



# Catholic Parish of Wellington South

In the spirit of Suzanne Aubert

We are a community of joyful disciples growing together and sharing Christ's message  
*Ko tātou tetahi hāpori o ngā ākonga harikoa, e whakaturu ngātahi ana, e ruia ana te karere o Hēhu Karaiti*



## Gospel Reflection

As a teenager, one of the first records I purchased was the album "War" by U2. The last track on that album was an odd song named "40". It is a slower, yearning, and spiritual song. I didn't know it for some time, but the song was based on the words of today's Psalm. I have always loved the positive and uplifting tone of the song.

"I waited patiently for the Lord.

He inclined and heard my cry.

He brought me up out of the pit

Out of the miry clay.

I will sing, sing a new song...."

Psalm 40 reminds us that when overwhelmed by adversity, God is our steadfast help, and faith during life's struggles can lead to transformation.

While I find the words of today's Psalm comforting, the words of today's Gospel are confronting for me. How can the "Prince of Peace" talk about bringing fire to earth and division among families?

The text is written in a tone that makes apologies for what it has to say.

After some reading, I learned this is not a literal instruction but a recognition of the divisions in families and society that can naturally arise when one truly chooses to follow Jesus. We are called to embrace a challenging faith.

Like Jeremiah in the first reading, we may face opposition for living out our beliefs. Like the early Christians in the second reading, we need to "run the race" with perseverance, fixing our gaze on Jesus.

And like the fire Jesus came to bring, our faith should be a transformative force, even if it means facing division.

Let us pray for the grace to be courageous disciples, trusting that the Lord will always draw us from the miry bog and set our feet upon a rock.

Blessings,

**Shane Connolly**



**Responsorial Psalm** : Lord, come to my aid!

**Gospel acclamation** : My sheep hear my voice, says the Lord;  
I know them, and they follow me.

## Remembering the Holy Souls

**RIP:** Msgr Kevin Hackett (Auckland)

**Anniversaries:** Maria Mollo



## Sunday 17 August 2025 20th Sunday Ordinary Time

Jesus exhorts us not to keep to ourselves the gifts that God has given us, but rather to use them generously for the good of others, especially those most in need of our help. It is not simply a matter of sharing the material goods we have, but putting our skills, time, love, presence and compassion at the service of others'.

*Pope Leo XIV, Angelus, 10 August 2025.*

## Now

**20th Sunday in Ordinary Time**  
Sunday 17 August

**3rd Holy Communion session**  
Sunday 17 August

## Coming up

**1st Holy Communion Mass**  
10.30am Sunday 24 August St. Francis  
9am Sunday 31 August St. Anne's

**Social Justice Week**  
Starts 7 September

**Jubilee of Migrants**  
Sunday 16 September

## Weekend Mass

### Vigil Mass

6pm at St Francis de Sales,

### Sunday Mass:

9am St Anne's

10.30am St Francis de Sales

5pm St Anne's

**Samoan Mass** every 3rd Sunday  
**St Bernard's Mass** 10.30am monthly  
at the school Hall

## Weekday Mass

Mon: 9am Mass St Francis de Sales.

Tues: 10am Liturgy at St Anne's

Wed: 9am St Bernard's in Term time

Thurs: 10am St Anne's

Fri: 9.15am St Francis de Sales

Sat: 10am St Anne's

For the latest information visit the Parish Website - [wellington.southcatholic.org](http://wellington.southcatholic.org)

### Parish Gifting Programme

Last weekend we had an invitation to contribute to our **Planned Giving renewal campaign**. If you missed this moment, you can pick up a response form from one of our churches during the week or download it from the parish website and return it in a Sunday collection basket, by email to [office@wellingtonsouthcatholic.org](mailto:office@wellingtonsouthcatholic.org), or post it in the confidential box provided in the foyer.

As Catholics we are part of a family: our immediate family, our parish community, our Archdiocese, and our wider Church in this country and universally. God calls all of us collectively to ministry and mission. Our gift to the Church has an impact both here and further afield.

### Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship:

Come and join other men at Joshua Wellington's next meeting on Thursday 21<sup>st</sup> August from 7:00pm for 7:30pm start in Connolly Hall (next to Sacred Heart Cathedral) followed by supper.

Theme: "The Relevance of the Good News today"

Speaker: Fr Patrick Bridgman, Want to know more? Ring David on 027 4477280 or [joshua.wgtn@gmail.com](mailto:joshua.wgtn@gmail.com)

JOSHUA MEN'S RETREAT - CALLED to LEAD - A weekend Retreat for All Men

**10-12 October | Chosen Valley Christian Camp, Auckland**

A powerful weekend of faith, fellowship, and formation for all men. Featuring: Retreat Director Mike Lobo, Fr Carl Telford SM, keynote speaker Bill McElhinney, worship led by Jeffery Nathan & Peoples Worship Ministry. Cost: \$175pp (includes accommodation & great food)

Contact: Mike (021 2809285) or Jerome (027 2334380)

**Te Kupenga Catholic Theological College** is offering a webinar on "**Parish Ministry in Aotearoa New Zealand**" with Emily Sit, the Director for Mission and evangelisation for Palmerston North. This webinar is on Wednesday 20 August 5:00-6:00pm via Zoom. To register, go to [www.tekupenga.ac.nz/webinar2025](http://www.tekupenga.ac.nz/webinar2025)

**HOLY HOUR** for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. JOIN US for an hour of adoration, reflection and prayer that the Lord may send more workers to the harvest! 7:30 - 8:30pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Thorndon on Tuesday 26 August and every 4th Tuesday of the month.

