



St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

Website: www.stfrancisohariu.nz
Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/st.francis.ohariu/>

First Sunday of Advent 3rd December 2023, Year B
Readings:: Isaiah 63:16-17, 64:1,3-8, Corinthians 1:3-9, Mark 13:33-37



St Francis of Assisi Parish: Rite III

Advent Communal Celebration of Reconciliation and Anointing.

The Spirit provides the grace that allows us to include and transform together in a Communal way through forgiveness within our celebration of Reconciliation and Anointing

Remember, when we speak of Advent or preparing for Christmas, we're not just talking about waiting for the little baby Jesus to be born. That already happened 2,000 years ago. In fact, we're welcoming the Universal Christ, the Christ that is forever being born in the human soul and into history.

And believe me, we do have to make room, because right now there is no room in the inn for such a mystery. We are present here tonight to make that room in ourselves.



So what is Rite III?

The defining characteristic of Rite III is when a priest is able to absolve a large group of people who have expressed sorrow for sin without hearing an individual confession.

- It includes a communal prayer of confession and forgiveness.
- Followed by individual anointing with the sacred oil of healing.
- Then there is a general absolution by the priest, leading us into our communal act of sorrow as a sign of our new beginning within each of our lives

Let's continue to pray for one another over this time.
Amen. **Fr Pete**



Parish Information

Masses

On the weekend of 23rd / 24th December we will hold the regular Saturday Vigil Mass at 5.00pm.

Note: NO 10.00am Mass on the morning of 24th December, the first Mass for that day will be the 5pm Christmas Eve carols and Mass.

Christmas Mass Times

Wednesday 6th December

7.00pm - Communal Reconciliation & Parish Anointing

Saturday 23rd December

5.00pm - Vigil Mass

Sunday 24th December – Christmas Eve

5.00pm Carols for 5.30pm Family Mass

7.30pm Carols for 8.00pm Mass

Monday 25th December - Christmas Day

10.00am - Mass

Week of 26th Dec -29th December

No Weekday Mass or Liturgies

Saturday 30th December

5.00pm - Vigil Mass

Sunday 31st December

10.00am - Mass

Monday 1st January

10.00am - Mass

Parish Information

Mass on Wednesday 6th December will be offered for Theresa MacKenzie.

Theresa was a long time parishioner of St Benedict's and died at Bupa on Tuesday, 28th November in her 102nd year.

Please come to pray for Theresa.

Photographer

We are looking for someone to take photos at our special occasions. If you would be able to do this please contact:

Pat Collier tchpat.collier@gmail.com



Conversation Evening

The women who have been meeting for English conversation have asked me to pass on their heartfelt thanks to the volunteers within the parish and wider community who have supported them so much.



We have been gathering monthly, with much laughter, fun and delicious food. The women, whose first languages are Chinese, Malaysian, Sinhala, Spanish, Tamil and Turkish are encouraged speak in English.

Special thanks, to, Challenge 2000 for making available their beautiful lounge which has been perfect for these gatherings. We'll resume in 2024.

Jo-Anne Carley - joanne@stfrancisohariu.nz

Columban Calendar 2024

These are available to purchase at a cost of **\$12 per calendar**.

They can be purchased through the sacristy **at the end of both Masses**, or contact the Parish Office: **ph: (04) 478 7137**



Reverence for Life

The Reverence for Life group exists in our parish to promote a " Culture of Life in which every person, born and unborn, is protected and loved."

One of our activities is every three months to present at Mass the Book of Life. The Book of Life is a record of personal, family, church and community events that celebrate special occasions reflecting a celebration of life.

The Book will next be presented on the weekend of the 8th/9th December.

We welcome contributions to the Book for this presentation. Your contribution of a celebration event not only enriches our Book of Life but it helps to build awareness of the preciousness and dignity of life in all its stages from conception to death.

Please email your article with any photos to Fiona Kearns at email: fionakearnz@gmail.com, or leave a hard copy in the specially marked "Book of Life" container in the church foyer.

Thank you for your support.

Advent Liturgy

Advent is the season when we are invited by the prophet Isaiah to 'Wake up!' and 'Prepare the Way' for Jesus' coming into our world at Christmas.

To help us prepare this Advent there is a prayer and shared reflection time.

When: The following three Sundays - 3, 10, 17 December

Note: we have started a week before the first Sunday in Advent because the 4th Sunday of Advent falls on Christmas Eve and close to the Christmas vigil Eucharist.

Where: In our Parish Church of St Francis of Assisi Ohariu

Time: From 4.00 to 5.00 pm

Everyone is welcome.

For further information contact:

Wendy – cleaver@actrix.co.nz Judy – judymac@actrix.co.nz



Día de las Velitas

We have been honored to host for the last three years, a simple and beautiful celebration called Dia de las Velitas; the Day of the Little Candles for the Colombian and Venezuelan communities.

It is always on the evening of 7th December, the eve of the Feast of the Immaculate Conception.

This year the liturgy – much of which will be in Spanish - will be at **St Thomas More Church**, 30 Worcester Street, Wilton at 7.30pm.

Everyone is welcome to attend this lovely occasion, which is a special day for Colombians and Venezuelans; to join in prayers for family members and to socialize afterwards.

