



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



JANUARY 25TH 2026: 3RD SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME



A few quotes from
St Francis de Sales, whose feast day is this weekend 24th January ...

- The measure of love is to love without measure
- Do not wish to be anything but what you are, and try to be that perfectly
- Be patient with everyone, but above all with yourself...do not be disheartened by your imperfections, but always rise up with fresh courage
- You learn to speak by speaking, to study by studying, to run by running, to work by working; and just so, you learn to love by loving. All those who think to learn in any other way deceive themselves
- The pilgrims who spend all of their time counting their steps will make little progress
- Great works do not always come our way but every moment presents us with opportunities to do little ones with excellence

Word of God Sunday

This Sunday, the Third Sunday in Ordinary Time, is the seventh Word of God Sunday. Pope Francis instituted this celebration several years ago to encourage a deepening love and appreciation for Sacred Scripture within the Church. While we have sold out of the Bible Diaries which provide daily readings and commentary, a similar source can be found in **God's Word 2026** from the Pauline Press in Australia. It is available from St Joseph's Gift Shop 253 Dairy Flat Highway Albany, cost \$27.99 shop@stjosephscentre.co.nz

The Scripture Study group will be starting up again on the first Wednesday of next month, 4th February in the Meeting Room at 7 pm. Everyone is welcome.



From the Liturgy Committee meeting Jan 20th:

*Easter is early this year. Ash Wednesday is on Feb 18th, and there will be two distributions of ashes: 12 noon (with St Leo's) and 7 pm. There will be a basket at the back of the church for the collection of last year's palms to be burned into ashes.
* Following the holiday break, we begin again the process of discernment on the issues raised in synodal conversations about liturgical change last year. Further consultation with parishioners will be publicized as needed.

“The people that walked in darkness has seen a great light”. These same prophetic words of Isaiah that we heard at the Christmas Midnight Mass we hear again today as Jesus sets off on his mission of preaching and healing; and we begin our journey through Matthew’s gospel.

THIRD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME — *Jesus, the Light of the World*

Word of God Sunday

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.

FOURTH SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME

1 FEB

Our Nothingness

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

Psalm 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.

	Sat 24 January	Sun 25 January
Ministries		
Welcome	Kath Petrie	Greg Shanahan
Readers	Riaan Blom Nicky Witham-Blackwell	Mary Lyttleton Ben Upton
Communion	Kevin Isidro Kasey Isidro	Adrienne Ramskill Flo Sapa’u Vimi Chandra
Ministries	Sat 31 January	Sun 1 February
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

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 this space!

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

Jan 24: Laura Nelson 1985

Jan 25: Shane O’Neill 1913, Annollia Johnson 1978

Jan 26: May Harris 1971

Jan 27: June Kennedy-Good 2008

Jan 28: Daniel Murphy 1979, Annie Halsey 2004

Jan 29: Joseph Kirk 1954, Mary Wright 2003

Jan 30: Roland Magness 1922, Allan Wilson 1987, John McHugh 2015

Jan 31: Donovan 1887

Carmel College 2027

Enrolments Open 27 January 2026, Close 13 March 2026.

Any questions to Jane

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. **4:30 pm – 6pm** -

For more details and parking information visit praiseinthepark.nz or contact

Engelbert

on engelbert.dsouza@yahoo.com

New Zealand Catholic Medical Association (NZCMA) Retreat and Seminar

The New Zealand Catholic Medical Association provides community, support and chaplaincy for those involved in health care in Aotearoa. The association welcomes doctors, nurses, midwives, carers, pharmacists, physiotherapists, psychologists, dentists, health administrators, counsellors, social workers, chaplains, lawyers, and anyone in allied roles. The next nationwide event is a retreat and seminar at the St Francis Friary & Retreat Centre, Auckland on **March 20 and 21**. For more information or to register, visit <https://bit.ly/NZCMA2026> or email newzealandcatholicmedical@gmail.com

A New Face in the Parish Office.

Bernadette Coe, the new Parish Secretary, will begin in the office on Jan 27th, working with Kath for a hand-over week and will be in sole charge from Monday 2nd February.

Bernadette will be familiar to some parishioners from her time living in Bayswater and attending Mass and Rosary here. She is now commuting from Albany, so the office opening hours will change slightly. More about that next week.

Bernadette was born in Samoa, but spent her formative years in France, where she still has family. She is a fluent French speaker! Bienvenue Bernadette! Warm Welcome!

JOSHUA

Catholic Men's Fellowship – North Shore

Join us for an inspiring evening of brotherhood, faith, and encouragement.

“Bring a brother — strengthen a brother.”

Topic: Testimony

Presenter: Bro Jerome Hardy

Date: Wednesday, 28 January 2026

Venue: St Thomas More Church,

336 Wairau Road, Glenfield, Auckland 0629

• 7:00pm – Fellowship

• 7:30pm – Praise & Worship

Bring a friend!

All men welcome!

Feast Days in The Third Week of Ordinary Time

- **Mon 26 Jan: St Timothy and St Titus**, bishops. Disciples and co-workers of St Paul. Timothy accompanied Paul on his travels. He was in charge of the Church at Ephesus. Titus was Paul's messenger to various Christian communities where disputes arose, and he was in charge of the Church at Crete. To these two Paul wrote his pastoral letters.
- **Tues 27 Jan: St Angela Merici, virgin**. Born at Desenzano, near Brescia, 1470. Saw her task as the formation of Christian women: in 1535 founded institute of Ursulines, devoted to education of poor girls, and to the missions. Died in 1540.
- **Wed 28 Jan: St Thomas Aquinas, priest & doctor of the Church**. Born about 1225. Entered the Dominican Order in 1244 and studied in Paris and Cologne. His outstanding writings and teachings in theology, philosophy and scripture were founded on a life of prayer and faith. He died in 1274.
- **Sat 31 Jan: St John Bosco, priest**. Born in Turin in 1815 and brought up in poverty. Devoted his life to the education of working youth. Founded religious congregations – the Salesian Order (inspired by the life and work of Francis de Sales), and the Daughters of Mary Help of Christians – to carry on his ideals.

Pro-life New Zealanders will gather in Auckland on Saturday, 7 March, for the 2026 March for Life. This family-friendly event offers a peaceful witness of the dignity of every human life and makes a stand against abortion and euthanasia. The March will begin at 2pm at Te Komitanga Square, move up Queen St to Aotea Square, and conclude at 4pm.

For pro-life information, visit www.voiceforlife.org.nz.

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

25/1 Shyrelle and Brian

1/2 Frances Downs &
Arthur Whelan

Hospitality

25/1 Shelley & Hyme

1/2 Kate Casey

Altar Servers

25/1 New roster starts next
week

Children's Liturgy Leaders

25/1 New Roster starts next
week. More
volunteers welcome.

Please contact parish
secretary. 445 0078