



St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

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

Sixth Week Ordinary Time 13th February 2022 Year C
Readings: *Jeremiah 17:5-8, 1 Corinthians 15:12,16-20, Luke 6:17,20-26*

The challenges before us.

As I stood in front of the tomb of St Francis, I reflected that “the rock and iron of Assisi challenges the marble and gold of Rome”.

I am mindful that this parish, like many around the world, has been exploring new ways of being parish. Just as St Francis of Assisi presented a direct challenge to the Church of his time, living new ways of being Christian, so too his namesake, Pope Francis is also calling us to be Church in different and challenging ways – including lay people taking a greater part in the leadership of the Church.

It is this that excites me about being appointed by Cardinal John Dew to the position of ‘Parish Director of Mission at St Francis of Assisi, Ohariu’. My task can be summarised as to work with the Leadership Formation Team and the range of ministries in providing for the pastoral care of this parish.

A little about myself: Rosa and I have been married for four years. I have three adult children and nine grandchildren. And, a great grandson coming up to one.

I have a B.A. (Hons) in Sociology, a Diploma in Pastoral Leadership, am a trained teacher, and hold qualifications in outdoor safety and adult training and education.

For the last six years I have been Lay Pastoral Leader at Wellington South. For the 32 years prior to that I was a police officer, for the last three of those inspector coordinating emergency management (including, believe it or not, pandemic planning!). I am probably better known for the 12 years as Inspector managing arms control.

We have some real pastoral challenges ahead of us. Not the least being support to each other as COVID takes hold. It's up to each and every one of us to network together to ensure the needs of all are met.

In today's gospel Jesus makes it clear that the Kingdom belongs to those who labour in rock and iron, rather than those who take comfort in marble and gold. And that's more than just a little bit scary!

Joe Green

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.

NEW STAFF IN OUR PARISH : Welcome Joe Green:

My name is Joe Green. I have been the Lay Pastoral Leader at the Catholic Parish of Wellington South since February 2016. I worked across the whole parish including its two churches and three schools.

In late 2015 I walked the Camino de Santiago pilgrimage. A life changing experience - I resigned from my 32 year career with the NZ Police on my return. Prior to joining the Police, I was a primary school teacher at the Catholic school in Island Bay.

I have been an enthusiastic tramper and hunter, including instructing others in outdoor safety. I still get into the outdoors from time, especially as several of my nine grandchildren also take an interest in our wild places. I am a trustee of the Kapiti Catholic Youth Trust.



I am the Archdiocesan representative on the National Network for the RCIA and support the Cardinal as one of three lay people on the National Dialogue for Christian Unity. I am on the executive of the National Dialogue. I look forward to taking up the role of Parish Director Mission, working with the Leadership Formation Team in an exciting model of Parish leadership.

Parishioners of St Francis of Assisi

During 2021 we progressed a review of the parish properties in response to a request from Archbishop John in 2019. He requested the review:

"... identify how many churches the parish needs to cater for its Mass count (taking into account the availability of priests and lay pastoral leaders), and the ideal location of the church or churches. For most, if not all parishes with more than one church, this will mean reducing the number of churches in the parish. Provision for accommodation of priests is part of the review."

He also noted:

"You need to be prepared to be radical in your thinking and discernment. The theme of parish amalgamation was "A Future Full of Hope". This hope-filled future will only start to take shape when we honestly and courageously engage with and answer the many questions about our buildings."

The LFT have drafted a response for Archbishop John with consideration of the consultation we had during 2021. This draft is available [here](#) on the parish website and printed copies will be available in each church this weekend. Appendix 2 is also available on the website [here](#).

The LFT encourage parishioners to consider the draft and think about this not from their own perspective but from a whole parish perspective. Rather than think about what we have had in the past think about what we need as a parish in the future.

We welcome feedback from parishioners on this draft either by email to propreview@stfrancisohariu.nz or in writing which can be mailed to the parish office or left in boxes in our church foyers.

