

EASTERN BAYS PASTORAL AREA



St Joseph's
Orakei



St Ignatius
St Heliers



Mother of Perpetual Help
Glendowie

TWENTY-FIFTH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME~ 20th SEPTEMBER 2026

September is the Season of Creation

A warm welcome to visitors to our parishes this weekend.

God will not be outdone in generosity! Today's Gospel presents us with one of

Jesus' most memorable parables: the workers in the vineyard who are employed at different times throughout the day. At the end of the day, remarkably, they all receive the same payment.

Those who have worked since early morning naturally feel this is unfair. Yet the landowner reminds them that he has not cheated them. He has given them what was agreed. His generosity towards those who came later does not diminish what the others have received.

The parable challenges one of our most instinctive human tendencies: **comparison**.

We can easily measure ourselves against others—who has worked harder, contributed more, or received greater recognition. But God's grace does not operate according to our calculations.

God is generous beyond our expectations.

We have been reminded recently of the importance of **generosity and community** in different ways.

The opening of Auckland's *City Rail Link*, the result of many years of vision

and hard work, is a significant investment in connecting people and communities and in shaping our city for future generations.

The 25th anniversary of the events of **11 September 2001**, meanwhile, has invited us to remember those who lost their lives and the many families whose lives were changed forever.

Such remembrance reminds us of the fragility of life and the importance of choosing compassion, peace and solidarity over division and fear.

The **Season of Creation**, which continues throughout September, reminds us of yet another dimension of God's generosity. The earth itself is an extraordinary gift. Here in the Eastern Bays, our sea, coastline, parks and natural environment are gifts entrusted to us—not simply to enjoy, but to cherish and protect.

Perhaps the Gospel's invitation this week is simply to recognise how much we have received and to become more generous in return: generous with our time, our forgiveness, our care for others and our concern for creation.

May we respond to God's generosity with generous hearts.

Blessings, Bernard

Today's Readings

First Reading – Isaiah 55:6-9

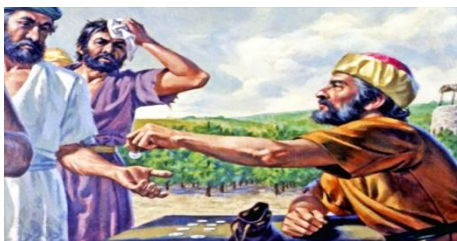
As high as the heavens are above the earth,
so high are God's ways above our ways.

Second Reading – Philippians 1:20-24.27

Writing from prison, Paul is thinking of his death, and longing for complete union with Christ.

Gospel – Matthew 20:1-16

This is a story about the generosity of God,
which soars above human standards.



September Staffing

Monsignor Bernard is away until the beginning of October.

Fr Ryan is holding the fort with the help of Bob. Gina, our sacramental co-ordinator is taking some time out during September for a well-deserved break. Thank you for your support and understanding as our small but energetic team takes much needed time to recharge!

Eastern Bays Pastoral Area 2026 Quiz Night

Help raise funds for our Catholic youth

17 October at 6:30 pm at St Ignatius Parish Centre. Tickets are \$20.00 each.

Raffles – we welcome donations for prizes. Please bring to the St Ignatius Parish Office.

Tickets are on sale now at:

<https://events.humanitix.com/eastern-bays-catholic-quiz-night>

or use the QR code below.



Christmas Hampers Project 2026

Now is the time for our Parishes to commence our project of Christmas Food Hampers for local families in need. This project helps us share our gifts and teaches our children the value of helping others. We'd love your help to make this a special Christmas for families in our community.

Please mark your calendars –

**The Hamper packing day will be
Sunday 29 November after
9.00am Mass at St Ignatius**

We are now welcoming donations.
Each hamper costs around \$120, and donations can be made to:

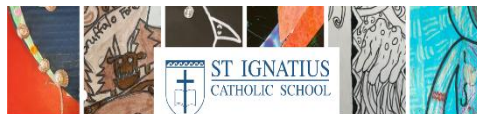
Account Name: St Ignatius St Heliers Bay

Account Number: 02-0108-0707227-003

Reference: Xmas Hampers Donation

We also need **Christmas wrapping paper** to wrap each of the Hampers. If you have leftover rolls from previous years or would be able to donate a roll or two, it would be greatly appreciated.

