



St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

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

Fifth Week of Ordinary Time 4th February 2024, Year B
Readings:: Job 7:1-4,6-7, Corinthians 9:16-19,22-23, Mark 1:29-39



I Have A Lot To Be Grateful For: Thankyou

Anna, Margie, Joe, Angela, Helen:
Together, you co-ordinated this occasion and then calling so many of our parishioners to lend a hand. And it happened and for this I am so very grateful.

The engine room of the Parish of St Francis of Assisi Ohariu was humming, singing, catering, sweeping, eating, laughing, embracing chattering and celebrating my time with you all over last weekend for my farewell. I can assure you it was an experience that will be with me for a very long time. I am so truly thankful to you all.

I say 'engine room' because it is my belief that all those involved, both in the two Masses and all that followed with the 'Banquet', is a sure sign to me, that your Parish of St Francis of Assisi Ohariu is on rich soil, soil that enables great team work, team work that enables new creative ministries to evolve and be sustained on this fertile ground of this Parish....Ground where you all stand together as One.

It was one of those huge team efforts from everyone where everyone played their part.

The two Masses which were richly coordinated by Wendy and Marie who again drew on so many of you to make this Celebration of our Mass a beautiful thanksgiving time from me to you and you to me.

The presentation of the two lei's by Katrina and Pius at the offertory, again accentuated the beauty of this Mass as a gift for all of us.

Gifts that continued from the very outset of the opening of our two Masses.

Contd....

The thoughtful and warm Welcomes, that lead us into the heartfelt Proclamation of our scriptures by our readers, followed by Dermot and Ewen sharing lovingly, parts of my life over my years with you all. Not to mention the "custard". Ask Dermot Byrne about this!



Our young altar servers 6 of them, what a presence they were. Just terrific!

Our Prayers of the People, the Procession of our Offertory gifts by our families, collectors, Eucharistic Ministers and sacristans.

Paul Whitehouse who set up the new long overdue 'live action' screens for all those seated towards the back of the church and for Daryl's many multi-technical skills in setting the atmosphere for this celebration with cool air.

All this coupled within the beauty of music led so thoughtfully and beautifully by David and Solomon, Joey, Ning, JL, Jigs and the JPS Team.



THE FEAST

Again, I thank you all for your generosity of presence and plates laden with beautiful food.

Margie, Helen, Angela, Travina Oh and Challenge 2000 in their setting up and being the face of hospitality to you all.

Helen Cross in your gracious way, I thank you for baking my 3 farewell cakes for both masses (my favourite banana ones with rich icing) plus the beauty of flowers in our church, not just for this weekend, but for the many years you and your little team have provided this gift to us all.



Daryl for setting up the sound system in the hall, which eventually turned into a bit of a music feast - thank you Anna.

For the gifts I received from the parish plus the many leaving cards and many gifts received from you all. Thank you.

I leave with great peace in my heart, sad yes, but also knowing the greatest gift was meeting, ministering and sharing in your hospitality over these 5 years.

I end this thank you message to you all resonating passionately with the words of Pope Francis

***'Now is the time for pastors and people to walk and minister together, in every area of the Church's life, in every part of the world.
Remember the people are not 'guests' in their Church, it's their home'.
With love and gratefulness***

Pete



Parish Information



Fr Pete

Last weekend we said farewell to Fr Pete after 5 years of unconditional commitment and dedication to our Parish. We thank him from the bottom of our hearts for everything he has done.

What a fantastic turn out at both the Saturday Vigil Mass and Sunday morning Mass.

Thank you to all those involved in the weekend. It was so lovely to see the Parish come together to celebrate Fr Pete.

Pete we wish you all the best in the next Chapter of your journey and on behalf of everyone here at St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish – THANK YOU THANK YOU. You will be very much missed.

House Rental

The Parish are interested in renting a 3 bedroom house in the area. If you can help in any way, please contact Angela in the Parish Office, email: angela@stfrancisohariu.nz Many thanks.

Children's Liturgy

At 10.00am Mass on Sunday, 11th February our children's liturgy leaders will be commissioned.

After this the children will go to their first session for the year. Please pray for our children and their leaders.

Prayer Chain

Is someone you know suffering though challenges to health, mental well-being or personal hardship?

St Francis of Assisi Parish has an active **PRAYER CHAIN.....**

Ring Katharina Dobson - (04) 976 9191 or Mob: 027 327 3609 to add your prayer request to the chain..... And why not join the chain to add your voice to ours?



Welcome - Mihi Whakatau

On Saturday - **3rd February at 4.30pm** we welcome Pa Gerard Burns, Fr Alfred Tong, and pre-seminarian in residence Quang to St Francis of Assisi Ohariu.

We will be following the mihi whakatau/welcoming protocol:

- At 4.30pm Gerry, Alfred and Quang and their supporters will be called (karanga) into the Church.
- Our speaker (kai korero) will address them, then a waiata/song.
- Their kai korero will respond, followed by waiata.
- Gerard, Alfred and Quang will be handed over.
- Anna will speak on behalf of the Parish.
- We will then move into the 5pm Mass- this will be followed by a cuppa and shared food.
- At this Mass, Pa Gerry, Fr Alfred and Joe will be commissioned as our new Parish Leadership Team - this is as per placement letter included in our last newsletter (24th Dec 2023). [Click here](#) for the letter.

