



St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

Website: www.stfrancisohariu.nz

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

Palm Sunday 10th April 2022 Year C

Readings: *Isaiah 50:4-7, Philippians 2:6-11, Luke 22:14-23:56*

Are we ready to become like the humble donkey that carried Jesus?

As we "carry Jesus" to the world, we can expect to receive the same welcome that Jesus received on Palm Sunday, but we must also expect to meet the same opposition, crosses and trials later.

Like the donkey, we are called upon to carry Christ to a world that does not know Him. Let us always remember that a Christian without Christ is a contradiction in terms. Such a one betrays the Christian message. Hence, let us become transparent Christians during this Holy Week, enabling others to see in us Jesus' universal love, unconditional forgiveness, and sacrificial service.

It's easy to wave palms on Sunday. But as living disciples we are all urged to live our personal lives in a missionary way: we are sent by Jesus out into our world not only to carry out, but also and above all to live the mission entrusted to us; not only to bear witness, but also and above all to be witnesses of Christ.

The CHOICE is ours. Either we just wave palms because that is what we have to do and that's it, or we wave palms and keep waving them in the journey that Jesus has called each one of us to be part of. This is when the rubber hits the road... this is the road less travelled.

Pete Roe sm



Palm Sunday, Holy Week and Easter

Palm Sunday

Christian communities celebrate Palm Sunday. (The Orthodox Christian community celebrates later as they follow the Julian calendar.)

This marks the beginning of Holy Week, historically the most sacred time of year for Christians.

Palm Sunday recalls an event in the Christian Scripture (The New Testament) of Jesus entering into Jerusalem and being greeted by the people waving palm branches. For Christians, it is a reminder of the welcoming of Jesus into our hearts and of our willingness to follow him.

The service on Palm Sunday also includes a reading of the Passion, that is, the story of the suffering and crucifixion of Jesus of Nazareth.

In today's church, great care is given to make sure that the story of the death of Jesus is not presented in an anti-Semitic manner. Jesus' death is seen by Christians as salvation and as a reminder of how prophets are often killed when they stand for justice and peace.

Holy Week

Holy Thursday (sometimes referred to as Maundy Thursday after the Latin mandatum or command to love one another, is a day when Christians commemorate the Last Supper of Jesus.

In some traditions, there is the washing of the feet of various members of the community to recall a gesture of Christ at the Last Supper when he washed the feet of his disciples. This is a sign of the need to do more to love one another and to serve all people, especially the poor.



Good Friday is a solemn day on which Christians recall the death of Jesus and its promise of hope and new life. In some traditions a wooden cross is set up and people spend time meditating before it.



Other people make the Stations of the Cross a devotion that recalls the journey of Jesus on the Via Dolorosa (Way of Sorrows) in Jerusalem to Calvary where he was crucified. (In Jerusalem the place of Christ's death and resurrection is commemorated inside the Church of the Holy Sepulchre.)

Many Christians keep this devotion but also see in the suffering of Jesus a reminder to be more concerned for the suffering of people in today's world. For many Christians, this day is also a day of fasting and penance.

Easter Sunday

Easter Sunday is the greatest feast in the Christian calendar. While our society puts a major emphasis on Christmas, no other day is traditionally as sacred for the Christian community as Easter. This is the day Christians commemorate the resurrection of Christ.

In some traditions, the services begin the night before with the lighting of a new fire and the blessing of a large Easter candle. Water is blessed and many are baptized. But for all Christians, this is a day to renew one's faith.

