



St. Francis de Sales
8 Finchley Rd, Torbay

NEWSLETTER

PARISH TEAM:

Priest:

Fr Carlo Cruz - Parish Priest
fr.carlo@ecbcatholic.org.nz

Deacon:

David Marshall
deacondavenz@me.com

Office:

Beate Matthies
Operations & Finance Manager
beate@ecbcatholic.org.nz

Bushra Bashouri
Office & Communications Assistant
bushra@ecbcatholic.org.nz

Dewshan Fernando
Liturgy Coordinator
dewshan@ecbcatholic.org.nz

PARISH OFFICE:

Phone: 09 478-4565
Website: www.eastcoastbayscatholic.org.nz
Email: office@ecbcatholic.org.nz
Address: 395 East Coast Rd, Mairangi Bay
The Parish Office is located at the back of St. John's Church and is open Mondays—Fridays, 10am—1pm

ADORATION:

1st Friday/month: 6-9pm at St. John's
Thursdays: 10.30-11.30am St. Francis

RECONCILIATION:

St. Francis: Saturdays, 8.00-8.45am
St. John's: Saturdays, 4.30-5.15pm

MASS TIMES:

	ST FRANCIS	ST JOHN'S
Monday*		9.15am
Tuesday*	10.00am	-
Wednesday -		9.15am
Thursday	10.00am	-
Friday	-	9.15am
Saturday	9.00am	5.30pm
Sunday	7.30am, 10.30am	9.00am

*Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion
except on Feast Days, there will be a Mass.

MONTHLY MASSES:

CHILDREN : 3rd Sunday: 9.00am Mass
St. John's Church. Children to please arrive by 8.30am. Contact Lindy lindy@willplan.co.nz
if you would like to receive a reminder email.

WEDDING ANNIVERSARY :

1st Friday/month at 6pm -
followed by Adoration—St John's

RETIREMENT VILLAGES

3rd Friday/month: Fairview 11.00am
4th Friday/month: Hugh Green 11.00am

FURTHER CONTACTS:

Children's Liturgy: Bill barsfamily@xtra.co.nz
Passionist Family Groups: Shelley & Graham
Ward 027 3886114 gandward@xtra.co.nz
Music: Matt matthewdavis26@hotmail.com
RCIA: rcia@ecbcatholic.org.nz
Safeguarding: Iona safeguarding@ecbcatholic.org.nz
Baptisms: baptism@ecbcatholic.org.nz
Secular Franciscans: Lysa 021 612171
St. Vincent de Paul: Anne G. 027 3210729
Youth: Dina & Tam youth@ecbcatholic.org.nz



St. John the Baptist
87 Hastings Rd, Mairangi Bay

EAST

REFLECTION FOR THE SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: Fr Carlo

A man once stood at a busy crossroads, watching hundreds of people pass by every day. Most faces blended together, but one morning he noticed someone different—not because of noise or attention, but because of a quiet presence that carried purpose. That moment of recognition changed how he understood the world around him.

John the Baptist experiences a similar moment. Seeing Jesus approach, he names him the Lamb of God, the one who takes away the sin of the world. John admits that he did not fully know who Jesus was at first; understanding came through obedience and attentiveness to the Spirit. His role was not to draw attention to himself, but to point clearly and faithfully to Christ. This passage reminds us that God often reveals himself not all at once, but through watching, listening, and trusting.



Lord, open our eyes to see You at work around us. Give us attentive hearts, like John the Baptist, willing to listen to Your Spirit and point others toward You. Help us trust Your revelation even when we do not fully understand. Amen.



For all baptised children aged between 7 years and 18 years as of June 2026, who would like to register.

Please visit parish [website](#) for more information and to express your interest.

**Registration ends on
Thursday, 05 February 2026**



Fr Carlo will be away for his holiday in the Philippines from Monday, 19 January until Tuesday, 17 February. We wish him safe travels.

Masses will be as normal. The Celebrants will be announced in the upcoming newsletters. Vigil Masses will be celebrated by Fr Emile.

Next Adoration in St Francis Church:
Thursday, 19 February 2026.

Adoration in St John's Church:
Friday, 06 February 2026, 6-9pm.

