



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 whakatupu ngātahi ana, e ruia ana te karere o Hēhu Karaiti

Sunday 15 February 2026

6th Sunday Ordinary Time

'In the face of these grave challenges, we turn to prayer and awareness. Prayer is the "small flame" that we must guard amidst the storm, as it gives us the strength to resist indifference to injustice. Awareness enables us to identify the hidden mechanisms of exploitation in our neighbourhoods and in digital spaces. Ultimately, the violence of human trafficking can be overcome only through a renewed vision that beholds every individual as a beloved child of God.'

Pope Leo XIV, Message on Human Trafficking, 8 February 2026.

Now

6th Sunday in Ordinary Time

Coming up

Teachers Commissioning Mass

Tuesday 17 Feb 5.30pm

Sacred Heart Cathedral

Ash Wednesday

Wednesday 18 February

Sacramental Parent Evening

Tuesday 3 March 7pm St Anne's

Next Combined Parish Mass

Sunday 8 March SFdS

60th Diamond Jubilee of SFdS

18/19 April

Weekend Mass

Vigil Mass

6pm St Francis de Sales

Sunday Mass:

9am Mass Anne's

10.30am St Francis de Sales

5pm Anne's

Samoan Mass every 3rd Sunday

Weekday Mass

Mon: 9am Mass St Francis de Sales.

Tues: 10am Liturgy St Anne's

Thurs: 10am St Anne's

Fri: 9.15am St Francis de Sales

Sat: 10am St Anne's

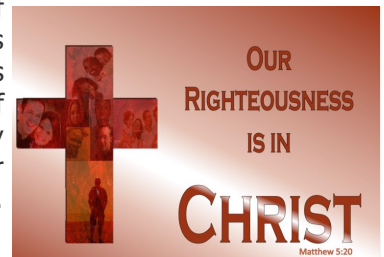
From Fr Bijou

Today, Jesus talks about following the Law. **God's Law of love can be thought of as rules that we are to follow in order to show our love and respect for one another.** Jesus says that He came to fulfil the Law. Unlike the Pharisees who were more on ritual purity, Jesus calls for a deeper, heart-centered righteousness that goes beyond mere legalistic observance. It is embracing the spirit of the law, which is rooted in love, mercy and justice. Jesus also calls our attention to how our relationships need to reflect the living law of God. We are to take radical measures to avoid sin, maintain inner purity, and guard our thoughts and desires when it comes to interacting with others.

Here is Lent, our favourable time: Lent begins with **ASH WEDNESDAY**. It is a "favourable time," a season of grace. Lent is a gift that the Church in her wisdom celebrates every year. During this period, we are called to be with Jesus, to suffer and die to ourselves, die to sin and to give up the evil in and around us, so that we can rise, individually and as a community, to a deeper Christian life, become more available to God and to people, and capable of rendering service with love. Why do we still undergo this ritual of ashes that is centuries old, as old as the prophets who pleaded with God's people to turn back from sin and toward God? We go because, at least once a year we need to be reminded that our deepest hunger is the hunger for God.

The way is conversion and repentance. It is summed up in three ways, as almsgiving...caring for people; as praying.... listening to God's word, who whispers to us to come back to the God who created us; and as fasting... giving up our selfishness and over-indulged appetites so that we may understand the hunger that can be filled—with the grace of God. We express our willingness to be converted when we receive the ashes. The prayer of the whole Church, the Body of Christ, is that each year the sign of the cross penetrates a little deeper and moves us toward fuller conversion toward the light of Christ. I pray that during this lent, we may grow closer to God and prepare our hearts for the Easter joy. Have a blessed season of Lent.

Fr Bijou



Sacramental Preparation



Sacramental Programme

Enrolments are now open for the Wellington South 2026 Sacramental programme. This programme is available to all children who have been baptised into the Catholic faith and have reached Year 4 or above in the primary school system. Application forms are on the Website [here](https://www.wellingtonsouthcatholic.org)

Responsorial Psalm : Blessed are they who follow the law of the Lord!

Gospel acclamation: Blessed are you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth; you have revealed to little ones the mysteries of the kingdom.

Remembering the Holy Souls

RIP :

Anniversaries : Frederick Holden (Snr) 50th anniversary



For the latest information visit the Parish Website - [wellingtonsouthcatholic.org](https://www.wellingtonsouthcatholic.org)



Ash Wednesday Masses 18 Feb

9am Home of Compassion Chapel

9.30am St Anne's Church
(with the school)

10.15am St Francis de Sales
(with the school)

7pm St Anne's Church

Sunday 8 March will be our next **Parish Combined Mass**. This will be followed by a shared cuppa.

