



**St. Francis de Sales**  
8 Finchley Rd, Torbay

## **EAST COAST BAYS CATHOLIC PARISH**

# **Annual General Meeting 2024**

St John's School Hall, Sunday, 23 June, 11.30am

### **AGENDA**

11.30am Snacks, Tea & Coffee, Socialising

12noon Opening Prayer

Approval of the minutes, AGM 2023

Followed by Parish Reports:

- Michael Bravenboer, Chair Parish Pastoral Council
- Barry Rogers, Chair Finance Committee
- Beate Matthies, Operations & Finance Manager

Q & A to all reports

Approval of all reports

Fr Carlo C. Cruz, Parish Priest

Future Projects

Words of thanks for outgoing PPC members

Nomination of new PPC members

Closing Prayer

Celebration of the Feast of St John the Baptist



**St. John the Baptist**  
87 Hastings Rd, Mairangi Bay

## Welcome by the Parish Priest: Fr Carlo Cruz

Dear brothers and sisters,

As we gather for our AGM/PPA today, let us reflect on the Gospel reading from Mark 4:35-41. Jesus' words, "Peace, be still," calmed the stormy sea and saved the disciples from their fear. But he also challenged them to greater faith and trust.



We too have faced storms and challenges over the past year as individuals, in our own family and as a community, but through it all, we have been blessed in many ways that we cannot imagine. Jesus' words of peace continue to inspire us.

I want to take this opportunity to express my heartfelt gratitude to our beloved priest, Fr Emile, who has selflessly served our community for four years. We bid farewell to him with a mix of sadness and appreciation, acknowledging the impact he's had on our lives. He will still be around every now and then to assist us if his time permits it.

As we acknowledge and thank you, our dear parishioners who have given generously of your time, talent, and treasure, we also recognize that change is on the horizon. But amidst this change, we are called to remain steadfast in our mission to be missionary disciples. Your unwavering commitment is the backbone of our community, and we're grateful for your continuous service.

Today, as we gather to review the past year and look to the future, let us remember that our mission is to spread the Gospel and serve one another. May we continue to trust in Jesus' guidance and support, even in the midst of the challenges around us.

Thank you for your dedication and commitment to our parish community. May God bless our gathering and guide us in our mission.

And as St John Paul II said "Let us remember the past with gratitude, live the present with enthusiasm, and look forward to the future with confidence."

Blessings,

Fr Carlo

## PPC Chair: Michael Bravenboer



We continue to follow the current Parish Pastoral Plan 2020 - 2025 which starts with the following:

**Our Mission:** To build a loving, inclusive, caring, Christ-like community that inspires all to spread the message of Jesus Christ

**Our Vision:** Inspiring a loving, caring, Christ-like community

1. The **Parish Pastoral Council** is a small group who work alongside the Priests to guide and attend to the pastoral needs of the parish, with the Finance Committee attending to financial matters. Members of the PPC hold a range of portfolios and will give their own reports.
2. During the last year we are delighted to see fruit in several areas:
  - a. **Attendances at Masses** have increased - concerted efforts have gone into building a greater sense of community engagement through increased hospitality activities, greeters giving a warm welcome, celebrating events/feasts, and encouraging greater participation from volunteers in all aspects of parish life.
  - b. **Alpha courses** are underway - the format is a meal, a video, and small group discussions - bringing people to encounter Jesus through a series of discussion topics over nine weeks. About 25 attended the 1st course before Christmas and 30 in the 2nd course which is currently running.
  - c. **Youth Ministry** - initiatives are underway to involve the youth more fully in parish life.
  - d. **Caring committee** activities continue to grow and connect people together.
  - e. **Presbytery improvements** have been carried out and work continues on plans for either a major upgrade or the building of a new facility for our priests.
3. **Plans for the next year** - we anticipate continued focus on current activities, however, these and new activities will evolve as Fr Carlo develops his vision and the current Parish Pastoral Plan is updated.
4. **We thank Fr Emile** for all he has done in our Parish and wish him well as he moves to semi-retirement in Milford. He has blessed us with his deep faith, his kind nature and his involvement in so many parish activities. As Fr Emile leaves, we venture into times with possibly only one priest in our parish.

The PPC requires a few more people to join who have the passion to contribute to parish life. We have monthly meetings and you are always invited to attend.



## Caring Committee: Judith Lunny

This committee is small and was established by Fr. Raphael. It has been functioning now for 4 years. Over the last 12 months the activity has been more obvious with the establishment of two interest groups.

