



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

Sunday 24 August 2025 21st Sunday Ordinary Time

'Let us not be afraid to choose life! It may seem risky and imprudent. Many voices whisper: "Why bother? Let it go. Think of your own interests." These are voices of death. But we are disciples of Christ. It is his love that drives us — soul and body — in our time. As individuals and as the Church, we no longer live for ourselves. This — and only this — spreads life and lets life prevail. Our victory over death begins here and now.'

— Pope Leo XIV, Homily, 15 August 2025.

Now

Holy Communion Mass

10.30 Sunday 24 August St Francis

Coming up

Maori Wards workshop

Saturday 30 August 1.30-3.30pm

1st Holy Communion Mass

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

From Fr Doug

Dear Parishioners,

Truly, God wills that all people should be saved. People will come from all the world to share in the messianic kingdom, and the Jews will have no advantage over the Gentiles. Jesus refuses to speculate on the numbers who will be saved, "Lord, will those who are saved be few?" That is best left to the wisdom and mercy of God.

The main thing is: the kingdom is present and the door open. But the door is not so wide that people can saunter casually in at their own convenience; it is a narrow opening through which they must thrust themselves with trust and determination.

The message was originally intended for the Jews, but Luke now intends it as a warning to the disciples of Jesus, then and now! There were those who thought they could enter the kingdom because their commitment was only in mere words and not in active involvement in being a disciple.

And Jesus warns, "Strive to enter through the narrow door." Do it now, do not wait to enter God's household. Salvation depends on the mercy and favour of our God and in the honest struggle to actively follow His ways.

This coming Sunday 24th August, twenty young people will receive their First Holy Communion at St Francis de Sales church. I pray they will always hunger for the Eucharist – the Bread of Life. St Thomas Aquinas: "The Eucharist is the sacrament of love: it signifies love, it produces love. The Eucharist is the consummation of the whole spiritual life."

The 24th is a special day for me as well as twelve years ago in 2013 Cardinal John ordained me as a priest.

"The priesthood is the love of the heart of Jesus. When you see a priest, think of our Lord Jesus Christ." — St. John Vianney, patron saint of parish priests.

With every blessing

Fr Doug



Responsorial Psalm : Go out to all the world and tell the Good News.

Gospel acclamation : I am the way, the truth and the life, says the Lord; no one comes to the Father, except through me.

Remembering the Holy Souls

RIP: Fr Andrew Antonio, Amelia Solomon-Rapadas, Branko Vidovic,

Anniversaries: Vlado Barbalich, Iris Albrecht



For the latest information visit the Parish Website - wellington.southcatholic.org

Baptisms

We warmly welcome **Cole Jackson MacLeod** and



Joshua Peter Harper into our Parish family. They were baptized at St Bernard's School by Fr Doug on Wednesday, 13 August 2025.



We also welcome **Caleb Vargas** who was baptised by Fr Doug last Saturday at St Anne's. May the Lord bless them and let his face shine upon them.

First Holy Communion at St Francis de Sales

This Sunday will be the first of two Holy Communion ceremonies in our Parish. 20 of our Parish children will be receiving the Sacrament of Holy



Communion for the first time at the 10.30am Mass at St Francis de Sales. Please keep these children and their parents in your prayers as they prepare for this.



Readings for this week

Sun 24 Aug : Isaiah 66:18-21; Heb 12:5-7, 11-13; Lk 23:13-22
Mon 25 Aug : 1 Thess 1:2-5, 8-10; Matt 23:13-22
Tue 26 Aug : 1 Thess 2:1-8; Matt 23:23-26
Wed 27 Aug : 1 Thess 2:9-13; Matt 23:27-32
Thurs 28 Aug : 1 Thess 3:7-13; Matt 24:42-51
Fri 29 Aug : Jer 1:17-19 ; Mark 6:17-29
Sat 30 Aug : 1 Thess 4:9-12; Matt 25:14-30



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**. Please see/contact Sr Elizabeth 0276805002 or Carolyn 0274777558 about a change of venue. 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>

MASS FOR YOUNG PEOPLE @ Sacred Heart Cathedral

Come celebrate Mass with young people across Wellington at the September Late Night Mass for Young People! Join us at Sacred Heart Cathedral at **8pm on Friday 5th September** to celebrate the Eucharist together with Fr Kinh. Please bring a plate to share for food and fellowship after the Mass in the foyer. You are all warmly invited!

Parish Gifting Programme: Over the last weeks we have explored why and how we give, especially financially, to the work of our Church. We have seen that generosity lies at the heart of discipleship. We have explored how necessary it is that we actively contribute and fully participate in our parish community. Now we are more aware of the potential and promise of our community's life, we see the importance of contributing financially to the work and ministry of our Church. There are many ways to give - these include cash, direct credit, or the envelope system. You can also set up a bequest. A real advantage of planned giving is that you can claim a tax rebate of 33% of your giving. Please talk to parish leaders to find out more and if you have any questions.

Restart - Holy Hour: Blessed Sacrament exposed every Thursday at 1 Mersey Street Island Bay. Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver, beginning on Thursday **4th September 6 to 7pm** to pray for peace, families and vocations etc. All are Welcome."

HOLY HOUR for Vocations: Tuesday, **26th August, 7:30 – 8:30 pm**, Sacred Heart Cathedral, Thorndon. Join us for an hour of adoration, reflection, and prayer, asking the Lord to send more workers to the harvest. This will be held every 4th Tuesday of the month.

E-Waste collection Saturday **13 September** 9am – 2pm at St Catherine's College, Upper Bourke St, Kilbirnie. Small cash fee per item. 0274171500.

Safeguarding Tip: No Priest from our Parish will ever ask you for money, or ask you to purchase something on his behalf. If you have received such a request, please contact the Parish Office.



St Anne's

Fr Doug Shepherd - Parish Priest

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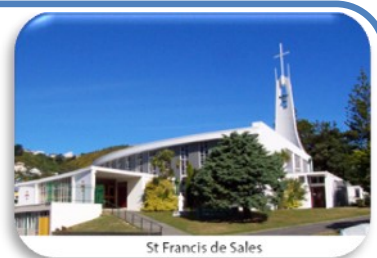
Fr Biju Xavier - Assistant Priest

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

Parish Office: 22 Emmett Street Newtown

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St Francis de Sales