Next Evening & Anniversary Mass
Friday, 06 March, 6pm, St John's Church.



Upcoming Parish Events

Sunday, 25 January, Feast of St Francis the Sales, morning tea after 10.30am Mass, St Francis Church.

Saturday, 14 February, RCIA Rite of Sending, 5.30pm St John's Church.

Tuesday, 24 February, Formation Evening. Everyone is encouraged to attend the *Reshaping* Session in St Joseph's, Takapuna, 7-9pm

18/01/26 2nd Sunday In Ordinary Time

Ps.40, P47

1. Isaiah 49:3,5-6
2. 1Corinthians 1:1-3
- Gospel John 1:29-34

25/01/26 3rd Sunday In ordinary Time

Ps.27, P36

1. Isaiah 8:23,9:3
2. 1Corinthians 1:10-13,17
- Gospel Matthew 4:12-23

CATHOLIC SCHOOL PREFERENCE FORMS

Fr Carlo will be available to sign the forms for parishioners on **Wednesdays between 10.30am -12 noon for a 10 minute slot**

Please make an appointment:

office@ecbcatholic.org.nz

No appointments until Wednesday, 18 Feb 2026

Please remember our sick in your prayers

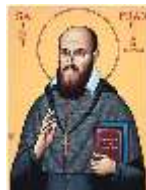
Jenny F; Jenny J; Kim C; Jean A; Jim A; Peggy J; Wayne L; Louise D; Maria J; Kevin D; Wan L; Cooper; Cecile A; Emmy H; Elizabeth W; Oliver H; Pam W; Evelyn D; Heath B; Wolfgang Von S; Diane S; Sarah B; Key Sg; Verity R; Rima S; Pat G.; Anna J; Mary J; Wane J; Michelle P; Ross C; Miles C.; Iain R.; Kyle P.; Audrea W; Leo K; J.D Maureen A; Marion W; Robert W.; Julie Th; Shenal G; K L; Mary J.; Ghada B.; Ann J.; Joanna R.; Daniel M.; Sebastian Z.
Please let us know if you need prayers.



Morning Tea All are welcome

After 9.00am Mass at St John's Church, contact Nicki on 0211198153 if you would like to be part of the team.

On 25 January, after 10.30am Mass at St Francis Church, there will be a special morning tea to celebrate the Feast of St Francis de Sales. Please bring a plate to share. All are invited.
Thank you



Passionist Family Group

Are you thinking of joining a **Passionist Family Group**? If so, [please get in touch with us](#).

The rest of your group is waiting to meet YOU! Please contact Shelley & Graham on 0273 886 114, put your enrolment form in the collection basket or contact the [office](#).



Have you recently changed your address or contact details?

Are you new to the parish?

Would like to receive our notices and newsletters by email?

Would you like to support us? Please help us to keep the database up-to-date.

[Please register with the parish](#)



RIP

Rest in Peace



Our condolences to the family of **Paul Gillespie** who passed away last week. Eternal rest grant unto him, O Lord. Let perpetual light shine upon him.

MASS MINISTRIES:

24/25 January 2026

5.30pm: St. John's

Sacristan: Margaret McL., Farida T.

Greeter (Door): Lynne B.

Projectionist: Xavier H.

Welcome/Prayers: Nicky J.

Readers: Lindsay B., Tam F.

Holy Communion: Tusi H.,

Amanda Dixon-McL., Jennifer K.

Joanna N., Mary H.

Altar Servers: Teresa & Elena R.,

Hara K., Meredith F.

7.30am: St. Francis

Sacristan: Lynne S.

Greeter (Door): Paul D'S.

Projectionist: Kevin D.

Welcome/Prayers: Lynne S.

Readers: Vicky R., Emma A.

Holy Communion: Rosana P., Linda A., Rodney J.

Altar Servers: Isabella J & Declan J.

9.00am: St. John's

Sacristan: Richard B., Dewshan F.

Greeter (Door): Ricardo Sch.

Projectionist: Emma G.

Welcome/Prayers: Blaize D'S.

Readers: Daniella B.

Holy Communion: Blair O'B., Carla F.,

Ricardo Sch., Donna P., Beverley H.