1. **The Friendship, Coffee and Craft Group** is an active group that meets weekly with a regular stable clientele that enjoy each other's company, and their craft is beautiful and very skillful.
2. We recently began a **New Mum's coffee group** that is still struggling to get established and known about, but may grow.
3. Other activities rely on referrals and it was very pleasing that by using our networks we were able to find help for the mother who was advertising for help whilst feeding her twins.
4. Future plans rely on Parish need and referrals although visiting the elderly or lonely is being thought about as we have two volunteers willing to do so.

We look forward to 2024/25 with optimism to being able to support Parish needs.

**Meeting dates/Place:** Irregular/ as needed after craft group.

**Contact :** *Judith Lunny*

## Mothers & Babies Group: Sandra Armstrong

To date we have had 3 sessions. At the first we had 2 Mothers, one whom came as her two children were being presented on the Sunday and she wanted to familiarise her 3.5 year old with the church. The other came as I specifically asked her too. Both these Mothers said they were returning to work soon.

At the second session neither returned but one new Mum from the baptism session attended.

At the third session only the Mum with the 3.5 year old returned with her 8month old.

They all had other activities during the week they were taking their children to.

At the present no real demand and I am concerned as with the colder temperatures the chapel will be very cold as it is on the south side of the church. We will need to use the heat pump if we continue.

We have decided to meet on the First and 3rd Fridays but if no demand will stop offering the sessions.

**Meeting dates/Place:** TBC/Fr Quinn's Chapel.

**Contact:** *Sandra Armstrong*



## Liturgy Committee

This **committee** has just been revived with the following members: Selina Limrick (Liturgy & Pastoral Coordinator), Matt Davies (Music), Margaret McLeod (Sacristan St John's), Helen Sutedja and Farida Tjandrawinata (Sacristans St Francis), Cara Mountjoy (DRS St John's School) and the Parish Priest.

Since the last AGM, there have been several **Formation Sessions** to enhance our knowledge about the Liturgy and the ministries during Mass.

20 July 2023: Faith Formation (Dianna Fouhy, Dcn Stephen Fraser)

31 Aug 2023: Formation Ministers of the Word (Suzie McCarthy)

14 Sep 2023: Formation Extraordinary Ministers of the Eucharist (Fr Mark Napa)

23 Apr 2024: Formation Minsters of the Word/Eucharist (Randall Ramos)

Currently, the training for **Altar Servers** in both churches is being prepared and is to commence on 30 June 2024. It will be a true joy to see more young people coming forward to server at the Altar. Thanks to Christina and Teresa who sowed new albs and belts for the Altar Servers last year—and thanks to all who contributed to covering the costs for these albs. They will be used by our new Altar Servers.

The **Music Ministry** group is looking for more parishioners who could support them in accompanying the congregations in their singing. “He who sings,” said St. Augustine, “prays twice.” The musicians are very important as they prepare the music and the lyrics as well as the PowerPower presentations.

Most recently, both churches have **Liturgy of the Word with Communion** once a week. In St John's church this service has been led by Anthony Moorcroft, and in St Francis church it has been led by Tony Jardim. More support is needed, and it would be great to have small teams with people taking turns in leading the services.

During the time when the position of Liturgy & Pastoral Coordinator was vacant, our database **volunteer** Jo Ramsay has been of tremendous help and support in the office, making sure that the Readers would receive their Readings on time and that Masses were prepared.

The **Roster Team**, Amanda Dixon McIver and Iona Breinhorst have started preparing the rosters through our CRM system (multifunctional database). It is amazing to see that for every Mass more than 15 parishioners are rostered—about 80 parishioners per weekend, and this number doesn't even include music groups, the ladies who prepare the flowers, the cleaners, gardeners, those who prepare morning teas and many more who have been doing work in the background.

## Hospitality Committee aka Hospitality Crew

Hospitality Crew is a small excited developing team prepared to volunteer their time to actively support our community to become more engaged with one another by encouraging morning teas after weekend Masses to meet and greet and create new friendship. We are delighted to work in the background developing community spirit.

Our crew consists of parishioners including their families.

These include: Tam, Maria, Sebastian and family, Des, Marie, Brian, Rosh, Helen, Farida, Richard, Ally, Lindsay, Fiona, Tusi, and Cathy.

### What have we done since the last AGM in August 2023?

September 2023	Father's Day. Morning Tea after 10.30am Mass at St. Francis
December 2023	Christmas Celebration In St. John's Hall
December 2023	Fr Carlo's 13th Anniversary morning tea
January 2024	Fr Emile's birthday / St. Francis De Sales Feast Day morning teas
May 2024	Mother's Day. Morning teas after Masses and presented Mum's with a beautiful bookmark.
May 2024	Pentecost Sunday different themes at each Mass



### What are we doing at the moment?

Trialing hot soup in mugs after 5.30pm Mass.

