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Office open 9.00am—Midday Tuesday to Friday
Hall Bookings: Mira 022 682 5600

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

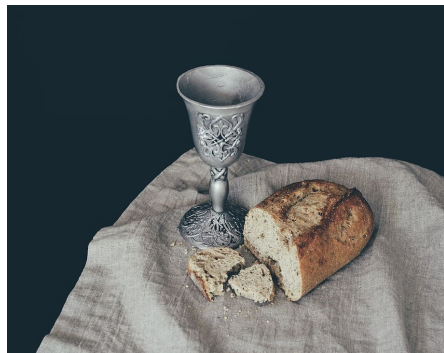
St Teresa's School, Karori. Principal: Pip Cook
939 1725

Cardinal McKeefry School, Wilton.
Acting Principal: Kerry de Graaf 475 3262

St Teresa 301 Karori Rd. Karori and St Thomas More 30 Worcester St, Wilton. Website www.otariparish.co.nz

22nd June 2025 The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ Year C

*"Take, eat; this is my body."
"Take, drink; this is my blood of the covenant."*



This weekend we are celebrating the solemnity of The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ (Corpus Christi). The Catechism of the Catholic Church lists several names for the Eucharist: The Lord's Supper, the Breaking of the Bread, a holy sacrifice, the Blessed Sacrament, Holy Communion, and Holy Mass.

The Eucharist is the celebration of the abiding presence of a loving God as Emmanuel – God with us. Jesus instituted the Eucharist, which is the source and summit of the Christian life. On this feast day we give collective thanks to our Lord for his real presence with us in the Eucharist. In today's second reading St. Paul elaborates how Jesus converted the ancient ritual into a Sacrament and Sacrifice. Instead of the lamb's blood, Jesus offered his own Body and Blood when he at the last supper said: "Take it... eat ... this is my Body which will be given up for you", and "Take and drink ... This is ... my Blood, the Blood of the new and eternal Covenant, which will be poured out for you and for many...." And in the gospel, we have the passage which anticipates the Eucharist in Jesus' spectacular miracle of the multiplied loaves. Pope St. John Paul II asks: "what more could Jesus have done for us? Truly, in the Eucharist, he shows us a love which goes to the end, a love which knows no measure."

On this feast, we have nine of our children who will walk down the aisle to receive Jesus in the Holy Communion for the first time. We congratulate them and their families and convey our gratitude to those who prepared them for this great day in their lives. The day of the First Holy Communion is an unforgettable feast day in our life of faith. The experience and the celebrations of that day always remain with us as memorable events that have significant implications for the rest of our lives and help us to lead a saintly life. In the reception of the Holy Communion, a child of God clothed with the wedding garment, is admitted "to the marriage supper of the lamb" (Rev. 19:9) and receives the food of the new life, the body and blood of Christ.

Let us pray for our first communicants in a special way that the reception of Jesus in the Holy Communion becomes an everlasting experience of God's love and presence for them. Let each of us appreciate and accept this great gift of Jesus in the Holy Eucharist, by receiving him with true repentance for our sins, due preparation, reverence, and love.

Fr. Tikoua has been hospitalized since Thursday last and underwent a surgical procedure on Tuesday and is convalescing. We wish him a speedy recovery and continue to uphold him in our prayers. I will be leaving for India on Wednesday (June 25) for my annual holidays and would value greatly your prayers for me.

Fr. Joy Raphael.

Happy Feast of the Corpus Christi

Parish Events

Sunday the 22nd June 2025 1st Holy Communion Mass

A special thank you to the Catholic Women's League for their prayers during the Communicants' preparation and for their kind gift to each child. Also, a big thank you to last year's First Communicants' parents for preparing and serving the Communion Breakfast.

Fox Fisher, Adeline Chang, Arthur Audain, Amira Clarke, Matias Elyas, Isabelle Morizono-Zabala, Aiden Parker, Lucy Renwick, Osias Tuipulotu.

Congratulations and Prayerful Blessings to the nine 1st Communicants

"Our Eucharistic adoration comes alive when we take care of our neighbour like Jesus does. There is hunger for food around us, but also for companionship; there is hunger for consolation, friendship, good humour; there is hunger for attention, there is hunger to be evangelized. We find this in the Eucharistic Bread — Christ's attention to our needs and the invitation to do the same toward those who are beside us. We need to *eat* and *feed others*."

Pope Francis Angelus, 19 June 2022

Liturgy of the Word

This week: The Most Holy Body and Blood of Christ: Gen 14:18-20: Ps 109: 1 Cor 11:23-26: Lk 9:11-17

Psalm Response: You are a priest for ever, in the line of Melchizedek.

Next Week: St Peter & St Paul: Acts 12:1-11: Ps 33: 2 Tim 4:6-8, 17-18: Mt 16:13-19:



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 Blessed Sacrament Chapel.



Every Friday, during Jubilee Year 2025, there will be Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament for personal prayers between 6pm and 7pm. During this time there will be opportunity for the Sacrament of Reconciliation.

On the first Friday of each month, Adoration will resume after the 9:30am Mass, throughout the day, and conclude at 6.30pm and Holy Mass at 6.30pm. **All are welcome.**

Calling all youth aged 13-19 years old!!

Join us @ ALPHA FOR YOUTH from 27th July-14th Sept 2025 @St Tersea's church every Sunday from 11.30 to 1 pm.

