

PUKEKARAKA, OTAKI

The Church of Hāto Mere, established in 1840

16th February 2025, 6th Sunday in Ordinary Time, Cycle C

Our Sunday Celebration is at 10.00 am

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LITURGIES THIS COMING WEEK 18TH - 23RD FEBRUARY 2025

Monday - Friday the Word & Communion at 10 am in the Old Church	Fr Alan is away for a couple of weeks.
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Gospel Commentary for Sunday 16th February 2025

Today's Gospel reading "Blessed are the Poor".

Recently, a shop manager expressed concerns that a competing shop was opening next door. She would lose business. It was explained that it would actually be good for business as it would bring more customers to the area. What she had to do was establish her point of difference to make sure customers came to her and not the competitor.

Jesus came to establish a "new kingdom" and his point of difference from all the other kingdoms is stated in the Beatitudes. "Blessed are the Poor for yours is the Kingdom of Heaven" etc...
In His Kingdom, the leftovers of the others are the most important to Him. His Kingdom is the opposite of all the others.

Enjoy your shopping!!

Gerry



CATH NEWS NEW ZEALAND: The Bishops Conference this week launches the renewed CathNews New Zealand project. This ministry supports Catholics and people interested in the Church in accessing news and other content of interest. It draws from material that has already been published and includes original content. The best way to receive CathNews New Zealand is by signing up to the newsletter, which is sent on Tuesday and Friday mornings. Visit the CathNews New Zealand website and sign up at <https://cathnewsnz.com>

World Day of Prayer: This is an advanced notice that The World Day of Pray will be at our Church on Friday 7th of March in the main church at 10 am. We are the hosts so we ask that you bring a plate to share. The Cook Islands is the country at the focus of the prayer this year. Everyone is welcome.

Scripture Reflection Group - a small group meets weekly on Wednesdays at 10:30 am to reflect and share on the Gospel for the coming Sunday. It is an opportunity to nourish our faith, build community and create a place of welcome for new parishioners and those new to the Catholic faith. Please contact Mary-Elizabeth, at 021 595 695 if you are interested or have any questions.

Ohu Tiaki meets at 11:15 after Mass this Sunday in Hine, (please remember to remove your shoes first) Anyone involved in ministries is welcome to participate in the planning, discussions and decisions related to the celebration of Mass and the sacraments at Pukekaraka. In particular, we will discuss PowerPoint at Mass, how we can celebrate the Year of Jubilee in our parish and the Code of Conduct for Pukekaraka. If you are unable to attend but wish to contribute in some way please contact Mary-Elizabeth, 021 595 695.

Funeral Preparation Information Session: Have you ever wondered what to do when a member of your whānau passes away? Are you concerned that when you pass away, your whānau may not know how to prepare a funeral that includes our Catholic traditions? Have you got questions about funerals, costs, legal requirements or who in the parish can help?. To answer these or other questions, the Bereavement Ministry has prepared an information session to help answer your questions. You are all welcome to come along.

When: **Sunday the 23rd February**

Where: **In the Church**

Time: **11.15 following Mass**

Year of Jubilee Logo: The symbolism of the logo on our Jubilee banner is rich in meaning. It shows four stylized human figures from the four corners of the earth. embracing each other to indicate the solidarity and fraternity which should unite all peoples. The figure at the front holds onto the cross, a sign of the faith and hope, which can never be abandoned especially in our moments of greatest need as shown by the rough sea. The lower part of the cross in the shape of an anchor becomes a symbol of hope, which is let down into the waves. The image also illustrates the pilgrim's journey not as an individual undertaking, but rather as something communal. The cross is dynamic as it bends down towards humanity, not leaving us alone, but stretching out to offer the certainty of its presence

and the security of hope. At the bottom of the logo is the motto of the 2025 Jubilee Year: *Te Runga Hikoi i roto i te Tumanako* (Pilgrims in Hope).

‘Scripture Reflection Groups - an invitation is given to all to join/form a small group to meet weekly to pray through and share the Scriptures for the coming Sunday. If you are interested please see Mary Elizabeth.

Talitha Kum intercessory prayer group meeting: Date: 23rd February 2025, Time: 2 pm to 4:15 pm
Place: St Pius X Church Titahi Bay. Gentle praise and worship, Praying against Human Trafficking, our world etc. All are welcome. Stephen and Judy Bailey Sue Smith and group. 021 183 2445 (Judy)

IF YOU HAVE NOT SEEN SOMEONE IN MASS FOR A WHILE NOW, please be in touch with them. Give them a ring or a visit and see how they are doing. Show we care.

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

Notices for the newsletter: These must be sent to Pukekaraka1@gmail.com before Thursday at 9 am each week to meet the deadline for Friday’s newsletter. Thank you.

Sunday Rosters for this Sunday 9th February

Date	Proclaimers	Eucharistic Ministers	Greeters	Collectors	Linen Feb
16 th Feb	Jill & Peter	John Donna Mike C	Leonie	Suzanne Noreen	● Steph anie

Cleaning for the Main Church

10th - 15 Feb - Raureti Whanau	17th - 22nd Feb - Duncan & Marie
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New to the Parish: If you are new to the parish please make yourself known to the **Welcomers** on arriving at Mass on Sundays

Bank Account details for the following:

St Mary’sParish of Otaki	St Vincent de Paul	Caritas
06 - 0821 - 0701736 - 00	03 - 1532 - 0028658 - 000	03 - 0518 - 0211216 - 003

Meetings in the Faith Room: Please book your meetings by placing them on the calendar on the Faith Room door 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. email pukekaraka1@gmail.com or text 021 253 1080, nga mihi.

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Safeguarding: Safeguarding is about all of us working together for a safe culture, within our Church at Pukekaraka.. to protect our young children and vulnerable adults. All Safeguarding team members have completed and passed the Te Kupenga National Certificate of Safeguarding. If you have any concerns, please contact a member of the team - Paul Bayliss, Phil McIntyre & Stephanie. More information is on our notice board.

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. This number will take you to the SVDP Levin answer line, a member will contact us and we will be in touch with you and act the next day accordingly.

Mobile Phones: in consideration to all community members, please put your mobile phone on silent or vibrate when coming into mass or liturgy. Thank you.

Safety & Health Matters

Please bring any concerns you have about the safety & health of the church buildings or property, to our attention. Contact Stephanie at 021 253 1080 or Send an email to pukekaraka1@gmail.com

Please Pray for the Sick: Matthew Kerr, Ohole Taulanga, Meila Davis, great-granddaughter of Janet Merino, Fr David Orange, Winfred Clegg, Mother of Robin Hartendorp, Mark Jacobsen, Ray Mackle; Gabrielle Rikihana, Meila Davis, Geraldine Taylor, Kathleen Henry, Maurice Chaney, Rosalie Parsons, Fr David Gledhill and parishioners who currently have Covid. *May they feel the love of the Lord and his comfort, as they gain strength from him, during this time.*



OkiOki I runga I te rangimarie – we remember those who have died and those whose anniversary occurs at this time, those who have passed away recently are:

Mons. David Bennett from the Hamilton Dioceses

Mia Kneepken

Marie Faith

"Do not be discouraged, for the Lord your God will be with you wherever you go." Joshua 1:19
May They Rest in Peace.