Organising catering for AGM Sunday 23 June held at St John's School Hall from 11.30am.

Building up connections with other existing groups and nationalities by having one on one catch ups.

Reviewing all morning tea activities after Masses.

Creating a new morning tea team for 7.30am St Francis (once a month or on special occasions e.g. St Francis Feast Day).

Creating a new morning tea team for 10.30am Mass St Francis (1st Sunday of the month)

### What are our plans for next year:

Continue to embed and build on this year's achievements.

Setting up greeters at all church doors for every weekend Mass.

Establishing a calendar for next year's activities and events to be discussed with Fr Carlo.

Develop and encourage closer engagement with our nationality groups to enable community celebration with a range of their events.

Stronger inclusion with teachers and students from St John's school in Parish activities.

Be available to assist our 3 Youth streams in their formation and development.

Be available for open feedback from our priests and parishioners on how we can be more effective in meeting the parish needs.

## Youth Committee

**Youth representatives on the Parish Council, Tam Fatialofa, Joseph Marr, Henry Sharpe.**

We have sorted the wider 'youth' into 3 streams:

- stream 1 for ages 12 and below, looked after by Tam
- stream 2 for ages 13-17, looked after by Henry
- stream 3 for ages 18+ looked after by Joseph.

Tam is the representative for the under 12 stream working with the children's ministry team. Henry is the representative for the 13-17 year old stream for the teens/youth. Joseph is the representative for the 18+ year old stream for the young adults

### **What have we done since the last AGM in August 2023?**

In stream 1 we have reached out to Lindy and Bill. Bill runs the children's liturgy. Our support has been offered to assist them. There is also a fund available to us if we want to enhance or extend financially what is currently happening with the precious young children in our Parish.

In stream 2 we have started gathering with Selina and one of the Diocesan youth ministers to try and start the formation of a youth group.

In stream 3 we have started a Bible Study (just a few weeks ago!). We have actually been running since last year but it's been a word of mouth event with usually only 2 or 3 people coming. We have enjoyed this time to get into the habit of studying the Bible and refining our sessions, which served us well when we announced it at Mass and in the newsletter for anyone 18-35 to come.

### **What are we doing at the moment?**

In stream 1 we are ensuring the children's ministry is running successfully

In stream 2 we are striving to create a youth group

In stream 3 we have our young adults Bible study up and running.

### **What are our plans for the next year(s)?**

In streams 1 and 2 we are working with Selina and the Diocese. In stream 1 to ensure the children's ministry has all the support they need to keep running successfully and in stream 2 to create a youth group.

In stream 3 we want to continue our Bible study and grow numbers, all youth 18+ are welcome to come! We would love to tap into some of the wider Diocese young adult activities with our young adult's group. There are a lot of fantastic activities in the wider diocese that we could join, or events we could create amongst ourselves.

### **Meeting Dates/Place. Contact Person:**

Stream 1 contact person is Tam Fatialofa: [mrstamfatialofa@gmail.com](mailto:mrstamfatialofa@gmail.com) or 02108295610

Stream 2 contact person is Henry Sharpe: [gandalf.lego@gmail.com](mailto:gandalf.lego@gmail.com) or 022 501 8473

Stream 3 meet every Friday for Bible study (7pm-9pm) at St Francis Church, except for 1st Fridays of the month, as there is Adoration at that time.

**Contact: Joseph Marr [joseph.marr@live.com](mailto:joseph.marr@live.com) or 027 827 3979**

## Sacramental Programme

The 2024 Sacramental Programme started on 26 February with a Parents Information Evening. This was very successful in setting the tone and expectations for the programme and meeting the parents.

This year 70 candidates were Confirmed and 53 candidates received their First Holy Communion. On average 92% of the group were in attendance with no single person missing more than 3 sessions in total. All of the candidates attended Reconciliation.

Confirmation was celebrated with Bishop Steve Lowe in St John the Baptist Church and First Holy Communion was celebrated with Fr Carlo Cruz in St Francis de Sales Church.

The feedback from parents was overwhelmingly positive. Their experience was rated with more than 90% “very good” (met the objectives and was well communicated).

The 2025 Sacramental Programme will start on 02 March 2025 with registrations closing on 14 February 2025.

