



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

6th September 26

Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

We are not called to walk alone but are asked to care for one another, to guide each other, and to live in love. The readings reveal how warning, correction, and forgiveness are all part of belonging to God's people.

In the first reading, Ezekiel is told to be a watchman. His duty is to speak up when others stray. This shows that silence can also bring guilt. God's word is not only about comfort but also about responsibility. **We are called to speak truth with courage, even when it is hard.**

The second reading tells us that love fulfils every commandment. To love our neighbour is to follow God's law. Love never harms but instead brings peace and unity and the Gospel builds on this by showing how to handle conflict.

Jesus tells us that when we come together in His name, He is with us. He acknowledges the reality of conflict and error and offers his disciples a means for addressing such matters. It is in the conclusion to this teaching that the message of hope is found: **Jesus is present with the community and will guide the community in its relations.** If decisions are taken in prayer, then the community can be assured of God's assistance.

The theme uniting today's readings is the responsibility members of a community have for the well-being of others. **Our faith is lived in relationship with others.**

Here's a quote for Father's Day that fits with my reflection – **"The role of the father is, in a unique way, to ensure the harmonious and united development of all the members of the family. He is called to be strong in love, wise in correction, and faithful in responsibility."** — *St. John Paul II*,

Peter Wood (PPC)



Liturgy of the Word

This week: 23rd Sunday in Ordinary Time: Ezek 33:7-9: Ps 94: Rom 13:8: Mt 18:15-20:

Psalm Response: *O that today you would listen to his voice! Harden not your hearts.*

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

Upcoming Parish Events

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.

OTARI PARISH YOUTH GROUP

Sunday, 20th September 2026

11:30am - 1pm

St. Teresa's Parish Hall



We welcome **Seminararian Long Tran** who is on placement here in Otari for two weeks.



Readings

Mon: 1 Cor 5:1-8; Ps 5; Lk 6:6-11;

Tues: Micah 5:1-4; Ps 12; Mt 1:1-16, 18-23;

Wed: 1 Cor 7:25-31; Ps 44; Lk 6:20-26;

Thurs: 1 Cor 8:1-7, 11-13; Ps 138; Lk 6:27-38;

Friday: 1 Cor 9:16-19, 22-27; Ps 83; Lk 6:39-42;

Sat: 1 Cor 10:14-22; Ps 115; Lk 6:43-49;

2026

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.

Attention Weekday Mass Goers!

There will be NO EVENING MASS tonight on

Friday, 4th September 2026 (our youth are singing at the Late Night Mass 8pm at the Cathedral) and

NO MORNING MASS on Saturday, 5th September 2026 on account of the priestly ordination of Deacon Emilio at 11.00am at Sacred Heart Cathedral.

All are welcome to attend the Priestly Ordination.

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 **NO 6.30PM MASS FRIDAY THE 4TH OF SEPTEMBER**
All are welcome.



Parish and Archdiocesan Events

Valuing our Senior Parishioners



On behalf of Ōtari Parish we would like to thank Adrian Anderson and his wife, Maria Anderson, recently deceased, for their many years of faithful service across several ministries since joining our parish in 1972.

St Thomas More Church Photo Book

St Thomas More Church
Wilton



1969-2026

Stuart Henrys has put together a Photo Book commemorating the Church. This will be approximately 50 pages and will include photos celebrating past events and images recording the Open Day and the Thanksgiving and Farewell Mass last weekend. The cost of the Photo Book is estimated to be \$70 including the postage. If you would like to place an order do so by emailing Stuart: stuart.henrys@gmail.com. You will be contacted by Stuart with payment details once the Photo Book order is ready to be placed.

Family Inner Healing Retreat Organised by Divine Retreat Centre NZ

Led by: Fr. (Dr) Antony Parankimalil
VC

5th September 2026
2.00PM—6.00PM

Sacred Heart Church Petone
41 Britannia Street, Petone, Wellington
5012

Open to all NO REGISTRATION
NEEDED

Contact Details:
Lislie: 027 347 6327
Email: drcnzwellingtonunit@gmail.com



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). Speaker on "Be grateful for God's forgiving love" to be confirmed

Want to know more? Ring Steve Ready
027-356-9555
email: joshua.wgtn@gmail.com



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.

Moments from STM Church...

Open Day - Saturday 29 August

The Open Day at St Thomas More Church saw many former parishioners return and along with regular members reconnect, share memories, and reflect on the life of the community. Visitors enjoyed viewing the displays in the lounge, which traced the five-decade history of St Thomas More, sacramental celebrations, parish events, social justice activities, and photographs. Throughout the day there was a strong sense of gratitude for the friendships, faith, and service that have shaped our story.



Estelle presenting the Christmas Crib to Vicar Jessie Thornton-Black from Saint Anne's Anglican Church in Northland.



Mary-Anne Peetz, former Lay Pastoral Leader, reminiscing with friends.

Thanksgiving and Farewell Mass - Sunday 30 August

Kataraina Millin and Hēnare Walmsley began the Thanksgiving and Farewell Mass with a karanga and poroporoaki – a call and final farewell. This prayerful act acknowledged the letting go of the building with grace, allowing its memories and spirit to rest. Those who had gone before us from the St Thomas More community were called upon for support and guidance. The spiritual work here can conclude so that the community can move forward in peace. Led by Archbishop Paul Martin, the Mass gave thanks for the faith, witness, and ministry of generations of parishioners, while affirming that although the church building has closed, the community and its mission continue.



Estelle, Carolyn, Sandra, Mark, Peter, and Kylie on behalf of the Transition Committee and STM community

