



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



FEBRUARY 1 ST 2026: 4TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



Welcome back to all of St Leo's students and staff as they start term 1 on February 2nd.

The Parish playgroup will start again on Tuesday February 3rd at 9.15-10.15am every Tuesday in term time in the parish hall.

12 noon Mass on Waitangi Day 6th Feb.

On this day, we reflect as a nation on the Treaty of Waitangi and what it began for our country... Like the relationship between God and his people we know it is only with forgiveness in our hearts, with a desire to maintain that relationship in good faith that we as a nation will be able to move forward and work for the good of all people. (from the homily of Archbishop Paul Martin 6 Feb 2025)



**18th February is ASH
WEDNESDAY**

Please return any palms you have from last year's Passion Sunday, we will be collecting them over the next couple of weeks — these palms will be burned to make the ashes. There is a box at church door for them.

Ash Wednesday Mass times:

12.00pm and 7.00pm

Parish Membership Registration

Our parish family is growing. If you are a new (or new-ish) member of our community of St Francis de Sales & All Souls, please be sure to fill in a registration form, which helps us to know who you are. Forms are available on the table at church door; or you can do this online: <https://devonportcatholic.org.nz/parish-registration/>

Also, please let us know if you would like to be included on the list for the weekly email; you can do this online, or email office@devonportcatholic.org.nz

Sacramental Programme for 2026

The programme of formation for the sacrament of **FIRST RECONCILIATION** begins on Sunday 8th March at 3.30pm. Preparation for **CONFIRMATION** and **FIRST COMMUNION** will take place in the second school term, and be celebrated with Bishop Stephen Lowe on Sunday 7th June at 9.30am Mass.

The minimum age level for the programme is Year 4 and above.

Enrolment forms with programme schedule are available at church door, or download from parish website:

www.devonportcatholic.org.nz/sacramental

For further information, please phone Stephen Bell 021 0608561, or email stpb@devonportcatholic.org.nz

Chapter 5 of Matthew's gospel is read from the 4th to the 9th Sundays in Ordinary Time (or until Lent, whichever comes first). Each selection begins with words like 'Jesus went up the mountain and was joined by his disciples. Then he began to teach them ...' It is the first part of the Sermon on the Mount — a summary of the good news that Jesus would elaborate on: a blueprint for the life of the disciple.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME *Our Nothingness*

Zephaniah 2:3,3:12-13 In your midst I will leave a humble and lowly people.

Psalms 146: Happy the poor in spirit; the kingdom of heaven is theirs!

1Corinthians 1:26-31 God chose what is foolish by human reckoning.

Matthew 5:1-12 How happy are the poor in spirit.

FIFTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME 8 FEB - *Christ's Church: A Light in the Darkness*

Isaiah 58:7-10 Then will your light shine light the dawn.

Psalms 112: A light rises in the darkness for the upright.

1Corinthians 2:1-5 During my stay with you, the only knowledge I claimed to have was about Jesus as the crucified Christ.

Matthew 5:13-16 You are the light of the world.

	<u>Sat 31 January</u>	<u>Sun 1 February</u>
Ministries		
Welcome	Sarah Menzies	Emma Mackie-Watts
Readers	Robert Mannion Steve Burke	John Knight Sarah Sparks
Communion	Kitt Isidro Lisa Mannion	Gabriel Sagripanti Pauline Baker Maryanne Offner
Ministries	<u>Sat 7 February</u>	<u>Sun 8 February</u>
Welcome	Steve Burke	Anne Gibson
Readers	Damian Wallis Kath Petrie	Nevil Gibson Yem Braid
Communion	Riaan Blom Denise Ross	Monica Duot Iain Gillies

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 on Wednesday 4th February.

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

- Feb 1:** Barry Drake 1987, Ronald Mewa 2002
- Feb 2:** Henry Gallagher 1929 Colleen Gill 1983
- Feb 3:** Bob Caldwell 2013
- Feb 4:** Emily Hobdell 1979, Dorothy Sherry 2007, Eileen Crawford 2008
- Feb 5:** Timothy O'Connor 1936, Clifford Hayson 1949
- Feb 6:** Rose Smythe 1939, Margaret Redmond 1957, Linda Tierney 2012
- Feb 8:** Lindsay Helen Sykes 2001

40 days for life This Lent, win people over to the dignity of every person from conception to natural death. Join in 40 Days for Life, offering hope to mothers in their hour of need. From Ash Wednesday (14 February) to Palm Sunday (24 March).

For more information contact Simon – 021 400 729 or simon@fli.org.nz

From the Diocese

Celebrating Marriage & Family Life

St Valentine's vigil Mass **Saturday 14th February 5.30pm** at the Cathedral of St Patrick & St Joseph 43 Wyndam Street CBD for married, engaged, dating, widowed and families all are welcome.

