CALLED, GIFTED, SENT FORTH

We, the people of God, led and inspired by the Holy Spirit, fed by the Word and the Eucharist, strive to share our faith and live our lives daily as disciples of Christ.

THE PARISH OF THE HOLY SPIRIT
Te Wairua Tapu

100TH ANNIVERSARY OF WORLD MISSION SUNDAY

Pope Leo XIV's papal motto is In Illo uno unum — "In the One, we are one". Belonging to the Augustinian Order, it is no surprise that his motto was inspired by St Augustine's reflections on Psalm 127, which express the truth that although Christians are many, "in the one Christ we are one… We are many, yet one — because we are united to Him." It is equally fitting that in the centenary year of World Mission Sunday becoming a global observance, Pope Leo chose a theme that reflects both his motto and his missionary background:

ONE IN CHRIST, UNITED IN MISSION.

In his letter for World Mission Sunday 2026 – which falls on 18 October, the penultimate Sunday of October – he writes: "The more united we are in Christ, the better able we will be to carry out together the mission that He entrusts to us."

Providentially, this Sunday's Gospel gives us Jesus' well-known challenge: 'Render to Caesar the things that are Caesar's, and to God the things that are God's.' Yet even when we take up that challenge, we often keep certain things for ourselves. We may give something to God, and at times even a great deal, but we still hold back parts of our lives. Jesus calls us to something deeper: a total gift of ourselves.

To 'render to God what is God's' means daring to offer back to God what God has given us – our life, our time, our talents, our relationships, our material resources, all that we are and all that we have. It means treating God not merely as one part of our life but as its source, summit, root, and centre. It means living in the image of the Trinity: a loving communion of persons with God and with our brothers and sisters – not only in our homes and parishes, but across our global family. This is the very heart of the Church's mission, a mission entrusted to every baptised person.

As we mark the 100th anniversary of World Mission Sunday, Pope Leo reminds us again – through his motto and through this year's theme – that we are one in Christ, united in mission. He invites us to support his missionary endeavours through The Pontifical Mission Societies (TPMS*). We can give a little, regularly, or leave a bequest as part of responding to Jesus' challenge to 'render to God what belongs to God.' Every act of generosity strengthens the mission we share: to sow the Good News of the Gospel in the heart of every person.

Fr Michael Pui
NZ National Director of the Pontifical Mission Societies

18 OCTOBER 2026
MISSION SUNDAY - 29TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME, YEAR A
Readings: Isaiah 45:1,4-6; 1Thessalonians 1:1-5; Gospel Matthew 22:15-21

41 Britannia Street, Petone, Lower Hutt 5012 Telephone: (04) 971.7885
Email:holyspiritparish41@gmail.com Website: www.holyspirit.nz
This Parish is administered by the Divine Word Missionaries, SVD

Responsorial Psalm

Give the Lord glory and honour.

Mass has been offered for

OUR RECENTLY DECEASED

Edward Marks

May he rest in God's eternal peace.

ANNIVERSARIES

Kika Fa'aeteete, Poni Smith, Clem Benge, Lillian Frances Nunns, Fr Paddy Carmody, Veronica Williams, Joyce Mary Flynn, Terry McDonnell, Frances Dwyer.

Eternal rest grant to them O Lord,
and let perpetual light shine upon them.
May the souls of the faithful departed, through the mercy of God,
rest in peace.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK

Saoleititi Joe Taito, Hira Lal, Fr David Orange,
Tali Sua, Lidwina Gomez, Cathreen Faaeteete,
Fialauia Rose Tamasese, Delia Imperial, Mike Loader.

Please remember these and others in the parish who are ill.
If you know of anyone confined to their home or who needs a visit with Holy Communion, please contact the office 04 971 7885.

Parish Notices

PRAYERS FOR POPE LEO XIV'S RECOVERY AFTER SURGERY:

We keep our Holy Father, Pope Leo XIV, very much in our thoughts and prayers following reports of his surgery and illness. We pray that his time in hospital will be one of healing, rest and recovery.

May the Lord grant him strength, comfort and peace in the days ahead. We also remember the doctors, nurses and all those caring for him. Lord Jesus, our Divine Healer, restore him to good health, and may the Holy Spirit fill him with strength, hope and peace - ***(Clonard Monastery)***

WORLD MISSION SUNDAY - 18th October 2026

On World Mission Sunday, your prayers and donations help support mission territories. Missio (traditionally called the Pontifical Mission Societies) is the Pope's international Mission Agency in New Zealand. Missio is directly under the patronage of the Vatican's Congregation for the Evangelisation of Peoples.

It also represents and supports the four Pontifical Mission Societies: Propagation of the Faith, St Peter the Apostle, Holy Childhood Society, and Missionary Union.

Special Collection

A second basket will be passed round for World Mission Sunday. If you are a member of planned giving in the parish you will have an envelope in your pack for Mission Sunday, or pick up an envelope available in all four parish communities.

You can learn more about Missio and also support their mission on their website **https://missio.nz/**

PARISH LITURGY TEAMS:

Please note that a Meeting in preparation for our Parish Mass will be on Thursday, 29 October, 7:00pm, in Sacred Heart Church Foyer.

WEEKLY COLLECTION:
11 October 2026 - $1,902.10 This amount does not include Automatic Payments.
Thank you for your support. Your contributions are greatly appreciated.

PLANNED GIVING TO THE PARISH:
We need our Parish community to help and support our planned giving programme to meet the challenges for our Church – to continue to provide well maintained buildings and grounds for the use of our schools and communities, provide a budget for Parish programmes and activities and support our Archdiocese.

