newsletters and for those
who chose not to be acknowledged. You
are all examples of faith in action,
inspirational for our younger generations
and we truly
appreciate all that you do.*

Readings

14-19
September

2026

Mon: Num 21:4-9: Ps 77: Jn 3:13-17:
Tues: Heb 5:7-9: Ps 30: Jn 19:25-27:
Wed: 1 Cor 12:31-13:13: Ps 32: Lk 7:31-35:
Thurs: 1 Cor 15:1-11: Ps 117: Lk 7:36-50:
Friday: 1 Cor 15:12-20: Ps 16: Lk 8:1-3:
Sat: 1 Cor 15:35-37, 42-49: Ps 55: Lk 8:4-15:

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

Ōtari Parish Justice Peace and Development Group Living Wage (LW) Update



Thank you to the 20+ people who represented Ōtari Parish along with other faith organisations at the LW Election Forum at Naenae College 2 Sept. Over 515 people from organisations across faith, union and community attended. Mons. Gerard Burns, on behalf of the faith organisations, made powerful connections to the CST principles of Human Dignity and the Common Good appealing to the politicians present that paying the LW was the right thing to do.

Labour, the Greens and TOP committed to lifting pay for 20,000 state sector workers by retaining the LW for contracted cleaners, security and catering staff, expanding it to all directly employed government workers, and extending it to workers in hospitals and schools. Labour and the Greens will prioritise this in any coalition agreement, and all three parties will meet the Living Wage Movement within 100 days to plan implementation.

National, ACT, Te Pāti Māori and New Zealand First sent apologies. Recent polling results show 73% of New Zealanders support a Living

St Thomas More Church
Wilton



1969-2026

St Thomas More Church Photo Book

Stuart Henrys has created a beautiful 50□page Photo Book commemorating St Thomas More Church. It includes images from past parish events as well as photos from the Open Day and the Thanksgiving and Farewell Mass held on the final weekend in August. The first publication run (at the original discounted price of \$41) has already been placed, and everyone who signed up has been notified.

A second order is now being offered. Thanks to a new 50% off sale by SNAPFISH, the Photo Book is available for **\$45 including postage**.

If you would like to place an order at this new price, please email Stuart at stuart.henrys@gmail.com by **Sunday 13 September**. He will then contact you with payment details.

Come and join other men for a Joshua evening on Thursday 17th September 2026 from 7:00pm for a cuppa and a 7:30pm start in Connolly Hall (next to the Sacred Heart Cathedral). Fr Kevin Connors on "Be grateful for God's forgiving love" **Want to know more? Ring Steve Ready**

027-356-9555 email: joshua.wgtn@gmail.com

Also, 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**



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.



Prayer Request

Please pray for our parishioners who are unwell. For Ed Pickering (brother of Rachel Roth) who passed away recently and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time.

Catechetical Corner

THE FIRST READING DURING THE MASS

The First Reading during Mass is typically taken from the Old Testament, except during the Easter Season when it is from the Acts of the Apostles, which tells us how the Early Christian communities were living witness to the Good News of the Resurrection, the focus of the Easter Season.



Although the Old Testament is not the full story, yet the Church accepts and venerates as authentic living teaching because we are able to understand Jesus and the New Testament by knowing the story of Israel in the Old Testament.

The inclusion of the Old Testament reading at Mass helps us to enter the story of Israel and see the unity of the Bible more clearly. Regarding the connection between the Old Testament and the New Testament, St. Augustine stated, that “In the Old Testament, the New is hidden; in the New Testament, the Old appears.”

key points to understand the significance of the First Reading:

1. **Historical and Theological Context:** The First Reading often highlights significant moments in salvation history, including the covenant relationship between God and His people, the lives of the patriarchs, the wisdom of the prophets, and the struggles and faith of Israel. These passages reflect God's ongoing interaction with humanity and His promises to His people.
2. **Moral and Spiritual Lessons:** Many readings contain moral and spiritual lessons that are timeless. They can include teachings about justice, faith, obedience, repentance, and trust in God. These lessons serve as a foundation for Christian living.
3. **Cultural and Liturgical Significance:** Understanding the historical and cultural context of the readings can deepen appreciation. For example, knowing the background of a prophetic call or the context of Israel's exile can make the reading more relevant and powerful.
4. **Invitation to Reflection:** The First Reading invites the congregation to reflect on their own faith journey in light of the experiences of the people of Israel. It serves as an opportunity to consider how God is working in their lives today, just as He did in the past.

Thus, the First Reading is a crucial part of the Liturgy of the Word. It connects the congregation to the rich heritage of the Old Testament and the ongoing story of God's relationship with humanity, preparing hearts and minds to receive the Gospel message.

SILENCE



Several times during Mass are moments for silent prayer. During the Liturgy of the Word, a moment of silence is observed after the first and second readings, again after the homily. This silence is not merely an absence of words, a pause, or an interlude. It is a time to assimilate and respond. It is a moment for the dialogue to take place between God the Community of faith through the Holy Spirit so that all can take to heart the Word of God and respond to it in prayer. It is to become like Mary, who “kept all these things, pondering them in her heart.” (Luke 2:19).