Jo-Anne Carley

Parish Information

Christmas Giving Appeal

As we approach the Christmas season we are very much aware that many families will be worried about how they will cope. As you are able, we ask that you think of these families and open your pantry, your wallet and your hearts.

St Vincent de Paul and Challenge 2000 work in partnership providing a foodbank for the needy.

Between now and mid December, please consider increased donations of non-perishable food items to the foodbank. Food will be distributed by this partnership.

You might prefer to donate "cash" - there are two ways that you can do this - in an envelope clearly labelled "helping out at Christmas appeal", or, supermarket gift vouchers. Just pop these into the collection plate. The cash will be turned into supermarket vouchers. These will be distributed to needy families by Fr Pete and Joe, our pastoral leaders.

Your gift from the heart - he tuku aroha - could make a difference to families. Please give generously.

Other Events/Notices

Christmas Carols

Sunday, 3rd December at St John's Anglican Church, 18 Basset Rd, Jville.

Time: 4.00 - 7.00pm with CAROLS followed by shared dinner.

All very welcome. Kids more than welcome to come dressed as angels, shepherds.....

For more information contact the Focolare Centres.

Ph: 04 478 7962 / 04 477 9538 or email: newzealand-w@focolare.org

A festive poster for Christmas Carols. The top half features a red background with a green holly branch and red berries on the left, and a red bottlebrush flower on the right. The text "Ngaio Community" is written in a white cursive font with a musical note, followed by "CHRISTMAS CAROLS" in bold white capital letters. Below this, a white banner contains the text "Sunday 3rd December 7:00 PM". The bottom section has a red background with the text "ONSLow COMMUNITY CHURCH" in bold white capital letters, followed by "4 Ngatoto Street, Ngaio" and the phone number "04 479 6329".

Ngaio Community 🎵
CHRISTMAS CAROLS

Sunday 3rd December 7:00 PM

ONSLow COMMUNITY CHURCH
4 Ngatoto Street, Ngaio
04 479 6329

The Johnsonville Op Shop

Would like to thank everyone who has helped out at the shop this year, we really appreciate your time.

We have so much stock at the moment so we will have \$5 sale days this Sat and every Sat until we close for the year.

Sale days are 2nd Dec, 9th Dec and 16th Dec.

Our cleanup after Sale Day is Monday, Dec 18th from 9.30am- we would love some help.

Thank you. **Yvette Elliston**

Boholanos in NZ Charitable Trust - Fundraising Movie

"\$25 movie tickets to 'Next Goal Wins' at 5.00pm on Sunday 10th December 2023 at the Lighthouse Cinema in Petone are on sale.

Please email boholanosnz@gmail.com to order tickets.

This is a fundraising initiative of the Boholanos in New Zealand Charitable Trust in order to educate Filipino migrants to NZ of the mental health resources and services available in New Zealand." **Peter Mulqueen**

St Vincent de Paul & Challenge



St Vincent de Paul and Challenge need your support to donate a gift to the Vinnies Toy Shop.



We are calling on the community to collect and donate gifts for the **Merry Vinnies Toy Shop**.

Gifts can be dropped off to our Newtown Hub (Level 1, 207 Riddiford St), or your local Vinnie's Op-Shop. For more information please take a pamphlet from the church foyer.

Te paepae o te paerangi ki te paewhenua

Where heaven and earth come together

MASS INTENTIONS

We ask for your prayers - Masses have been offered for:



Recently Deceased: Theresa MacKenzie, Perlanita Dimatulac, David Oliver

Anniversaries: Carmel Cameron, Mary Cameron

Prayers for the Sick: Jackie Vaughan, Tony de Joux, Jocelyn Whitehouse, Archbishop Novartus Rugambwa, Moe Pio Tafaese, Jacqui Gilligan, David Clarke, Gerard McDonagh, Jessie Hensen, Tau So'oa, John Fanning, Domingo Basilio Navera Jr, Diana Helm, Joe Godinet, Fr Frank Whitaker, Augafa & Sefine Pelelo, Fr Maurice Carmody, Tony Bordignon, Fr Frank Maguire, Fr Kevin Purcell, Fr Peter O'Connell.

MASS & LITURGY TIMES Saturday 2nd December - Friday 8th December

St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish Timetable 37 Dr Taylor Tce

Sat:	5.00pm Vigil Mass
Sun:	10.00am Mass
Mon:	9.00am Liturgy
Tue:	9.00am Liturgy (at Brigidine Convent)
Wed:	11.00am Mass - Followed by Morning Tea
Wed:	7.00pm - Communal Reconciliation & Parish Anointing
Thurs:	NO 9.00am Liturgy - FUNERAL
Fri:	8.30am Exposition and 9.00am Liturgy

Please note, **Reconciliation** is held on the first Wednesday of the month, at 10.30am before the 11am Mass.

Our Parish Vision

We are missionary disciples of Christ,
in a community of communities,
being transformed in our lives,
and transforming others and our world.

Parish Office: 37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville

Email: office@stfrancisohariu.nz, Phone: 04 478 7137

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Parish Bank Account for Donations:

02-0524-0203642-00