In the Catholic Church, there is a sprinkling of all people with the newly blessed Easter water as a sign of renewal of our baptismal commitment. In many Protestant communities, Easter is celebrated at a sunrise service early on Easter morning. Easter usually ends with festive celebrations with special foods and Easter delicacies. **Pete sm**



Holy Week Timetable

	St Andrew's	St Benedict's	Ss Peter & Paul
Palm Sunday	Saturday, 9 th April 5.00pm - Mass	Sunday, 10 th April 9.00am - Mass	Sunday, 10 th April 10.30am - Mass
Holy Thursday		Thursday, 14 th April 7.00pm - Mass	Thursday, 14 th April 7.00pm - Mass
Good Friday	Friday, 15 th April 3.00pm - Liturgy	Friday, 15 th April 3.00pm - Liturgy	Friday, 15 th April 3.00pm - Liturgy
Easter Vigil		Saturday, 16 th April 8.00pm Mass	
Easter Sunday		Sunday, 17 th April 9.00am - Mass	Sunday, 17 th April 10.30am - Mass

Easter Week Bookings

If you would like to book for any of the Holy Week Masses & Liturgies, please send an email to: **bookings@sfrancisohariu.nz** or phone the office between 9.00am - 3.00pm weekdays on **04 4787137**.

Please provide the following information:

- **Names of all attendees**
- **Mass / Liturgy you would like to attend - please make sure you advise which church**

Mass numbers will be limited and bookings will **close on Wednesday at 2.00pm**.

Please note Masks are mandatory at all Masses and Liturgies and social distancing is advised.

Easter Holy Water

We are being cautious during this Covid pandemic. The Holy Water blessed at the Easter Vigil will not be available on the Saturday night.

From Easter Sunday on, if you bring your own container we will be pleased to provide the newly blessed Holy Water for your private use.

YOU are invited to an ANZAC PEACE YOUTH MASS on APRIL 24th at 10.30am at Ss Peter and Paul Church, Johnsonville.

The Mass will be organised by the Challenge 2000 Youth Ministry Team.

The theme is "**We will remember their Service and Sacrifice**".

Children and young people are encouraged to wear their grandparents' medals. Everyone is encouraged to wear a red ANZAC poppy or white peace poppy.

If you have any family photos/ items that you would like to place on our altar centrepiece, then please bring these to the church from 9.30 am on.

Also, if you would like to be involved in any way: prayers, music, readings or if you can play an instrument or a trumpet for the Last Post and Reveille then contact Mihi or Kitty or the Parish office.

Covid willing we will share ANZAC biscuits and a cup of tea after the Mass in the hall or outside. All are welcome.



Ka maumahara tonu tātou ki a rātou : We will remember them

St Andrew's Reconciliation

"Lent is a time, more than any, in which we must honestly focus on our sins that keep us bound.

The reconciliation ceremony held at St Andrew's on Tuesday night (5 April 2022) was a reflective and deeply meaningful way for us to admit and confess our sins.

Gazing on the flickering flames in the darkened church first consume our written sins, and then strengthen ourselves to start again, was a significant spiritual moment for me.

Our Lord's infinite mercy for us is our freedom." **Peter Mulqueen**



Lent Preparation

During this Lenten time, the National Liturgy Office is featuring a page of preparation for liturgies for each Sunday in Lent. Please click here for details: <https://www.nlo.org.nz/news-and-events/media-releases/>

Sacramental Programme 2022

Registration brochures are available in the church foyers from Monday. They are also available through our schools and on the parish website.



The programmes offer preparation for the Sacraments of Reconciliation, First Communion/Eucharist and Confirmation.

The Youth Ministry team will also arrange the Sacrament of Baptism if that is wanted.

Any questions please call **Kitty ph; 021491459** or **Angela/Helen at the Parish Office 04 4787137**.

Thanks to those who have offered to help with the programme so far. Everyone is welcome to be involved.

Also there will be two parents evenings. We encourage parents to attend one of these.

Once a child is enrolled you will receive an information letter outlining the programme, its objectives and the team who is providing it.

The team and the parish look forward to being with your child on the next part of their journey

Baptisms in the Parish

The parish has a number of young people to be baptised.

Recognising this pastoral need Cardinal John Dew has asked Joe Green, in his capacity as a Lay Pastoral Leader, to assist.