**Contact Persons: Iona & Amanda** [sacraments@ecbcatholic.org.nz](mailto:sacraments@ecbcatholic.org.nz)





## Faith Formation Programmes

*What is the difference?*

**Alpha Programme:** A course that creates a space, online or in person, where people are excited to bring their friends for a conversation about life, faith and Jesus.

Duration: 11 weeks. Contact: Nola or Tam

**Baptism Programme:** A preparation course for parents (and godparents) of children younger than 7 years. The course doesn't have to be repeated for a second child.

Duration: 1 evening. Contact: Baptism Team (Emma Anthony, Sandra Armstrong)

**RCIC / RCIA Programme:** A course for participants who would like to get baptized and receive Confirmation and First Holy Communion.

Children of 7-14 years attend RCIC, those who are older than 15 years of age attend RCIA.

Duration: From June/July to Easter. Contact: Emma Anthony (RCIC) and Leo Ong (RCIA)

**Faith Formation Programme:** A course for children who are not attending a Catholic school. This course is not yet offered in the parish.

## Alpha Programme

**Alpha** is a global formation programme for those looking at rekindling their faith.

### 2023 Programme

This programme was held from 2 October to 4 December and included 9 full sessions and one full day on a weekend.

We had 17 participants and 12 helpers, 29 in total.

### 2024 Programme

This programme started on 02 May and will finish on 4 July 2024.

We have 20 participants and 15 helpers, 35 in total.



### What are our plans for the next year(s)?

Having another cohort through this programme.



### Meeting Dates/Place.

Currently we are meeting on Thursday evenings at St Johns School Hall.

**Contact Persons: Nola and Tam**

## Baptism Team

### Families of Under 7s Baptism Preparation Team

We are a team of three Fr Emile, Emma Anthony and myself who meet bimonthly with families of those seeking baptism for their child, children aged 7 years or less. We are supported by our office team who help with the paper work, create the certificates and record baptisms.



The aims of the preparation team are as follows:

1. To provide a welcoming safe environment for all and to facilitate discussion on the churches teaching on Baptism
2. To provide a time of quiet away from the busyness of family life to reflect on the choices being made around Baptism and the parents own faith journey.
3. To meet with other families wanting Baptism for their child/children
4. To finalise the dates for both baptism and presentation and to have these recorded so the Priests are aware of those dates.

Feedback from those attending has been very positive, appreciation expressed for the sense of connection with families in the small group setting.

Gratitude for the welcome, inclusiveness and opportunity to raise any queries.

**Contact: Emma Anthony and Sandra Armstrong**

## RCIC Team

Since February 2024 we have been facilitating weekly 1 hour sessions for 9 children aged from 8-14, together with 3 adults, who made the decision to be baptised and continue on to receive the Sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist at Easter Vigil. The parents and children have attended all the sessions and are journeying together. Feedback on the programme so far has been extremely positive. The adults have accessed the online Catholic Symbolon resources available through Formed.Org.

Primary-age candidates, who are baptised, are encouraged to join the group of children in the parish who are preparing for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist.

Two children, aged 10 and 12, who registered online for baptism in May 2024, did not progress with RCIC as the parents did not wish for them to wait to be baptised in the 2025 Easter Vigil. They are exploring being baptised earlier in another parish.

Note, several parishes in Auckland, including the Cathedral, have a short baptism preparation programme for 8-14 year olds. The children are baptised and then feed into RCIC, or the parish Sacramental Programme, dependent on age and individual circumstances. This may be an approach our parish may wish to consider as it encourages flexibility with pathways to baptism.

**Contact: Emma Anthony**

## RCIA

For the last couple of years, this programme was led by Deacon Dave Marshall. The programme for 2024/2025 will be led by Leo Ong, supported by Sandra Fisher and Ann Rammo and Emma Anthony.

The next course started on Thursday, 20 June 2024.

**Contact Person: Leo Ong**



## Children's Mass

We are a group who prepare and coordinate the monthly Children's Mass every 3rd Sunday of the month at St John's church.

Up until recently, this group was just me, Lindy and we had a music group assigned to play at this Mass. Recently we have expanded our "Team" to include Lucy Kim who now helps to prepare the children on the day and leads this Mass when I am unable to be there. Rachael O'Brien also assists on the day where needed and will be leading the mass on occasions when Lucy and I are both unavailable.

The readings, prayers of the faithful and welcome are still prepared by Lindy with some minor changes made to the Welcome and prayers of the faithful to make them more meaningful for the children.

