



# St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

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

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

**Fifth Sunday of Easter 7th May 2023, Year A**  
**Readings:: Acts 6:1-7, Peter 2:4-9, John 14:1-12**

Today's gospel records Jesus saying "I am the Way, the Truth and the Life." Jesus adds that it is through Him that we come to know the Father-heart of God, for He and His Father are one. To abide in Jesus is to abide in the Father so that we become one with them and they with us. It is through this unity with Jesus and the Father that the Holy Spirit comes to dwell within us making of us a Temple of the Holy Spirit.

It is with this Truth that Peter can write in his first letter that we are a special priestly people belonging to God and set apart ( holy) to proclaim and to call people out of darkness into the light of God.

Today's reading from the Acts of the Apostles reflects the early church putting into action this call to live out and proclaim the Good News of Jesus. The disciples gathered and prayed together, taught others about the saving love of Jesus as well as reached out in love to people in need. Their lives were a powerful witness, so that many people came to follow and put their trust in Jesus.

With the final sentence in today's gospel Jesus makes this amazing statement. He says, "Anyone who has faith in me will do what I have been doing. They will do even greater works than these because I am going to the Father."

How can we do greater works than Jesus? How can we do them because Jesus is going to the Father.?

We continue the mission of Jesus because we now as the people of God have the mandate. It was only by His returning to the Father and leaving us empowered by the Holy Spirit that the fullness of love and life that He brought was released out to the ends of the earth.

As the world wide Body of Christ we are the hands and the feet of Jesus. It is when we all faithfully live out lives of faith expressed in love we become partners in a world wide mission bringing salvation, healing, wholeness into the lives of millions. It is in this way that we are able to be part of a work that is greater than that undertaken by Jesus.

It is a wonderful, amazing, life giving mission of which to be part.

**Ewen Laurenson**

### Parish Newsletter Property Project Update May 2023

Last year Cardinal John agreed with the proposed property plan from the parish. We have completed the first stages of the plan by closing St Andrew's and St Benedict's churches and the opening of refurbished parish church in Johnsonville.

We now need to progress the next steps of the property plan. This includes the following.

#### **1. Deconsecrating St Andrew's and St Benedict's Churches**

This is a canonical process. When we have removed the altar, sacred objects and religious artefacts from these churches the parish will write to the archbishop with a minute from the Finance Committee requesting de-consecration. This will be considered by the Council of Priests. We plan to send our request later this month.

#### **2. Consultation with Mana Whenua**

The Archdiocese has a policy requiring consultation with mana whenua about the history of land before it is sold. This will take several months so we will work with the archdiocese to get this underway later this month.

#### **3. Sale of St Andrew's and St Benedict's**

Once we have completed the consultation with mana whenua we can request approval from the archdiocese to put our properties on the market. We have received advice about each property, the development opportunities of each and their valuation. The current economic conditions have most likely resulted in property values falling since we had the properties valued late last year. As a consequence the parish may not proceed with a sale if we believe offers are too low and it would be better to retain the properties until the market recovers. This will be managed by the Finance Committee.

#### **4. Planning for Parish Priest Accommodation**

In his decision letter last year Cardinal John asked the parish to plan for accommodation for a parish priest. Use of the existing presbytery is our preferred option at the moment. We will consider if we need to complete any work on the presbytery prior to the arrival of a new parish priest.

## Parish Information

### 5. Development of Johnsonville Site

A process will begin shortly to have discussions with parishioners, parish schools and other stakeholders about the development of the Johnsonville site. This will identify what the parish would like to include in the scope of any development and the priorities for the future development.

If any parishioners have any advice, concerns or comments about these plans or would like to assist please contact a member of the Finance Committee, Pete Roe sm, Joe Green or the Parish Advisory Group.

Emails can be sent to:

[propreview@stfrancisohariu.nz](mailto:propreview@stfrancisohariu.nz) or [office@stfrancisohariu.nz](mailto:office@stfrancisohariu.nz)

**Thomas Davis**  
**Finance Committee Chair**

### Tax Receipts / New Envelopes

Tax receipts for year end 31st March 2023 have now been finalised. They have been sent to you by email. Please check your emails (also check spam), to make sure you have received it.

If we do not have an email address for you, the tax receipt will be printed off and ready for collection in the Church foyer.

For those who give by envelope, your new envelopes are now available to collect in the church foyer.

If you have any queries, please contact the **Parish Office, ph: 04 4787137**.

The Parish would like to thank you for your continued support.

### Greetings all from the Youth Ministry Team at Challenge 2000

Next Tuesday, 9th May, we will be having our liturgy with St Brigid's School, at St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Church. **It will start at 9:15am and finish at 9:45am.**

If you would like any further info please contact Ana Baice: 021 562 690.

All welcome, we would love to see you there praying with our children.

**Sacramental Programme**



The Sacramental Programme for 2023 is underway.

Registration brochures are available in the church foyers, from the Parish Office and on our website. Please [click here](#).

This programme offers preparation for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion / Eucharist and Confirmation.

The Programme has begun with Reconciliation.

**Last Session - (for those that did not attend the day programme)**

Sunday, 7th May - 2.00pm - 4.30pm

Everyone will then need to attend a final meeting and practice on:

**Friday, 12th May, 4.30pm - 6.30pm**

The Reconciliation Service will be on - **Sunday, 14th May, 4.00pm**

All sessions will be held at: St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish,  
37 Dr Taylor Terrace, Johnsonville.

Bookings can be made through the Parish Office. If you have any queries, you can contact Kitty on 021 491 459 or the Parish Office, (04) 478 7137.

**“SACRED AND SECULAR”: AN ORGAN RECITAL: May 13, 3pm**

David Dobson will present an organ recital at our Parish Church of St Francis of Assisi Ohariu, on the above date.

