



DEVONPORT CATHOLIC  
PARISH  
St Francis de Sales & All Souls  
2a Albert Road, Devonport, Auckland, 0624



JANUARY 18TH 2026: 2ND SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



*He on whom you see the Spirit descend and remain is the one who baptizes with the Holy Spirit. And I myself have seen and testified that this is the Son of God.*

*John 1: 33-34.*

As we continue to hear in John's Gospel about the baptism of Jesus, it is fitting that we welcome to the Parish the two children who are being baptized this weekend at the Saturday Vigil Mass: Tamara Bulawit and Thea Castor. Arohanui to them and their families.

A New Year is traditionally a time to look forward and plan the things we will do differently. It's also a time to look back, and as a parish we do that each year for the Statement of Service Performance required by the Diocese. Our Parish Roll has grown slightly and we have had more baptisms and weddings, but fewer funerals than last year, so it's obviously a healthy parish to belong to! Our number of volunteer hours has also increased weekly—heartfelt thanks to the new volunteers in ministries across the board.

In a world where the new year has seen even more violence and bloodshed, this message from Pope Leo to commemorate the 800th anniversary of the death of St Francis of Assisi is very relevant.

**Pope Leo XIV Opens YEAR OF GRACE**

On the 10<sup>th</sup> of January, Pope Leo declared a Year of Grace to commemorate this significant anniversary

*Saint Francis, our brother, you who eight hundred years ago went to meet Sister Death as a man at peace, intercede for us before the Lord.*

*You who, unarmed, crossed the lines of war and misunderstanding, give us the courage to build bridges where the world raises up boundaries.*

*Intercede for us so that we may become peacemakers: unarmed and disarming witnesses of the peace that comes from Christ. Amen.*

The season we know of as Ordinary Time in the Church's year is anything but 'ordinary'. These Sundays seek to encourage Mass-goers to let their routine lives be radically changed by the far-from-ordinary good news of Jesus Christ. "The kingdom of God is near; repent and believe the Good News". We will be guided through this year's Ordinary Time by the gospel of Matthew.

**SECOND SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**      *The Lamb of God*

**Isaiah 49:3,5-6** I will make you the light of the nations so that my salvation may reach to the ends of the earth.

**Psalm 40: Here I am, Lord; I come to do your will.**

**1Corinthians 1:1-3** May God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ send you peace.

**John 1:29-34** Look, there is the lamb of God that takes away the sin of the world.

**THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME**    25 JAN    *Jesus, The Light of the World*

**Isaiah 8:23—9:3** In Galilee of the nations the people has seen a great light.

**Psalm 27: The Lord is my light and my salvation.**

**1Corinthians 1:10-13,17** Make up the differences between you instead of disagreeing among yourselves.

**Matthew 4:12-23** He went and settled in Capernaum: in this way the prophesy of Isaiah was to be fulfilled.

<b>Ministries</b>	<b><u>Sat 17 January</u></b>	<b><u>Sun 18 January</u></b>
<b>Welcome</b>	Shawn Pearce-Blom	Marty Willetts
<b>Readers</b>	Steve Burke Damian Wallis	Vanessa Baldey Denise O'Shaughnessy
<b>Communion</b>	Denise Ross Kitt Isidro	Francisca K, Pauline Baker, Monica Duot
<b>Ministries</b>	<b><u>Sat 24 January</u></b>	<b><u>Sun 25 January</u></b>
<b>Welcome</b>	Kath Petrie	Greg Shanahan
<b>Readers</b>	Riaan Blom Nicky Witham-Blackwell	Mary Lyttleton Ben Upton
<b>Communion</b>	Kevin Isidro Kasey Isidro	Adrienne Ramskill Flo Sapa'u Vimi Chandra

*Weekday prayer groups.*

Rosary Group: Monday at 6pm in the Church has started again for this year.

Meditative Prayer: Monday 6.30 pm will start again in February.

Scripture Study Group: Wednesday 7pm will start again in February.

*Watch tis space!*

**We remember in prayer those who have died, and those whose anniversaries occur at this time:**

**Jan 17:** Percy Evans 1906 Bridget Koefoed 1916

**Jan 18:** Carol Jacobson 1949, Lucy McBride, 2008, Doreen Byrnes 2019, Vladimir "Wally" Papich 2024

**Jan 19:** Catherine Shea 1914 James Oliver 1996

**Jan 20:** James Murphy 1916

**Jan 21:** Alexander Geelan de Kabath 1991, Maxwell Campbell 1996

**Jan 22:** Laurence Coleman 1924

**Jan 23:** Mario Dell'Isola 1999

**Carmel College 2027 Enrolments** Open 27 January 2026, Close 13 March 2026.

Any questions to Jane [admin@carmel.school.nz](mailto:admin@carmel.school.nz)

## From the Diocese

### Praise in the Park

All are welcome to join many Auckland Catholic and Christian believers at our outdoor event, which will include music, Gospel proclamation, personal stories, and Eucharistic Adoration. This outdoor event will bring hope and joy to all who come by.

Please bring yourselves and families to help bring the light of Jesus to those who may not have hope.

There will be prayer ministry and information stalls.

**Date:** 15 February 2026

**Where:** Selwyn Domain, along Mission Bay.

**4:00 pm – 5:30 pm** - Praise and Worship, including a mix of contemporary and well-known Christian music, interwoven with personal stories and the gospel message.