Our music is now being led by Cara Mountjoy, DRS of St John's School which is an exciting development in the quest to bring our school and parish closer together.

There is a small email circulation list for Children's Mass families who are directly emailed by Lindy on the Friday evening before Children's Mass with a reminder about the mass. Anyone may request to be put on this list.

**Contact Person: Lindy Williams**

## Secular Franciscans

We are the North Shore fraternity of the NZ Secular Franciscans and a part of the world-wide Secular Franciscan Order which dates back to the time of St. Francis of Assisi himself.

While we meet at St. John's Church, some of our members come from other parishes on the North Shore. Our meetings are a mixture of prayer and study with time for socialising, too.

Fr. Ephrem Tigga, a Capuchin friar, comes from Blockhouse Bay to attend our meetings and help us deepen our understanding of Franciscan spirituality.

Later this year we hope to join with the school in arranging a special blessing of the animals in appreciation of our relatedness to all God's creation.

Our meetings are held on the 2nd Sunday of the month at 4 pm at St. John's Church.

**Contact Person: Lysa Ridling ph. 021 612171**



## Passionist Family Group



Family groups started 36 years ago in East Coast Bays parish. Family groups provide an extended family for all who wish to belong – married, single, divorced, young, old or in-between. Passionist Family groups aim to build community by ensuring connection through regular contact, care and interaction with others from the parish on a casual, monthly basis where food, fun and friendship is prioritized.

### Activities in the past year:

A joint 35 year celebration was arranged for all the groups to collaboratively celebrate family groups in the parish in June 2023, at Bar Africa, where a BINGO night was enjoyed by all.

ECB parish has five committed family groups of between 15 to 25 people in each group. All groups have continued meeting at least monthly over the past year enjoying low cost activities that range from picnics in the park, hikes and trails to weekends away.



At the end of each year every group is involved in contributing to St Vincent De Paul Christmas drive by donating hampers to identified families in need, as part of an outreach project.

Members of each family group support each other, sharing each others joys, and sorrows and so build the Christian community. The emphasis is on relationships, so the groups are about being rather than doing.

The networking of families has immediate effects on parish liturgy.

ECB Passionist Family groups envisage growth and expansion by welcoming members from all cultures especially those who may be new to the parish, who may not know anyone, and those who are feeling isolated.

We are hoping to include the roster of each group's events in the parish newsletter. All are welcome.

**Meeting Dates/Place:** There are no set dates and times for groups to meet as they are often weather and activity related. These are arranged at the convenience of the hosting family as decided by the group at the start of each year.

**Contact:** Lindsay and Colin Brand [familygroupsecb@gmail.com](mailto:familygroupsecb@gmail.com)



## Meditation Group

We are a group of parishioners and non-parishioners who meet weekly to meditate in the tradition of the World Community for Christian Meditation. Since 2 April 2024, we meet every Tuesday at 1pm for about 45min in the Fr Quinn's Chapel, St John's Church.



"The aim of Christian Meditation is to allow God's mysterious and silent presence within us to become more of a reality which gives meaning, shape and purpose to everything we do and everything we are." (John Main OSB)

All are invited to join our sessions. No previous experience is needed.

**Contact: Robyn Howard**

## Medjugorje Prayer Group

A small group of us used to meet every Wednesday afternoon at St John's Church in Mairangi Bay. Our first meeting was in August 1998 and we continued our Rosary and prayers, each Wednesday, for about 23 years! A wonderful quiet time in front of Our Lady's statue. At some stage an hour's Adoration, before the Rosary at 2pm, became a very blessed time also.



However with the restraints, during the lockdowns it became more difficult. We then discovered a far better and safer option by joining with the group who pray the Rosary and Divine Mercy after Mass on a Wednesday morning.

This continues to work very well for all of us.

**Contact: Christine Thomson**

## St Vincent de Paul Society

The Society has continued to get busier over the past year.

We have given out 210 food parcels – 45 in the past 2 months.

The average value of a food parcel is about \$90. We are getting more referrals from Takapuna Conference, who is on a foodbank website, for people in our area.

We are very fortunate to have a huge supply of food donated by our parishioners and some very generous donors.

We have, also, been able to help families with clothing items etc plus financial assistance for school uniforms, camps and activities the children would otherwise be unable to attend.

If you are aware of any family that may be struggling and would benefit from some form of assistance don't hesitate to contact us.

New members would be warmly welcomed.

**Contact: Ann Gough**



## Finance Committee Chair: Barry Rogers

Members: Parish Priests, Beate Matthies (Operations & Finance Manager), Maurice Lopes, Cathy Flynn, Des Flynn, Tim Williams.