Gift wrap can be left at the back of the church and will be collected after Mass over the coming weeks.



You are warmly invited to our

School Art Exhibition

Friday, September 25
7:30 am - 10:30 am
Speight Road, St Heliers

\$5 for a programme

Coffee, breakfast baps are available to be purchased - please bring cash.
All proceeds to support the School. Please bring cash.

• Showcasing the imaginative and inspiring artwork created by our young team. •

Baptism Course October

15th, 22nd & 29th October from 7.30pm to 9pm.

To register please email Gina

sacraments@easternbayscatholic.org.nz



St Vincent de Paul Fundraiser

Our Spring Raffle will conclude this Sunday.

See us in the entrance foyer at

MPH 10.30am Mass

Your support is much appreciated.



St Vincent de Paul Society

To celebrate the **Feast Day of St Vincent de Paul** on Sunday

27th September and to thank you all for your ongoing support please join us for Morning

Tea after 10.30am Mass at MPH.

Everyone is most welcome.

Scripture Study Group

Now meets on the **2nd Thursday of each month** at St Ignatius Parish Centre from 7.30pm. All welcome.

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:

23rd September Fr Ryan - the Mass.

Wednesdays at 7pm in St Ignatius Church.

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

Fourth Sunday of the month at 4:30pm at St Patrick's Cathedral.

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.

For further information please phone

Stella on 021 02408199

Eastern Bays Coffee-Morning Meet Up

Every third Wednesday of the month, at the Terraces Restaurant, 207 Riddell Road, Glendowie, in the grounds of St Andrew's Village (all are welcome).

Parking is available. Come along at 10am, 16th September 2026

Men's Coffee Group

An invitation to men to attend a coffee group at "Honey Cafe" Roberta Ave every Thursday after 9am Mass t MPH.

All welcome to come and join us for a coffee and a chat....

2027 Pilgrimage

from Fatima to Rome

Including Salamanca, Lourdes, Paris, Venice and Assisi.

11 April to 3 May 2017.

Chaplain: Monsignor David Tonks.

For more details please contact Laura Yap laura.yap@travelmanagers.co.nz or mobile 021 390 055

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

Holy Cross Seminary

Feast of the Exaltation of the Holy Cross.

Bishop Richard Laurenson will be the principal Celebrant.

Mass is at 7.00pm, Monday, 21 September at Sacred Heart Church,

16 Vermont Street, Ponsonby.

After Mass light refreshments will be served at Holy Cross Seminary,

44 Vermont Street, Ponsonby.

All Parishioners are most welcome.



ANNIVERSARIES

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

Kuno Flatz, June Cosgrove, John Wilson,
Mike Randall, Pat White, Gabrielle Topp,
Hugh, Nance Jagusch, Jim Schaab, Pat
Whitehead, Tom Ryan, Mary Elliott,
Gregory Lomas, Heather Sanelli Ah Lam,
Ray Fox, Thelma Alexander, Kathleen
Costello, Kata Huljich, Frank Mahoney,
Helen Goldstone, Thelma McCallum,
Derek Skelton, Colleen Flatz, Fleur
Garrard, Ula Eadie, Geoffrey Lowe, Marion
James, Margaret Geoghegan, Ante
Dragicevich, Janet Palmer, Frederika
Hackshaw, Thomas Ryan, Maureen Ellis,
Amadee Savy, Winston Cronin, Stanley
Sweet, Pamela Sumich, Martin Purcell,
Franklin Correa, Michael Montague, John
Rosser, Victor Kurta, Jocelyn Williams,
Peter Bramwell, Iosefo Kelekolio, Kathleen
McGrath, Raymond Keenan, Marie
Simmons, Thomas King, Joseph Hope,
Sean Kelly, Maria Henrys, Angus
MacDonald, John Connolly, Mary
Mercieca, Trish Krigolson

....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

9:00am 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)

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

office@stignatius.school.nz

Ph: (09) 575 7081