Catholic Parish of Ōtari

St Teresa's Church, Karori

Parish Priest: Fr Joy Raphal 476 6131 or 027 312 1869
frjoy@otariparish.co.nz
Parish Office: Catherine Vernon, Maria Nunns
office@otariparish.co.nz 301 Karori Road, Karori, Wellington 6012
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: 10.00am Karori
Weekdays: Tue-Fri 9.30am, Saturday 9.00am Reconciliation: Saturday 9.30—10.00am

8th November 2026 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time Year A

The Ten Bridesmaids



This striking parable teaches us of the need for spiritual readiness in the light of the eternal marriage between Christ and his Church which will be celebrated at the end of time. It is rooted the rituals of Jewish marriage at the time of Jesus.
The solemn betrothal has already taken place and the groom has been gone, often for over a year, to prepare a place for his bride.

This was generally an annex to the groom's father's house and during this time the father ascertained the fitness and readiness of son for the duties and obligations of marriage. On his say so, and his alone, the son was set free to gather his bride and bring her to her new home. Again, this was often at nighttime. So, there was a strong element of uncertainty, of waiting, and of high expectation. The bridesmaids had to be ready to light the way for the groom and his bride to return to the place of where the marriage would be celebrated and fulfilled. So too, we the church keep watch and stay pure for the Lord's return.

Those who have oil for their lamps, lives of grace received and merit earned, will see and rejoice in the light of the Lord's face. Those with guttering lamps must run elsewhere and scramble for resources, and risk missing out on the joyful procession, coming as strangers to a closed door.

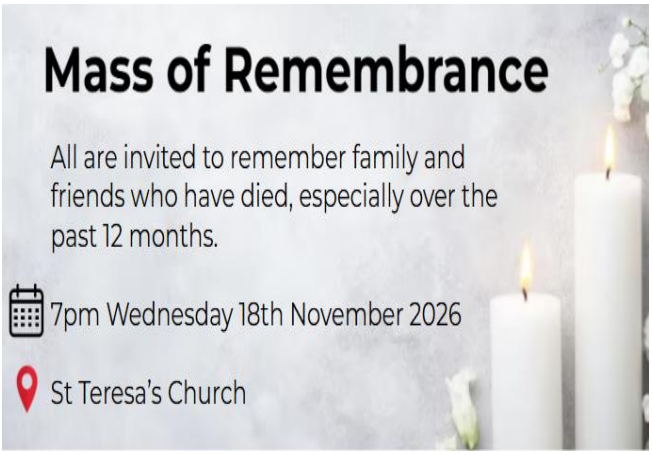
Chris Orsman (Parish Council)

Month of the Holy Souls

You are invited throughout November to place the names of loved ones in boxes/baskets in the Church foyers to be presented at Masses and prayed for.

Liturgy of the Word

This week: 32nd Sunday in Ord Time: Wis 6:12-16: Ps 62: 1 Thess 4:13-18: Mt 25:1-13
Response: My soul is thirsting for you, O Lord my God.
Next week: 33rd Sunday in Ordinary Time: Prov 31:10-13, 19, Ps 127, 1 Thes 5:1-6: Mt 25:14-30:





Ōtari Parish Sacramental Programme Reminder



We commence preparation for the Sacrament of Confirmation this **Sunday 8th November at 9am**.

Parents, please bring your children to St Teresa's School Pavilion (the standalone building on the lefthand corner of the court). The parent meeting will be in the Church Hall.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for Pope Leo and parishioners who are unwell. For those who have passed away recently and for those whose anniversaries occur around this time.

Readings: 9th to 14th November

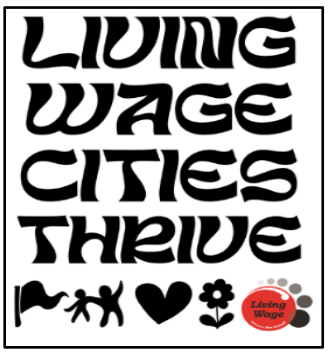
Monday: Ezek 47:1-2,8-9, 12: Ps 45: Jn 2:13-22:
Tuesday: **St Leo the Great**
Wednesday: **St Martin of Tours**
Thursday: **St Josaphat**
Friday: 2 Jn 4-9: Ps 118: Lk 17:26-37:
Saturday: 3 Jn 5-8: Ps 111: Lk 18:1-8:

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

On the first Friday of each month, Adoration will resume after the 9:30am Mass, throughout the day, and conclude with Mass at 6pm.
Exposition of Blessed Sacrament is from 8:30am and Holy Eucharist at 9:30am on weekdays (Except Monday) in the Chapel. All are welcome.

