



# St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

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

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

**Second Week of Easter 7th April 2024, Year B**  
**Readings:: Acts 4:32-35, John 5:1-6, John 20:19-31**

## Reflection

Today used to be known as "Low Sunday" – a reflection on all the pomp and ceremony of last weekend – and it was also known as Quasimodo Sunday from the opening words of the Latin Mass for that day (and of course Quasimodo was the name they gave to The Hunchback of Notre Dame because he was found abandoned on that Sunday)

Of course no Sunday is ever really "low" – always the Mass is high in God's eyes: and of course, also, no one of us should ever consider themselves to be low or abandoned. Today's Psalm 118 is full of reference to God NOT abandoning us: "God's right hand has raised me, the Lord's right hand has triumphed, I shall not die, I shall live"

But – there always times when we DO feel abandoned – well, not REALLY abandoned – just overlooked: Thomas felt that way – all the others had seen the Risen Christ and he hadn't: sniff, mutter – He's been to all the others and I've been left out – what's so special about THEM!! How come I haven't seen Him?? How come I've been overlooked? It's just not fair, NOT NOT fair at all. And the others all reckon they've seen the wounds and that great scar on His side (well, that's what they said and I don't really believe them. I'M not going to believe them unless I can see for myself – so there!!

But of course he hadn't been abandoned and Jesus came back a week later (what took you so long?) to show Thomas the fact that, yes, He, Jesus was alive and – look here, Thomas m'boy, there are the wounds so pop your hand and have a feel for yourself: See, they're real. But aren't you so lucky Thomas that you can feel for yourself – what about all those people at church in St Francis of Assisi parish in 2024 – do you think they feel abandoned just 'cos they can't see me in person, they can't stick their hands into the whacking big gash in my side?

NO – THEY DO NOT FEEL ABANDONED because they grew up in the faith that says I will never abandon them: of course they might abandon me which can be a bit rough, But I will NEVER ABANDON them!! I, the Risen Christ, will stand by them until the day they die and I will receive them into my Kingdom and they will never feel abandoned again

**Tony de Joux**

**Easter 2024 - St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish**

Thank you to all those who planned, took part and made our Easter celebrations a success.

Many thanks to Challenge for providing the Altar of Repose at the Challenge Chapel and for the hot cross buns & cup of tea!



## Parish Information

### Walk of the Cross 2024

The Walk of the Cross as always was a very prayerful and beautiful moment of Christian Unity with Christians coming from Khandallah Presbyterian Church together with Uniting, Catholic, Brethren, Salvation Army and Anglican Churches of Johnsonville. No doubt there were others there as well but all were united in the Walk of the Cross our most sacred moment of Jesus's ultimate sacrifice for each one of us.

There were 130 people of all ages walking and carrying the cross, singing and stopping along the way at various Churches and meditating on the Stations of the Cross. We were of one mind and one soul in the Passion of our Lord Jesus Christ.

We started from the Uniting Church and finished up at St John's Anglican Church where we were invited in for a

Thanks to one and all for yet another meditative moment together.

**Ian Hamilton**



### Eucharistic Ministers & Sacristans Meeting

Just a reminder to all Eucharistic Ministers and Sacristans of the get-together on **Saturday, 13th April at 10.00 am** in the St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Church hall, to meet and greet.

If you are a Eucharistic Minister or a Sacristan, but find yourselves not on the list for contact, please do come along and let us know your email address, or any other appropriate contact details.

For further information contact:

Colleen Campbell [colleencampbell@xtra.co.nz](mailto:colleencampbell@xtra.co.nz)

**Iftar Meal**

The Iftar meal last Wednesday night was a lovely celebration between Muslims and Christians, with delicious food, music and the sharing of faith stories. Around 45 people attended.

Many thanks to the Guzel family for initiating this heart-warming event and to all who attended, bringing food or donating.

The parish has been gifted a beautiful hand-crafted Turkish lamp.

**Jo-Anne Carley**



**ANZAC Day**

**4.30pm** ANZAC Remembrance Service

**5.15pm** Soup & Biscuits

St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish Church, 37 Dr Taylor Tce

Please contact:  
Ana - 021 227 3754 or  
(04) 477 6827

[info@challenge2000.org.nz](mailto:info@challenge2000.org.nz)



## Parish Information

### St Brigid's School - Te Reo Course

St Brigid's School is very fortunate to have the opportunity for staff, school and Parish whānau to participate in te reo Māori classes next term.

This is a 20 week **free** course that will be held Monday evenings at school. Anyone is welcome to join us from the St Brigid's community!

