



**St. Francis de Sales**  
8 Finchley Rd, Torbay

## NEWSLETTER

### PARISH TEAM:

#### Priest:

**Fr Carlo Cruz** - Parish Priest  
[fr.carlo@ecbcatholic.org.nz](mailto:fr.carlo@ecbcatholic.org.nz)

#### Office:

**Beate Matthies**  
Operations & Finance Manager  
[beate@ecbcatholic.org.nz](mailto:beate@ecbcatholic.org.nz)

**Bushra Bashouri**  
Office & Communications Assistant  
[bushra@ecbcatholic.org.nz](mailto:bushra@ecbcatholic.org.nz)

**Dewshan Fernando**  
Liturgy Coordinator  
[dewshan@ecbcatholic.org.nz](mailto:dewshan@ecbcatholic.org.nz)

### PARISH OFFICE:

**Phone:** 09 478-4565  
**Website:** [www.eastcoastbayscatholic.org.nz](http://www.eastcoastbayscatholic.org.nz)  
**E-mail:** [office@ecbcatholic.org.nz](mailto: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](mailto: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

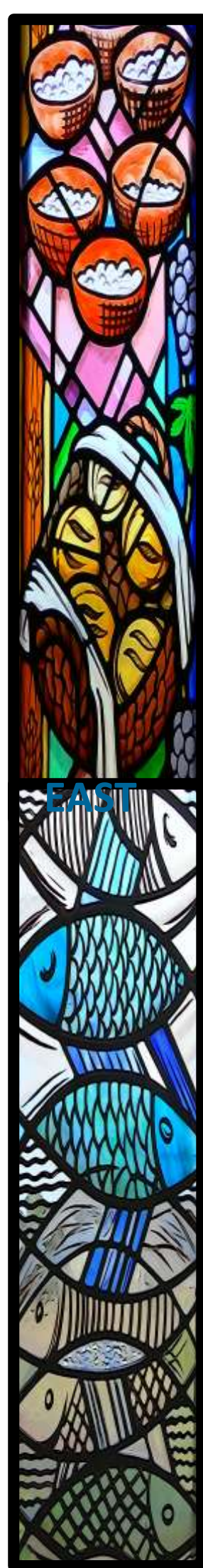
**3rd Friday/month:** Fairview 11.00am  
**4th Friday/month:** Hugh Green 11.00am

### FURTHER CONTACTS:

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



**St. John the Baptist**  
87 Hastings Rd, Mairangi Bay



## REFLECTION FOR THE SIXTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME: Fr Carlo

Valentine's is still in the air. Surely, we all have our own love stories and no matter how or where they may have led or ended, we still continue to love. Today, Jesus wants us to see everyone and everything in His context of love by citing three commandments, that is, forbidding murder, adultery, and oaths.

A law has meaning and worth when the dignity of a person is upheld. This is why Jesus mentioned first the fifth commandment in His sermon on the mount: "You shall not kill." Jesus skipped Commandments 1 to 4 in His sermon on the mount not because they are unimportant but because the fifth commandment expresses the inviolability of life. When we truly love, we do not simply give up on anyone, whether a baby in the womb, an aged or bedridden sick person, or a criminal languishing in jail. Love is always life-giving.

In preserving and respecting life, we have to examine our hearts to see how we truly regard one another: "You shall not commit adultery." Jesus is telling us that in reality, there is no difference between man and woman as the same duties bind the one with the other in marriage or even in simple relationships. When we love, we love the total person and not just a part of him or her.

Finally, Jesus reminds us also to love truly in word and in deed: "But I say to you, do not swear at all." Of God's creations, we humans are the only ones gifted with the ability to communicate intelligibly which is, in fact, a sharing in God's mighty powers. When God created everything, He simply spoke and they came to be. Such is the power of words.



*Lord Jesus, help us use our freedom wisely by choosing what is good, choosing life, choosing to love always in You. Open our hearts to welcome God's wisdom that the world could neither understand nor accept because it is You, who is the perfect embodiment of His love for us. You are the law of love we must follow. Amen.*

**Ash Wednesday Masses,  
18 February  
St John's Church  
9.15am Mass & 6pm Mass**



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.