### Readings for this week

**Sun 17 Aug** : Jer 38:4-6.8-10; Heb 12:1-4; Lk 12:49-53

**Mon 18 Aug** : Judges 2:11-19; Matt 19:16-22

**Tue 19 Aug** : Judges 6:11-24; Matt 19:23-30

**Wed 20 Aug** : Judges 9:6-15; Matt 20:1-16

**Thurs 21 Aug** : Judges 11:29-39; Matt 22:1-14

**Fri 22 Aug** : Ruth 1:1.3-6.14-16,22; Matt 22:34-40

**Sat 23 Aug** : Ruth 2:1-3.8-11.4:13-17 ; Matt 23:1-12



### JUBILEE OF MIGRANTS - Sunday 14 September

A special Jubilee Mass for Migrants will be celebrated by Archbishop Paul Martin on Sunday 14th September at 2pm at the Metropolitan Cathedral of the Sacred Heart. Mass will be followed by a Multicultural Meal, Fellowship, and Mini-Concert, with some communities rendering songs of hope from their homelands. 3pm at Connolly Hall. All are welcome! FOR THE FELLOWSHIP: Koha appreciated and will be donated for the renovation of the Cathedral. Welcome to bring a plate to share.

Email [m.bernardo@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:m.bernardo@wn.catholic.org.nz)

### Baptism:

We welcome into our Parish family:

**Maria Rima - Ikike**

Who was baptized by Fr Doug last Saturday 9 August at St Anne's Church



**Restart - Holy Hour** :- You are invited to come to a Holy Hour -Blessed Sacrament exposed on every Thursday at 1 Mersey Street Island Bay. Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver, beginning with first week of Thursday 4th September 6.00pm to 7.00pm to pray for peace, families and vocations etc. All are Welcome." Please contact the Sisters : 04 3838401.

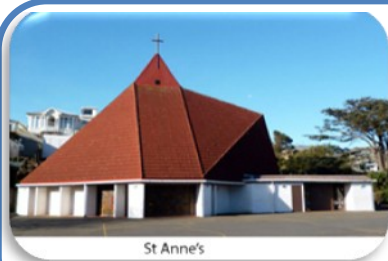
**Māori Wards** - what's all the fuss about? Do we really need them? How do we approach the question as Catholics? Carolyn and Elizabeth will be holding a workshop consisting of short videos followed by discussion on **Saturday 30 August 1.30- 3.30pm** in the Hall at St Francis de Sales. In the meantime listen to what Bishop Peter Cullinane and other Christian leaders say: 6-minute explainer video <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=IPP6Z8AXcuI>

**The Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation** – Love is a Decision - online registration now open for the next Course on the Archdiocesan website, consecutive **Sundays 7 & 14 Sept** 10am-4pm held at St Catherine's College, Kilbirnie

**Social Justice Week** takes place 7-13 September during the Season of Creation. For the 2025 Jubilee Year, we are calling on supporters across New Zealand to mobilise for change during the Season of Creation as part of our Turn Debt Into Hope campaign.

**COME & SEE PRIESTHOOD VOCATIONS MORNING** - Saturday 30 August from 9.00am till 12noon @ St Teresa's Church, Karori. Are you thinking about priesthood?

Join other like-minded young men for a morning of reflection, discussion and fellowship. Starts with Mass at 9.00am at St Teresa's Church, Karori. Text 021 164 5800 or email [l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz) to let us know you're coming!



St Anne's

### Fr Doug Shepherd - Parish Priest

027 248 3562

[doug.shepherd@wellingtonsouthcatholic.org](mailto:doug.shepherd@wellingtonsouthcatholic.org)

### Fr Biju Xavier - Assistant Priest

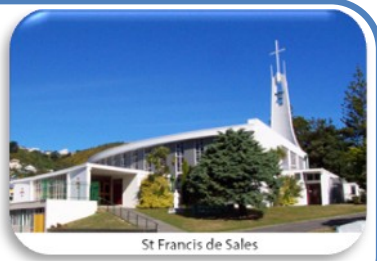
022 1594548

[frbijuxavier2010@gmail.com](mailto:frbijuxavier2010@gmail.com)

**Parish Bank Details ADW-CPWS: 02-0576-0064832-00**

**Parish Office:** 22 Emmett Street Newtown

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St Francis de Sales