



# St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

Website: [www.stfrancisohariu.nz](http://www.stfrancisohariu.nz)

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

**Fifth Week Ordinary Time Year C—Waitangi Day**  
**Readings: Isaiah 6:1- 8, 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 , Luke 5:1-11**

## Faith.

Our faith has two elements. The first is reflected by Paul in his letter to the Corinthians where he gives the briefest summary of what the Christian message is about. Paul asks us to believe that what he writes is true. In this sense faith can be defined as a statement of belief.

However there is a deeper level of faith. The Greek word for faith is "pistis" which means "trust". To have faith in Jesus is to have total trust in him.

Both of these levels are at work when we speak of Christian faith, but the second is the real test. A deep faith not only accepts the content of God's message but involves a total surrender of ourselves and all we have into God's hands.

We see the two elements of faith outworked in today's gospel. Peter and his friends listened to God's message of truth. Then they were asked to put out into deep water to catch fish. To Peter the experienced fisherman who had caught nothing the previous night this did not make sense. In the end he put his trust in Jesus and went and let out his nets. The result was overwhelming and beyond expectation. It was his first test of faith in Jesus.

We are challenged by that same call of faith. Jesus calls- " Go out into the deep water. Trust me completely." It is in this total trust that we experience Jesus and are deeply moved and fulfilled.

In the first reading Isaiah had an overwhelming experience of God's presence. This was the same experience of revelation and awe that happened to Paul and to Peter. Through this experience all three were called to apostleship; to take the good news of God's love out to the world. So too we are called.

In Ephesians Chapter 3 Paul reflects on the power of God's presence within us. Paul writes " Glory be to Him whose power at work in us can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine"

Let us pray daily for a deep, intimate and trusting relationship in Jesus the fruits of which will be beyond our imagination.

Ewen Laurenson

**Sunday the 6th February is our national day commemorating the first signings of the Treaty of Waitangi - Te Tiriti o Waitangi, in 1840.**



In the Treaty of Waitangi, we find the moral basis for our presence in Aotearoa New Zealand and a vision that sets this country apart. We hold in our hands a great treasure - the opportunity to create a society that truly honours the rights of its indigenous people. We have an opportunity to heal wounds that have been present for too long. The Treaty of Waitangi was built on respect for persons and respect for their diversity.

**New Zealand Catholic Bishops Conference, [Statement on the Treaty of Waitangi](#), 1995**

### **Covid Vaccine Passes Mandatory at all Masses and Liturgies**

New Zealand is now in **Red** under the Covid-19 Protection framework. **Everyone aged over 12 and 3 months must show a Covid MyVaccine pass when you come to a Mass or Liturgy and masks are mandatory. Social distancing is essential.**

Under **Red** you will need to show your Covid Vaccine pass when you arrive. Masses will be limited to 100 people. You **will** need to book for weekend Masses and Word and Communion Liturgies.

Bookings are essential as numbers are limited. To book your place please go to the Archdiocese website and register or click on the [link](#)

Please note bookings for weekend Masses open at **9.00am Wednesday** and close at **12pm Friday**.

Everyone over 12 and 3 months will need a pass. You can get a pass at <https://covid19.govt.nz/covid-19-vaccines/covid-19-vaccination-certificates/my-vaccine-pass/> If you don't have a computer, phone: 0800 222 478 and have your NHI number ready.

If you are unable to attend Mass and you wish to receive Communion at home, please contact the Parish Office to discuss possible arrangements to receive. **Ph: (04) 478 7137.**

Please [click here](#) for a very useful guide on being prepared for Covid19.

## **Abuse in our Catholic Church:**

***Please be aware that what is written below may be very upsetting and trigger horrible personal memories or experiences that affected you, your family members or friends.***

This past week the scale of reported, alleged abuse within the Catholic Church in Aotearoa New Zealand has become known for the first time. Extensive research undertaken by the Church at the request of the Royal Commission on Abuse in Care was completed, made public and reported. The definition of abuse included reports of sexual, physical, emotional, psychological and neglect.

*The statistics are:* A total of 1680 reports of abuse were made by 1122 individuals against Catholic clergy, brothers, nuns, sisters and lay people from 1950 to the present, with 592 alleged abusers named. Almost half the reported abuse involved sexual harm. The 1960s and 1970s were the decades with the most abuse reported, with 75 per cent dated before 1990. Many abuse victims will also not have yet reported what happened to them, so many more people will have been effected.