**Last opportunity to Register**

Fr Carlo will be back on Tue, 17 February.  
**Reconciliation & Vigil Masses:** Fr Emile.

**St Francis Church**

**Saturday, 14 Feb,** 8am Reconciliation and 9am Mass, Fr Daniel Kulangara.

**Sunday, 15 Feb,** 7.30am Mass and 10.30am Mass - Fr Glenn Lowe and Deacon Stephen Fraser preaching.

**St John's Church**

**Saturday, 14 Feb,** 4.30pm Reconciliation and 5.30pm Mass - Fr Emile

**Sunday, 08 Feb,** 9am Mass, Fr James Mulligan

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

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



**15/02/26 6th Sunday In ordinary Time**

Ps.119, P130  
1. Esuc. 15:15-20  
2. 1Corinthians 2:6-10  
Gospel Matthew 5:17-37

**22/02/26 1st Week of Lent**

Ps.51, P360  
1. Genesis 2:7-9,3:1-7  
2. Romans 5: 12-19  
Gospel Matthew 4:1-11

### 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](mailto:office@ecbcatholic.org.nz)

### 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; Marion W; Robert W.; Julie Th; Shenal G;  
K L; Mary J.; Ghada B.; Ann J.; Joanna R.;  
Daniel M.; Sebastian Z.; K. L., Liz G.  
**Please let us know if you need prayers.**



## Morning Tea All are welcome

After 9am Mass, St John's Church, contact Nicki on 0211198153 if you would like to be part of the team.

After 10.30am Mass, St Francis Church, morning tea will be organised by the Filipino Group.



## Celebrating the Rite of Sending

Our Parish family is growing!

On Saturday 14th February, at the 5.30pm Vigil Mass, we will celebrate a special milestone: the Rite of Sending—for our OCIA / RCIA catechumens and candidates.

Having discerned God's call within our community, they are now being "sent forth" to Bishop Steve for the Rite of Election and Call to Continuing Conversion on Sunday, 22 February at the Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph.

As they take this significant step toward the Easter Sacraments, we ask for your continued prayers. Our role as a parish is to be their witnesses and their support; please join us in welcoming them as they say "yes" to the journey ahead.

## Upcoming Parish Events

**Saturday, 14 February**, RCIA Rite of Sending during the 5.30pm Mass, St John's Church. Please join if you can.

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

**Saturday, 28 February**, RCIA Lenten Retreat, 3-5pm St John's School Hall.

## Stations of the Cross

**St Francis Church**; every Friday during Lent, at 7pm.  
**St John's Church**; Friday 20 & 27 February and 20 & 27 March, at 7pm.

## MASS MINISTRIES:

**21 Feb/22 Feb 2026**

**5.30pm: St. John's**

**Sacristan:** Mary H.

**Greeter (Door):** Amanda Dixon-McI

**Projectionist:** Xavier H.

**Welcome/Prayers:** Joshua G.

**Readers:** Ethan E., Amanda Dixon – McI

**Holy Communion:** Jennifer K., Tusi H., Joanna N., Lindsay B., Maria N.

**Altar Servers:** Sophie H., Alexander Mc., Oscar Ch., Meesol T.

**7.30am: St. Francis**

**Sacristan:** Lynne S.

**Greeter (Door):** Volunteer

**Projectionist:** Kevin D.

**Welcome/Prayers:** Lynne S.

**Readers:** Linda B., Paul D'S.

**Holy Communion:** Emma A., Rosana P. Linda A.

**Altar Servers:** Declan and Isabella J.

**9.00am: St. John's**

**Sacristan:** Rose W.

**Greeter (Door):** Ricardo Sch.

**Projectionist:** Lucy K.

**Welcome/Prayers:** Martin B.

**Readers:** Maurice L., Michael B.

**Holy Communion:** Ricardo Sch., Blair O'B., Cheyse M., Kevin O'C., Mike W.

**Altar Servers:** Malachi & Joshua Sch., Ava F., Millie Y.

**10.30am: St. Francis**

**Sacristan:** Helen S.

**Greeter (Door):** Hilda D.

**Projectionist:** John D.

**Welcome/Prayers:** Mary Y.

**Readers:** Catherine van V., Chris N.

**Holy Communion:** Michael Y., Barry R., Stephanie R.

**Altar Servers:** Rickson K.

## 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 with Dianna Fouhy

**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.

**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](mailto:youth@ecbcatholic.org.nz)

### Collections/ Donations

Collection (05 February – 11 February): \$7,257.40

General Donations/Fundraising: \$277.40

Fundraising Roof (Total): \$40,388.20,

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

Fundraising Screens (Total): \$8,980.80

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](mailto: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 (incl. crosses), 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.