He will be joined by wonderful young singer, Rose Aldridge.

The concert is free, but there will be an opportunity to contribute towards a Cyclone Relief Fund. All funds raised by your generous contributions will go towards this cause.



## Parish Information

### Pentecost Help

Working bee **Sunday 21st May after 10.00a.m Mass** in the meeting room next to the sacristy.

We will be making flames to be given to people on Pentecost Sunday.

If you are able to help contact Pat Collier - [tchpat.collier@gmail.com](mailto:tchpat.collier@gmail.com)

### Malvina Major Service

The Service next Wednesday, **10th May 2pm** will be in the Chapel-Reflection Room. It will be led by our Parish Pastoral Leader, Joe Green.

Everyone is warmly encouraged to attend.

For any enquires, please contact: Judith, ph: 021 203 1144.

### Ministry Sharing Evening

We have many ministries in our parish, many people doing God's work.

At **7pm on 25 May 2023** we are holding a "ministries sharing evening".

Those coordinating any ministry are invited to come along to the parish church and hall and share with others and parishioners a brief outline of your ministries: tell us what your ministry is, how many involved, who you reach. Maybe 2 or 3 minutes.

This will be an opportunity to meet and share with others in ministry.

We know who and what many ministries are. There are some we don't know so well. Please help us out if you haven't heard from us.

Please send to the office a short paragraph about your ministry group (if you have not already done so). Who the contact person is and their contact details, by Friday, 12th May.

We look forward to hearing from you.

**Joe Green**

## Other Events/Notices

### Living Liturgically – Bringing the Liturgical Year to Life In The Rhythm Of The Parish.”

This interactive workshop led by Fr Patrick Bridgman is for everyone involved or interested in Liturgy.

Venue: St Francis of Assisi Parish Church, Johnsonville.

Time: **Saturday 20<sup>th</sup> May, 10.00am-12 midday.**

Tea and coffee available from 9.30am. To register please email:  
Christine at [c.walkerline@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:c.walkerline@wn.catholic.org.nz)

### NZCBC Executive Director

Damian Dempsey has been appointed the new Executive Director of the NZ Catholic Bishops Conference. Damian, who was a member of the Society of Mary for 25 years, is currently Director of Challenge 2000 in Wellington, where he has led a team of 40 youth, community and social workers. He replaces Siobhan Dilly, who is leaving after four years in the role.

Full details here: <https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/damiandempsey-appointment/>

### Joshua Wellington

Joshua Wellington invites men to come and worship our Mighty God in word and song on **Thursday 18th May at 7:30pm** at the 'Loaves and Fishes' next to Anglican Cathedral of St Paul, corner Hill and Molesworth Streets followed by supper.

Want to know more? Ring David Monastra, ph: 027 447 7280 or email: [joshua.wgtn@gmail.com](mailto:joshua.wgtn@gmail.com)

**XLT** - XLT is back in 2023! Come and join us for a night of Worship and Adoration on **Friday 12<sup>th</sup> May** at 7pm at St Anne's, Newtown.

Open to all teenagers and young adults, so invite your friends or bring your whole youth group.

And save the dates for the rest of the year so you don't miss out!  
12th May, 9th June, 7th July, 11th August, 8th September, 6th October,  
10th November. And follow us on Instagram @xltwellington

## Other Events/Notices

### Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy

**Mary in the Scriptures** with Kieran Fenn fms.

Mondays, 19/26 June & 03/10 July, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM. Free. Donation /Koha welcome.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/04/25/mary-in-the-scriptures/>

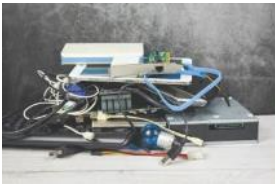
**Focus on Target - Draw Fresh Momentum** with Laetitia Puthenpadath

Tuesday 27 June & 04/11/18 July, 12.30—1.30pm. ZOOM.

Fee: \$20 /session or \$70/4 sessions.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/01/11/focus-on-target-draw-fresh-momentum/>

For more information: [www.studyjoy.nz](http://www.studyjoy.nz)



### E-Waste Recycling Opportunity - 21st May

Back by popular demand. The Sacred Heart Cathedral Fundraising Team have organised another e-waste recycling day at Cardinal McKeefrey School, 66 Albermarle Road, Wilton, from 12pm - 4pm.

Have a big "spring" clean and drop off your e-waste for a minimal cost.

Please also tell your friends. This is a great opportunity to responsibly dispose of your e-waste whilst supporting a very worthwhile cause, The Refurbishment of the Sacred Heart Cathedral.

### You are Invited

We would like to invite all Teenagers and Young Adults to our second **Young Church Mass of 2023**, hosted by Life Teen Hutt Valley.

This is an occasion for all teenagers and young adults to come together as Young Catholics, to have fun, share in fellowship and celebrate Mass.

Join us at 5.30pm on **Sunday 21<sup>st</sup> May** at Sacred Heart Church, Petone

For more info, check out our social media **@adwyoungchurch**

## MASS INTENTIONS



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

**Anniversaries:** Jeffrey Chin, Nell Croudís

**Prayers for the Sick:** Gerard McDonagh, David Clarke, Jessie Hensen, Jocelyn Whitehouse, Diana Helm, Fr Frank Whitaker, Augafa & Sefine Pelelo, Fr Maurice Carmody, Penelope Corich, Tau So'oa, John Fanning, Joe Godinet, Tony Bordignon, Fr Frank Maguire, Fr Peter O'Connell, Fr Kevin Purcell, Jennifer Munro.

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

### 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 the Brigidine Convent)
Wed:	11.00am Mass - with 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](mailto:office@stfrancisohariu.nz), Phone: 04 478 7137

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

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

