

Parish Council 2017



Mary Callister



Kevin Carr



Pat Gee



Christine Kuper



Sarah Mayo



Erwin Palado



David Ross



Rachel Roth



Benny Taualupe



Lagi Tuimavae

Otari Parish St Teresa and St Thomas More

Parish Priest Fr Ron Bennett 021 065 8997 Fr Sanele Finau 476 6131	Parish Office Catherine Vernon 476 6131	Pastoral Council Erwin Palado 476 2766	Finance Committee Peter Dykes 476 6131
Postal Address P.O. Box 17 011 Karori Wellington 6012	Parish Office 8.30am–12.30pm Mon-Fri office@otariparish.co.nz www.otariparish.co.nz	Cardinal McKeefry School, Wilton Tania Savage 475 3262 St Teresa's School, Karori Mary-Angela Tombs 939 1725	
Saturday Vigil: Weekdays: Reconciliation:	5:30 pm (Karori), Sunday 8.30am (Wilton) 10.00 am (Karori) Tue 9.30am, Wed 6.30am & 9.30am, Thurs 9.30am, Fri 6.30am & 9.30am, Sat 9am Saturday: 9.30 – 10am		

13th Sunday in Ordinary Time 1 / 2 July 2017 YEAR A

Liturgy of the Word:
 Psalm Response: *“Forever I will sing the goodness of the Lord.”*
 Today's Reading: 2 Kings 4/ 8-16; Romans 6/ 3-4, 8-11; Matthew 10/ 37-42
 Next Sunday: Zechariah 9/ 9-10; Jeremiah 20/ 10-15, Romans 5/12-15, Matthew 10/26-33

Following Jesus

Today's Gospel is the conclusion of the instructions and consolations that we have heard Jesus offering to his disciples during the past few weeks. In this passage, Jesus summarises both the costs of discipleship and its rewards.

Once again our understanding of the Gospel is strengthened by considering the context in which it was written and the perspective of Matthew's audience.



The conditions of discipleship outlined in Matthew's Gospel may appear harsh. Yet they underline for us a truth—choosing anything with one's whole heart has consequences. Choosing life with Christ means that every relationship we have must be understood from a new perspective. For many in Matthew's community, this choice brought division to their family.

Matthew also outlines the reward of hospitality offered to Jesus' followers. In today's Gospel, Jesus explains the difficulties of discipleship, yet reveals that those who welcome the disciples have also welcomed him.

Today's Gospel also highlights for us the importance of hospitality in the Christian life. To welcome another in Jesus' name is to extend hospitality to Jesus himself. We have many opportunities in our daily life to reach out to others, to be a welcoming presence and a sign of God's love.

As we seek to be a **Stewardship Parish**, we remember the **4 Pillars of Stewardship – hospitality, prayer, service and using one's gifts for the Kingdom**. Today's Gospel is especially about the hospitality pillar. It may seem the least important, almost not worth mentioning. Yet for an outsider or a newcomer to a parish, they may well judge us on our hospitality, the warmth of their welcome.

Hospitality is especially important at Sunday Mass. Extending hospitality is especially important when it comes to welcoming visitors who may be attending mass at our parish for the first time. There is a lot of anecdotal evidence suggesting that the ability of a first-time visitor to have a meaningful experience of Christ in the liturgy is directly impacted by the warmth of the welcome extended by the local worshipping community. When people say hello, the worship experience is enhanced.

A warm welcome is part of evangelization, work necessary in a church's mission to help people discover or renew faith in Christ. How do we treat the unknown person who walks by us in church, or who sits next to us at mass? Do we ignore them? Talk around them? Look at them and say nothing? Do we take the initiative to greet them, smile, and extend a warm handshake?

Fr Ron



CWL Gifting Sunday - July 2nd
As we remember Cassie Devlin a CWL member for 70 years, CWL Gifting Sunday is celebrated today.

The National 'At Home Appeal' this year is Pillars; a national charitable organisation supporting children of prisoners throughout New Zealand.

The Sophie Elliot 'Loves-Me-Not' education programme was the 2016 beneficiary and \$10,766 was presented on behalf of the 70 CWL NZ Branches. Otari CWL have recently donated \$500 to Homeless Women's Trust, Cardinal McKeefry School and St Teresa's – Cyber-safety programme \$375 and one child's school camp fee \$375. St Teresa's Chapel has a name 'Chapel of the Blessed Sacrament' and this is displayed over the inside door entrance, funded in 2016 by Otari CWL. Our Fijian Mission was sent \$980F so they could purchase a fridge. In Faith and Service.

Fr James Jubilee:

On 2 July, after 10.30am Mass, we will be celebrating Fr James's 50 years as a priest. There will be a shared lunch at St Mary's College hall.

Stewardship Reflection on today's gospel: 13th Sunday Ordinary time.



"...Whoever does not take up his cross and follow after me is not worthy of me." Matthew 10/38.

Pope Benedict XVI said, "The world offers you comfort. But you were not made for comfort, you were made for greatness". "Comfort" puts me first. "Picking up your cross and following Jesus" puts God and others first. Why settle for comfort when you can achieve greatness! Pick up your cross, ask Jesus for guidance on using your gifts and live the life God intended for you!



Five Languages of Love' workshop

Sunday 30 July, 12:30pm – 5:00pm, St Peter & Paul Church, 29 Dr Taylor Terrace, Johnsonville.

Join us for a light lunch and an afternoon of enlightening talks based on Gary Chapman's book, The 5 Love Languages, which explores different ways couples relate to each other and how their relationship can be enriched. Brought to you by your Marriage Encounter Community. rsvp to james.glenis@hotmail.co.nz by 21 July.

