

EASTERN BAYS PASTORAL AREA



St Joseph's
Orakei

St Ignatius
St Heliers

Mother of Perpetual Help
Glendowie

FIFTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

12th JULY 2026

Kia katoa and greetings as we celebrate this long holiday weekend.

Matariki invites us to remember those who have gone before us, to give thanks for the blessings we have received, and to look forward with renewed hope. These themes resonate deeply with our Christian faith as we place our trust in God's loving providence and continue to include him in our earthly journey.

Today's Gospel, for me, is foundational in terms of understanding the Christian life and vocation.

I have always found the Parable of the Sower to be one of the most hope-filled stories that Jesus tells. It is a reminder not only of the kind of people we are called to be, but, more importantly, of the kind of God we have.

The Sower scatters seed with extraordinary generosity. He doesn't stop to calculate where each seed will land or whether the ground deserves it.

He simply keeps sowing. That is a beautiful image of God's love for us. The Lord never grows tired of blessing us with his grace. Even when our hearts seem distracted, burdened or uncertain,

God continues to sow seeds of faith, hope and love, trusting that, in time, they will find good soil within us. God never gives up on us.

The challenge, of course, is to become more like the Sower ourselves. Our world can sometimes encourage us to be cautious, suspicious or reluctant to give too much of ourselves. The Gospel points us in another direction. We are called to sow generously—to offer encouragement, forgiveness, compassion and hospitality without counting the cost. Not every seed will take root, but that should never stop us from 'sowing'. Some opportunities that present themselves may seem small, but in God's hands they can bear an abundant harvest.

May we always remember that we are first the recipients of God's generous love, and then the bearers of that same love to others. Let us continue to sow seeds of hope throughout our Eastern Bays Pastoral Area, trusting that the Lord will bring them to fruition in ways we may never fully see.

May God bless our efforts!
Bernard

Today's Readings

First Reading

Isaiah 55:10-11

God cares for the earth by sending rain to make it fruitful. He cares for us by sending us his word.

Second Reading

Romans 8:18-23

The glory which awaits us in the next life far outweighs anything we could suffer in this life.

Gospel

Matthew 13:1-23

Jesus compares the word of God to a seed falling into the ground.

PASSIONIST
FAMILY GROUP
MOVEMENT



Happy Birthday ... St Ignatius Passionist Family Groups

will be celebrating their
35th Anniversary over
the weekend
25th & 26th July.

Celebrations commence with Drinks and finger food in the Hall after the 5pm Mass on the 25th July.

On Sunday after the 9am Mass there will be Morning Tea and finger food, followed by a 1½ hour presentation by Paul Traynor, NZ National Coordinator of Passionist Family Groups, on the importance of Nurturing and Nourishing our Eastern Bays Parishioners especially during a time of change. All Eastern Bays parishioners are invited and encouraged to come and join the celebrations.

Catholic Caring Foundation

Next Sunday the **19th of July**, is **Caring Sunday**. Please support Bishop Steve's Caring Foundation's annual appeal and help those in poverty be seen, heard, and helped. A donation to Bishop Steve's Caring Foundation is needed more than ever this year as our brothers and sisters battle with the cost-of-living crisis, job losses and food and housing insecurity.

To make your donation, please scan the QR code, use a donation card, donate through their website www.caringfoundation.org.nz use a special collection envelope, or donate directly to BNZ 02-0100-0242648-00 using your surname and initials as reference.



*Loving God,
fill our hearts with
compassion.*

*Help us to see Christ in those
who are suffering
and give us the courage
to love without hesitation.
Amen*

CHANGE OF DATES

Scripture Study Group

As Claire Ryan is away for three weeks the dates for the Thursday Scripture Group have changed as follows:

27 August, 10 September

then subsequent

2nd Thursday of each month

at St Ignatius Parish Centre from 7.30pm.
All welcome.

Wings.Nga Parirua, the Catholic Faith Formation Programme

The **hospitality at the heart of Wings Faith Formation Programme** gives space and time for people to come together, to become familiar with Jesus' teaching in the Gospels.

Please come and join us...

The programme continues as follows:

**6 August; 3 September; 1 October;
and 5 November**

MPH Parish Centre – 7.00 -8.30pm.

For more information please contact:

Dianna Fouhy, diannaf@cda.org.nz

YOUTH HAPPENINGS...

Youth Group Next meeting

will be held on 26 July at 6.00pm at
Mother of Perpetual Help.

Seminarian Bob will be taking all those
interested to

World Youth Day Auckland 2026

to be held on Saturday 1st August

10:00am-8:30pm

Join over 1,800 young Catholics at Victory
Convention Centre for World Youth Day
Auckland 2026 - a massive, joy-filled day of
faith, community and WITNESS.

For more info go

to: <https://events.humanitix.com/world-youth-day-auckland-2026>

University Students Mass

Every Tuesday during Term time at the MacLaurin
Chapel, Princes Street, City
at 12.10pm. All welcome.

Diocesan Youth Mass

Last Sunday of each month 4:30pm at

St Patrick's Cathedral.

For more info email youthmln@cda.org.nz

New Online Site about Faith

Pat McCarthy, former editor of *NZ Catholic* newspaper, has just launched an online publication looking at Catholic beliefs and practices. Ever wondered how the Last Supper evolved into today's Mass? Or the purpose of church music? Is there an algorithm for a successful marriage? Does spirituality without religion make sense?

Should we take the Bible literally? Go to <https://fathomingthefaith.substack.com>



Baptism Course

October 2026

15th, 22nd and 29th

October 7.30pm-9.00pm

Please email Gina at

sacraments@easternbayscatholic.org.nz

Scripture and Retreats...

