



St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

Website: www.stfrancisohariu.nz

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

Second Week of Lent 13th March 2022 Year C

Readings: *Genesis 15:5-12,17-18, Philippians 3:17-4:1, Luke 9:28-36*

Participate in the Universal Church Synod – “Let us dream” - John Kleinsmann

Did you know that there is a global synod happening and that each of us is called to have our say – yes, each and every one of us. Perhaps you know, but don't really care? Why care?

Question: Who has initiated the synod?

Answer: Pope Francis and the College of Bishops

Question: What exactly is the synod about?

Answer: In the words of Pope Francis: “It is a process of authentic spiritual discernment that we undertake, not to project a good image of ourselves, but to cooperate more effectively with the work of God in history. Synodality starts with hearing from the whole People of God. A Church that teaches must be firstly a Church that listens. Consulting all members of the Church is vital because the faithful as a whole are anointed by the Holy Spirit.”

Question: Why are we having this world-wide synod now?

Answer: Pope Francis has said that it is a journey worth taking if it leads to 'dialogue and interaction within the People of God, especially between priests and laity'. Pope Francis is insisting on the Synod because “sometimes there can be a certain elitism in the presbyteral order that detaches it from the laity; the priest ultimately becomes more a 'landlord' than a pastor of a whole community as it moves forward. This will require changing certain overly vertical, distorted and partial visions of the Church, the priestly ministry, the role of the laity, ecclesial responsibilities, roles of governance and so forth.”

Question: What is the urgency behind the synod?

Answer: Changes are needed, otherwise we make the mistake of not taking seriously the times in which we are living. We need to move towards a more synodal church. “The danger, in the end, is to apply old solutions to new problems. It is important that the synodal process be a process of becoming, a process that involves the local Churches, in different phases and from the bottom up, in an exciting and engaging effort that can forge a style of communion and participation directed to mission.”

Question: How can I get involved?

Answer: Make an individual submission or get together with one or more others and pick one or more of the ten themes. Pray and reflect. For more information see:

<https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/about/archdiocesan-synod/>

Submit your response by email to: synod@wn.catholic.org.nz
before 30 April 2022



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.

For more information on life under the Red Traffic Light Framework [click here](#).

If you are isolating and need support, you can call the COVID Welfare Phone Line on 0800 512 337. The helpline is open seven days a week.

Stations of the Cross

During Lent there will be Stations of the Cross at the following Churches:

St Benedict's Church:

Every Wednesday at 7.00pm on
16th, 23rd and 30th March and 6th April

St Andrew's Church:

Every Friday at 6.00pm on
11th, 18th, 25th March and 1st, 8th April.



'If you want to build a ship, don't drum up people together to collect wood and don't assign them tasks and work, but rather teach them to long for the endless immensity of the sea'. Antoine de Saint- Exupery.

My thoughts...

Maybe even without knowing, it is my deep belief, that the 'Synod Process' has begun within St Francis of Assisi Parish Ohariu.

How?

Pope Francis at the beginning of the Synod invoked the Holy Spirit on the People of God so that they will be able to move forward together, to listen to one another and discern our times, in solidarity with the struggles and aspirations of all humanity

Through prayer, reflection, listening to one another, training and open dialogue there is a real sense of a growing confidence and trust within many ministries and relationships within our Parish.

Forming relationships across the communities has been key. Yes, three 'original parishes' moving towards greater participation with one another has had its difficulties but the realisation that together as God's people we are trying to be the many faces of God as one people. And my God, this is so needed in our fractured world.

With Joe Green with us now and Helen and Angela in the engine room, plus our many ministries continuing to develop within our 3 communities, we have so much to be grateful for.

For example our Word and Communion Liturgies, our combined liturgy group over the three communities, parish bereavement ministry, parish visitation ministry, parish music ministry, parish outreach ministries, little churches etc are those beginnings of the listening Synod within our Community/Communities. The call is to discern with our people and never for our people or without our people. As St Ignatius would say, 'in line with the necessities of place, time and person'.

Pope Francis wants to hear the voice of the entire Church, so this synod is an exercise in mutual listening. This requires prayer, reflection and using our two ears so as to deeply hear the other.

We are in a boat, and we are moving.

The boat is the Church heading for an ocean of love, mercy, forgiveness, deep healing, justice and the peace and beauty of Christ. Yes, there will be choppy waters, the anchor has been pulled up and together we are sailing. Our LIFE JACKET is our LOVE and Trust in GOD and for One Another. The GOD of many Faces. Yes 'we are Sailing'.

Pete sm



PLEASE SUPPORT OUR COMMUNITIES

This is a very challenging time for many individuals and families in our community and the wider Wellington area.

There is increased demand on our Ohariu food bank and also more pressure on expenditure like bus passes, train passes and of course petrol.

Challenge 2000, Saint Vincent de Paul and our Pastoral Outreach committee are working hard making meals and organising children activities (for isolating) and food parcels.

We either deliver them or they can be collected from the Challenge Marist building at 1 Wanaka Street.

There is an old Army tent at the front of Challenge to make it easy and safe for people to collect what they need.

PLEASE during this Lent if you can donate food then please do so either at mass or by dropping off at the Parish office or the Challenge Marist Centre. Or make a donation to the parish account, marked Lenten help.

ALSO if you need anything please contact the Parish office on **ph: 4787137** or Challenge on **ph: 4776827**. Lenten Blessings.

