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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

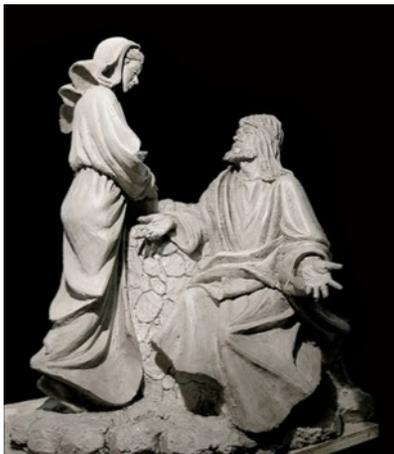
8th March 2026

3rd Sunday of Lent

Year A

On International Women's Day, the encounter between Jesus and the Samaritan woman at the well offers one of the most radical and hope-filled moments in the Gospels. We meet a woman whose name we are never given, yet whose voice and courage transform an entire community.

The woman comes to the well at noon, the hottest part of the day. Traditionally, this detail has been used to shame her, to suggest exclusion. The text reveals a woman navigating a life shaped by vulnerability, patriarchy, and survival. Jesus does not judge her but begins by asking for her help. "Give me a drink." In this simple request, power shifts. A Jewish man asks



something of a Samaritan woman, breaking social norms by crossing boundaries of gender, ethnicity, and religion. Jesus meets her not with pity or correction, but as a partner in dialogue. Jesus models for us the love that overcomes prejudice and unites divided peoples.

What follows is the longest theological conversation Jesus has with anyone in the Gospels. She questions and challenges him, thinking deeply about worship, truth, and the Messiah. Jesus knows her situation and names it, without defining her by it. Instead, he reveals himself to her as the Messiah. The first person in John's Gospel to hear "I am he" is not a disciple or religious leader, but a Samaritan woman.

Then comes the turning point: she leaves her water jar behind. The well has transformed from a place of daily drudgery into a place of salvation and evangelism. She goes back to her town and proclaims what she has experienced. Because of her testimony, many in the community believe and encounter Christ. In a Church and world where women's voices are still often marginalised, this scene affirms that women belong at the heart of faith. Jesus' living water brings dignity, revealing a future where women are listened to and honoured as leaders.

Like the woman at the well, may we find the courage to set aside what burdens us and to seek the living water that renews our spirit. On International Women's Day, we give thanks for the women who sustain, challenge, and inspire our communities. May our parishes be places where all are welcomed to share their gifts and to hear the invitation that changed a town: "*Come and see*".
(Estelle Henrys)

Woman at the Well by Timothy P. Schmalz (John 4:5-42)

Liturgy of the Word

This week: 3rd Sunday of Lent: Ex 17:3-7: Ps 94: Rom 5:1-2, 5-8: Jn 4:5-42:

Psalm Response: *If today you hear his voice, harden not your hearts.*

Next Week: 4th Sunday of Lent: 1 Sam 16:1, 6-7, 10-13: Ps 22: Eph 5:8-14: Jn 9:1-41:

Upcoming Parish Events



Date	Group
6th March 6pm at St Teresa's Church	Tongan Community
13th March 6pm at St Teresa's Church	Proclaimers of the Word
20th March 6pm at St Teresa's Church	Parish Youth Group
27th March 6pm at St Thomas More Church	JPD group
3rd April 10am at St Teresa's Church	Liturgy Committee

OTARI PARISH YOUTH GROUP

Join us for our next meeting on
Sunday, 15th March
11:30am - 1pm
in St. Teresa's Parish Hall.

Come along for food, faith and fun!

Please call Amanda Kleiner on
027-315-8503 for more details.



Parish Lenten Reconciliation (Rite 2)

“Come now, let us argue it out, says the Lord: though your sins are like scarlet, they shall be like snow; though they are red like crimson, they shall become like wool.” (Isaiah 1:18)

Date: Sunday, 15th March 2026.
Place: St. Teresa Church, Karori.
Time: 2pm

Everyone is welcome!

Otari Parish Faith Formation Team presents :

“The seven last words of Jesus”

Join us on a Lenten journey Every Thursday to 26th March at 6.30 to 7.30pm at St Teresa's Church.

No registrations are required. All welcome. Please join us for a cup of tea at 6.15pm if you can make it early!

Preparation for Palm Sunday

Friday 27th March at St Thomas More
BYO dinner from
5.00pm onwards.
6.00 pm Stations of the Cross in the church followed by Flax Cross Making & a cuppa/ supper which will be provided.



Flax crosses will be made from Harakeke (NZ flax) for Palm Sunday. There will be people to demonstrate how these are made. The crosses will help us express the Easter story and are beautiful to keep even when they dry out.

Mark this date in your diary and come along for some prayer and fellowship. All welcome.