If you would like to sign up to our Planned Giving Programme please contact the parish office on **971 7885** or email **holyspiritparish41@gmail.com** and Maria or Nilda will be happy to assist you. Any amount large or small donated regularly makes all the difference to the Parish.
Our bank account name and number is: BNZ - Holy Spirit Parish **02 0544 0049224 00**
Please put your name and your PG number as reference. You will be given a PG number when you contact the office.
For those who contribute by cash donation - Have you thought about using the envelope system or setting up an AP? You will receive a rebate of 33% of your giving at the end of the financial year. Please think about it.

BAPTISM PREPARATION SESSION AND BAPTISM:
Baptism Preparation Session is held every **first Thursday of the month in the Church Foyer, 7:00pm, Sacred Heart Church 41 Britannia St. Petone**. Parents wishing to have their child baptized are invited to attend. If you wish to attend the session please register by contacting the Parish Office at 971 7885. Number is limited per session.
Next Baptism Preparation is Thursday 5 November 2026.
Baptism dates: 24 October/ 8 and 22 November - Baptisms are held every second and fourth Saturday of the month at Sacred Heart Church, at 11:00am.

PARISH NEWSLETTER:
Newsletter items must be into the parish office by **Wednesday 12 noon** at the latest for Thursday publication. Email: **holyspiritparish41@gmail.**com or phone us on **04 971 7885**

OCTOBER – MONTH OF THE ROSARY:
In observance of October as the Month of the Rosary, on **Saturday 24 & 31 October,** parishioners are encouraged to pray the rosary together at Sacred Heart Church, Petone at 2:30pm.

REMINDER – CHURCH BOOKINGS:
Please be reminded that a **booking is required** (ring the office at 971 7885) for those who wish to use the Church for any reason. This is important for security reasons.

EMAIL ADDRESSES:
The Parish is sending out updates and information on what's happening through emails provided to the parish. Please advise the Parish Office if you would like to provide your email or change your email address. You can unsubscribe at any time.

SPIRITED YOUTH JAM IS ON TODAY, 18TH OCTOBER 11:30-1PM AT OLR CHURCH. We play music, listen to music, have pizza and a couple of games. Bring your instrument/voice - any level welcome. This group is for youth in Intermediate and up. Please bring a couple of dollars toward lunch. Contact Lucy 0226539525 for more details.

STEWARDSHIP MEETING:
Tuesday 20th October at 7:00pm - Sacred Heart Church, Petone.

ADORATION IN CHURCH:
Our Lady of the Rosary will have adoration for half an hour after the Friday 9.30am Mass.

ST VINCENT DE PAUL WAIWHETU and EASTBOURNE CONFERENCE meet Monday 19th October at San Antonio Church, Eastbourne, 7pm.
New members are most welcome.
If you or someone you know could do with a hand up at the moment, please get in touch with the Vinnies by emailing vinnieswaiwhetu@gmail.com, or texting/calling on **027 3297840**

READINGS FOR THIS WEEK:
October

19 Eph 2: 1-10; Lk 12: 13-21
20 Eph 2: 12-22; Lk 12: 35-38
21 Eph 3: 2-12; Lk 12: 39-48
22 Eph 3: 14-21; Lk 12: 49-53
23 Eph 4: 1-6; Lk 12: 54-59
24 Eph 4: 7-16; Lk 13: 1-9

NEXT WEEK: 30TH SUNDAY IN ORDINARY TIME
First Reading: Exodus 22: 20-26
If you are harsh with the widow or the orphan, my anger will rage against you.
Second Reading: Thessalonians 1: 5-10
You turned away from idols to serve God and await his Son.
Gospel: Matthew 22: 34-40
You shall love the Lord your God and your neighbour as yourself.

Other Notices

MASS TO MARK THE START OF THE CARITAS OCEANIA FORUM IN WELLINGTON: Sunday, 18 October - Metropolitan Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, Hill Street, Wellington at 7.00pm. Join Archbishop Paul Martin SM and the Caritas Oceania representatives including Cardinal Soane Mafi of Tonga, Archbishop Peter Loy Chong of Fiji, and Archbishop Mosese Vitolio Tui of Samoa, along with other overseas visitors, including the Caritas Internationalis Secretary-General.

REGISTER TO VOTE! Recently our Bishops issued a reflection in advance of the **7 November General Election** titled *Discerning our nation's future through a Gospel lens*. The document encourages Catholics and people of good will to consider voting as a moral and civic responsibility, not just a matter of personal preference. The bishops invite people to consider how they will cast their votes by reviewing candidates' and parties' positions across a range of key issues, and they also encourage people to pray for the country. You can read it at: **https://bit.ly/NZCBCElection26.**

Our Catholic social teaching tradition values the right of all to participate in political affairs. To vote in this year's election people must be enrolled by **25 October.** You can check that you are enrolled, or change your address, or enrol for the first time at: **https://vote.nz/enrolling/enrol-or-update/enrol-or-update-online.**

Catholic Enquiry Centre - HEARTS AFLAME 2027 SCHOLARSHIP:
Are you a young Catholic wanting to meet other Kiwi Catholics? Are you wanting to grow in your understanding of the faith and your spiritual life? Catholic Enquiry Centre is supporting one young person to attend Hearts Aflame 2027 on a full scholarship which covers the school costs and deposit.
Please apply at the link here:
CEC Hearts Aflame 2027 Scholarship Application