Scripture Study at St Michael's Parish

'GENESIS 1-11' by Dr Dan Stollenwerk. A series of talks on Pre-History, Mythology & the Scientific Revolution. Please join us in the Parish Centre:

4x Wednesday mornings 15th, 22nd, 29th

July & 5th August 10:30am – 11:45am.

No registration required.

St Michael's Parish,
6 Beatrice Road, Remuera

Prayer Retreat for Women

'Prayer and the Interior Life'

Friday 9th October 6pm to Sunday

11th October 3pm 2026 - with Mass,
Eucharistic Adoration, Reconciliation,
Personal Prayer and Spiritual Direction.

Location: St Francis Retreat Centre
Hillsborough. To register, and **view all
retreats available at St Francis Retreat**

Centre please go to

www.stfrancisretreatcentre.org.nz

Christian Care Network

Eastern Bays Communities

For assistance, please contact our confidential
helpline on 09 521 5712.

Donations of non-perishable goods at
St Joseph's Church, or donate via CCN
bank account 12-3047-0089077-01

Reference: Your name

For tax receipts please email Maxine Priestley at

priestlyfam@xtra.co.nz

PASTORAL AREA OFFICE HOURS

Mother of Perpetual Help

Mon & Wed 1.30pm – 5.30pm

Thursday 8.30am – 12.30pm

St Ignatius

Tues & Fri 8.30am – 11.30am

Preference Enrolment forms by Appointment

Email: office@easternbayscatholic.org.nz

JULY ANNIVERSARIES

We remember... Fr Line Folaumoeloa, Delia MacAndrew, Michael Bancroft, Jose Martland, Richard Mores, Robbie Franicevich, Audrey Fogarty, Leo Hope, Sr Elizabeth Browne-Russell rsjc, Kenneth Sy, Brian Hunt, Nancy Schaab, Frank Jagusch, Lijana Anketell, Phillipa Hall, Myra Hawkin, Jim Hooker, Nel Coleman, Heath Eagle, Helena Young, Elizabeth Sharland, Barbara Wilson, Michael Little, Eleanor Holliday, Ted Dunne, Zorka Franicevich, Ambrose O'Sullivan, Marie Wright, Tony Milat, Brendan Kelly, Percy Gatt, Colin Allsop, Rosie Primozich, Martinus van Beynen, Martin Roche, Judith Hampson, Ursula Curtain, Terence Brannigan, Marcella Garty, Stephen McKenzie, Frances Vernon, Maurice Andrew, Conrad Jnr Perera, Gorana Baricevich, Mary Churchill, Campbell Hunter, Michael Corbett, Margot Barnard, Maurice Nicholson, Marilyn McNamara, Eleanor Heares, Michael Murray, Peter Evans, Pauline Lear, Gloria Alder, Keith Reid, Ronald Copas, Francis Dowd, Monica Tapper, Daniel Cavanagh, Douglas Grant, Barbara Worthington, Cushla Smith, Maria Landsbergen, Philip Finlay, Brian Copas, Marie McGuire, James Donald, Kathleen Pain, Betty Hutton, Ross Carley, Elizabeth Coyle, Brian Culpan, Peggy McLaren, Emily Trembath, Brian Hunt, Ulrica Patterson, Paul Fanning, Maria D'Sa, Noeline Fairlie, Pippo Gardi, Shirley Jury, Bob Mason, Elizabeth Leydon, Brother Marcel Hall fms, Raymond Gardner, David Cheyne, Patricia McKay, Devon Hearn, Rae Gravatt, Bernie Summich, Gary, Judith Clarke, Margaret Timms rsm, Ken Clarke, Hugh Green, Wendy Weir, Mary Matijasevich, Brett Robinson, Simon Gibson, Peter Cheyne, Marie Sweet, Margaret Davis....

Eternal rest grant to them O Lord

Eastern Bays Area Schedule

Monday

9.00am Mass at OL of Fatima Meadowbank

9.00am Liturgy of the Word

with Holy Communion at St Ignatius

Tuesday

9.00am Mass at St Pius X Glen Innes

Wednesday

9:00am at St Ignatius

School Mass (Term Time) All welcome!

Thursday

9:00am Mass at Mother of Perpetual Help

Friday

9:00am Mass at St Ignatius

Saturday

9:30am Mass at Mother of Perpetual Help
(Rosary at 8.50am)

Sacrament of Reconciliation

8.45am Saturday at Mother of Perpetual Help

Saturday Vigil Mass - 5:00pm at St Ignatius

Sunday Mass

9:00am St Ignatius

9.30am and **5.00pm** St Joseph's

10:30am Mother of Perpetual Help

Exposition of the Blessed Sacrament

Thursdays following

9.00am Mass at MPH

Rosary 8.30am and Benediction at 6.30pm

Rosary Group – All Welcome

Mother of Perpetual Help Parish

Fridays at 3.00pm in the Parish Centre

Visit our website for

~New Parishioner Registration

~Sacramental Programmes: including for

Adults (OCIA) and Children (RCIC)

E: sacraments@easternbayscatholic.org.nz

Catholic Diocese of Auckland

www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz

ST JOSEPH'S	ST IGNATIUS	MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP
16 Brenton Place, Orakei	12 Kotiri Street, St Heliers	510 Riddell Road, Glendowie
Email: office@eastenbayscatholic.org.nz	Website: www.easternbayscatholic.org.nz	
Parish Priest: Monsignor Bernard Kiely	Assistant Priest: Father Ryan Sy	
Seminarian: Bob Fe'ao		
PARISH SCHOOLS		
St Joseph's Orakei	St Ignatius School	
principal@sjorakei.school.nz	office@stignatius.school.nz	
Ph: (09) 521 0866	Ph: (09) 575 7081	