We promise you great Connections, Awesome Conversations and Amazing Content! (Key message of faith) with food!

Registration is a must! You can also register at office@otariparish.co.nz

Baptisms in 2025

Baptisms in the parish will be administered either **during the Weekend Masses** or on the **First and Third Sundays of every month at 2.00pm.**

Divine Mercy Devotion

Chaplet of the Divine Mercy: prayed every Saturday evening from 5pm.

St Teresa's Church, Karori.

All welcome.



The Otari Parish JPD group can provide you with a link to make a submission to the select committee from a

Catholic Social Justice perspective on the Regulatory Standards Bill.

Please contact a JPD committee member whose details are available on our Parish Website.

Parish and Archdiocesan Events



Henare Walmsley, a parishioner of Te Ngakau Tapu Church, is an exponent of Taonga Pūoro and he shared his knowledge of Māori musical instruments with St Thomas More on Holy Trinity Sunday. It was a unique opportunity to listen to the traditional instruments of Te Ao Māori beginning with the putapura horn at the start of the mass. Henare joined Mark McGuinness and the Abenoja and Misa families to accompany our Sunday Mass and then explain the upcoming Matariki.



Celebrate the Jubilee Year 2025 – go on a pilgrimage!

Pray. Intercede. Support a Charitable Cause and enjoy community. Join the Family Pilgrim Walk for a Cause on Saturday, 28 June, the Memorial of the Immaculate Heart of Mary. Pilgrims will meet at Parliament, visit the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart then walk to St Mary of the Angels Church The National Shrine dedicated to Mary Assumed into Heaven for the culminating Mass at 11am.

Registration: \$15 (13yrs and up) Family Concession: \$50

Email info@marriageandfamily.org.nz Go to family-pilgrim-walk.raiselysite.com or scan the QR code on the poster in the foyer for more info and to register.

HOLY HOUR

You are invited to come to a Holy Hour on Tuesday 24 June at the Cathedral of the Sacred Heart beginning at 7.30 pm to pray for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Included in the hour will be prayers, praise and worship, scripture reading and silence, concluding with Benediction. All are welcome.



Readings

23-28 June
2025

Mon: Gen 12:1-9: Ps 32: Mt 7:1-5:

Tues: Is 49:1-6: Ps 138: Acts 13:22-26: Lk 1:57-66, 80:

Wed: Gen 15:1-12, 17-18: Ps 104: Mt 7:15-20:

Thurs: Gen 16:1-12, 15-16: Ps 105: Mt 7:21-29:

Friday: Ezek 34:11-16: Ps 22: Rom 5:5-11:

Sat: Gen 18:1-15: Lk 1: 46-50, 53-55: Mt 8:5-17:



Feast of the Most Sacred Heart of Jesus

You are warmly invited to attend a vigil Mass at the Sacred Heart Cathedral at 6pm celebrating the Parish Feast Day



Prayer Request

*Please pray for the sick,
For those who passed away recently and for those whose anniversaries occur about this time.*

What is the Mass?

The Mass is the summit of our spiritual life. It unites us as a community of believers who gather to remember the life, death, and resurrection of Jesus. We begin the Mass by signing ourselves with the sign of the Cross and then we acknowledge our failures and ask for God's mercy. Then we join together in offering praise to God.

In the readings and the homily, the Lord reveals himself to us. We see how God has interacted with human beings throughout history. We see how the Holy Spirit inspires and guides us in our own lives.

In gratitude for all that our gracious and loving God has done for us; we offer ourselves to God. We offer our strengths and weaknesses, our joys, our sorrows. We unite our offering with one sacrifice that Jesus made when he died on the Cross.

We watch in wonder as bread and wine are transformed into the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of Jesus. It is through this sacrifice that Jesus bestows upon us the grace of salvation. We pray together in the words that Jesus taught us, the Our Father. Then, we share a spiritual meal in communion with one another. We experience the Real Presence of Jesus. We give thanks for all the good things that the Lord has done for us.

At the end of the Mass, we are sent into the world to love and serve the Lord and one another.

Preparing for Mass

For some people in the parish, taking time to prepare for Mass is essential. The priest prepares a homily, lectors spend time reviewing the readings, the choir select the hymns that relate to the readings and practice. The Mass managers prepare the altar and church for the Mass, liturgy committee plan for the liturgy, someone does the flower arrangements and decorations, staff members make sure bulletin is ready for distribution, someone cleans the church, someone else offers hospitality etc. leading to the celebration the Mass.

But it is important to realize that everyone taking part in the Mass needs to prepare for it. The preparations that we make help us enter more deeply into the celebration of the Mass and achieve a more intimate union with Christ and the other members of the worshipping community. Here are a few simple things that might help us to prepare for Mass:

- Know why we are in the church.

- Reflect on the readings in advance.

- Think about our offerings at the Mass.

- See ourselves as part of the community.

- Spend some time in silence before the Mass begins.

- Think about what we are saying as we recite the prayers of the Mass.

- Be enthusiastic as we speak the words of the responses.

- Sing with our heart and soul.

- Pay close attention to the homily.

- Allow ourselves to feel a sense of awe during the consecration.

- Realize ourselves that we are receiving the Real Presence of Jesus during communion.

- Spend a few moments after communion and before we leave the church in silent meditation and prayer, thinking about what we experienced.

Happy Feast of the Corpus Christi