Some Key Points:

- Parking: wardens will direct parking. Parking next to the church will primarily be for visitors (with the exception for those who need to be close for mobility reasons). The school parking will be available.
- Those who are able are asked to enter by the carpark side door.
- Ushers/Welcomers will direct people to seating.
- Parishioners need to be seated by 4.20pm. Late comers may be held back from entry to the church until just before the Mass starts at 5pm (we don't want to interrupt the event).
- A cuppa and food is planned for after Mass. We will have grace before eating.
- **BRING A PLATE WITH FOOD TO SHARE PLEASE.**

"Whakatau" describes how a feather drops, gently touching the ground on which it lands. That is what we want for our incoming clergy.

As a parish - we can do this!

Parish Information

Finance Committee Update and Office Hours Changing

The Finance Committee spoke at Masses last November about the need to increase giving from parishioners and other cost reduction plans being put in place to ensure financial sustainability.

We would like to thank the parish for the generous increase in giving. We appreciate all those who give and are pleased to report the financial situation has improved.

The Office hours are changing, and the office staff will no longer be working on Fridays and therefore the office will be closed that day.

This decision was taken after consultation with the office staff and agreement reached that Friday as a non-workday is best for them in a requirement to reduce hours. The parish still operates with considerably longer hours per week than any other parish in the Wellington Archdiocese.

The Finance Committee will work with the new Parish Priest to review the tasks that should be undertaken by parishioners, such as reinstating a Counters Roster for weekly giving, and other tasks normally undertaken by parishioners, in a bid to relieve the amount of work currently placed on the office.

The phone remains always monitored in the case of emergencies.

Thank you for your continued generosity and support.

Other Events/Notices

Joshua Wellington

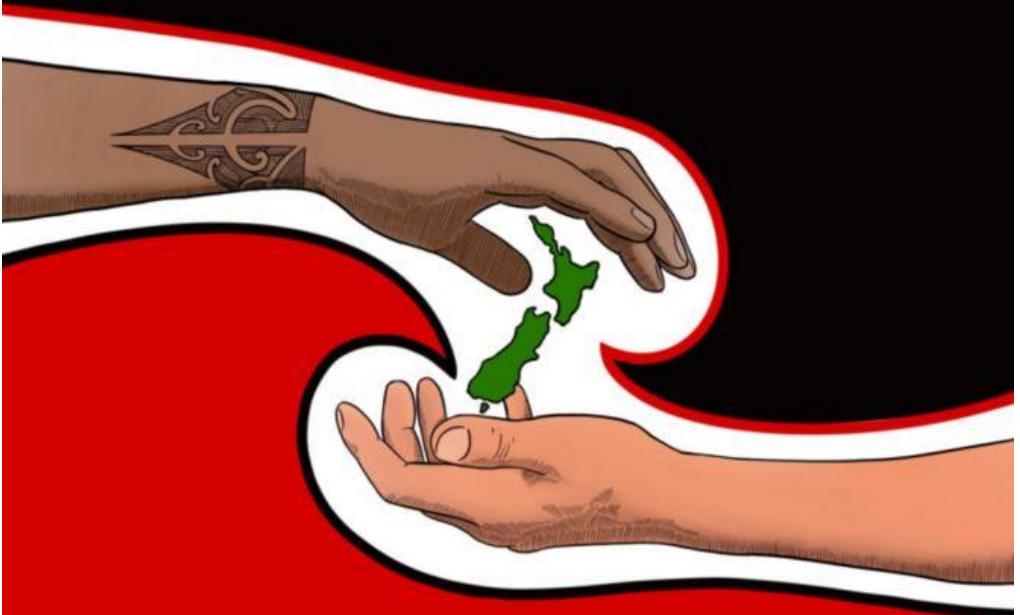
Extends an open invitation to both men and women to come to a MASS followed by a light supper on **Thursday 15th February 2024 at 7:30pm** at 'Loaves and Fishes' next to Anglican Cathedral of St Paul, corner Hill and Molesworth Streets.

Celebrant: Fr Peter Ewart sm, Joshua Chaplain.

Want to know more? Ring David Monastra 027-4477-280 or email: joshua.wgtn@gmail.com

UNDERSTANDING WAITANGI DAY

ORGANISED BY CHALLENGE 2000 WHANAU



6TH FEBRUARY - ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI, JOHNSONVILLE

3 pm - 5 pm Workshops

5 pm - 6 pm Kai

6 pm - 7 pm Prayer and Reflection

Contact Mitch 0220218976

Ana 0212273754

Kitty 021491459



MASS INTENTIONS



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

Recently Deceased: Helen Gregory, Ember Crisostomo

Prayers for the Sick: Fr David Orange, 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, Joe Godinet, Augafa & Sefine Pelelo, Fr Maurice Carmody, Tony Bordignon, Fr Frank Maguire, Fr Kevin Purcell, Fr Peter O'Connell, Fr Frank Whitaker.

MASS & LITURGY TIMES Saturday 3rd February - Friday 9th February

St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish Timetable 37 Dr Taylor Tce

Sat:	5.00pm Vigil Mass - Mihi Whakatau
Sun:	10.00am Mass
Mon:	9.00am Liturgy
Tue:	9.00am Liturgy (at Brigidine Convent)
Wed:	11.00am Mass - Followed by Morning Tea
Thurs:	9.00am Liturgy
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

Website: www.stfrancisohariu.nz

Facebook—<https://www.facebook.com/st.francis.ohariu/>

Parish Bank Account for Donations:
02-0524-0203642-00