See poster in foyer

Parish Finance Committee Refresher

Parish Finance Committee members are warmly invited to an evening refresher your understanding on the roles and responsibilities of finance committees. The session will be held at the Pompallier Centre, 30 New Street (on-site parking available), from 7.00–9.00pm on **12 February**. It will be a fast moving and dynamic evening touching on finance, property, safeguarding, people, and fundraising. Please RSVP to EurekaM@cda.org.nz by 6 February.

CALLING ALL TERTIARY STUDENTS!

There is a LARGE, VIBRANT and RAPIDLY growing Catholic STUDENT COMMUNITY present across University of Auckland and AUT campuses. JOIN US in 2026! To find out more please contact Daniel Story at dans@cda.org.nz and/or check out the Auckland Catholic Tertiary Chaplaincy (ACTC) socials.

WYD 2027 Webinars

To support the preparation for this great event with the Holy Father Leo XVI, the Catholic Theological College has organised a series of webinars for the Youth in NZ. We have invited prominent theologians and those involved in pastoral work locally and internationally to be our guest speakers.

How to prepare meaningfully for LENT

Preparing for Lent involves prayerfully choosing to focus on **prayer, fasting, and almsgiving (charitable giving)**, aiming to create spiritual space for deeper connection with God.

Key Areas for Preparation

Prayer:

☒ **Set Intentions:** Decide on a specific prayer focus or new devotional practice for the season.e.g. Stations of the Cross

☒ **Make Time:** Plan for extra time in silent prayer, meditation, or reading scripture.

☒ **Family Prayer:** Engage children with activities like Guess the Saint or family rosaries.

Fasting (Giving Something Up):

☒ **Identify Hindrances:** Give up something that distracts from your relationship with God (e.g., excessive screen time, a favorite food/drink).

☒ **Replace with Good:** Substitute the time or energy spent on the given-up item with positive spiritual practices.

☒ **Beyond Food:** Consider fasting from negative habits, constant phone checking, or even gossip.

Almsgiving (Charitable Giving/Service):

☒ **Serve Others:** Plan acts of service, volunteer, or donate resources (time, money, clothes).

☒ **Show Kindness:** Make a conscious effort to spread kindness and bring smiles to others.

☒ To become more like Christ.

See CARITAS poster Lent Webinar 2026

World Day of Prayer Friday 6 March This year the service has been prepared by the women of Nigeria, and will be held at the Devonport Methodist Church. If you can help in the preparation, please ring Kath 021 620805. Open to everyone.

Feast Days in The Fourth Week of Ordinary Time

- **Mon 2 Feb: The Presentation of the Lord.** Also known as “**Candlemas Day**” — Candles are blessed and carried in procession to welcome Christ, the light to enlighten the Gentiles and the glory of his people. This is a Day of Prayer for Consecrated Life.
- **Tues 3 Feb: St Blaise, bishop & martyr.** Bishop of Sivas in Armenia in the fourth century. Patron saint of throat illnesses, and of wild animals.
- **Tues 3 Feb:** for **St Ansgar, bishop.** Born in France 801, became a monk and in 826 set out to preach gospel in Denmark and then Sweden. Made bishop of Hamburg & papal legate to Denmark & Sweden by Gregory IV.
- **Thurs 5 Feb: St Agatha, virgin and martyr.** Martyred at Catania, in Sicily, probably during the persecution of Decius. She is among the saints commemorated in the Roman Canon.
- **Fri 6 Feb: Waitangi Day.** National Day of Aotearoa New Zealand; commemorating the inception of *Te Tiriti O Waitangi* on this day in 1840.
- **Sat 7 Feb: St Paul Miki and companions, martyrs.** Paul was the son of a Japanese military leader. Educated by the Jesuits and himself joined the Order in 1580, becoming known for his eloquent preaching. He was crucified, along with 25 other Catholics, at Nagasaki on 5 Feb. 1597 during the persecution of Christians under the Taiko, Toyotoni Hideyoshi, in the name of the Emperor. They were canonized in 1862 as the Martyrs of Japan.

Parish Office hours from February 2 Mon 10am -2pm, Tue 10am -1pm, Wed Closed, Thu 10am - 2pm, Fri 10am - 2pm

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

Tel: +64 (09) 445-0078

Email: office@devonportcatholic.org.nz

Website: www.devonportcatholic.org.nz

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

Parish Priest: Rev Fr Neil Darragh

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

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

1/2 Frances Downs &
Arthur Whelan

8/2 Alix & Bill Cooper

Hospitality

1/2 Kate Casey

8/2 Fiona & Mark Brunton

Altar Servers

8/2 Levente Ven, Decland
& Reuben Takuira

15/2 Levente Ven, Rosemary
Dobbs, & Beth Cairney

Children's Liturgy Leaders

8/2 Mary-Jane & Millie
Lendich

15/2 Julia Strickett & Alice
Gillies

More volunteers welcome.