

St. Francis de Sales
8 Finchley Rd, Torbay

NEWSLETTER

PARISH TEAM:

Priest:

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

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
E-mail: office@ecbcatholic.org.nz
Address: 395 East Coast Rd, Mairangi Bay
The Parish Office is located at the back of St. Johns 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. Johns: 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 youth@ecbcatholic.org.nz



St. John the Baptist
87 Hastings Rd, Mairangi

REFLECTION FOR THE FOURTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: Fr Carlo

The Greek philosopher Aristotle wrote, "Happiness is that which everybody seeks." He also observes that everything people do is what they believe will bring them happiness. But the problem is that what we think will bring us happiness does not in fact always bring us true and lasting happiness. So Aristotle says that the ethical person knows and does what can truly bring them not just excitement but true and lasting happiness.

Another word for true and lasting happiness is "blessedness" or "beatitude." In the Sermon on the Mount, Jesus shows that He wants His followers to have true and lasting happiness, the happiness that the world cannot give. The eight beatitudes constitute a road map for anyone seeking to attain this true happiness.

If the world were asked to draw up the "Beatitudes of the 21st Century," we would get a list very different from that which Jesus gives.

"Blessed are the poor in spirit" would become "Blessed are the rich."

"Blessed are those who mourn" would become "Blessed are those having fun."

"Blessed are the meek" would become "Blessed are the smart."

"Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness" would become "Blessed are those who wine and dine."

"Blessed are the merciful" would become "Blessed are the powerful."

"Blessed are the pure in heart" would become "Blessed are the slim in body."

We see that Jesus' values are counter-cultural. We cannot accept His teachings and at the same time accept all the values of our society. The question for us today, therefore, is this: "Do we live our lives following the values of the world as a way of attaining happiness or do we live by the teachings of Jesus? If you live by the teachings of Jesus, then "rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven."

*Lord, I feel that I am still far from attaining the happiness You intend for me.
Cleanse my heart and mind so that I will be able to follow You and hear You
one day say to me, "Blessed are you."*



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 until Tue, 17 February.
Reconciliation & Vigil Masses: Fr Emile.

St Francis Church

Saturday, 31 Jan, 8am Reconciliation and 9am Mass & **Sunday, 01 Feb**, 7.30am Mass - Fr Daniel Kulangara.

Sunday, 01 Feb, 10.30am Mass - Fr Lio Rotor

St John's Church

Saturday, 31 Jan, 4.30pm Reconciliation and 5.30pm Mass - Fr Emile

Sunday, 01 Feb, 9am Mass, Msgr David Tonks

Adoration in St John's Church:

Friday, 06 February 2026, 6-9pm.

Next Adoration in St Francis Church:

Thursday, 19 February 2026.

Next Evening & Anniversary Mass

Friday, 06 March, 6pm, St John's Church.



01/02/26 4th Sunday In ordinary Time

Ps.146, P155

1. Zephaniah 2:3;3:12-13
 2. 1Corinthians 1:26-31
- Gospel Matthew 5:1-12

08/02/26 5th Sunday In ordinary Time

Ps.112, P122

1. Isaiah 58:7-10
 2. 1Corinthians 2:1-5
- Gospel Matthew 5:13-16

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 9am Mass, St John's Church. It will be organised by The South African Community.

After 10.30am Mass, St Francis Church, it will be organised by the Sri Lankan Community.



Presentation

Saturday, 31 January
5.30pm, St John's Church

We welcome to the Christian Community

Hailey Rose du Piesanie,
Luca Anne Mitchell



Upcoming Parish Events

Friday, 06 Feb, Adoration 6-9pm, St John's 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

Children Liturgy of the Word St Francis Church

Starting Sunday, 15 February,
during 10.30am Mass

All school children are welcome to join.



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](#).



Old Palms

Please bring your last year's Blessed Palms and place them in the baskets at the back of both churches by the weekend **Sat/Sun, 14/15 Feb**, to prepare the ashes for **Ash Wednesday, 18 Feb**.



MASS MINISTRIES:

07 Feb/08 Feb 2026

5.30pm: St. John's

Sacristan: Amanda Dixon-McI.

Greeter (Door): Amanda Dixon-McI.

Projectionist: Xavier H.

Welcome/Prayers: Anastasia B.

Readers: Amanda Dixon-McI.,
Ethan E.

Holy Communion: Joanna N., Shaun
du P., Jennifer K., Joshua G.