Sacramental Programme Update: Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation

Because of the uncertainties regarding Covid at this stage the Parish Sacramental programme will now, **not** begin in March.

All things being equal – children, the sacramental team and the parent volunteers being available and not in isolation!.... the programme will begin in the first week of April.

There will be three options for the children that will be sent out in the Sacramental Programme flyer and enrolment form in two weeks.

Option one: the programme will be offered after school, probably on a Tuesday;

Option 2 the programme will be offered on a Sunday afternoon at 3pm and

Option 3 the programme will be offered for two block days 10-4pm in the April school holidays.

We are still working on venues and practicalities relating to the nuts and bolts of the programme and the well-being of all concerned.

This is an ever changing time and it is hard to plan. And all will be well! So please be patient, be kind and watch out for information in the parish newsletter which is the best channel for communication.

Prayer time for Peace in Ukraine **Ss Peter & Paul Church—Friday, 18th March**

The Youth Ministry Team and volunteers are organising this evening to pray for our brothers and sisters in the Ukraine.

There will be a 15 minute Liturgy at 6pm and 7pm followed by silent prayer and reflection for 45 minutes. All are welcome to pop in at any time during the evening.

For further info please call: Mihi on 02741 19289 or Kitty on 021491459 or Angela on 044787137

Cardinal John Dew has asked us to Pray alongside the Ukrainian Community

Holy and Gracious God

We pray for the people of the Ukraine, for their country and their leader.

We pray for all those who are afraid; that your everlasting arms hold them in this time of great fear.

We pray for all those who have the power over life and death; that they will choose for all people life, and life in all its fullness.

We pray for those who choose war; that they will remember that you direct your people to turn our swords into ploughshares and seek for peace.

We pray for leaders on the world stage; that they are inspired by the wisdom and courage of Christ.

Above all, Lord, today we pray for peace in Ukraine.

And we ask this in the name of your blessed Son.

Lord have mercy.

Amen

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/>

We need to pray because we need God. Thinking that we need nothing other than ourselves is a dangerous illusion. If the pandemic has heightened the awareness of our own personal and social fragility, may this Lent allow us to experience the consolation provided by faith in God, without whom we cannot stand firm. Pope Francis: [Message for Lent 2022](#)

He Īnoi mō te Hātotanga 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 Hātotanga.

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



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.



Upcoming Events/Notices

Ss. Peter and Paul's - 100 years celebration

This year is 100 years since Ss. Peter and Paul's Johnsonville separated from Lower Hutt and became a parish in its own right.

LET'S CELEBRATE

Would you like to help plan the celebration.

Contact Pat Collier - tchpat.collier@gmail.com, ph: [04]4786230 or mobile 0212943960.

NZ Catholic free digital issue

<https://indd.adobe.com/view/e7fba446-52c8-4585-aa31-2a70f63285eb>

Joshua Wellington will hold a ZOOM meeting on Thursday 17th March 2022 starting 7:30pm until 8:30pm. If you're not already receiving Joshua emails, contact **Steve Ready 027-356-9555, for Zoom details.**

The Royal Commission on Abuse in Care began its specific Māori public hearing today at Ōrākei Marae in Tāmaki Makaurau Auckland. The Catholic Church in Aotearoa NZ made an opening statement at the hearing. Please click the link for details:

<https://www.catholic.org.nz/news/media-releases/rc-maorihearing/>



"Who do you say I am?": Images of God, mental well-being and Pacific young women

Come and join us online as Therese Lautua talks about the significance of Christianity for the spiritual and mental wellbeing of young Christian, multi-ethnic Pacific women. She will take us through the different images of God and how these impact mental wellbeing. To register, please [click here](#).

SYNOD - Church Mission is offering Zoom sessions for those who have not been able to join a Synod group in their parish, as follows:

Monday 21st March 11.00am-12 noon,
Tuesday 22nd March 2.00pm-3.00pm and
Wednesday 23rd March at 7.00pm



Registrations are essential, please email:

l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz or c.walkerdine@wn.catholic.org.nz

MASS INTENTIONS



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

Recently Deceased: Mary Hulls, Cath Keen

Anniversaries: Dianna Pan, Carmelita Ibarra

Prayers for the Sick: Myra Oh, Fr David Dowling, Rosemary Molloy, Graeme Gorton, John Fanning, Tony Bordignon, Tau So'oa, Monsignor John Carde, Fr Frank McGuire, 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 13th March - 19th March

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

Sun: 10.30am - Word & Communion Liturgy
Mon: 9.00am Liturgy -will be **cancelled this week**
Tues: 9.15am Liturgy
Wed: 11am - Mass
Thurs: 9am Liturgy
Fri: 9am Mass

St Andrew's Church 29 Trebann St Newlands

Saturday **12th March:** 5pm Vigil Mass
Friday: 6.00pm Stations of the Cross
Saturday **19th March:** 5pm Word & Communion Liturgy

St Benedict's Church 3 Everest St Khandallah

Sunday: 9.00am - Mass
Monday: 9.00am - Liturgy
Monday: 7.00pm - Meditation
Tuesday: 9.15am - Liturgy
Wednesday: 9.00am & Wednesday: 7.00pm Stations of the Cross
Thursday: 9.00am - Liturgy
Friday: Exposition 8.30am and Liturgy at 9.00am

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

