



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

21st June 2026

12th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Year A

Saint Thomas More — A Witness of Conscience



St Thomas More (1478–1535) was a gifted English lawyer, scholar, and statesman whose deep faith shaped his personal and public life. He was a devoted husband and father, who educated his daughters as well as his son. He eventually rose to become Lord Chancellor under King Henry VIII. When the King broke from the Church and demanded an oath denying the Pope's authority, More could not sign it in good conscience. He chose fidelity to God over political favour, knowing the cost. Imprisoned in the Tower of London, he was executed for treason on 6 July 1535. His final words expressed the heart of his witness: *"I die the King's good servant, and God's first."*

Canonised in 1935, St Thomas More is honoured as the patron saint of politicians, lawyers, public servants and all who seek to act with integrity in public life. His feast is celebrated on 22 June, together with St John Fisher. At the time St Thomas More Church in

Wilton was being built there were many young families moving into the area and so the suggestion was made to have a saint who valued family life. At the opening Cardinal McKeefry admitted that St Thomas More was one of his favourite saints.

THOMAS MORE, counsellor of law and statesman of integrity, merry martyr and most human of saints: **PRAY** that, for the glory of GOD and in the pursuit of His justice, I may be trustworthy with confidences, keen in study, accurate in analysis, correct in conclusion, able in argument, loyal to clients, honest with all, courteous to adversaries, ever attentive to conscience. Sit with me at my desk and listen with me to my clients' tales. Read with me in my library and stand always beside me so that today I shall not, to win a point, lose my soul.

PRAY that my family may find in me what yours found in you: friendship and courage, cheerfulness and charity, diligence in duties, counsel in adversity, patience in pain—their good servant, and God's first. **AMEN.**

This is an adaption of a prayer by Henry Bender, Jr., published in The Catholic Mind, Feb. 1951.

Come along to the 8:30 am Mass June 21 at St Thomas More Church to celebrate the feast day of this Church.

Liturgy of the Word

This week: 12th Sunday in Ordinary Time: Jer 20:10-13: Ps 68: Rom 5:12-15: Mt 10:26-33:
Psalm Response: *Lord, in your great love, answer me.*

Next Week: 13th Sunday in Ordinary Time: 2 kgs 4:8-11, 14-16: Ps 88: Rom 6:3-4, 8-11: Mt 10:37-42:

Upcoming Parish Events

Thank you to all parishioners who attended the Parish Annual General Meeting on Sunday. You can find the minutes and reports on the front page of the Parish Website www.otariparish.co.nz There will also be a limited number of copies in the church foyers.



Ōtari Parish Movie Fundraiser

Tickets are available to purchase after all Masses at St Teresa's & St Thomas More churches.

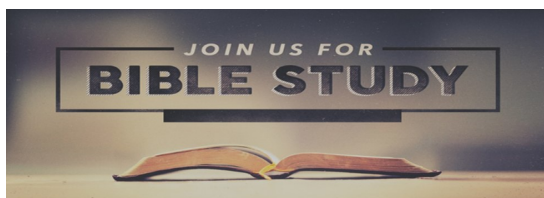
Tickets are \$25 and for Unwaged - \$15 each
The Refugee Family Reunification Trust recently paid for the cost of an airfare to bring a young woman from Myanmar – she arrived last week. They have just paid an airfare to bring a husband from Uganda to join his wife and daughter – he will arrive next week. Requests are ongoing and this fundraiser will help. A great cause and a perfect way to spend Sunday afternoon in the middle of winter.

Ōtari Parish Faith formation team

invites you to attend the last weekly Scripture study Thursday 25th June from 6.30pm-7.30pm in the Blessed Sacrament Chapel at St Teresa's church.

Please bring a bible!

We will be focusing on using the traditional Lectio Divina style for our programme.



OTARI PARISH YOUTH GROUP



Sunday, 21st June 2026

11:30am - 1pm

St. Teresa's Parish Hall



@reallygreatsite



Mark your diaries!
 Our next meeting will be held on Sunday 5th July at 11:15am. Venue to be confirmed.

Contact Treena bob_brucie@hotmail.com for further details.