Altar Servers: Malachi & Joshua

Sch., Jason O., Pippa A.

10.30am: St. Francis

Sacristan: Lynne L.

Greeter (Door): Hilda D.

Projectionist: John D.

Welcome/Prayers: Chris N.

Readers: Greg L., Marytes T.

Holy Communion: Lynne L., Michael Y., Sandra F.

Altar Servers: Lorenzo M., Rickson K., Madeline A.

A big Thank You to all who participated during Christmas and New Year's Masses, especially the Volunteers who supported before, during and after Masses. God Bless you for your faithful service.



Formation Evenings

every 4th Tuesday of the Month

Tuesday, 24 February 7-9pm, Reshaping in the Spirit of Synodality—St Joseph's, Takapuna. All are invited to attend.

Tuesday, 24 March, Lenten reflection. Speaker TBC

Tuesday, 28 April, Bible Society, St John's Church. TBC.

Tuesday, 26 May, Mary Untier of Knots, St John's Church.

Regular Parish Activities

The Craft and Friendship Group, every Wednesday, 1-3pm, Fr Quinn's Chapel, St John's Church (Judith 0278252319 or Ally 0211077980), All welcome.

The Living Water Prayer Group, every Monday, 7.15-9.00pm, St John's (Nola 0276666857 or Maurice 02102525371)

Meditation Group, every Monday after Liturgy of the Word, If you are interested in joining our Group, please get in touch [with us](#). The location might change short term.

The Secular Franciscans, every 2nd Sunday/month, 4pm, St John's (Lysa 021 612171)

Legion of Mary, every Wednesday, 4.30-5.30pm, St John's.

White Flower Café, every Tuesday, 9.30-11.30am, 88 Clyde Rd

Bible Study for Young Adults aged 19 to 35, every Friday except 1st Friday of the month, 7-9pm, Mike Byrne Room, St Francis Church contact Levi Sharpe youth@ecbcatholic.org.nz

Collections/ Donations

Collection (08 January – 14 January): \$11,720.04

General Donations/Fundraising: \$72.30

Fundraising Roof (Total): \$39,978.20,

The costs for the repair were: \$51,566.00

Fundraising Screens (Total): \$8,809.80

The cost for the screens in both Churches: \$21,805.85

Current Fundraising projects:

1. Roof St John's: **"Roof"**

2. TV Screens for the Churches: **"Screens"**

3. Presbytery upgrade: **"Presbytery"**

If you can, please continue to donate to these huge costs by using the references above.

Donations to *East Coast Bays Parish*:

02-0108-0707702-000 (BNZ).

Please indicate your gifting number for a donation receipt at the end of the financial year.

For any questions, contact beate@ecbcatholic.org.nz

PayWave Machines are available at the back of both Churches.

The money raised through PayWave on the first weekend of the month will be used for maintenance.

Columban Calendars 2026

\$15 each

They are available in the Office and at the back of both Churches

Bible Diaries 2026, \$25 each, only 2 copies left in the office.



Is God calling you to walk in the footsteps of St Francis of Assisi?

The Secular Franciscans meet at St John's Church every 2nd Sunday of the month at 4pm.



Gift Shop

We have a great variety of Rosaries and Wood Craft items, as well as Holy Water bottles and much more.

Opening hours: Mon– Fri, 10am-1pm.

Please contact the [office](#) for appointments outside the opening hours.



Lost & Found

There are lots of drink bottles, (sun) glasses and even kid's shoes in our lost & found property box in the office.

Please note that we will keep items for one month only. After that, they will be discarded or donated to the Vinnies Shop.



Baptism dates:

1st Saturday/month, 11am at St John's

Next Baptism Course

03 March 2026, 7.00-8.30 pm

Please note that there will be **No Baptism** in the Parish in January 2026 and during Lent.

Upcoming Baptism dates:

Saturday, 07 Feb 2026 and Saturday, 02 May 2026

For further information, please [see the website](#).

To Register: baptism@ecbcatholic.org.nz

ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

We are currently in need of tinned fish, rice, weetbix, sandwich spreads and coffee.