**What:** Kāuru's takitini te reo Māori course for te Kura o Hato Pirihiti (St Brigid's School)

**When:** Monday nights 5.30-7.30pm, starting 29 April 2024 (Week 1 Term 2)

**Where:** Room 12 Classroom at St Brigid's

**Duration:** 20 weeks

NB: There is **no** cost to this course as it is funded by the Ministry of Education.

**If you have any questions or would like the details of how to register, please contact Fiona D'Souza - [fionad@stbrigids.school.nz](mailto:fionad@stbrigids.school.nz)**



**12.30pm** Picnic & Games  
**1.30pm** Halfway House Stories  
Poetry Reading  
Remembrance Service

**Where** 246 Middleton Road, Glenside.

**Contact** Jacob Bang, Ph: 021 0820 8722.  
Email: [info@challenge2000.org.nz](mailto:info@challenge2000.org.nz)



## Parish Information

### Parish Council

Parishes in the Archdiocese of Wellington are required to have a Parish Pastoral Council.

A Parish Pastoral Council is essential if the parish is to develop, if it is to meet the spiritual, liturgical, pastoral and social needs of its people, if it is to be evangelising and if it is to play a part in the mission of the local and universal Church.

The role of the Parish Pastoral Council is to work with the pastoral leadership team (priest/s and lay pastoral leader/s) to plan and foster pastoral activities.

The main functions are to: 1. agree on a pastoral plan 2. collaborate with others to bring the plan to fruition 3. evaluate the results.

Members of the Parish Pastoral Council will:

- be people of prayer;
- listen to other's views;
- be concerned with the full mission of the parish;
- be willing to participate in formation for the position;
- take full part in discussions;
- be involved in the parish and keep in touch with parishioners and liaise with parish groups when required.

As we prepare to form a Parish Pastoral Council we ask that you pray for the spirit of discernment. During Eastertide, between now and Pentecost, we will ask you to nominate someone else as a potential candidate for this important role.

Our aim is a Council of about 10 people, with an even split between those nominated, and those with particular gifts and talents invited by the Parish Leadership Team.

### Liturgy Workshops

Fr Patrick Bridgman, Liturgy Advisor, will present 4 workshops centered on The Mass. The first of these workshops will be held in our Church, as follows:

What do we believe? **10.00am - 12.00pm on Saturday, 20th April.**

For further workshops and information, please [click here](#).

## Parish Information

### Alpha

#### IS THERE MORE TO LIFE THAN THIS?

#### Are you searching for the meaning of life?



We have an invitation for you! Alpha is a place to connect with others as you explore the big questions in life.

Join us and bring your mates along for a shared meal, an episode on a topic of faith, a chance to ask questions and share ideas. All are welcome to attend.

Join us for a **PROMO NIGHT** on **Tuesday 7th May, at 7pm** in our church hall.

To register, email [alpha@stfrancisohariu.nz](mailto:alpha@stfrancisohariu.nz). We look forward to seeing you there.

### Sacramental Programme 2024

The enrolment process for the 2024 Parish Sacramental Programme has opened.

For further information please [click here](#). Or alternatively, email: [sacramentalprogramme@stfrancisohariu.nz](mailto:sacramentalprogramme@stfrancisohariu.nz)

#### NOTE:

There will be parent / caregiver meeting for all those who have children enrolled in the programme. It is very important a representative from every family attends this meeting, as this will be an information evening about the programme, dates and content.

This will be held on **Wednesday, 1st May, 7.00pm – 8.30pm** in the Parish Church.

#### Sacramental Dates:

Confirmation Date - **18th August**

First Communion - **Weekend of 21st / 22nd September**



## MASS INTENTIONS

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



**Recently Deceased:** John Lunden

**Anniversaries:** Alec Don Silva

**Prayers for the Sick:** Rev Fiatepa Faape, Betty Stewart, David Ogilvie, Fr David Orange, Jocelyn Whitehouse, David Clarke, Moe Pio Tafaese, Gerard McDonagh, Jessie Hensen, Tau So'oa, John Fanning, Tony Bordignon, Domingo Basilio Navera Jr, Joe Godinet, Augafa & Sefine Pelelo, Fr Maurice Carmody, Fr Frank Maguire, Fr Kevin Purcell, Fr Peter O'Connell, Fr Frank Whitaker.

## MASS & LITURGY TIMES Saturday 6th April - Friday 12th April

### St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish Timetable 37 Dr Taylor Tce

Sat: 5.00pm Vigil Mass  
Sun: 10.00am Mass  
Mon: **NO LITURGY**  
Tues: 9.15am Liturgy in the Church with St Brigid's School  
Wed: 11.00am Mass - followed by Morning Tea  
Thurs: 9.00am Liturgy  
Fri: 9.00am Liturgy

Please note, **Reconciliation** will be held **every** Wednesday 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](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**