Cardinal Dew said: "These statistics on abuse in the Catholic Church are horrifying and something we are deeply ashamed of. As we continue to respond to the Royal Commission into Abuse and build a safer Church for everyone, I firmly hope that facts like these will help us to face the sad reality. The Church will learn from this and affirm its commitment to the work of safeguarding."

*The awful, tragic, sad reality is:* that children, young people and adults were abused and hurt in a Catholic Church setting. A setting that should have been loving, safe, life giving and positive. This abuse was the opposite of what our church stands for. Each child, youth or adult hurt and traumatised by this abuse was also part of a family, community that was also deeply affected by the abuse. Lives were ruined. Innocence tarnished, dreams for the future dashed, a relationship with God ended and many other negative life changing events resulted because of the awful abuse. The impact of abuse is devastating and lasting.

As members of the Catholic community we must face this reality. We need to continue to think deeply about it, learn about abuse and its ongoing effects and decide how and what our church communities MUST do to provide some healing for those abused. We must also prevent violence and abuse in our church in the future.

*What now:* In our church foyers we have printed out copies of the information provided by the Catholic Centre. The information can also be found on line [here](#)

Over the next few weeks there will be informal, conversation opportunities to talk about this Report and abuse in our church.

The first will be on Thursday February 17 at 7pm in the Church hall at SS Peter and Pauls Johnsonville. Led by Kitty McKinley and a counsellor.

The second will be on Wednesday 16 February in SS Peter and Pauls Church Hall led by Jim Dooley.

The third will be on Friday at 11am at Challenge 2000 1 Wanaka Street, led by Jim Dooley. Other opportunities to discuss and pray about abuse in our church will be held.

Kitty McKinley, who is our Parish safeguarding person, is also talking with Pasifika, Māori and other cultural communities to work out the best way of offering conversation opportunities. PLEASE if you need to talk or have any ideas about what St Francis of Assisi parish can do call Kitty 021 491 459 or the Parish Office. Or leave a written suggestion in the church foyers marked Safeguarding and Prevention of Abuse.

Also if you have suffered abuse in the care of the Church please approach the Police, the [Royal Commission](#), the Church's agency for managing reports of abuse (the [National Office for Professional Standards](#), or NOPS), or one of the many support groups and networks that exist for survivors or social service agencies who can meet and talk with you.

And please, please take care and be considerate of your needs and worries and those of others.

### **Community Outreach News**

A particular Focus for the Leadership Team and for many parishioners over the past years has been to respond to the needs of Refugees, others new to Aotearoa New Zealand and those who struggle.

Two St Vincent de Paul Chapters, Challenge 2000, the Youth Ministry team, individual parishioners and different ministries have worked hard to assist with food hampers, general assistance, emergency housing, furniture and chattels, home visits and different ways of helping to build a loving, welcoming community. Covid pressures worsened many situations and housing costs, fewer work hours and escalating food and living prices resulted in members of the Leadership Team applying for financial assistance from two Trusts so we could do more.

These applications were successful and so we can announce the appointment of Jo-Anne Carley, a long term Northern Suburbs parishioner as our **Part time Refugee and Family Support Coordinator**.

Jo-Anne will continue the great work already done in this parish and work to provide even more support for our brothers and sisters who experience difficulties. Our hope is that many, many more parishioners will offer to support this mission of supporting Refugees and those on the peripheries of our society. We need more people to hold on to the net of faith and love we hear about in today's gospel. So welcome to the parish in a different capacity Jo-Anne and we look forward to working with you to make our world a better place.



**Happy Feast Day to the Brigidine Sisters. Thank You for our Parish Schools.**



**Birthday Wishes**

The Parish would like to wish **Therese McKenzie** a very Happy 100th Birthday. May your year ahead be filled with happiness and good health. Very best wishes from everyone at St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish.



**Collection Basket** - Under the Red Traffic Light Framework, we are not able to pass the collection basket around during Mass services. Please note, that if you would like to make a donation or pass on your planned giving envelope, the collection basket will be at the back of the church or in the foyer after Mass.

## **Sacramental Programme**

Thank you to those parishioners who have been inquiring about the Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation Programmes for 2022.

Sacramental and Youth Ministry Team members have been meeting and talking to some of our schools and parents/ caregivers to work out how best to facilitate these programmes.

Covid willing we will look to start sessions on **14th March**, however, further information will follow. We will consult with you all and then work out a safe, faith filled programme for this year.

A big welcome if you are new to the parish and please let the parish office know who you are, your contact details and the ages and sacramental opportunities that you would like your children to have.