Upcoming Events

Ōtari Parish is a member of the Living Wage Movement
Can you spare 30 minutes to find out more about the Living Wage?



Come along for a conversation after the Vigil Mass - light refreshments will be provided. We especially encourage young adults and all those currently in employment to share their experiences. Please put your name on the 'Living Wage Table Talk' sign-up sheet in the foyer for catering purposes.
Sat. 14 November, 6.30am (after the 5.30pm Mass)

The Justice Peace and Development Group (JPD) invites you to a Table Talk where we'll explore the real difference a living wage can make for workers and families. We'll share experiences of those earning the current living wage of $29.90 per hour, compared with the minimum wage of $23.95 per hour, and the starting-out wage of $19.16 per hour and reflect together on what dignity in work truly looks like.

Why This Conversation Matters

The Church reminds us that poverty is a violation of **human dignity** and that we are called to a **preferential option for the poor** — not only through charity, but through seeking justice. This is one way of putting 'Love your neighbour' into action.

The Ōtari Parish JPD Group takes inspiration from *Dilexi Te*, which concludes:
"Through your work, your efforts to change unjust social structures or your simple, heartfelt gesture of closeness and support, the poor will come to realize that Jesus' words are addressed personally to each of them: 'I have loved you' (Rev 3:9)."
#121 *Given in Rome, at Saint Peter's, on 4 October 2025, the Memorial of Saint Francis of Assisi, LEO PP. XIV.*

Ōtari Parish Refugee Outreach

Catholic Social Services are preparing for the arrival of a family of 4 (A Mum, son of 18 years and daughters 17 and 10 years old) for resettlement in Wellington. The JPD Group have agreed to collect household and pantry items for this family from the St Teresa's communities and the Friends of St Thomas More and also do the House set-up.

- Sign-up lists are available after both Masses this weekend and next weekend. Just place your name beside one item that you choose to provide. Household items do not have to be brand new, but must be in good condition. Electrical items must be new or have a recent electrician certification.
- If it is easier you can give a koha towards the larger items for purchase by giving cash or make a payment into the Parish account stating your Name and Reference 'Refugee'. Supermarket or Briscoes Gift Cards are also welcome.

Please bring your donated item and place it in the labeled boxes in the church foyer **by Sunday 22nd November.**
Thank you for your support.
From the Ōtari Parish JPD Group (Justice Peace and Development Group)

GRECCIO: THE SONG – A Christmas Invitation - Saturday, 5 December | Allan Gibbs Centre, Wellington College, 2.00pm Matinee | 7.30pm Evening Show.

Bring your family and friends to *Greccio: The Song*, a new musical inspired by St Francis of Assisi and the first Nativity at Greccio, celebrating the Franciscan Jubilee and 60 years of friendship between New Zealand and the Philippines. Scan the QR code for tickets and support your parish. 25% of net ticket sales made through your parish link will be returned to the parish. (Full details on poster attached). For enquiries: vineyardhouse.nz@gmail.com



Ōtari Parish Children's Library

- **Bible Stories**
- **Prayer books**
- **Christian Storybooks**
- **Sunday Missals**
- **Books about Saints**
- **Children's Bibles**



How it works:
It works on an honesty model. Select the book you want. Write the title, your name and contact number in the notebook.

When you have finished reading the book, return to the shelf and cross out your entry.

We trust you will respect the books and return them in good order so others can enjoy them, too.

Any questions, please contact the Parish Office.
Parish Office Hours: Tuesday - Friday 9am - 12pm
Phone: 04 476 6131 Email: office@otariparish.co.nz