

EASTERN BAYS PASTORAL AREA



St Joseph's
Orakei



St Ignatius
St Heliers



Mother of Perpetual Help
Glendowie

TWENTY-FIRST SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 23 AUGUST 2026

The Rock on Which We Build

This Sunday's Gospel brings us to the heart of our faith. Jesus asks his disciples, **"Who do you say that I am?"**

Peter responds with a profound profession of faith: **"You are the Christ, the Son of the living God."** Jesus then

entrusts Peter with a particular responsibility within the Church, making him the rock upon which he will build his Church. Our faith is ultimately rooted in Christ, and we are called to build our lives and our communities upon him.

As we approach the General Election, and candidates vie for support, it is important to remember that the Church does not endorse any particular political party or candidate. Catholics are free to exercise their conscience in deciding how they will vote.

At the same time, our faith calls us to take seriously the principles of Catholic Social Teaching when making this decision. We are encouraged to consider carefully the dignity of every human person, the common good, the protection of life, care for the vulnerable and those in need, justice, peace, the dignity of work, the wellbeing of families, and our responsibility to care for creation.

Voting is an important civic responsibility. We are encouraged to inform ourselves about the policies and priorities of the parties and candidates, to engage respectfully with those whose views may differ from our own, and to prayerfully consider how our vote can contribute to the common good of our society.

Peter's confession of faith reminds us that following Christ has implications for every part of our lives. May our faith guide not only our worship but also the choices we make as citizens. Let us pray for wisdom, integrity and generosity of spirit as we prepare to exercise our democratic responsibility.

May Christ, the living Son of God, continue to build his Church among us and make us instruments of his justice, peace and love.

AMDG Bernard



Today's Readings

First Reading - Isaiah 22:19-23

One man is dismissed from high office, and the keys of authority are passed to another. The New Testament applies this text to Jesus

Second Reading – Romans 11:33-36

This is a hymn of praise to the wisdom of God, which is far too deep for us to fathom.

Gospel – Matthew 16:13-20

This contains Peter's declaration of faith in Jesus, and Jesus' promise to make him the rock on which he will build his Church.



Eastern Bays Catholic Parishes Facebook Page

Have you seen our Facebook Page? Go to <https://www.facebook.com/easternbayscatholic>. Be sure to like it to keep up to date with the happenings at our parishes and beyond.

September Staffing

Mons Bernard will be away in September. Fr Ryan has returned and is renewed and refreshed after visiting family in the Philippines. Shona Cosgrove, our secretary who has been visiting family in the UK will be returning to work on the 8th. Our thanks to Rebecca Knibb for stepping in during her absence. Gina, our beloved sacraments coordinator is away for much of September having seen this year's sacramental programme through to a beautiful celebration of first Holy Communion last Sunday. Thank you for your support and understanding as our small but energetic team takes much needed time to recharge!

Sunday Mass Time Change St Joseph's

Please note the NEW Mass at St Joseph's, Orakei is now 9 am.

Congratulations - to all those who celebrated their first Holy Communion last Sunday. The Sacred Heart College Chapel was full as family and friends gathered to support candidates from across our three parishes. Special thanks to our team leaders who prepared the candidates.

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.

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 & Fri 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**

Baptism Course October

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



St Ignatius Card Group

Wednesday afternoons 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. All welcome. Newcomers please seek out Stella.

An Invitation to Parishioners

Come attend the weekly sessions with our OCIA group as they explore a number of topics presented by guest speakers.

Coming up:

26th August, Sister Mary Neven SM will discuss the **Liturgical Calendar and the Gospel Writers**; 2nd September, Kathleen Card from the Justice and Peace Commission discusses the **Social teachings of the Church**.

Wednesdays at 7pm in St Ignatius Church.

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.

St Mary's Old Girl's Association

High Tea and quiz to raise money for the scholarship funds 2 pm Sunday 20th September at The Parnell Hotel & Conference Centre.

Bookings \$60 each by Direct Credit St Mary's College Past Pupils Association Inc. ASB 12-3044-0414268-00

Please use your name & year group as a payment reference .

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. Fr Ryan is the celebrant this month. Eastern Bays Youth are invited to meet Bob at 4.15 pm, outside the Cathedral so we can sit together.

Eastern Bays Coffee-Morning Meet Up

Every third Wednesday of the month, at the Terraces Restaurant, 207 Ridell Road, at St. Andrews Village (all welcome).

Parking is available. Next meeting is 10am, 16th September.

Hope for the World International Conference on Life, Faith and Family

Friday 25 to Sunday 27 September us in Auckland to hear inspiring local and international speakers.

Find out more and to register visit:

<https://fli.org.nz/prolifeconference2026/>

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

St Ignatius Church NEW Roster: September to Early December

The new roster is now being prepared. Current volunteers and anyone interested in joining are invited to scan the QR code below to update their details or register as a new volunteer. New volunteers are warmly welcome! Use the QR code below or visit <https://www.surveymonkey.com/r/Ministry-volunteers-St-Ignatius>



AUGUST ANNIVERSARIES

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

Marija Mercep, Neil Grant, Marie Sinton, Anne Cleaver, Richard Farry, 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 Sydnier, 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 Culpan, 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	ST IGNATIUS	MOTHER OF PERPETUAL HELP
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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		
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