### Old Palms

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



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

**Bible Diaries 2026**  
now **\$15** each.

only 1 copy left in the office.



### Children's Liturgy of the Word St Francis Church

Starting this Sunday, 15 February,  
during 10.30am Mass.

All school children are welcome to join.



### 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 during Lent.

### Upcoming Baptism dates:

**Saturday, 02 May 2026, Saturday, 06 June**

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

To Register: [baptism@ecbcatholic.org.nz](mailto:baptism@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

**Franciscan Renaissance**

with Patrick Carolan (live from USA)

**Monday, 16 February 2026, 7-8pm. Zoom**

(Koha/Donation). Register to receive the

Zoom link: [www.studyjoy.nz/2026/01/08/franciscan-renaissance/](http://www.studyjoy.nz/2026/01/08/franciscan-renaissance/)



**Stations of the Cross** Will you be praying the Stations of the Cross this year? We have produced a small booklet (A6) that is easy to use and is based on NZ carved stations focusing on the hands. Available in 5 languages. For more information, see: <https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/08/11/reflection-on-wood-carvings/>

For more information: [www.studyjoy.nz](http://www.studyjoy.nz)

### ST VINCENT DE PAUL SOCIETY

We are currently in need of Tinned Fish, Spreads, Pasta Sauce, Veges, and Tomatoes.

**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](mailto: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.



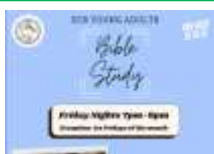
### Bible Study for Youth Adults (19-35y) Fridays, 7-9pm

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

Location: Mike Byrne Room

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

Contact: Levi Sharpe [youth@ecbcatholic.org.nz](mailto:youth@ecbcatholic.org.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

Free to air Channel 25  
Sky Channel 201  
Each Saturday evening at 5.30pm  
Sunday Mass is available for viewing. Check out [the link](#).



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

## 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](http://PRAISEINTHEPARK.NZ)



Helping disciples build a culture of prayer, leadership, and mission  
**Sharing Your Story: Testimony**  
That Transforms, Monday, 16 Feb, 7-8.30pm  
Email to register: [missionhubnz@gmail.com](mailto:missionhubnz@gmail.com)



## 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 [lisa@cda.org.nz](mailto:lisa@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/>



## Masterclass

For Youth and Young Adults  
Ministry Leaders  
Sun, 22 Feb, 1.00pm -5.30pm  
Pompallier Diocesan Center  
Register: <https://events.humanitix.com/masterclass2026>



## 40 Days for Life

Offering hope to mothers in their hour of need.  
From Ash Wed, 18 Feb, to Palm Sunday 29 March  
Street vigil: Tue, Wed, Thu 7am-12noon, Mt Eden.  
For more info contact Smon 021400729 or [simon@fli.org.nz](mailto:simon@fli.org.nz)



**St Joseph's Gift Shop.** Come see us at our new location in Albany Village or visit us online at [www.stjosephscentre.co.nz](http://www.stjosephscentre.co.nz)  
Available now Lent & Easter Catalogue

## "I Will Give You Rest"

Friday, 06 March 2026, 10am  
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](mailto: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](mailto:admin@carmel.school.nz)

## Pope LEO XIV:

Jesus said "Love one another as I have loved you" (John 13:34-35). He calls this the "supreme commandment" and a "requirement for a truly missionary Church."

**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](mailto:gerrys@cda.org.nz) M: 021 02247442



## Diocesan Youth & Young Adult Ministry:

[www.facebook.com/AKCYM](https://www.facebook.com/AKCYM) [www.instagram.com/acym2](https://www.instagram.com/acym2)

## Catholic University Chaplaincy:

Contact Daniel - [daniels@cda.org.nz](mailto:daniels@cda.org.nz)