The Finance Committee is primarily concerned with helping the Parish Priest in fulfilling the Mission of the Church in terms of resourcing, planning, and accounting.



Over the last year, the Finance Committee has had to face some funding and maintenance issues:

- Maintaining two churches with considerable refurbishment and maintenance requirements.
- Increasing costs due to cost-of-living index being far higher than in the past few years due to a global economic downturn.

In response, the Finance Committee has undertaken the following:

- Realignment of costs and revision of budgets and future spending in wake of the economic downturn.
- Request to the parish community for pledge increase in line with inflation.
- A continued drive to convert cash giving to electronic payments in response to maintenance planning issues such as roof repairs for St Johns, perimeter fence maintenance, for both churches.
- Further office staff appointments in line with previous reviews delayed due to covid
- Decision to upgrade the presbytery to the healthy living standards, which we are working through with the Diocese.

The 2023 accounts are presented as submitted to the diocese for annual reporting.

We again show a deficit for the year and again this deficit is generated through the depreciation component of the accounting process. The true picture is a slight operating surplus, but we have had a big year of maintenance projects, which are ongoing.

Our priorities remain a pledge renewal campaign and investigations into income generating opportunities, and fund-raising projects and opportunities.

We have had a few enquiries from neighbours doing developments adjacent to St Francis and asking for access to the church property. One of these requests was answered recently by the neighbour's developer having had access for drainage connections. We duly consulted with the Diocesan Property Manager before giving access. No damage was done to the church property, and the developer thanked the parish with a donation.

### ***Our new Staff Members:***

**Selina Limrick**

(Liturgy & Pastoral Coordinator)

**Bushra Bashouri**

(Office & Communications Assistant).



Bushra Bashouri

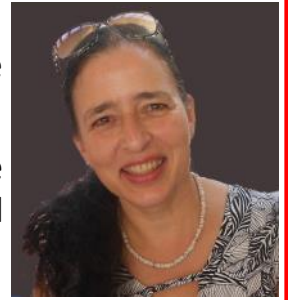


Selina Limrick

## Finance & Operations Manager: Beate Matthies

Since the AGM 2023, we have had to deal with many maintenance issues at both churches and also have had changes in the office.

After more than 27 years, Liz George left in October 2023, and we have two new part-time staff members: Selina Limrick (Liturgy & Pastoral Coordinator) and Bushra Bashouri (Office & Communications Assistant).



We are very grateful for the support of several groups of volunteers. It is hard to mention all, but I would just like to mention the teams that are using email addresses with the parish domain [ecbcatholic.org.nz](https://ecbcatholic.org.nz): the Baptism team (Emma Anthony and Sandra Armstrong), the Sacramental Programme team (Amanda Dixon-McIver, Iona Breinhorst, Linda Williams, Blaize D'Souza), the Database team (Jo Ramsay, Anthony Moorcroft), the Roster team (Iona Breinhorst, Amanda Dixon-McIver), as well as our Safeguarding Coordinator (Iona Breinhorst).

In the area of Finances and Maintenance, I would like to thank Douglas Sinclair, Tony Jardim and the volunteer gardeners for their regular support throughout the year, and Tony Stanaway for supporting me in finalising the Annual Financial Reports to the Diocese.

### Donations

In the Financial Year 2023/24 we had 308 donors who donated regularly with a gifting/pledge number. This number has increased only slightly from the previous number of 300 donors. At the end of 2023, we had 2,120 families registered with the parish. While this figure is constantly changing due to people coming and going, it seems like only 1 in 6 parishioners are contributing financially to the parish. Even small donations can make a huge difference when many people contribute. As the parish doesn't have a parish hall to rent out like many other parishes do, these donations are the parish's main source of income.

### Fundraising

For major maintenance projects, there is the option to donate specifically towards a project. A special Fundraising Parish Account is available, and 100% of your donation to this account with your instruction will go to this project.

The current and some past major projects are mentioned on the parish website at: <https://eastcoastbayscatholic.org.nz/2023/02/10/fundraising-projects/>

### Bank Accounts

Since 01 July 2023 on, all parishes in the Diocese changed their bank account numbers. This change was necessary to comply with the latest banking regulations.