Altar Servers: Elena & Teresa R.,
Pasene M., Rashane de M.

7.30am: St. Francis

Sacristan: Lynne S.

Greeter (Door): Edna J.

Projectionist: Sophia P.

Welcome/Prayers: Paul D'S.

Readers: Lynne S., Carlo P.

Holy Communion: Linda A., Yong D.,
Emma A.,

Altar Servers: Declan & Isabella J.

9.00am: St. John's

Sacristan: Rose W.

Greeter (Door): Volunteer

Projectionist: Elizabeth O'B.

Welcome/Prayers: Lawrence R.

Readers: Martin B., Maureen O'B.

Holy Communion: Maurice L., Mike
W., Pria P., Ronin P., Mark W.

Altar Servers: Isaac & Lachlan O'B.,
Irene R.

10.30am: St. Francis

Sacristan: Shiela T.

Greeter (Door): Hilda D.

Projectionist: John D.

Welcome/Prayers: Greg L.

Readers: Nonnah N., Theresa M.

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

Altar Servers: Rickson K., Madeline
A.

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](#)



Formation Evenings

Every 4th Tuesday of the Month, 7-8pm, St John's Church

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.

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 to join and share Friendship, next meeting, Wed, 11Feb.

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 (22 January – 28 January): \$8,889.24

General Donations/Fundraising: \$1,121.20

Fundraising Roof (Total): \$40,343.20,

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

Fundraising Screens (Total): \$8,910.80

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.

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, rings, 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.



Columban Calendars 2026
now **\$10** each.



Bible Diaries 2026
now **\$15** each.
only 2 copies left in the office.

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, Cereal, Fruit, Pasta Sauce, Beetroot, Corn, Noodles, Coffee, and Snack biscuits.

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: treasurersvdpecb@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.

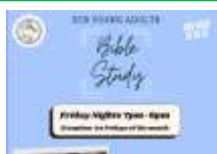
Bible Study for Youth Adults (19-35y) Fridays, 7-9pm

(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.



For our Nation on Waitangi Day

That we will always be focusing on unity, healing, to build a peaceful and just nation, rooted in justice, partnership, and mutual Respect.



Titipounamu Study & Joy



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/

Crisis Pregnancy & Healing. Interview with Catherine Gillies.

www.studyjoy.nz/2026/01/18/crisis-pregnancy-healing-muffin-talk-with-catherine-gillies/

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 photo 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](#).

PRAY MASS
 Sundays @ 2pm
SHINE TV
 Free-to-air TV Channel 25
 SKY TV Channel 201

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

Divine Mercy Devotion & Mass on Fri, 6 Feb
 7:00pm at St Mary's Parish, Mt Albert.
 Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament, Chaplet of Mercy Sung, Benediction, Mass, followed by Veneration of St Faustina's relic. All Welcome.

Auckland Catholic Charismatic Prayer Group Network

Praise in the Park
15 February 2026, 4-6pm
 Selwyn Domain, Mission Bay, Auckland
 For more details visit PRAISEINTHEPARK.NZ



Celebrating Marriage & Family Life St Valentine's Mass

Sat, 14th Feb 5.30pm, Cathedral of St Patrick and St Joseph. Everyone is welcome
 For info contact Jerry on 02102247442

Safeguarding Online Workshop

Thur, 19 Feb 7.00-8.30pm
 For more information and to get the Microsoft Teams Online Link, contact Lisa-May Gray lisam@cda.org.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
 Registration essential <https://www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz/reshaping-in-the-spirit-of-synodality/>



40 Days for Life
 Offering hope to mothers in their hour of need.
 From **Ash Wed, 14 Feb, to Palm Sunday 24 March**
 Street vigil: Tue, Wed, Thu 7am-12noon, Mt Eden.
 For more info contact Simon 021400729 or simon@fli.org.nz



"I Will Give You Rest"

Friday, 06 March 2026
Trinity Waiake (Methodist Church)
 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. For info visit: <https://www.worlddayofprayer.org.nz/>



Rosmini College Enrolments 2027
 For all enrolment enquiries, please contact Eunice Barnard on 09 488 3750 or email enquiries@rosmini.school.nz
<https://www.rosmini.school.nz/enrolment/>



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](#)

Pope LEO XIV:

"And the Church, if she wants to be a Church of the Beatitudes, one that makes room for the little ones and walkspoor with the poor, a place where the poor have a privileged place."

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