Joe has been given the faculties under section 861 of Canon Law for six months to baptise in the place of a Bishop, Priest or Deacon.

Joe is currently completing formation for this responsibility.

As from late April, Fr Pete Roe and Joe will be working together to baptise our young people.

Upcoming Events/Notices

Fr Pete and Joe are looking for two young people (Year 13 - up to 22 years of age) who would like to attend a Youth Alpha event on behalf of the parish in the second week of the April school holidays (26-29th).

Youth Alpha is a series of interactive sessions in which you will explore the big questions of life and faith. It is very popular.

This event is being offered by the Archdiocesan Youth and Mission Team. It will be led by Louise and Lucienne (one of our parishioners, trained Lay Pastoral Leader and experienced youth group coordinator). The two Tuakana (college youth ministers) will also be there.

I'm confident this will be a fun event. It is being held at Magnificat, a retreat centre just out of Featherston. It is a lovely warm venue and I've always found the food to be great!

Costs will be met by the parish, and we can organise transport to and from if need be. **Contact the office, 04 478 7137, or Joe direct by Wednesday, 13th April please.**

NZ Catholic free digital issue

<https://indd.adobe.com/view/f48230de-86ce-46ce-8d55-5dcdef6650b8>

He Īnoi mō te Hātōtanga o te Kahurangi nei a Meri Hōhepa

E te Ariki e Hēhu Karaiti, nāu mātou i whakaako mēnā ka puaki atu mātou i te pūaroha mō te iti, arā, ngā tēina, ngā tuākana, ngā tuāhine me ngā tungāne, kātahi ka whakaatu mātou i te pūaroha ki ā koe.

Whakarongo mai ki ā mātou Īnoinga ki a Meri Hōhepa te Wahine Kahurangi nāna i te aroha te iwi Māori. Nāna i awhi ngā tāngata pōhara, ngā tūroro, me ngā tāngata rawakore. Meatia tēna, kua karanga rawa atu te Hāhi i tētahi tāngata o āu pononga tapu, o āu tāngata māhaki hoki. Ā te wā tonu, mā te katoa e mōhio mai tōna Hātōtanga.

Āmene.

Prayer for the beatification of Suzanne Aubert

Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us that as often as we show compassion to the least of your brothers and sisters, we show it to you.

Hear our prayers that Venerable Suzanne Aubert, who loved the Māori people and devoted her life to the poor, the sick and the underprivileged, and whom the Church has declared to be one of your true and humble followers, may soon be recognised as a saint. **Amen**



MASS INTENTIONS



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

Recently Deceased: Lorraine Livera

Anniversaries: Jill Clarke, Jaime Estipona

Prayers for the Sick: Mike Coghlan, Ann Zouch, Gerard van der Kaa, Myra Oh, Rosemary Molloy, John Fanning, Tony Bordignon, Tau So'oa, Fr Frank McGuire, Monsignor John Carde, Fr Peter O'Connell.

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

Let us pray for all those in the Ukraine and their New Zealand families at this time. We pray for peace in our World. We also pray for parishioners and their friends & contacts who have been affected by Covid-19.

MASS & LITURGY TIMES for this weekend For HOLY WEEK please refer to the timetable in the newsletter

St Andrew's Church
29 Trebann St
Newlands

Sat **9th April**: 5pm Vigil Mass

St Benedict's Church
3 Everest St Khandallah

Sunday: 9.00am - Palm
Sunday Mass

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

Sun: 10.30am - Palm
Sunday Mass

Holy Week Message:

During Holy Week (between Palm Sunday to the Mass of the Lord's Supper), we have no masses or liturgies in the Parish.

We ask parishioners to use this week as a time of reflection and prayer in preparation for the Easter Triduum.

You are invited to spend time in your own "personal garden" to reflect in prayer on your life and the life Jesus has given us in these days.

Parish Office: 37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville

Email: office@stfrancisohariu.nz

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

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