There are now **two bank accounts** in the name of East Coast Bays Parish:

**Collection & General Donations:** 02-0108-0707702-000,

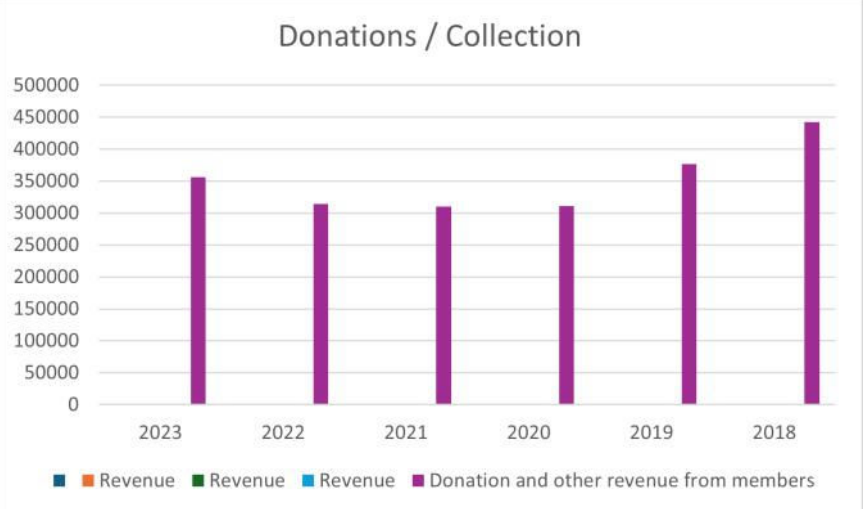
<https://eastcoastbayscatholic.org.nz/donations/>.

**Fundraising & Special Donations:** 02-0108-0707702-003.

<https://eastcoastbayscatholic.org.nz/2023/02/10/fundraising-projects/>

While the donations have increased during the last 3 years, they haven't reached the pre-Covid figures yet. Here is the comparison since 2018:

2018: \$ 442,820  
 2019: \$ 376,799  
 2020: \$ 310,746  
 2021: \$ 310,136  
 2022: \$ 314,319  
 2023: \$ 355,818



**Parish of St John the Baptist of East Coast Bays Ecclesiastical Goods Trust**  
**Statement of Financial Performance**  
**For the Year Ended 31 December 2023**

	Note	2023 \$	2022 \$
<b>Revenue</b>			
Donations, fundraising and other similar revenue from public	2.1	-	-
Donation and other revenue from members	2.2	355,818	314,319
Revenue from providing goods and services	2.3	11,000	13,000
Interest and other investment revenue	2.4	12,549	13,980
<b>Total revenue</b>		<b>379,367</b>	<b>341,299</b>
<b>Expenses</b>			
Expenses related to public fundraising		-	-
Volunteer and employee related costs	3.1	136,052	130,370
Costs related to providing goods and services	3.2	2,398	4,876
Grants and donations made	3.3	110,365	97,693
Other operating expenses	3.4	196,294	165,566
<b>Total expenses</b>		<b>445,109</b>	<b>398,504</b>
<b>Surplus/(deficit) for the year</b>		<b>(65,742)</b>	<b>(57,205)</b>



## Projects at St John the Baptist Church, Mairangi Bay

### New Fence (in part), Entrance Hastings Road



Costs of replacing the fence: \$10,000. Covered by the Insurance.

### Replacement of all Lights in the Nave of the Church—Change to LED



Costs of replacing the lights: \$5,610.

### Replacement of Celebrant's Microphone

Costs of replacing the lepel microphone: \$1,700.

### Replacement of Water Cylinder in Church Kitchen

Costs of replacing the water cylinder: \$1,920.





## Projects at St Francis de Sales Church, Torbay

### New Fence (in part), below Car Park



Costs of replacing several parts of fences in 2023/2024: \$8,040.

### Replacement of Signage, Entrance Finchley Road Church



Costs of replacing the sign: \$2,330.

### Replacement of Microphone



Costs : \$1,330.



Thank you to the volunteers who have tidied up at St Francis Church last



## Safeguarding

The aim of our Safeguarding Protocol is to provide a consistent vision to create and foster a secure physical, emotional and spiritual culture in our faith communities.

All our volunteers are vetted according to the parish's Safeguarding Protocol below. When new volunteers step up, they will be asked to sign a Code of Conduct and agree to a Police Vetting—depending on their role in the parish. These forms are openly available online on the parish website.

The safeguarding procedures are regularly audited by the Diocesan Safeguarding Coordinator. The next meeting is scheduled for July 2024.

