

HAERE MAI E TE WHĀNAU, TENA KOUTOU KATOĀ, A KIA NOHO TE ARIKI
KI A KOUTOU. WELCOME, FAMILY; GREETINGS TO YOU ALL. MAY THE
LORD BE WITH YOU



HATO MERE OTAKI, PUKEKARAKA PANUI

13th week in Ordinary time, 28th June 2026,
Fr Beni will celebrate our Eucharist this Sunday.

Our Sunday celebration is at 10 am in the Main church

NB: As there is a renewed wave of COVID and winter colds around, those who wish to receive communion on the tongue, please wait till the end of the communion line to come to communion, as there is a greater risk of transmission of germs via hand-to-mouth contact. Let's keep each other safe. **"If you are feeling unwell, please put others first and keep our community safe. It is very important that you stay home, keep warm and get well."**

Fr Smi's Reflection: "Whoever receives, receives me, and whoever receives me receives the one who sent me." (Matthew 10:40)

The Shepherd whose heart is moved with pity for His sheep continues to address the twelve whom He has chosen to shepherd with Him. He sends them out not as representative of a distant Shepherd but as the very temple in whom the Shepherd and His Father dwell with the Holy Spirit. When the shepherds show up, the Holy Trinity shows up.

When we welcome these twelve and their successors with a cup of water, we are welcoming the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit who dwell within them. The bishops, priests and deacons are chosen from among the sheep and sent to the rest of the sheep as the very embodiment of the Holy Trinity who teaches, governs and sanctifies the sheep through these chosen men.

We as sheep follow the only one true and good Shepherd, our Lord Jesus Christ, who alone can lead us all, teach us all and transform us all into divine sons and daughters of the heavenly Father. It is from the Father that all our loved ones have come. It is our Father for whom everyone we love is crying and searching restlessly. It is not us that they have the deepest longing for. They come to us from the divine and are longing to return to the divine.

We do not know the Father unless we love the Son first and above all else. The Son alone can reveal the Father to us, teach us about Him, lead us to Him and make us divine like Him.

The Son chooses the twelve and their successors to teach, rule and sanctify with Him the people of every nation. These chosen men come to us as sons with the Son. They come with the sacred and pierced heart of the Son, and together with the Son, they are dying for us that we may have life eternal with our Father and with each other.



From the Ecology, Justice and Peace Commission this week: Let us drink anew from this Eucharistic spring, which does not enclose us in private devotion, but sends us out to refresh our brothers and sisters, our families, the poor, the suffering, and those who have lost hope. Eucharistic grace transforms us and makes us protagonists of the transformation of history, a sign of hope for those we meet.' Pope Leo XIV, *Homily*, Madrid, 7 June 2026

Pope Leo's prayer intentions for June 2026: For the values of sports. Let us pray that sports be an instrument of peace, encounter, and dialogue among cultures and nations, and that they promote values such as respect, solidarity, and personal growth. Click on the link below to watch.
<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=hvBvVhr7qil>

Flashes of Insights is a weekly news source about the Catholic Church. It is worth reading. Click the link <https://flashesinsight.com/>. And there are weekly reflections for you to ponder.

Priests & Office Administrator

Fr Simi Volavola Fr Beni Bakatete	Parish Administrator Assistant Priest	pasimi.otaki@gmail.com pabenimsc.otaki@gmail.com
Stephanie Harris-Stevens	Office Administrator	pukekaraka1@gmail.com Ph 021 253 1080

Church Roster

	Proclaimers	Eucharistic Ministers	Greeters	Collectors	Linen for June
28th June	Paul & Peter	Josie, Phil & Mary Elizabeth	John	Mary & Catherine	Stephanie
5th July	Miha Maori	Miha Maori	Pat Whittle	Suzanne & Mike	Judy

Church Cleaners

Date	Mother Church	Main Church
22nd - 27th June	Miriam	Faye
29th - 1st July	Miriam	St Peter Chanel School

Bank Account details for the following:

SAINTS MARY PARISH OF OTAKI in capital letters	The Society of St Vincent de Paul in New Zealand	Caritas
06-0821-0701736-00	03 - 1532 - 0028658 - 000	03 - 0518 - 0211216 - 003

Weekly Mass & Liturgy Times

Monday & Tuesday, 10 am: The Word & Communion.

Wednesday - Friday 10 am Mass

Sunday Mass - 10 am in the Main Church,

Miha Maori is on the 1st Sunday of the month

Reconciliation on Thursday after Mass or by appointment; contact Fr Simi or Beni via email or Stephanie on 021 253 1080, who will contact them and get back to you.

Exposition held on the last Saturday of the month, 9 am - 11 am, organised with the Marist Frs.

=====

Our Website

<http://www.pukekaraka.com/>

Click on the link above to go there

=====



Te Kura o Hato Petera Kaniera

Principal: Urutakai Cooper

Website: <https://www.spc.school.nz/>

**The school bank account name & number is: ST
PETER CANNEL BOARD OF TRUSTEES ANZ
01-0731-0239955-01**

=====

**For the Daily Readings of the Church,
click the link below**

: <https://readings.livingwithchrist.ca/>

Click the link above, which takes you to today's readings and Sunday's. Click the forward arrow on the right side at the top of the page until Sunday appears.

