



St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

Website: www.stfrancisohariu.nz

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

Twenty Third Week Ordinary Time 10th September 2023, Year A
Readings:: Ezekiel 33:7-9, Romans 13:8-10, Matthew 18:15-20

When two or three...

I always loved numbers and I like things precise. So, it is no wonder that, as a teenager, I was struck by a comment I heard about today's Gospel "For where two or three meet in my name, I shall be there with them" (Mt 18:20). If you think that today there are 200 of us in church, that's not true. There are 201!.. because Jesus promised to be with us.

Today He is teaching us a very particular prayer: "If two of you on earth agree to ask anything at all, it will be granted to you by my Father in heaven." (v.19)

"If two of you..." Another number: two! Jesus doesn't say: two saints, two priests, two adults, but simply two: a father and a son, a couple... What's important is the plurality. In order to obtain an answer from heaven, this prayer requires more people: a community.

"If two of you... agree". He wants us united, in agreement of hearts. Why?

Certainly, what we ask together is less spoiled by self-interest, we are more inclined to feel the needs of other, but the point is: if we are united, Jesus is among us, so He is praying with us and the Father will listen to Him.

And what can we ask? "Anything", there is no limit.

Today we might want to pray for families, that they may fulfil their vocation to holiness in their daily lives, experiencing God's infinite mercy and always finding new ways to grow in love; we pray for the lonely, people struggling with mental health, the sick; for peace in our hearts and in the world; for the care of our 'common home'; above all, we pray for the courage to always strive for mutual love and be worthy of His presence among us.



Anna Franceschini

Parish Information

Welcome

On 1st September 2023, Katharine (Kat) Zolita Mason was baptised in front of a small group of friends, in her home.

She is warmly welcomed into the St Francis of Assisi, Ohariu community.



Her Baptism is a milestone along her life long journey of becoming a Catholic. Welcome Kat. **Jo-Anne Carley**

Family Mass 10.00am - Sunday 17th September

Anyone who would like to participate in this Mass please contact: Pat Collier - email tchpat.collier@gmail.com.

During the offertory procession we would like you to bring up a family coat of arms, something precious to your family, a photo, a drawing. Please bring them along on the day.

On the day please bring food for a shared lunch after mass.

Also we encourage you to bring an item of non perishable food for families in need. These can be placed in the basket before mass and will be presented at the offertory.

Special Invitation



Fr Pete would like to invite all those children who made their First Communion this year, to come to this Mass in their Communion outfits as well as those that are making their Confirmation this year.

Come and join the Parish in this family celebration. Many thanks. **Pat Collier**

Mass Roster Sheets

Mass roster sheets will be on the board in foyer near the sacristy. Please leave the sacristy free for people involved in the Mass. Many thanks. **Joe**

Parish Information

Confirmation Mass

This Sunday, **10th September at 2.00pm**, the children in our Parish will receive the Sacrament of Confirmation.

The ceremony completes our Parish Sacramental journey for children this year. Archbishop Paul Martin with Fr Pete will celebrate with our children and their families.



Let us pray for all our Parish children and their families on this special day.

Alpha

On Tuesday night, the Alpha team welcomed participants for a second night of fellowship and faith.

Names and faces are now becoming more familiar, and it's great to see the mix of ages, ethnicities and backgrounds coming together on this faith journey.

Thank you to those who have offered to help with cooking and serving on Tuesday nights. We have three empty slots left in October. If you'd like to take this opportunity to volunteer, please contact Joe Green or ring the Parish Office. We appreciate your support!



WE NEED YOUR PRAYERS

Alpha is only fruitful if participants are open to the work of the Spirit in their lives. Please pray for them, that their hearts may be renewed by the love of God.

Lucienne



Social Justice Week

God's House Is All of Creation (St Francis of Assisi)

About 800 years ago, Jesus asked someone to build, or rather, rebuild the Church – St. Francis of Assisi.

One day, while praying at the church of San Damiano, St. Francis heard Jesus speak to him from the crucifix: “Go, rebuild my church which is falling down.”

Francis thought God wanted him to physically rebuild the collapsing church building, so he started making repairs to the structure.

Over time, Francis realised that God wanted him to rebuild the entire Church around the world through the lives of people.

Rebuilding through: Service to the poor and marginalised, affirmation of the unique worth of each person, appreciation for beauty, reverence for all creation, and faith in a personal and loving God - these are the values and vision of St. Francis of Assisi.