**Contact: Iona Breinhorst and Beate Matthies**

### Safeguarding Protocol for volunteers in ECB Catholic Parish

Ministry	Role Training	Code of Conduct	Safeguarding Training	Police Vetting
Children's Liturgy	v	v	v	v
Children's Catechism	v	v	v	v
Children's Mass	v	v	v	v
Children's Choir (in development stage but will be available)	V	v	v	v
Supporting Volunteers at other Children's Activities (the information in the LWC and Youth ministry agreement could be used in this ministry especially with regards to managing behaviour)	v	v	v	v
Youth Ministry	v	v	v	v
Visiting Extraordinary Minister	v	v	v	v
Visitor to the Sick/Housebound (pastoral visitor role agreement available)	v	v	v	v
Minister of the Word	v	v		
Extraordinary Minister	v	v		
Transporter	v	v	v	v
Coordinators of Church Groups	v	v	v	
Altar server trainer (role agreement available)	v	v	v	V
Sacristan (role agreement available)	v	v	v	V

## St John's School: Marina Binns



Last year was a year of anticipation and change.

A refurbishment of the Administration Block including the long anticipated new sickbay facilities, estimated to take 3 months, ended up taking a year with us finally moving in on the last day of school. We are loving being in our new space and thank everyone who was so flexible with the space restrictions this meant for our school hall. With the change of Government, this too brought about educational change. I would like to acknowledge our staff who are continually seeking improvement and embracing the development of new approaches and curricula.

Over the last year, St. John's School has undertaken a variety of initiatives and events to enhance the educational experience and community engagement. The school organized numerous activities, including trips, sports events, and environmental projects. Significant efforts were made to promote social outreach with our students going into the community to do service outside the school gates, as well as regular fundraising for charitable organisations such as The Hearing House, St Vincent de Paul, Diabetes NZ, Cancer Society Cans for Christmas and the Caring Foundation.

We continue to be blessed by a supportive wider community and regular community events and fundraising activities, continue to foster a collaborative school environment.

**Contact: Marina Binns, Principal - Tumukaki**



Thank you to all parishioners who are contributing to the parish and to parish life. It is good to see that people stay around after Mass and connect with each other.

Thank you to Nicki for coordinating the Morning Tea groups at St John's and for the three new groups who organise Morning Tea after 10.30am in St Francis church. It was wonderful to see the Filipino Group and the Indonesian Group as well as Stephanie's Group stepping up and providing Morning Tea once a month.

We are still looking for another group to organise Morning Tea on the first Sunday of each month. If you are part of a group who could take lead for it, please let us know. This task could also be shared among two groups who take turns.



### GENERAL CONTACTS:

<b>Children's Liturgy:</b>	Bill <a href="mailto:barsfamily@xtra.co.nz">barsfamily@xtra.co.nz</a>
<b>Family Groups:</b>	Lindsay & Colin <a href="mailto:familygroupsecb@gmail.com">familygroupsecb@gmail.com</a>
<b>Music:</b>	Matt <a href="mailto:matthewdavis26@hotmail.com">matthewdavis26@hotmail.com</a>
<b>RCIA:</b>	Leo <a href="mailto:rcia.ecbp@gmail.com">rcia.ecbp@gmail.com</a>
<b>Safeguarding:</b>	Iona <a href="mailto:safeguarding@ecbcatholic.org.nz">safeguarding@ecbcatholic.org.nz</a>
<b>Baptisms:</b>	Emma & Sandra <a href="mailto:baptism@ecbcatholic.org.nz">baptism@ecbcatholic.org.nz</a>
<b>Sec. Franciscans:</b>	Linda 09 479 6469
<b>Legion of Mary:</b>	Emma 027 3070864
<b>St. Vincent de Paul:</b>	Ann 027 321 0729
<b>Youth:</b>	Joseph <a href="mailto:joseph.marr@live.com">joseph.marr@live.com</a>

### New Initiative for colder nights:



## Regular Parish Activities

**Friendship & Craft**, every alternate Wednesday, 1-3pm, Fr Quinn's Chapel, St John's (Judith 0278252319 or Ally 0211077980) , All welcome.

**The Living Water Prayer Group**, every Monday, 7.15-9.00pm, St John's (Nola 0276666857 or Maurice 0277775527).

**Meditation Group**, every Tuesday, 1-2pm, Fr Quinn's Chapel, St John's ([contact the office](#))

**Bible Study for Young Adults, aged 18-30**, every Friday, except 1st Friday of the month, 7-9pm, Mike Byrne Room, St Francis (Joseph 0278273979)

**The Secular Franciscans**, every 2nd Sunday, 4pm, St John's (Linda 094796469)

**Legion of Mary**, every Wednesday, 4.30-5.30pm, St John's (Emma 0273070864)