EASTERN BAYS PASTORAL AREA



St Joseph's Orakei | St Ignatius St Heliers | Mother of Perpetual Help Glendowie

THIRTY-SECOND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME ~ 8TH NOVEMBER 2026

Kia ora koutou katoa…
A warm welcome to all visitors and newcomers to our parishes this weekend.

In the month of **November**, a long-standing tradition of the Church invites us to reflect on the great themes of remembrance, hope and eternal life.

During this month, we remember in a special way our loved ones who have died, giving thanks for their lives and entrusting them to the loving mercy of God.

All Souls' Day reminds us that death does not have the final word. Our Christian faith is founded on the promise of resurrection and the hope that we will one day share eternal life with Christ.

This Sunday's Gospel (Matthew 25:1–13) tells the parable of the ten bridesmaids, five wise and five foolish. As they await the arrival of the bridegroom, only those who have brought sufficient oil for their lamps are ready to welcome him.

Jesus concludes with the words: **"Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour".** These words invite us to consider how prepared we are to recognise Christ in our everyday lives. The oil in our lamps might be understood as our faith, our prayer, our compassion and our willingness to serve others. We are called not simply to wait for the Lord, but to live each day with generous and expectant hearts.

As we await the outcome of the **General Election**, we pray that our nation will be blessed with good leadership and government. May those entrusted with public responsibility work for the common good, uphold human dignity and give particular attention to those most vulnerable in our society.

Looking ahead, our Eastern Bays communities will gather again on **22 November** for our next ***Reshaping Our Future*** meeting. This is an important opportunity to continue building trust, strengthening relationships and discerning together how we might best serve the mission of the Church in our local communities.

May we keep our lamps burning brightly, nourished by faith, hope and love, as together we journey into the future God is preparing for us.

Blessings, Bernard

Today's Readings

First Reading – Wisdom 6:12-16
This sings the praise of wisdom, which can be found by all those who seek it.

Second Reading
1 Thessalonians 4:13-18
St Paul consoles his converts at Thessalonika who are worried about the fate of their loved ones who have died before the return of the Lord.

Gospel – Matthew 25:1-13
A story which urges us to stay awake because we do not know the day nor the hour of the Lord's coming.



Faithful God,
Help us to keep the light of our faith burning.
Teach us to remain close to You in prayer, to live with hope and trust, and to serve others with loving hearts.
May we always be ready to welcome You and share Your light with the world. Amen

November ~ Month of Remembrance

We remember and pray for those we have loved and lost.

A book/box of remembrance
is in all Church Foyers for you to write the names of those you wish to remember.

Tongan Chaplaincy

50th Jubilee Mass ~ 15th November
at St Patrick's Cathedral at 1.00pm

St Joseph's Parish – Ministry of the Word

We are seeking new readers to proclaim the Word at our Sunday 5.00pm Masses?
Please email ppcsjo@gmail.com

WINE AND CHEESE – All Welcome ~
St Ignatius Hall after 5.00pm Mass

Christmas Hamper Project 2026

A heartfelt thank you to our wonderful parish community for the incredible generosity and support you've shown our Christmas Hamper Project this year.
We're thrilled to share that we've surpassed our fundraising target, raising an amazing $43,500!
This means we can provide Christmas hampers to **350 families** in our community this festive season.
A big thank you, too, to everyone who donated gift wrap. We now have enough wrapping paper for all our hamper boxes so now it's time to get wrapping and prepare everything for packing day.

We'd love you to join us in the Parish Centre for one of our upcoming **wrapping sessions**:

- This Saturday 7 November: Quiet wrapping session - 2:30pm–4:30pm
- Saturday 14 November: Youth wrapping session after 5.00pm Mass
- Sunday 15 November: Wrapping session open to everyone after 9am Mass

Whether you can stay for the whole session or just lend a hand for a little while, your help will be greatly appreciated.

Thank you also to everyone who has volunteered to help with driving and other roles that make this project possible. We'll be in touch with you directly closer to packing day with further details.

We look forward to coming together on Sunday 29 November for our Christmas **Hamper packing day.**
Falling on the first Sunday of Advent, it's a wonderful opportunity to begin this season of hope and preparation by putting our faith into action, sharing our blessings and bringing a little extra love and joy to families in our wider community.