This is also the day of the Newtown Festival when St Anne's Church grounds are used by the community. Newtown Festival has been going for 30 years and is a space for the large migrant and refugee communities to come and celebrate their culture and share their food with Wellingtonians. Now, the Newtown Festival is the largest festival in New Zealand. Due to the support of our school Principal, Matt, our Parish priests, pastoral council and liturgy committees we are helping with that, and the St Anne's complex has become the Pasifika and Filipino HUB of the festival – it has been a successful campaign for the last five years.

Annual Mission Fair : The Missionary Sisters of St Peter Claver invite you to the Fair on **Saturday 21 February 2026**, 10-2pm Convent Grounds, 1 Mersey Street, Proceeds will support the purchase of water tanks in Kibuye-Bondo Kenya and construction of toilets for Nseng-Long parish and village in Cameroon. For more information, contact the Sisters : (04) 383 8401.

Samoa Chaplaincy Commissioning Mass – You are welcome to attend the commissioning mass for the Samoa chaplaincy leaders on **Sunday, 15 February at 1.00pm at the Sacred Heart Cathedral in Hill Street**. The mass will be followed by afternoon tea and is a good opportunity to network with the Samoa community.

Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship :

Joshua Wellington extends an open invitation to everyone (not just the men!) to MASS followed by a light supper on **Thursday 19th February 2026** at 7:30pm in the Sacred Heart Cathedral, Hill Street, Thorndon. Celebrant: Fr Peter Ewart sm, Joshua chaplain
Want to know more? Ring David Monastra 027-4477-280 or email: joshua.wgtn@gmail.com

Readings for this week

Sun 15 Feb : Sirach 15:15-20; 1Cor 2:6-10; Matt 5:17-37

Mon 16 Feb : James 1:1-11; Mark 8:11-13

Tue 17 Feb : James 1:12-18; Mark 8:14-21

Wed 18 Feb: Joel 2:12-18; 2Cor 5:20-6:2; Matt 6:1-6,16-18

Thurs 19 Feb :Deuteronomy 30:15-20; Luke 9:22-25

Fri 20 Feb : Isaiah 58:1-9a; Matt 9:14-15

Sat 21 Feb: Isaiah 58:9b-14; Luke 5:27-32



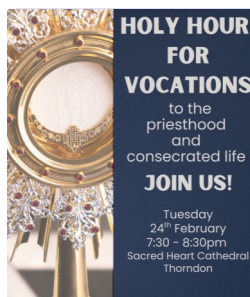
SFDS Jubilee Weekend Sat18 Apr-Sun 19 April 2026

The School and Church of St Francis de Sales are inextricably linked. Not just in the school's use of the Church for liturgies, assemblies and teaching but in the real spirit that has evolved since 1905.

Ever since the initial St Francis de Sales School was established in 1905, the story of St Francis De Sales and St Madeleine Sophie have reflected the story of the Catholic school system.

The first Catholic school in Island Bay was opened by the Sisters of the Sacred Heart in Avon St, Island Bay in 1905. The school had one classroom and nine students. Then in 1926, a larger brick building was opened, on a separate site but also in Avon St, and was named after St Madeleine Sophie, the foundress of the Society of the Sisters of the Sacred Heart.

Can you name the ten Catholic places of interest in the Southern Bays? Find out more on: Sunday 19 April 2026 12.30pm Jubilee Lunch, The Pines, Houghton Bay, Wellington; (\$55 per person to be paid in advance; there are no door sales). Please register your attendance by making payment to Catholic Parish of Wellington South bank account 02-0576-0064832-01



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, 24th February** and every 4th Tuesday of the month.

Eccumenical Youth Group

With the cancellation of Blessing the Boats and the Birdman competition due to water quality, we met at IBPC for group games, free time, and pancakes. If the festival puts on an alternative event, we may join in but for now its 7pm at Island Bay Presbyterian on **Friday 13 February**
Contact Quentin at youth@ibpc.org.nz,

VOCATIONS RETREAT WEEKEND

27-29 MARCH 26



THINKING ABOUT

PRIESTHOOD? Join us for a **VOCATIONS DISCERNMENT RETREAT: 27 - 29 March 2026** @ Magnificat Retreat Centre, Featherston. A discernment retreat for young men exploring a call to the priesthood in the Archdiocese of Wellington. Closing date for registrations: **Friday, 27 February 2026**. For more information contact:

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St Anne's

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