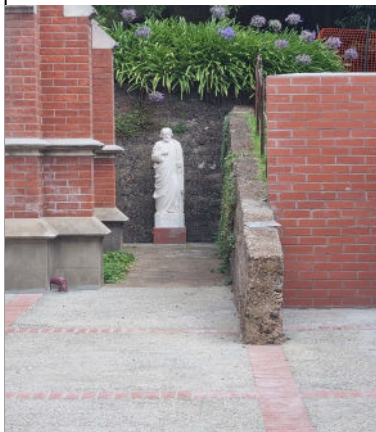
**5:30 pm – 6:00 pm** - A time of Adoration, accompanied by traditional Catholic hymns, offering space for reflection and encounter with Christ.

For more details and parking information visit [praiseinthepark.nz](http://praiseinthepark.nz) or contact Engelbert on [engelbert.dsouza@yahoo.com](mailto:engelbert.dsouza@yahoo.com)

**Columbarium news.** We are eagerly looking forward to the blessing of the completed Columbarium by Bishop Steve on Sunday 22nd February at 9 am, followed by Mass. So many stories have emerged in the building of this project, of connections, people and places.

The statue of St Joseph, traditional patron saint of a happy and holy death, was donated to the parish by the family of Owen Hanley Walsh, great-uncle of long-time parishioner Anne Sutton, in the 1920s. Owen was only 10 years old when he died in 1928, a victim of the Spanish flu epidemic which followed WWI. Many people in Devonport were affected, and the Sisters of Mercy closed St Leo's school and helped to nurse those who were ill.

The statue originally stood in the alcove on the right hand side of the altar, where the Sacred



Heart statue is now, but was moved across the road to outside the convent when Fr Terry ordered some new statues for the church. It was later

moved back to the church by Mons Cronin, who had met the family at Mass in the Naval Base and noted their concerns about mould damage. It stood since then at the back of the church, but with the support of the family and the blessing of Fr Neil the statue, treated for its new position outside, will provide a fitting link between the living and the dead.

### Feast Days in The Second Week of Ordinary Time

- **Tues 20 Jan: St Fabian, pope and martyr.** Bishop of Rome from 236-250, when he was martyred at the beginning of the persecution of Decius.
- **Tues 20 Jan: St Sebastian, martyr.** Sebastian was martyred at Rome, at the beginning of the persecution of Diocletian. His tomb is in the Catacomb on the Via Appia.
- **Wed 21 Jan: St Agnes, virgin and martyr.** Put to death at the end of the persecution of Diocletian, probably in the early years of the fourth century, Agnes was perhaps twelve or fifteen.
- **Thurs 22 Jan: St Vincent, deacon and martyr.** A deacon of the Church at Saragossa. He was put to death at Valencia in Spain, during the persecution of Diocletian, in about 304.
- **Sat 24 Jan: St Francis de Sales, bishop and doctor of the Church.** Bishop of Geneva at the time of Calvin, he strove for the renewal of the faith. His "Introduction to the Devout Life" is a classic of spiritual direction, and remains relevant and well-read. He died on 28 Dec 1622, at the age of 55. Patron saint of journalists. **Patron of our parish.**

**Food for Faith** is a New Zealand web-based outreach offering podcasts which provide thought-provoking material on personal Scripture study (Lectio Divina) and preparation for the following Sunday readings (Homily Studio) as well as prayer requests. A chance to connect with the wider Catholic community in Aotearoa.

[www.foodforfaith.org.nz](http://www.foodforfaith.org.nz)

**Address: 2A Albert Road, Devonport, Auckland, 0624**

**Tel: +64 (09) 445-0078**

**Email: [office@devonportcatholic.org.nz](mailto:office@devonportcatholic.org.nz)**

**Website: [www.devonportcatholic.org.nz](http://www.devonportcatholic.org.nz)**

**Facebook: [St Francis de Sales & All Souls](#)**

**Parish Priest: Rev Fr Neil Darragh**

[neil@devonportcatholic.org.nz](mailto:neil@devonportcatholic.org.nz)

**Pastoral Assistant: Stephen Bell**

**Parish Secretary: Kathleen Petrie**

**Parish Bank Account: BNZ 02-0108- 0706881-000**

**St Leo's Catholic School: (09) 445-9339 [www.stleos.school.nz](http://www.stleos.school.nz)**

**St Leo's Catholic School Principal: Vimi Chandra**

**Proprietor's Reps: Julia Strickett, Anna Rumble, Paulene Walsh**

**Parish Office Hours: Mon, Tues, Thurs, Fri 9:00am to 12 noon  
closed Wednesdays**

**Masses next weekend**

Sat: 5.30pm Sun: 9.30am

**Masses during the coming week**

Wednesday and Friday 12 noon

**Sacrament of Reconciliation: Saturday 5pm**

### **Ministry Reminders**

**Flowers** Sue Story

#### **Counters**

18/1 Maria and Jeremy

25/1 Shyrelle and Brian

#### **Hospitality**

18/1 Monika

25/1 Shelley & Hyme

#### **Altar Servers**

18/1 School holidays as  
available

25/1 New roster starts next  
week

#### **Children's Liturgy Leaders**

21/12 School holidays. No  
Children's Liturgy.

25/1 New Roster starts next  
week.