



Parish Priest: Fr Joy Raphael 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

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

16th August 2026 The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary Year A

This beautiful feast day is our patronal feast for Aotearoa New Zealand. One of the riches of the Catholic and Orthodox faiths is the living traditions that are passed on, particularly those concerning the mother of Jesus.

The Feast of the Assumption is the jewel in the crown and it is entirely appropriate that today's gospel reflects on the Visitation of Mary to her cousin Elizabeth. On Mary's part this is a joyful visit to her pregnant cousin, to offer support and assistance in her pregnancy and birth.

Elizabeth responds joyfully herself and she who is bearing the Precursor to the Messiah speaks out the blessing of the Holy Spirit to the one who is herself bearing the Son of God. Elizabeth's words, "Of all woman you are the most blessed," is a deep foundation in Scripture for our veneration of Mary as the Mother of God, a veneration that finds its highest expression in the feast we celebrate today.



Mary's response, in the Magnificat, is one of the great songs of the New Testament, a song of praise to God, a song that celebrates and amplifies the mercy and power of God for the lowly of the world. It is our song too.

Chris Orsman, Parish Councillor

Liturgy of the Word

This week: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

Psalm Response: *Lord, show us your mercy and love, and grant us your salvation.*

Next Week: 21st Sunday in Ordinary Time: Is 22:19-23: Ps 137: Rom 11:33-36: Mt 16:13-20

Upcoming Parish Events

Larana, inc

OTARI PARISH YOUTH GROUP

Sunday, 16th August 2026

11:30am - 1pm

St. Teresa's Parish Hall

FOOD FUN FAITH



www.reallygreatsite.com

Preference Certificates

PARISHIONERS who require a Preference Certificate for their child to enter our Primary or Secondary Catholic Schools can visit Father Joy between 10.30am till Midday on Wednesdays or Thursdays without making an prior appointment.

**Living Wage Election
Forum 6pm for 6:30pm
start, 2 September,
Naenae College,
Lower Hutt**



'The Living Wage is the income necessary to provide workers and their families with the basic necessities of life.'

Everyone is encouraged to attend the Living Wage Movement Election Forum to seek tangible commitments from politicians to ensure that workers across the public sector, schools, and hospitals are paid the Living Wage.

Join the Ōtari Parish Justice Peace and Development Group along with Archdiocesan members of the EJP Commission and St Joseph's/ St Mary of the Angels. Register on the sign-up sheet in both St Teresa's and St Thomas More foyers.

Transport to the event is being organised from both church carparks and there is a chartered bus going from St Josephs Church that will also stop outside Sacred Heart Cathedral. A donation of \$5 towards petrol would be appreciated. Please contact Bernadine Reid cjb.reid@xtra.co.nz for more information.



Ōtari Parish Young Adults
(School leavers and above)

Next meeting:
This Sunday 16th August at 11:15am in the
Parish Office
New members are welcome!

Readings

17-22
August

2026

Mon: Ezek 24:15-24: Deut 32:
Mt 19:16-22:

Tues: Ezek 28:1-10: Deut 32:
Mt 19:23-30:

Wed: Ezek 34:1-11: Ps 22: Mt
20:1-16:

Thurs: Ezek 36:23-28: Ps 50:
Mt 22:1-14:

Friday: Ezek 37:1-14: Ps 106:
Mt 22:34-40:

Sat: Ezek 43:1-7: Ps 84: Mt
23:1-12:

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 are welcome.



Parish and Archdiocesan Events



ROOM IN YOUR HOME FOR ONE MORE?

Do you have a passion to make a difference in the lives of children and young people?
Consider becoming a Foster Parent.

Contact: Rachel Kleinjan
Foster Parent Recruiter
Rachel.Kleinjan@ohf.org.nz
027 486 5904

www.ohf.org.nz A Christian Community Response

For more information

<https://upload.ohf.org.nz/link/J3vtFgLMQZ7kIjCJGvoGLu>

Yes, Joshua is still on this coming Thursday 20th August in Connolly Hall (next to Sacred Heart Cathedral). Join us from 7:00pm for a cuppa and a 7:30pm start. Main feature - Small group activity facilitated by Rainer Hensel based on the theme: "For many are called, but few are chosen"

Want to know more?
Ring David Monastra 027-4477
280 email: joshua.wgtn@gmail.com

The School "B" Programme is available and suited to those who have previously completed the Life in the Spirit Seminar. Details as follows.

Programme Details

- ☐ **Start Date:** Friday, 7 August 2026
- ☐ **Duration:** 15 Consecutive Fridays
- ☐ **Time:** 7.00 pm – 8.30 pm (NZ Time)
- ☐ **Platform:** Zoom (Online)
- ☐ **Conducted by:** Michael Powell

Join via Zoom

☐ **Zoom Link:**
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86048738187?pwd=duFqdGRuQdXFIhcnTub5rr1hZ3azmk.1>

Meeting ID: 860 4873 8187
Passcode: 378907

Do you know someone who is looking for answers about life and the world we live in?

A new little book called "*Can the Catholic Church Answer My Questions?*" provides an easy-going 'chat' on searching for God, some of the questions people have about Catholic beliefs, and ending with an explanation of the process for becoming Catholic.

It makes suggestions for podcasts, articles and books that can draw the reader further into the Catholic experience ... and the meaning of love, life and everything! Available now from [Pleroma](#) for \$35.

Author Margaret Bearsley is a Launch Out Graduate, and this book was written as her final pastoral project. Profits from the sale will be donated to the Wellington Archdiocese.

Pilgrimage to Peace Flame Botanical Gardens, Sunday Aug 16th

On 6 & 9 Aug, 1945 atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan. A peace flame lit from the ruins of those cities stands in Wellington's Botanical Gardens, near the Begonia House/Rose Garden. Fr Gerard Burns of SFOA parish, Ohariu, will lead a short prayer for peace there at 2.30pm on 16 August. An event (wet or fine) for the jubilee year of St Francis of Assisi.



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



On behalf of Ōtari Parish we would like to thank Elizabeth Orsman for her faithful service as a greeter and Eucharistic Minister.

St Thomas More Thanksgiving and Farewell Weekend



Saturday, 29 August 2026, 11am until approximately 5pm

All are invited to the church for some quiet reflection time. There will be tea and coffee available in the lounge and a chance for a casual chat while you look at the photos and memorabilia display. From 3pm, there will be an organised opportunity to share and listen to stories. Anyone is most welcome to speak.

Sunday, 30 August, 4pm – Final Mass led by Archbishop Paul Martin

The Mass will be followed by light refreshments.

Parking: Reserved parking on the South side of the Church will be for Disabled and the Archbishop and the North Side of the Church reserved for the Caterers. We would like to offer the Main Parking Area to the elderly. Parking will be available at Altum Academy School (previously Cardinal McKeefry School) for those able to walk the distance up to the church.