

EASTERN BAYS PASTORAL AREA



St Joseph's
Orakei



St Ignatius
St Heliers



Mother of Perpetual Help
Glendowie

EIGHTEENTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME ~ 2 AUGUST 2026

The miracle of the feeding of the multitude is told six times in the four Gospels. Something incredibly miraculous happened on that hillside that made a huge impression on the first disciples of Jesus. The themes are rich including the Eucharistic connections (he took the bread, gave thanks and blessed it and shared it), the generosity of God (12 baskets full), the call to mission (give them something to eat yourselves; the disciples gave out the food). We are also invited to reflect on the abundance of life that Christ offers us.

In the Gospel, Jesus feeds the vast crowd with just five loaves and two fish. Faced with a seemingly impossible situation, the disciples see only scarcity. Jesus, however, sees possibility. He takes what is offered, blesses it, breaks it, and shares it—and there is more than enough for everyone. It is a powerful reminder that when we place our lives, gifts, and concerns into the Lord's hands, he can accomplish far more than we imagine.

St Paul echoes this confidence in the second reading from Romans. In one of the most reassuring passages in Scripture, he declares that nothing—not hardship, distress, persecution, danger, nor even death itself—can separate us from the love of God revealed in Christ

Jesus. In a world that often feels uncertain and divided, these words offer deep comfort. God's love is constant. His presence never abandons us.

On Friday we celebrated the feast of St Ignatius of Loyola, a man whose deep trust in God led him to discover that “finding God in all things” can transform even the most ordinary moments into opportunities for grace. His life continues to inspire us to place our lives more fully in God's hands, confident that he will guide and provide.

His motto AMDG ‘Ad Majoram dei Gloriam’ urges us to offer our lives for the greater glory of God.

We also give thanks for the young people from our communities who took part in the World Youth Day celebration on Saturday. Over 2000 young people took part. Their energy, faith, and willingness to gather with the wider Church are a powerful sign of hope for us all. In their enthusiasm we see the living faith of the Church being renewed and carried forward into the future.

As the Eastern Bays parishes continue to grow together in faith and mission, may we never be afraid to offer what we have, however small it may seem. Inspired by St Ignatius, encouraged by the witness of our young people,

and strengthened by the Eucharist we celebrate, may we trust that Christ will bless, multiply, and use all that we place before him to nourish others. Nothing offered in love is ever wasted, and nothing can separate us from the love that God has for each one of us.

Blessings Bernard

Today's Readings

First Reading

Isaiah 55:1-3

This contains an invitation, addressed to the exiles in Babylon, to come to a banquet. The banquet stands for the life of love and friendship God wishes to share with his people.

Second Reading

Romans 8:35.37-39

No matter what bad times we may have to go through, we remain undaunted, because we are certain that Christ loves us.

Gospel

Matthew 14:13-21

Jesus shows his compassion for the people by healing their sick, and giving them food to eat.



EASTERN BAYS PASTORAL AREA CHANGE IN OFFICE HOURS

A reminder that Shona is away & Rebecca will be working in the St Ignatius Parish office. Our office hours are:

Mother of Perpetual Help

Mon & Wed 1.30pm – 5.30pm

St Ignatius

Mon, Wed & Thurs 9.30am – 12.30pm

Preference Enrolment forms are signed by appointment. Please email:

office@easternbayscatholic.org.nz

Mass Time Change St Joseph's

Please note that **from 16 August** the Mass at St Joseph's, Orakei will be at the earlier time of 9 am.

Baptism Course October

15th, 22nd & 29th October from 7.30pm to 9pm. To register please email Gina sacraments@easternbayscatholic.org.nz



CHANGE OF DATES

Scripture Study Group

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.

YOUTH HAPPENINGS...

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

youthmin@cda.org.nz

The Assumption of Mary, Aotearoa New Zealand's Patronal Feast Day

The New Zealand Bishops have "Sundayised" the celebration of

The Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary to Sunday 16 August.



St Ignatius School Enrolment 2027

Children who turn 5 in 2027 and who will be starting as new entrants at St Ignatius Primary should have their enrolment applications in by **Friday 31 August 2026.**

Enrolment applications can be found at <https://stignatius.school.nz/our-place/enrollment-application-forms/> or at the school office.