Your feedback is requested by Sunday 6 March.

Leadership Formation Team

SYNOD Facilitators

Pope Francis and Cardinal John have invited us to participate in the 2021 Synod.

We will be holding a Parish Meeting on **Tuesday, 1st March, 7.00pm—9.00pm** at Ss Peter & Paul's Church Hall to inform, invite & encourage Synod facilitators to enable them to become full participants. More information will follow.

For more information on the SYNOD please [click here](#)

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 affected.

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 Wednesday 16 February in SS Peter and Pauls Church Hall following 11am Mass. This will be led by Jim Dooley.

The second 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 third will be on Friday 18 February, 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 021491459 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.

Office Hours During Red Light Restrictions

The Parish Office will be closed to visitors at this time. Office staff will be either working in the office or remotely. For any enquires, help or advise, please contact us on ph: 04 478 7137 or email: office@stfrancisohariu.nz

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.

Mass Booking—Please Note - If you do make a booking for Mass please make sure you attend. Places are limited, we have a number of Parishioners unable to attend due to bookings being full. In recent weeks we have had a number of people book, but not attend, preventing others from coming. However, if you are feeling unwell, you **must not** attend Mass, as per COVID guidelines.

Dear parishioners, St Francis of Assisi, Ohariu.

I take up the role of Parish Director of Mission right on the cusp of predictions that the COVID pandemic will hit Aotearoa New Zealand with a "peak" in about two to three weeks.

Many of us will get COVID.

You will have seen the publicity material from Government telling us to get ready, to prepare.

When Auckland was in lockdown late last year we often heard the phrase that Aucklanders were doing the "heavy lifting" for the whole country.

As COVID peaks it is time for us all, each and every one of us to consider how we, as people charged with the care of our brothers and sisters can do some "heavy lifting".

NOW is the time to strengthen connections. To reach out to friends, whanau and family, and to those you think might be in need and offer help, or to seek help for yourselves, and/or for them. For advice on who to contact please [click here](#) or contact the **Parish Office - 04 4787137**.

Think especially of those you may know who live alone, those who might have little or no social connections or support. Others may be in need and be too embarrassed to ask for help. Some will not have access to the internet.

Now is not the time to be shy about offering help, nor asking for it. Now is the time to do some "heavy lifting". - Joe Green.

He Īnoi mō te Hātotinga 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 Hātotinga.

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.



Upcoming Events/Notices

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.

World Marriage Day 13th February 2022 at 7.30 pm. Save the date!

"Building a Love that lasts!" Book in some intentional time as a married couple to enrich your relationship....right from the comfort of your own home! Grab some wine + cheese and tune in at 7.30 pm for a live talk by Megan and Nahum Kozak of Lighthouse Relationships.

Registration is free! <https://www.cdh.org.nz/events> This a nationwide event sponsored by the [Catholic Network of Marriage Educators](#) and promoted by ADW Marriage Ministries

GARAGE SALE - Johnsonville Uniting Church. **Saturday 19th February**
9am - 12noon, Venue: **Collective Community Hub, 33 Johnsonville Road.**

Safely disposing of masks - Disposable masks should always be disposed of into the rubbish.

One suggestion is cutting off the ear loops with a pair of scissors prior to disposal.

Without ear loops, there are fewer chances of the mask entangling wildlife in the event it ends up in the environment.

NZ Catholic free digital issue February

<https://indd.adobe.com/view/d85454b0-a062-4280-8afb-9a123f98b1d3>

MASS INTENTIONS



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

Recently Deceased: Mrs Clarita Menezes, Cath Keen,
Manuel San Jose (Philippines)

Prayers for the Sick: Rosemary Molloy, Graeme Gorton, John Fanning, Tony Bordignon, Tau So'oa, 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 13th February - 19th 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 9.00am - Word & Communion Liturgy
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

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

