Catholic Parish of Ōtari

St Teresa's Church, Karori

Parish Priest: Fr Joy Raphal 476 6131 or 027 312 1869
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Parish Office: Catherine Vernon, Maria Nunns
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Office Hours: 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: 10.00am Karori
Weekdays: Tue-Fri 9.30am, Saturday 9.00am Reconciliation: Saturday 9.30—10.00am

22nd November 2026 Our Lord Jesus Christ, King of the Universe Year A

In this Sunday's readings we see Jesus identifying himself with the hungry, the thirsty, the stranger, the naked, the sick, and the imprisoned. Christ assures us that every merciful act offered to "the least" reaches him. The Shepherd who will judge us is the same Lord who patiently seeks us, and he teaches us to recognize his presence by becoming instruments of his care.
Pope Leo XIV has been talking a lot lately about wealth, responsibility, and the common good. In his November prayer intention, he encouraged Christians to think about money, time, talents, and opportunities not simply as things to accumulate, but as resources that can be used in service to others.

Pope Leo's message is that it doesn't require us to feel guilty for having resources. It asks us to remember what resources are for. They are tools, not identities, and certainly not proof that God likes us better. Like most tools, what matters is what we build with them.

- How much good can I do with what I've been given?
- How many people are better off because I was here?
- How much suffering did I help relieve?
- How much beauty did I help create?
- How much generosity did I put into the world?
- How many people knew they mattered because I treated them that way?

"*The most satisfying thing in life is to have been able to give a large part of one's self to others*." **Teilhard de Chardin** (French palæontologist, philosopher and Jesuit priest)
Dianne Glynan (Catholic Women's League)



Month of the Holy Souls

You are invited throughout November to place the names of loved ones in boxes/baskets in the Church foyers to be presented at Masses and prayed for.

Liturgy of the Word

This week: OUR LORD JESUS CHRIST, KING OF THE UNIVERSE
Response: *The Lord is my shepherd; there is nothing I shall want.*
Next week: First Sunday of Advent: Is 63:16-17; 64:1,3-8: Ps 79: 1 Cor 1:3-9: Mk 13:33-37:

Catholic Women's League Raffle Result:

First prize Mel Bello
Second prize Margaret West

Ōtari Parish Refugee Outreach

Last day for donations 29 November.
From the Ōtari Parish JPD Group (Justice Peace and Development Group)



Thank you to all who arranged and attended our Remembrance Mass on Wednesday.

May the souls of all the faithful departed rest in peace and may all those who grieve them know the consolation and love of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Prayer Requests

Please pray for Pope Leo and parishioners who are unwell. For those who have passed away recently and for John McCaffrey and Thai Mau' whose anniversaries occur around this time.

Readings: 23rd to the 28th November

Monday: Rev 14:1-5: Ps 23: Lk 21:1-4
Tuesday: Rev 14:14-19: Ps 95: Lk 21:5-11:
Wednesday: Rev 15:1-4: Ps 97: Lk 21:12-19:
Thursday: Rev 18:1-2, 21-23, 19:1-3, 9: Ps 99: Lk 21:20-28
Friday: Rev 20:1-4, 11-21:2: Ps 83: Lk 21:29-33
Saturday: Rev 22:1-7: Ps 94: Lk 21:34-36:

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament

On the first Friday of each month, Adoration will resume after the 9:30am Mass, throughout the day, and conclude with Mass at 6pm.
Exposition of Blessed Sacrament is from 8:30am and Holy Eucharist at 9:30am on weekdays (Except Monday) in the Chapel. All are welcome.

Upcoming Events



Sunday 29th November 2026
Please join us for the 10am Mass which includes the Sacrament of Confirmation for 9 of our young parishioners. Archbishop Paul will be presiding.
Please pray for our Confirmands.





GRECCIO: THE SONG – A Christmas Invitation - Saturday, 5 December | Allan Gibbs Centre, Wellington College, 7.30pm Evening Show.
Bring your family and friends to *Greccio: The Song*, Scan the QR code for tickets and support your parish. 25% of net ticket sales made through your parish link will be returned to the parish. (Full details on poster attached). For enquiries: vineyardhouse.nz@gmail.com

Parish Moves Forward with Planning for the Future of St Teresa's Church

18/11/2026

The Parish Finance Committee has approved the next stage of planning for the refurbishment and seismic strengthening of St Teresa's Church.

This next phase will involve the preparation of professional concept designs and reports that will examine the structural and architectural work required to improve the church's long-term resilience and address identified building issues. The concept design work will consider seismic strengthening, roof renewal, window replacement, and building envelope improvements as part of an integrated refurbishment approach.

Alongside this work, a Quantity Surveyor will prepare cost estimates to provide the parish with a more detailed understanding of the likely costs associated with the project and the options available.

It is expected that this phase of work will take approximately two months to complete. The resulting reports will provide parish leadership with a clearer understanding of the scope, sequencing, and estimated costs of the work before any decisions are made regarding construction.

The parish is committed to taking a careful and responsible approach to the stewardship of St Teresa's Church. The purpose of the current planning work is to ensure that future decisions are based on sound professional advice and a full understanding of both the technical requirements and financial implications.

St Teresa's Church remains open for worship and parish activities while this planning work is undertaken. Any future decisions regarding construction timing or temporary closure during building works will be communicated well in advance.

The Parish Finance Committee and Property Refurbishment Committee will continue to keep parishioners informed as further information becomes available.

We thank parishioners for their continued interest, patience, and support as we work towards ensuring St Teresa's Church remains a safe, resilient, and welcoming place of worship for future generations.

The Parish Leadership Team