Reshaping our Future ~ Next Meeting November 22nd - 2.00pm – 5.00pm

Having reflected on the fruits of our conversations and our current reality, what do you sense the Holy Spirit is inviting our three communities to become and do together?

Feedback is attached with this Newsletter.

Let's gather for discussion and discernment on where to from here…

Venue: St Ignatius Parish

MPH Baptismal Presentation and Preparation Sessions

During 10.30am Mass on **Sunday 15th November** will be the Presentation of Children to be Baptised.

After Mass there will be a Preparation Session for Parents led by Karen Rassie, our Baptismal Coordinator, in the Parish Centre~11.30-12.30pm.

This Session is for first time or expectant parents and attendance by both Parents is required. Parents with second and subsequent children are most welcome to attend. To register for Sunday 15th November please contact Maureen at the MPH Parish Office. Email: adminsupport@easternbayscatholic.org.nz or Phone: 575 9296

St Ignatius Catholic School St Heliers Centenary 2027

Planning is underway for our Centenary events next year! It will be a wonderful opportunity for us to celebrate the last 100 years in our school.

Please register your interest click here or jump onto our website or email centenary@stignatius.school.nz

Thinking about becoming Catholic? Come along to our Information Session

Tuesday 10th November at 7.30pm at St Ignatius. Please email Gina at sacraments@easternbayscatholic.org.nz

Scripture Study Group

Next Thursday 12 November at St Ignatius Parish Centre from 7.30pm. All welcome.

St Joseph's Mass of Thanksgiving ~ Sunday 29 November at 9.00am

We invite you to celebrate the last **St Joseph's School-Parish Mass** at Orakei, with lunch to follow.

Let us celebrate the graces and blessings that have been a part of St Joseph's School over the years.

We are seeking **Alumni** to participate in our School-Parish Mass. We'd love to hear from you. Please share photos of school life with us. Please email ppcsjo@gmail.com

ACCOMMODATION REQUIRED – EASTERN BAYS

Reliable, clean and tidy single female seeking room/board in the Eastern Bays area. Well-presented and easily gets along with all age groups. Board/rent terms negotiable. Please contact Sophie on 021 165 9688

Eastern Bays Coffee-Morning Meetup for Men and Women

Every **third Wednesday** of the month, at the Terraces Restaurant, 207 Riddell Road, Glendowie. Come along at **10am on 18th November 2026**

Men's Coffee Group

at "Honey Cafe" Roberta Ave every Thursday after 9am Mass at MPH. All welcome to come and join us for a coffee and a chat….

St Ignatius Card Group

Wednesday afternoons at the St Ignatius Parish centre. Call Stella on 021 02408199

Christian Care Network Eastern Bays Communities

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

ANNIVERSARIES

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

Mary Donegan, Anthony Gates, Reg Edwards, Gary Williams, Dona Elliott, Pat de Zote, Brother Michael Taylor fms, Abbey Russell, Donna Collins, Des Clarke, Alex Pinfold, Michael Davis, Royce Moodabe, Lotus Bentinck-Stokes, Anna Shalfoon, Yvonne Spode, Christopher Everitt, Rex Jennings, Margaret Winter, Annie Dempsey, Fr Humphrey O'Leary, William O'Connell, Noel Trembath, Yin Young, Walter Grbich, Patricia Wilson, Emily Mamo, Maurice Larsen, Joy McKenzie, Lydia Schweder, Peter Marshall, Rosemary Reeves, Carmel Connolly, Paul Mason, Carmel Henderson, Irene Davenport, William Fell, Graham Quinn, Ivy Digby, Barry Crowley, Aileen Angland, Hilda Waite, Leo Klaassen, Mary Millar, Elizabeth Downs, Juanita Corban, David Drum, Margaret McLean, Bill Williams, Darrell Comber, Valentina Warren, Ivan Downs, John Galvin, Dhiren Perera, Fay Hudner, Marie Dulihanty, Sakina De Marigny, Reginald McHugh, and Cushla Wallace.

Eternal rest grant to them…



Eastern Bays Area Schedule

Monday

9.00am Mass at OL of Fatima Meadowbank

9.00am St Ignatius ~
Liturgy of the Word with Holy Communion

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

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	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

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St Ignatius School
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