Pete Roe sm

Weekly School Liturgy with The Youth Ministry Team at Challenge 2000

Next Tuesday, **12th September**, we will be having our liturgy with St Brigid's School, at St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Church. It will start at **9:15am**.

Next Thursday, **14th September**, we will be having our liturgy with St Benedict's School, in the library at **9.00am**.

If you would like any further info please contact Ana Baice, ph: 021 227 3754.

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



Parish Information

Season of Creation - An Ecumenical Event

How: via Zoom
When: 7pm, 17 September 2023 at St Francis of Assisi
Meeting ID: 845 6543 7259
Passcode: 036442

The Season of Creation is an Ecumenical initiative started in 2010 by the Ecumenical Patriarch of Constantinople Bartholomew I.

A group of the Focolare in Oceania, NZ and the Pacific Islands have decided to do an online event of 1 hour. We have drawn contributions from around the region. The program will be broadcast online via zoom in French and English.

The program is made up of prayer, meditation, short talks, experiences and music all in celebration of working towards a better world.

We will share a cuppa after the event. **Ian Hamilton**

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.



Other Events/Notices

The Clergy Jubilee

You are invited to the Clergy Jubilee Mass on **Wednesday, 13th September at 10.30am**, at St Anne's Church, Newtown.

25th

Fr Kevin Purcell, Fr Frank Maguire

40th

Fr Michael McCabe, Fr Michael Young SM, Fr John Murphy SM

60th

Fr Owen Sinclair, Fr Jim Dooley SM

MEET THE ŌHĀRIU ELECTORAL CANDIDATES

PUBLIC MEETING - **Wednesday 20th September**, 7.30pm to 9.30pm. At the Johnsonville Community Centre Main Hall. Doors open at 7pm.

Hosted by the Johnsonville Community Association.

All Welcome.

Fundraiser in Aid of YouthLine Wellington

Please join us for our Fundraiser Dinner Dance organised by AV Funding Youth in aid of YouthLine Wellington.

When: Saturday, 4th November 2023

Where: Atura Hotel, 24 Hawkestone Street, Thorndon, Wellington

Time: 5.00 pm – 11.30 pm

Cost: Tickets - \$75pp.

Youthline gives free confidential advice and guidance to the youth who are seeking help, and support for a range of topics, for example mental health, depression, self-harm, abuse, suicide, bullying etc.

For more details please view flyer on the church notice board in the foyer.

Enquires - Vino, ph: 021 31 84 66 or Anselm: ph: 022 456 3627

Email – avfundingyouth@gmail.com

Other Events/Notices

Notices - Titipounamu Study & Joy

Women in the Bible with Kieran Fenn fms.

Mondays, 11 and 18 Sep, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM.

Fee: \$20/session. All sessions are connect but also stand alone.

Videoclips on previous sessions are available here:

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/07/10/women-in-the-bible/>

Liturgical Spaces with Prof Thomas O'Loughlin.

Series on Muffin Talk radio programme freely available online at:

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/07/17/liturgical-space-thomas-oloughlin/>

For more information: www.studyjoy.nz

Joshua Wellington

Joshua Wellington invites men to join us on **Thursday 21st September at 7:30pm** at the 'Loaves and Fishes' next to Anglican Cathedral of St Paul, corner Hill and Molesworth Streets followed by supper.

Speaker: Fr Peter Ewart SM on "Make Unity Our Target"

Want to know more? Ring David Monastra 027-447-7280 or

Email: joshua.wgtn@gmail.com

Current of Grace

Everybody is welcome at the Current of Grace Wellington event "I am moving over the nations will you follow me?" on **Saturday 7th October 2023** at St Joseph's Church Mt Victoria between 10:00am and 3:30pm.

Speaker - Josie Olsen. Healing service led by Fr John Rea SM.

Bring your own lunch.

Want to know more? Ring Steve Ready 027-356-9555 or

Email: currentofgracewellington@gmail.com

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: Mark Porter

Anniversaries: Peter Cross, Joan Prior, Eldon Porter

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

MASS & LITURGY TIMES Saturday 9th September - Friday 15th September

St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish Timetable 37 Dr Taylor Tce

Sat:	5.00pm Vigil Mass
Sun:	10.00am Mass
Sun:	2.00pm Confirmation Mass
Mon:	9.00am Liturgy
Tue:	9.00am Liturgy (at the 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