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

Journey to become a Lay Franciscan

As a newcomer to the parish of St Vincent de Paul in Northland, I was introduced to the Franciscan Capuchin Order who at that time had administered the church for a few short years. A mother of five years and 4 children, I was delighted to know that the daily Mass was at 6.40am, which enabled me to attend and be home before Nelson, my husband, left for work.

The Friars, Fathers Agathangeles, Matthias, Eustace and Brother Keiran, of the Irish Province of Cork, were a 'breath of fresh air', visiting parishioners, organising social occasions and showing a great ecumenism to other churches in the area. It was they who introduced us to the World Day of Prayer, which is still today, more than 50 years later, celebrated with the Anglican Church in Northland.

Some 6 years later, in 1972, Father Matthew, a later parish priest, invited parishioners to come to the Friary one evening to learn more about St Francis of Assisi. Three of us turned up at the appointed time, when Father gave us a very informative rundown on the life of Francis and the fact that there was a Third Order involving lay people dedicated to following Christ in the footsteps of St Francis. He gave each a copy of a "Life of Francis" and invited us to return for further information should we so desire. We all did and undertook 6 months of Inquiry Sessions, leading to Profession 18 months later.

*Vonnie Nunns
3rd Order of St Francis of Assisi and Otari Parishioner.*

Launching into the Deep: Going into the Heart of Lay Formation and Leadership in the Church

This book, with a foreword from Cardinal John Dew, offers a rich and thoughtful reflection on lay formation and leadership in the Church. It includes the history of Launch Out and the development of Lay Pastoral Leaders in the Archdiocese of Wellington (ADW). This publication will be of particular interest to those involved in lay formation, pastoral leadership, church leadership, and ministry development. The book is now available in two formats:

- eBook (USD \$14) - Available via Amazon Kindle

- Hard copy (NZD \$20 + postage)

To order, please email Bridget directly at bybridget@xtra.co.nz Please feel free to share this information with others who may be interested.

More Catholic Tales Tour at Karori Cemetery

Saturday July 4 @ 2:00 pm - 3:30 pm

Includes visits to significant sites relating to our Catholic heritage, celebrating the lives of those who served the Church and community in Wellington and beyond.

There is a \$10 charge per person (plus non-refundable booking fee). Children under 12 are free. Good dogs are welcome!

For further information and to book a place on the tour see the **Friends of Karori Website: Tours**

<https://friendsofkaroricemetery.co.nz/event/more-catholic-tales-tour-3/>

Readings

22-27
June

2026

Mon: 2 Kg 17:5-8, 13-15, 18: Ps 59: Mt 7:1-5:

Tues: 2 Kg 19:9-11, 14-21, 31-36: Ps 47: Mt 7:6, 12-14:

Wed: The Nativity of John the Baptist.

Thurs: 2 Kg 24:8-17: Ps 78: Mt 7:21-29:

Friday: 2 Kg 25:1-12: Ps 136: Mt 8:1-4:

Sat: Lam 2:2, 10-14, 18-19: Ps 73: Mt 8:5-17:



Prayer Request

Please pray for Linda Szeto who is undergoing cancer treatment and 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 Delia McCaffrey for her faithful service over the many years she has been volunteering her time across various ministries.

Ōtari Parish needs YOU!

"Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord"

"We CAN'T be the guests in our parishes. We MUST be the hosts!"



What service is Jesus calling you to?

We ask you to please reflect on your talents this week and consider how you could contribute more to the life of our parish.

What service is Jesus calling you to?

- Altar Servers
- Caring for Altar linen
- Catholic Women's League
- Children's Liturgy
- Choir and Music Groups
- Church Cleaning Team
- Divine Mercy Group
- Eucharistic Ministers
- Extraordinary Ministers for rest homes and home visits
- Faith Formation Group
- Finance Committee
- Floral Displays Team
- Hospitality Team
- Liturgy Committee
- Mass Managers/Sacristans
- Ōtari Justice Peace and Development Group
- Ōtari Parish Refugee House Set-up Team
- Parish Pastoral Council
- Proclaimers of the Word
- Projectionists
- Sacramental Programme
- Young Adults Group
- Youth Group

Please contact the parish office if you have any questions or would like to be contacted by the leaders of the various ministries.