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 welcome.**



Parish and Archdiocesan Events



LITURGY SCHEDULE - 2026

DAY	TIME	LITURGY
15/03/2026 Sunday	2.00pm	Lenten Reconciliation Service – Rite 2 at St. Teresa Church
28/03/2028 Palm Sunday	10.00am	Holy Mass at St. Teresa Church. (No Holy Mass at St. Thomas More)
02/04/2026 Holy Thursday	7.00pm	Evening Mass of the Lord’s Supper at St. Teresa Church.
03/04/2026 Good Friday	10.00am 03.00pm	Stations of the Cross at St. Teresa. Celebration of the Passion of the Lord at St. Teresa Church.
04/04/2026 Holy Saturday	08.00pm	The Easter Vigil in the Holy Night at St. Teresa Church.
05/04/2026 Easter Sunday	08.30am 10.00am	Holy Mass at St. Thomas More Holy Mass at St. Teresa Church.

Lord Jesus, as we remember Your Passion, deepen our faith and draw us closer to Your heart of mercy. May Your sacrifice renew our hope and lead us into the joy of Your Resurrection.

[Theology of the Body for Teens

What is love? How can I live in authentic freedom, grow in virtue and build healthy friendships? Saturday 14th March 8.30am-5pm. Suitable for 13-18 year olds. Drop off at the Wellington Cathedral 8:30am, Pickup from Pa Maria 5pm (78 Hobson Street, Thorndon). \$25 per participant to help cover venue hire, facilitator costs and food. Transport available on request. **Register at** devinesofwaterloo@gmail.com or for more info call Monica on 021 2991138]



CATHOLIC WOMEN’S LEAGUE WELLINGTON ARCHDIOCESAN CONFERENCE

Wednesday 11th & Thursday 12th March. St Thomas More church 10.00am. \$50.00 for full registration. Two Highlights on Wednesday will be: Speaker Lynda Rabeni Vatuloka, Captain of St Mary’s rugby team that won the 2025 inter-schools competition and represented New Zealand in a global 7’s tournament. Lynda will talk to us what motivates and drives our young women. Fr Alfred Tong will talk to us about his journey to priesthood Thursday morning: Mass at 10am will be celebrated by Cardinal John Dew and a talk from Cardinal John on his experiences with the Conclave, followed by a finger food lunch. **This morning session is open to all Parishioners (\$15 registration).** For registration forms and more phone: Diane Glynan 021 118 1875.

Readings

9-14
March
2026

Mon: 2 Kg 5:1-15: Ps 41: Lk 4:24-30:
Tues: Dan 3:25,34-43: Ps 24: Mt 18:21-35:
Wed: Deut 4:1,5-9: Ps 147: Mt 5:17-19:
Thurs: Jer 7:23-28: Ps 94: Lk 11:14-23:
Friday: Hosea 14:2-10: Ps 80: Mk 12:28-34
Sat: Hosea 5:15—6:6: Ps 50: Lk 18:9-14:



Prayer Request

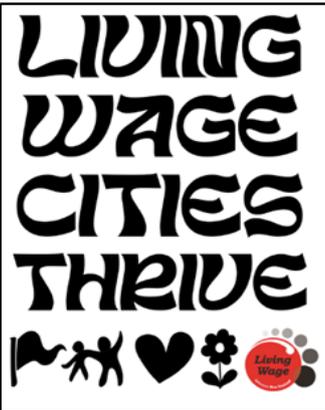
Please pray for our parishioners who are unwell, For those who passed away recently and for Elsie and David Flanagan whose anniversaries occur about this time.

Happy International Women's Day.

Can you spare 30 minutes to find out more about the
Living Wage?

Come along for a chat over coffee (or tea) and kai.

**Sunday 22 March, 9.30am (after 8.30am Mass)
St Thomas More Church Lounge**



You're warmly invited to a community 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 **\$28.95 per hour**, compared with the minimum wage of **\$23.50 per hour**, and reflect together on what dignity in work truly looks like. Finn Cordwell (Living Wage Lead Community Organiser) will be our guest and share the aim of Greater Wellington becoming a region of Living Wage Cities.

Why This Conversation Matters

As Lent continues, we pray, fast, and give alms — Giving helps relieve immediate need, both here and overseas, yet it also prompts deeper questions. Why are so many families still relying on food parcels to feed and clothe their children?

How can we, as a community and as a society, work to reduce poverty in Aotearoa New Zealand?

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.

Our focus questions are:

1. What are the consequences of low wages in our communities? What have you personally experienced or observed? What values drive you to take action around low pay?

2. What would day-to-day life in our communities look like if every worker was guaranteed a Living Wage, getting an extra \$436 a fortnight? How would this transform your local community's economy and well-being?

The Ōtari Parish Justice Peace and Development 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)."