



S S P X

Immaculate Heart of Mary Chapel of the Society of Saint Pius X

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September 2026 Bulletin

St. Pius X and Modernism

Pope St. Pius X is praised for many virtues, but one achievement has particular importance today: his condemnation of Modernism. Elected pope in 1903, Giuseppe Sarto understood the modern world, but he was no Modernist. His clear defence of the Catholic faith made him the ideal patron of the Society of St. Pius X. Modernism is difficult to identify because it is not merely the denial of one doctrine. It is a whole way of thinking about religion, rooted in a false philosophy. St. Pius X exposed this system in his encyclical *Pascendi*, which remains one of the clearest explanations of Modernism. At the centre of the problem is faith itself. Catholic faith is the assent of the intellect to truth revealed by God. It comes to us from outside: we believe because God, who can neither deceive nor be deceived, has revealed it. Modernism reverses this. It treats faith as something arising from within man—a religious feeling or experience produced by a need for the divine. Revelation therefore becomes subjective. The consequences extend throughout religion. If faith comes from individual religious experience, different religions can be regarded as different expressions of equally sincere experiences. Thus Modernism naturally leads to religious indifferentism and false ecumenism. Dogma likewise ceases to express unchanging revealed truth. Doctrinal formulas become expressions of religious experience which may have to change as that experience develops. What is presented as a “living faith” or “living tradition” can therefore become something continually changing. The same principle affects the Church. If religion arises from individual believers, the Church becomes the product of their “collective conscience.” Authority then appears to come from the community rather than from God, encouraging democratic and collegial conceptions of Church government. Modernism similarly transforms the sacraments into symbols that nourish religious experience and Scripture into a record of the religious experiences of earlier believers. Biblical texts can consequently be treated as human compositions gradually developed and altered by their communities. St. Pius X saw that these errors were interconnected. He therefore fought Modernism not merely by condemning individual propositions but by exposing the philosophical principles beneath them and establishing safeguards such as the Anti-Modernist Oath. Modernism has since regained enormous influence. For this reason *Pascendi* remains extraordinarily relevant. St. Pius X identified the principles behind many of the errors troubling the Church today, and his defence of objective, revealed truth remains a light for Catholics in the modern world.

Mass Schedule for September 2026

Confessions are heard before each Mass except on Mondays.

Tue. 01. <i>Feria</i>	No Mass
Wed. 02. <i>St. Stephen</i>	No Mass
Thu. 03. <i>St. Pius X</i>	No Mass
Fri. 04. <i>Feria (First Friday)</i>	19:00 Mass, followed by Adoration until Midnight
Sat. 05. <i>St. Lawrence Justinian (1st Sat.)</i>	8:00 Mass, followed by Benediction
Sun. 06. 15th Sunday after Pentecost	Mass at 9:00 Mass in Hamilton 14:30
Mon. 07. <i>Feria</i>	6:00 Mass
Tue. 08. <i>Nativity of the B.V.M.</i>	No Mass
Wed. 09. <i>Feria</i>	No Mass
Thu. 10. <i>St. Nicholas of Tolentino</i>	No Mass
Fri. 11. <i>Feria</i>	19:00 Mass
Sat. 12. <i>The Most Holy Name of Mary</i>	8:00 Mass
Sun. 13. 16th Sunday after Pentecost	Mass at 9:00 Mass in Whangarei 14:30
Mon. 14. <i>Exaltation of the Holy Cross</i>	6:00 Mass
Tue. 15. <i>Seven Sorrows of Our Lady</i>	No Mass
Wed. 16. <i>Sts. Cornelius and Cyprian</i>	No Mass
Thu. 17. <i>Feria</i>	No Mass
Fri. 18. <i>St. Joseph of Cupertino</i>	19:00 Mass
Sat. 19. <i>St. Januarius and Companions</i>	8:00 Mass
Sun. 20. 17th Sunday after Pentecost	Mass at 9:00 Mass in Hamilton 14:30
Mon. 21. <i>St. Matthew</i>	6:00 Mass
Tue. 22. <i>St. Thomas of Villanova</i>	No Mass
Wed. 23. <i>Ember Wednesday</i>	No Mass
Thu. 24. <i>Feria</i>	No Mass
Fri. 25. <i>Ember Friday</i>	19:00 Mass
Sat. 26. <i>Ember Saturday</i>	8:00 Mass
Sun. 27. 18th Sunday after Pentecost	Mass at 9:00
Mon. 28. <i>St. Wenceslaus</i>	6:00 Mass
Tue. 29. <i>Dedication of St. Michael</i>	No Mass
Wed. 30. <i>St. Jerome</i>	No Mass

General Information

Legion of Mary Meetings are held every Saturday after Mass. Visitors are welcome. (Please contact Geoff Dale if you are interested.)

Adult Catechism is scheduled for every Sunday, starting 10 minutes after mass, unless otherwise noted. Classes will be given by Fr. Lipp, and they are recommended for everyone, especially those new to the faith or to tradition. Currently, there is no scheduled catechism class for children. Please approach Fr. Lipp if you have children who need to prepare for the Sacraments, and we will arrange catechism and testing.

Sick Calls can be arranged to happen every 2-4 weeks. Please contact Fr. Lipp if you want to arrange a sick call for a family member or friend or if you know of a sick parishioner who has not been able to come to mass for more than two weeks.

Extreme Unction should be given whenever there is a reasonable danger of death from some disease or an internal cause. Please consult the pastor early along, as this sacrament can often aid in physical healing. Contact the pastor ideally before any immediate risk of death to arrange to receive this anointing.

Sacramental Emergencies: If a parishioner is in *immediate danger of death* call Fr. Lipp immediately at +64 21-045 8558 and leave a message, clearly indicating the nature of the emergency, your name, and the name of the person in danger of death. If no response, call +64 6-281 3976 (Whanganui Emergency Number).

Baptism: Contact the Pastor well before the due date of any children. Children should be Baptized as soon as possible, and parents cannot be excused from serious sin if they delay more than a month.

Confirmation is usually offered in August or December once every 1-2 years. Contact the pastor to arrange classes well in advance of the bishops' visit.

Marriages must be arranged with the pastor at least 6-12 months before the proposed date of marriage to allow for instruction and a canonical investigation. No date can be set until after the investigation is complete.

Blessing of Religious Items on Sundays after Mass (just before catechism) Please bring your smaller items to the sacristy. Larger items like vehicles can be blessed after catechism.