You are welcome to attend their **Open Day, 12th August at 11.30am.** To register for the Open Day please email office@stignatius.school.nz

Grammarphonics Charity Concert

St Michael's warmly invites you to join them for a charity concert for the Auckland Grammar School Choir.

Thursday 6 August, 6.30 pm, at St Michael's Church, 6 Beatrice Rd, Remuera.

Book before 1 August to automatically go into the draw to win a \$200 hamper, with spot prizes also to be won on the night. The concert features outstanding Auckland Grammar student performers, alongside tenor Edward Laurenson and multi-award-winning New Zealand country and soul artist Tami Neilson. Tickets are just \$35, including a light supper during the interval. Visit to book: <https://events.humanitix.com/grammarphonics>. Every ticket purchased helps support the future of the Auckland Grammar School Choir.

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

The Beginning Experience

"ALONE AGAIN?" - A weekend away to help those suffering the heartache of Separation, Divorce, or Widowhood on 21-23 August. The cost for 2 nights accommodation, meals and materials and follow up event is \$350. For further information phone Karena evenings on 021802-352 or visit www.beginningexperience.org.nz

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 become familiar with Jesus' teaching in the Gospels.

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

MPH Parish Centre from 7 - 8.30pm.

For more information please contact: Dianna Fouhy, diannaf@cda.org.nz

Annual Pilgrimage to Sacred Josephite Sites

Saturday 22 August beginning at Mary MacKillop Centre at 10am and finishing at 3.30pm. This is a very popular event so book in early to ensure a seat on the minibus. Phone Sr Jill McLoughlin +64210710277 or email MBSpirituality@sosj.org.au by 15 August to book your place.

Eastern Bays Coffee Morning Meet Up

Every third Wednesday of the month, at the Terraces Restaurant, 207 Ridell Road, Glendowie in the grounds of St. Andrews Village (all welcome). Parking is available. Come along, 10am, 19th August.

St Ignatius Card Group - Every Wednesday afternoon at the St Ignatius parish centre. 500 is the game of choice and it's a great opportunity to try something new..... and to make new friends and simply enjoy time together. All welcome. Newcomers please seek out Stella.

AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

We remember those who have died recently, and whose anniversaries occur during the month of August...

Sr Lorraine Gaines rsj, Elizabeth Wright, Kate Saunders, Bill Roche, Gerard Hart, Mgrs Kevin Hackett, John Brown, Virginia Stewart, John Walls, Ron Patterson, Celia Gatt, Kathleen Mearns, Moira Gleeson, Jim Mortimer, Michael Brady, Mary Bergin Wright, Joan Dunne, Lorraine Wright, Kathlynn Fariessey, Nell Phipps, Ivan Kirton, Frank Clarke, Ray Kirkup, Arthur Mack, Norah McDonald, Desmond Hayes, Doreen Weston, Walter Springford, Clemencia Velasco, Leo Renneberg, Najla Bell, Stephen Batterton, Arthur Lynskey, Tony Marinovich, Christopher Hughes, Douglas Fletcher, Doreen Sydner, Thomas Boderick, William Naden, Verona Henderson, Philip Batterton, George McIndoe, Olive Pope, Robert Phillips, Patricia Moir, Sheila Lowe, Sean Kelly, Michael Begley, Raewyn Foubister, Maurice Leydon, Diana Ozich, Denis Culpán, Christopher Hughes, Eileen Rennie, William Kearns, Audrey Higgins, Hubert Howe, Paul Krause, Doreen Sweeney, Ross Lanigan, Daphne Cavanagh, Ludwig Sepetavc, Patsy Olsson, Kathlyn Lornie, Aubrey Barrett, Mary Sullivan, Dorina Boric, Hendrik Van Swet, Eileen Brosnan, Anthony Lammert, Marcie Towers, John Turich, Louis Mihaljevich, Victor Davis

... Eternal rest grant to them



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 **5pm** 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)

sacraments@easternbayscatholic.org.nz

Catholic Diocese of Auckland

www.aucklandcatholic.org.nz

ST JOSEPH'S

16 Brenton Place, Orakei

ST IGNATIUS

12 Kotiri Street, St Heliers

MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP

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

principal@sjorakei.school.nz

Ph: (09) 521 0866

St Ignatius School

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