Thank you very much for all the wonderful donations. If you would like to make a monetary donation our bank account is

- 12-3059-0241398-00, Name: St Vincent de Paul

Society. Email your details to: treasurersvdpceb@gmail.com

for a receipt. If you, or someone you know, might benefit from a helping hand, please contact Debbie in confidence for a food bag or other assistance.

Ph 021 745 225. We are here to help.



Bible Study for Youth Adults (19-35y) Fridays, 7-9pm

(Except on the 1st Friday of the month).

Location: Mike Byrne Room

St Francis Church. [Register here](#).

Contact: Levi Sharpe youth@ecbcatholic.org.nz



Please **DO NOT** double park in the car park and block the access for drop-offs and Emergency vehicles. Additional Parking for those attending **St John's Masses on the weekends** is available on the school netball court, please take **Penzance Rd** and drive beyond the School Hall to park.



Titipounamu Study & Joy

Tabernacles - where to place them?

Franciscan Renaissance with Patrick Carolan Monday, 16 February 2026, 7-8pm. Zoom (Koha/Donation).

Register to receive the Zoom

link: www.studyjoy.nz/2026/01/08/franciscan-renaissance/

Muffin Talks 2025. Shippets of interview recordings from 2025.

www.studyjoy.nz/2026/01/01/muffin-talk-2025/

For more information: www.studyjoy.nz



Facebook/Videos: Pictures might be taken at special events. Please let us know if you don't like your personal photos to appear on social media.

Thank you



DIOCESAN NEWS & NEWS from the VATICAN

Weekly Mass on Shine TV

Next broadcast:
Sunday, 01 Feb. 2-3pm
 Free to air Channel 25
 Sky Channel 201

Each Saturday evening at 5.30pm Sunday Mass is available for viewing. Check out [the link](#).



Liturgy magazine by the Diocesan Liturgy Centre is available [online and for free](#). For queries contact: liturgycentre@cda.org.nz

Auckland Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group Network

Praise in the Park
 15 February 26, 4-6pm
 Selwyn Domain, Mission Bay, Auckland
 For more details visit PRAISEINTHEPARK.NZ



North Shore - Reshaping in the Spirit of Synodality

Tuesday, 24 February 2026

7.00-9.00 pm

St Joseph Takapuna

10 Dominion St, Takapuna

An opportunity for leaders of faith communities to explore what it means to walk together and listen to one another as major decisions are made.

Registration essential <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/reshaping-in-the-spirit-of-synodality/>



"I Will Give You Rest"

Friday, 06 March 2026

World Day of Prayer is an international movement of

Christian people in many different traditions that have a continuing relationship of prayer and service. People from various denominations gather in one another's churches to celebrate, using a Worship Service prepared by women of a different country each year. Women, men and young people share the language, customs and music of that country, right around the globe. <https://www.worlddayofprayer.org.nz/>



Pope LEO XIV:

"God loves us, God loves you all, and evil will not prevail! We are all in God's hands. Therefore, without fear, united hand in hand with God and each other – let us go forward."



For more info from the Vatican News and Pope Leo XIV Visit:

<https://www.vaticannews.va/en/>

St Joseph's Gift Shop. Come see us at our new location in Albany Village or visit us online at www.stjosephscentre.co.nz



Rosmini College Enrolments for 2027

For all enrolment enquiries please contact Eunice Barnard on 09 488 3750 or email enquiries@rosmini.school.nz



Carmel College Enrolments for 2027

Open 27 January 2026
 Close 13 March 2026

Any questions to Jane Meurant
admin@carmel.school.nz

Gospel for kidz
 A Religious Education Resource for Parishes



Kidz Corner
 For info click [here](#)

Marriage and Family Life Marriage Preparation

Engaged / Planning a wedding?

Catholic Diocese of Auckland - Approved Marriage Preparation Course. Book your Course early, 1 year and 18 months for overseas wedding. Register & Book here: <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/discipleship/our-courses/>. For more information contact: Gerry at: gerrys@cda.org.nz M: 021 02247442



Diocesan Youth & Young Adult Ministry:

www.facebook.com/AKCYM, www.instagram.com/acym2

Catholic University Chaplaincy:

Contact Daniel – daniels@cda.org.nz