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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

9th August 2026

19th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

Life often feels like a journey across stormy waters. We face worries about family, health, work, finances, and the many uncertainties of life. Like Peter in the Gospel, we can begin with confidence, only to find ourselves overwhelmed when we focus too much on the waves around us. Yet Jesus' words remain as relevant today as they were on the Sea of Galilee. "*Take courage, it is I; do not be afraid.*"



The readings also remind us that God is often found not in dramatic events, but in quiet moments of prayer, reflection, and listening. Elijah discovered God's presence in a gentle whisper, encouraging us to slow down and make space for God amidst the noise and busyness of daily life.

As a parish community, we continue to navigate changes and challenges together. Whether we are celebrating joys, facing transitions, or supporting one another through difficulties, we are reminded that Christ walks with us. He reaches out His hand when we falter and calls us to place our trust in Him. Our faith journey is not about never experiencing fear, but about learning to trust that God is present in every circumstance.

This week, may we take time to listen for God's gentle voice and place our confidence in Christ, who calms our fears and guides us safely through every storm.

Des Tiller (Chair of Parish Pastoral Council)

Liturgy of the Word

This week: 19th Sunday in Ordinary Time: 1 Kgs 19:9, 11-13: Ps 84: Rom 9:1-5: Mt 14:22-33:

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

Next Week: The Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary.

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



Ōtari Parish Young Adults

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

Our focus: YOUCAT

Readings

10-15
August

2026

Mon: 2 Cor 9:6-10: Ps 111: Jn 12:24-26:

Tues: Ezek 2:8-3:4: Ps 118: Mt 18:1-5, 10, 12-14:

Wed: Ezek 9:1-7; 10:18-22: Ps 112: Mt 18:15-20:

Thurs: Ezek 12:1-12: Ps 77: Mt 18:21-19:1:

Friday: Ezek 16:1-15, 60, 63: Is 12:2-6: Mt 19:3-12:

Sat: Ezekiel 18:1-10, 13b, 30-32: Ps 51: Matthew 19:13-15.

LIVING WAGE ELECTION

2 SEPTEMBER, ARRIVE AT
6PM FOR 6:30PM START
NAENAE COLLEGE, 910 HIGH
STREET, LOWER HUTT



FORUM

Join the members of the Ōtari Parish
Justice Peace and Development Group to
attend the Living Wage Movement Election
Forum.

At this event, politicians from all parties will be asked for a commitment to supporting the Living Wage across the state and wider public sector. The Living Wage allows people to exist with human dignity, a basic premise of Catholic Social Teaching.

Contact Bernadine Reid cjb.reid@xtra.co.nz for more info. If you are interested in coming with us as one of the Faith Organisation groups please fill out the Registration Form in the foyer.

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.

Following the closure of Saint Thomas More, weekend Mass times will remain unchanged:

Saturday Vigil Mass: 5.30pm

Sunday Mass: 10.00am

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

A visiting United States liturgist has urged Catholics in New Zealand to sit as close to the altar as they can at Masses.

Members of our parish liturgy committee attended a workshop at Connelly Hall last week, listening to liturgist Fr Paul Turner, a consultant to the Vatican and several international groups, who made several recommendations for participating well at Mass. Among the topics covered in the workshop were Pope Francis' apostolic letter *Desiderio Desideravi*, participation at Mass as **a priestly people**, how principles drawn from this apply to the main parts of the Mass. One major takeaway for us was the focus on **unity** between the congregation and the priest.



"Let yourselves be built into a spiritual house, to be a holy priesthood, to offer spiritual sacrifices acceptable to God through Jesus Christ.

But you are a chosen race, a royal priesthood, a holy nation, God's own people,^[c] in order that you may proclaim the mighty acts of him who called you out of darkness into his marvelous light."

(1 Peter 2:5, 9)

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 Catherine Casey (former Saint Teresa's Principal) 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 Maragaret West for her faithful service to our parish especially to the Catholic Women's League.

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.