



Food For Faith Charitable Trust Report December 2025-March 2026

These notes accompany the fifth annual accounts for the *Food for Faith* Charitable Trust, formed in July 2021.

Last November we published our Annual Report including an Update April to November 2025. In that Update we covered news of the formation work undertaken by John; café gatherings; short videos and the appointment of two new trustees following the resignation of Fr Merv Duffy SM. Along with previous Annual Reports the 2025 Update can be located on our website under Annual Reports. <https://foodforfaith.org.nz/support-food-for-faith/>

From now on we will present our Annual Trust Report to better align with the Annual Financial Report. The following report on our operations provides information from December 2025 to March 2026 with some explanation of how donations have been used.

New Trustees

James van Schie brings a wide experience of the New Zealand Church and his personal enthusiasm for the FFF mission. James is the Auckland diocese General Manager.

Catherine Fyfe has spent her career in HR and has wide experience in governance in the Not-For-Profit space, including numerous roles for the Church. She is a Trustee of Whānau Mercy Ministries.

Fundraising

In January John published a short video explaining the work of *Food for Faith* and seeking financial support. The response has been encouraging and inspiring. Thank you to everyone who have given so generously in recent times. Thank you especially to those who have committed to contributing regular

monthly amounts. This is helpful for our budgeting and forward planning and enables us to make good decisions regarding maintaining and development of content. The Trustees recognise how important a reliable funding stream is.

Please contact John directly if you would like to discuss the *Food for Faith* mission or ways you can support future growth.

Advent / Lent and other daily blogs

The daily reflections for Advent and Lent continue to be popular with increases in direct traffic between Lent 2025 and Lent 2026. The emails have a very committed audience and comments continue to be positive. In 2025 FFF had 4,800 email subscribers with an average of 52 new subscribers per month. We noted there is a consistently high number of opens and clicks particularly in these two liturgical seasons.

Café Gatherings

Linked to the Advent/Lent posts were local café gatherings held across the motu. These continue to be an effective outreach for FFF and we are happy to announce that a 'café gathering' page has been uploaded to our front-page enabling people to advertise and promote FFF café gatherings as a one-off or regular outreach of the FFF mission. This interactive page will make it easier for subscribers to enter their own relevant details including any last-minute changes to times and places. Those who sign up to the Café page will receive notification every time there is an addition to the Café page. We encourage you to join in by initiating a gathering – or joining an advertised event.

Podcasts (Homily Studio and Lectio Divina)

The **Homily Studio** podcasts recorded each week are an inspiring half-hour conversation aimed at all people seeking to prepare for the following Sunday liturgy. From a team of more than 25 individuals representing a wide range of occupations and experience the Homily Studio invites up to three people each week to participate in a conversation using the scriptures of the Sunday as a starting point for conversation. The Homily Studio is available on all major platforms (Spotify, Apple, Pod bean etc.) If you know of someone who might

be willing to participate in the podcast conversations, please let John know.

We have recorded the average number of episode listeners is 270. The most listeners (331) was recorded March 16, 2025.

A steady and loyal following continues for **Lectio Divina** prayer podcast meditations centred on the Gospel reading for each day.

While ongoing finance is required for the Lectio Divina platform, most of the daily work in recording and editing for these and other podcasts is carried out by John as a way of saving money. We have recorded 202 as the average number of episode listeners. The most listeners (253) was recorded Dec 17, 2025.

Website monitoring, technological support and hardware

We continue to use the *Screenweave* IT company to provide all the support our online ministry needs. *Screenweave* is called on at all hours to fix the inevitable technical hitches, giving welcome advice about which platforms and technical resources to use to further our *Food for Faith* mission.

Our website recorded an average of 4,200 monthly viewers. Audience numbers include 42% New Zealand, 31% Australia, 12% USA. It's encouraging to note strong brand recognition and loyalty as 71% of users are navigating directly to the site by URL or browser bookmarks, rather than to a referral source.

Administration for the Trust

As our mission continues to grow, we are committed to ensuring our processes are well managed. Catherine Gibbs (Administrator) and Triona Doocey (Donor liaison and receipting) need to have the resources necessary for a permanent administration structure. We wish to gratefully acknowledge their work as well as Ted Wypych (Accountant) who has prepared our annual financial statements which are included with this report.

Strategic Plan reviewed

In January this year the Trustees met together for a full day to review the strategic plan for the next five years. We re-visited our vision, purpose and outcomes. Together with the two new trustees, it was a great opportunity to get to know each other and share our hopes for the

FFF mission. We will begin 2027 with a similar in-person gathering.

Publication

The next edition of *Fifth Gospel Living* is in progress with a change of format. While it was initially planned to publish in hard copy it has been decided that the sharing of faith stories lends itself to an online format with an index enabling readers to search for topics e.g. "encouragement when suffering health / financial / relationship struggles". Currently this website is under construction.

Short videos

John has created a few short videos this year and plans to, as funds allow, develop this aspect of the FFF mission more in the next few months. These videos will take two forms. Firstly, regular and short clips perhaps offering a thought or comment ideally suited to sharing through social media. The second video clips will be longer, perhaps five or ten minutes, and provide a more substantial reflection which would be more suitable to posting on the website as a reflection – something that some donors have asked for. Watch this space.

In Closing

We have enjoyed a fruitful and encouraging year. Thank you for giving *Food for Faith* your ongoing support, feedback, interest and practical support. Your financial gifts mean that the *Food for Faith* mission has been able to be sustained. We are hopeful that with donors' ongoing support, the Trust's mission will continue to evolve. Do tell your friends and families about our various activities. We rely on our supporters spreading the news through personal contacts. If you have any questions about this content please contact John or one of the Trustees.

Ngā mihi mahana ki a koutou

Chris Fogarty
Catherine Fyfe
Catherine Gibbs
Kate Kearins
James van Schie

Food For Faith Trustees

1 June 2026