Intercessors Conference – 'Intercessors Arise'

This weekend at St Joseph's Church, Mt Victoria. All welcome. Friday 30th June. Contact Francenne email francenne.smith@gmail.com.nz or phone 04 238 2966 (Cost \$40.00 pp).

Parish Morning Tea:

This Friday, after the 9.30am Mass. All welcome.

Parish Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament:

This coming Friday, from 10am until 6pm. Blessed sacrament Chapel (side entrance of Church).

Apostleship of the Sea:

This apostolate has become really important as the 21st century rapidly unfolds.



Did you know that 80% of seafarers are Roman Catholic and in our case they carry 93% of our trade?

Yet they are suffering significantly as they try to provide for families back home. They suffer as much as refugees. Seafarers are underpaid, abused physically and sexually and frequently murdered. Two deaths have occurred in New Zealand recently but authorities cannot pin charges.

Here in NZ Catholics 111 are engaged in this apostolate to visit ships and run seafaring centres where they observe, advocate and publicise mistreatment and issues that arise.

Since our Government signed up to the UN 2006 Maritime Labour Convention in 2016 we are now able to take action and succeed. We need help if to be the friendly face in our ports for seafarers.

Next week is Seafarers Sunday, and Peter Kerr from our parish, will speak about the work they do at all Masses.

Do you know a boy who loves to sing?

Following the growing success of the Boys' Choir at the Metropolitan Cathedral we are expanding our intake of choristers to include boys from around the Wellington region. We are on the lookout for fun loving, happy and friendly boys who would like to audition for the Archdiocesan Boys' Choir. Previous experience of singing in choirs or prior musical training is not required. If your son can sing in tune and enjoys music then encourage him to audition!



Over their time in the choir, boys will learn sound vocal technique, music theory, life-skills, teamwork, as well as grow in confidence and discipline. Teachers and parents see the boys' language skills, reading comprehension skills, maths skills and confidence improve greatly by being a part of the choir. The life of chorister provides the ability to develop spiritual, as well as musical, intellectual and personal gifts.

We are holding another afternoon of auditions on **Thursday 6 July 4:00pm-5:30pm** at the Cathedral on Hill Street, Thorndon, Wellington. For more information and to register your interest please contact Michael Fletcher, Director of Music, Metropolitan Cathedral or email m.fletcher@wn.catholic.org.nz or phone 04 496 1700.

St Mary's College 2017:

The cut-off date for applications for 2018 is Monday 3 July 2017.

GO, YOU ARE SENT!

We know that slogan now, but what about contributing to the process of discovering how we might witness our faith and make the Gospel more relevant in our parish and city?



Cardinal John has asked each of us to help plan a direction for the Archdiocese for the next ten years, to see how "we can influence the society of which we are a part, especially the suffering and injustice that engulfs much of it..."

Do you have an opinion about how we might find more "leaders" for our Archdiocese?

Can you contribute to a policy on refugees and migrants? What about our relationship with other Churches, other Faiths?

How do we reach young people?

What are your concerns regarding marriage and family?

Your reflections will be welcome. They were due yesterday 30 June, but late response may be accepted. The full document is available on line at: tinyurl.com/Synod-17-Participation

Peter's Pence' Collection - Today

This weekend is the 'Peter's Pence' collection, an opportunity for us to financially support the charitable and humanitarian work of Pope Francis. The collection also supports the important pastoral offices which enable the Holy Father to carry out his work including the Pontifical Councils for Justice and Peace, Laity, Family and Life, and the promotion of Christian Unity, to name just a few.

The agencies, councils, congregations, offices and departments that form part of the Curia are vital for the universal mission of the Church and the pastoral reach of Pope Francis. Thank you for your support of this annual collection. Please continue to pray for Pope Francis and his intentions.

Interested in a challenging eConference?

Gospel leadership in times of chaos: the hope of Pope Francis.

Streamed live free over the internet on Thursday 10 August 12 noon - 4.30pm (NZ time) at the Catholic Centre, 22-30 Hill St, Thorndon. For more information visit www.bbi.catholic.edu.au/short-courses/eConference-2017 Register attendance by email to Ann Williams a.williams@wn.catholic.org.nz

**Parish Council Elections
Congratulations to the newly elected members of the Otari Parish Council :**

Mary Callister
Kevin Carr
Pat Gee
Lagi Tuimavave
David Ross

We thank them for willingness to serve the parish and wish them well in their new ministry.

Preference of Enrolment Forms to be signed:

Fr. Ron is available to sign preferences for catholic primary schools and colleges. Contact him at 021 065 8997.

A Quiet Day with Suzanne Aubert - Thursday 6 July

An invitation to spend time resting and reflecting on an aspect of the life and vision of Suzanne Aubert. 10.30am - 2.30pm, Our Lady's Home of Compassion, 2 Rhine Street, Island Bay, Wellington. Suggested offering \$30 includes lunch. Register at retreat@compassion.org or phone. 04 383 7769. Other days: 3 August, 7 September, 5 October.



**Readings for the Week
3 - 9 July**

Monday: Eph 2:19-22; Jn 20:24-29
Tuesday: Gen 19:15-29; Mt 8:23-27
Wednesday: Gen 21:5, 8-20; Mt 8:28-34
Thursday: Gen 22:1-19; Mt 9:1-8
Friday: Gen 23:1-4, 19; 24:1-8, 62-67; Mt 9:9-13
Saturday: Gen 27:1-5, 15-29; Mt 9:14-17
Sunday – 14th Sunday in Ordinary Time:
Zech 9:9-10; Rom 8:9, 11-13; Mt 11:25-30

Early Morning Masses:

6.30am every Wednesday and Friday. Come and join us.

June's Children's Mass



Thank you once again to Pat for organising and leading the wonderful Parish children's Mass.