Everyone is welcome and we can accommodate children/young people of any age. So please let us know what you would like.

If any of you would also like to assist with any parts of this programme then please either email the parish office with your details or call **Kitty McKinley on 021491459**. Training is provided.

## **Prayer for our Parish of St. Francis of Assisi Ohariu.**

**Loving God**, as members of our Parish of St. Francis of Assisi Ohariu, we come before you in a spirit of love, prayer and thanksgiving.

We pray you bind us together in love. Whatever our age, cultural background and individual roles within our parish, may we be one together in Jesus. May we accept, affirm and support one another.

In your service we offer you our talents and gifts so as to build your Loving Presence amongst us. May our Parish be vibrant with your love and always a place of welcome

May your Holy Spirit anoint us, inspire us, and send us out into the community as witnesses to you and your love and teaching. May we have the courage and compassion to reach beyond our church to the peripheries to those who are most vulnerable and in need.

May your Holy Spirit draw others to you through us.

We ask this in Jesus' name.  
Amen

St. Francis of Assisi pray for us, and guide us.



## Upcoming Events/Notices

### Columban Calendar 2022

We have received the 2022 Columban Calendars for this year. They are available for purchase in the foyer at a cost of **\$12 per calendar**. In the event you cannot attend Mass and wish to purchase one, please contact the Parish Office;

**ph: (04) 4787137, email: [office@stfrancisochariu.nz](mailto:office@stfrancisochariu.nz).**

### Typhoon Odette (Rai) Appeal

A Filipino group from within our parish is appealing for donations to help Typhoon Odette victims. The funds raised will go to families in the island of Bohol in the Central Visayas's region of the Philippines who desperately need help.

They still have no electricity and drinking water is rationed.

Any donations will be gratefully received and can be made two ways locally. Donations through a Givealittle page <https://givealittle.co.nz/cause/typhoon-odette-victims-fundraising> or buying a raffle ticket at <https://docs.google.com/document/d/11e1nN7ZKPxsJbYHxX7LfahAmW48MbEK2SdMJOfT20/mobilebasic>


### Tonga Relief Appeal - A Message from Caritas NZ

Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand has mobilised prepositioned supplies to be of immediate assistance and will continue to work with Caritas Tonga to best assist those in need.

We have also pledged a solidarity grant to go immediately to assist with the response to the disaster.

If you would like to donate to the emergency relief work of Caritas in Tonga. Donations can be made to Caritas online through the Pacific Relief Fund [www.caritas.org.nz/donate-online](http://www.caritas.org.nz/donate-online) or via bank account 03-0518-0211216-00.

Please include your first & last name and put 'Tonga' as the code. Alternatively you can donate by credit card by calling 0800 22 10 22.



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:** Domingo Romero (Argentina), Gary Richards, Br John SM (Stuart Cuttance), Cath O'Connor.

**Anniversaries:** Brian de Joux, Fr John Murphy.

**Prayers for the Sick:** Graeme Gorton, John Fanning, Tony Bordignon, Tau So'oa (father of Mel Aspinall), Monsignor John Carde, Fr Colin Durning, Fr Frank McGuire, Fr Peter O'Connell.

*Please also remember in your prayers those that are supporting them.*

We pray for parishioners and their friends & contacts who have been affected by Covid-19. We also pray for New Zealand and all those working to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

## MASS & LITURGY TIMES 6th February - 12th February

### St Peter & Paul's Church 37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville

Sun: Mass 10.30am  
Mon: 9am Liturgy  
Tues: 9.15am Liturgy  
Wed: 11am Mass (Cup of Tea)  
Thurs: 9am Liturgy  
Fri: 9am Mass

### St Andrew's Church 29 Trebann St Newlands

Saturday: 5pm Vigil Mass

### St Benedict's Church 3 Everest St Khandallah

Sunday Mass 9.00am  
Monday 9.00 Liturgy  
Monday 7.00 Meditation  
Tuesday 9.15 Liturgy  
Wednesday 9.00 Liturgy  
Thursday 9.00 Liturgy  
Friday Exposition 8.30 Liturgy at 9.00

Please note, **Reconciliation** is held at St Peter and Paul's on the first Wednesday of the month, at 10.30am before the 11am Mass or by appointment.

Parish Office: 37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville

Email: [office@stfrancisohariu.nz](mailto:office@stfrancisohariu.nz)

Phone: 04 478 7137

Website: [www.stfrancisohariu.nz](http://www.stfrancisohariu.nz)

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

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