Sunday Readings for this week are:

1st Reading 2 Kings 4: 8-12a, 14-16

Psalm 89

2nd Reading 6: 2-4, 8-11

Gospel: Matthew 10: 37-42

Taize meditation service; every Tuesday at 7.30 pm, held in the mother church (entry through the back via the main church). We will take breaks during school holidays. All are welcome to join.

MENS REFLECTION TIME. Thursday 2nd July 4-8 pm. In Hine. A time for men to get together, listen to some input, and reflect on it. 4 pm start (after work), with a soup break, and finish by 8 pm. Some leaflets in the foyer. If interested, contact Fr Phil (philcodysm@gmail.com) or Fr Peter (thearhouse@xtra.co.nz) or in person.

An interview with Fr Ronald Rihieser on Spirituality and Letting Go is based on his new book *Insane for the Light*. Click the link below to view, and scroll down, [A Spirituality of Ageing and Letting Go | Franciscan Media](#)

Please keep in your prayers Jos Bryant, who died on the 22nd June at Mary Potter Hospices. Joscelyn and her husband, Kevin, were part of the regional Passionist Family Group Leadership team in the Wellington ADW.. She was the office administrator for many years at St Theresa's parish in Plimmerton until she was forced to retire last October because of her health. May she rest in peace, and may God comfort Kevin and her family in the days ahead.

St Vincent de Paul Collection this Sunday:

This Sunday, we are holding a collection for the next group of refugees arriving in Levin. Our contribution goes to buying pantry packs to set up their kitchens. We greatly appreciate your financial assistance.

Talitha Kum Intercessory Prayer Group meets on the last Sunday of each month, 2 pm - 3.45 pm at St Pius X Church, 64 Te Pene Avenue, Titahi Bay. Refreshments provided. Contact Stephen and Judy Bailey (021183244) for more information.

Lending each other a helping hand: At Pukekaraka, we can help if you need transport to Mass or extra support because you are sick or housebound. Please contact Jill Watson at 021 127 4072 or pldjwatson@gmail.com to see how we can support you.

Meeting in the Faith Room: Please book your meetings by placing them on the calendar on the Notice board, then text or email Stephanie so we don't double up and she knows who is coming into the office. Thank you.

Safeguarding - Key Quote from Pope Leo XIV on Safeguarding: A Church-wide "culture of safeguarding"
"[The Commission] promotes and accompanies with dedication the growth of the whole Church in the culture of protection." *Message supporting the Pontifical Commission for the Protection of Minors*, 2025. Safeguarding: Is about promoting an environment within our faith community which respects and acknowledges the dignity of everyone, and where people feel valued and safe. If you have any concerns, please contact a member of the team - Paul Bayliss, Phil McIntyre & Stephanie. More information is on our notice board.

Lending each other a helping hand: At Pukekaraka, we can help if you need transport to Mass or extra support because you are sick or housebound. Please contact Jill Watson at 021 127 4072 or pldjwatson@gmail.com to see how we can support you.

Meeting in the Faith Room: Please book your meetings by placing them on the calendar on the Notice board and then text or send an email to Stephanie so we don't double up, and she knows who is coming into the office. Thank you.

PLEASE PRAY FOR THE SICK Linda De Lorenzo, Ann-Marie Stapp, Fr Peter Fahy, David Wootton, Cathy Tia, Bryan Harold, Katrina Whittle, Mark Bailey, Stephen Allport, Ohole Taulanga, Fr David Orange, Geraldine Taylor, Kathleen Henry, Rosalie Parsons, Fr David Gledhill and any parishioners who currently have the flu or COVID.

May they feel the love of the Lord and his comfort, gaining strength from him, during this time.

Okioki I runga I te rangimarie— We remember those who have died and whose anniversary occurs at this time: Jocelyn Bryant 22.6.26, Maurice Chaney 7.6.26, Whatarangi Winiata 3/6/26. *"I have gone and prepared you a place, I shall return to take you with me; so that where I am, you may be too."* John 4. *May they rest in peace*

If you wish for information to go in the Newsletter, it must be sent by 8.30 am to Pukekaraka1@gmail.com by Thursday Morning.

Cath News: Stay informed about news from the Catholic Church and stories relevant to Catholics every Tuesday and Friday at 8 am. Sign up for the free digital newsletter and read the latest stories at cathnewsnz.com
Click on the website above, which is linked to sign up.

Safety & Health Message:" Any concerns you have about the safety & health, bring them to our attention. Contact Stephanie at 021 253 1080, or email her.

St Vincent de Paul, established in Otaki in 1910: On a Local Level, Food assistance is available, in the first instance via the Otaki Food Bank and then via SVDP Otaki at 021 0906 2653 by 5 pm daily, leaving your name and phone number.

