



# St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

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

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

**First Week of Lent 18th February 2024, Year B**  
**Readings:: Genesis 9:8-15, Peter 3:18-22, Mark 1:12-15**

Dear Parishioners,

The recent news concerning the state of leaky pipes through aging infrastructure in the Wellington region saw many queuing long hours for water tanks.

And yet in our throwaway society clean water is wasted and abused. Entire river systems have been drained in some countries to support profits or yields of crops, at the detriment of local livelihoods.

As a former scientist researching pollutants in the aquatic environment, it has never been more important ensuring that the supply of clean water is protected from chemicals released into the environment – often with unknown ecological effects.

But God pours on us clean water in abundance through baptism.

When the world was flooded in the story of Noah, it was God's love washing away any part of us that didn't bring life.

Perhaps that's what you feel at the beginning or end of the day when you have a shower – the aches and pains you carry are washed away, and you become a new person. Ready to face the world again as God encourages your wairua.

As we begin Lent this year, perhaps resisting temptation as Jesus did in the desert is about appreciating how resources like water have a sacred power that is intertwined with our lives.

May God continually wash, transform and convert our lives – as a people of peace, interconnected with one another. If God is ready to waste a precious resource like clean water on us for this to happen, then we must be truly loved.

Ngā mihi

**Fr Alfred Tong.**

### Lenten Stations of the Cross

The Lenten Stations of the Cross will be held on the following Friday's in Lent:

23<sup>rd</sup> February

1<sup>st</sup> March

8<sup>th</sup> March

15<sup>th</sup> March

22<sup>nd</sup> March



They will begin at **6.30pm** and will be held at our Parish Church, St Francis of Assisi Ohariu.

All Parishioners are welcome to join in this Lenten reflection.

If any person or group is interested in helping lead these evenings, please phone:

Solomon Concessio on ph: 021 201 7160 or email your details to [concessio.solomon@gmail.com](mailto:concessio.solomon@gmail.com)

Kia ora

### Lenten Reflections 2024

"The Time is Now"

Come along and reflect on the Sunday's gospels.

Share your Lenten journey with fellow parishioners.

Discuss practical ways of journeying through Lent.

If interested please indicate whether a day or night time is convenient for you, and if you have a preference for day of the week.

Groups will be formed according to the number of people interested.

Please email parish office if interested - [office@stfrancisohariu.nz](mailto:office@stfrancisohariu.nz)

Many thanks, Pat.

## Parish Information

### Reconciliation

Details as follows for Rite I and Rite II Reconciliation in St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish and the Pastoral Area during the Lent.

### Rite 1 Reconciliation

I will be available on the following Fridays during Lent while the Stations of the Cross are taking place at **6.30pm** in the Parish Church:

**23rd February**  
**1st March**  
**8th March**  
**15th March**  
**22nd March**

### Rite II Reconciliation

My brother priests and myself will supply in the other parishes around the pastoral area during Lent by these now confirmed times and dates:

**Sunday, 3rd March** - Our Lady of Hope Parish Tawa - **7pm**

**Sunday, 10th March** - St Theresa's Parish Plimmerton - **4pm**

**Thursday, 14th March** - St Francis of Assisi Parish Ohariu (us), Jville - **6pm**

**Wednesday 20th March** - Holy Family Parish, Porirua East - **6pm.**

Blessings  
Father Alfred Tong

### Caritas Bishops' Lent Appeal

Lenten Giving Envelopes for the Bishops' Lent Appeal 2024 are available in the church foyer.



This year the envelopes are single giving envelopes, you can give once or weekly, as is your preference.

Many thanks for your support.

## Parish Information

### Malvina Major

There will be 2 services coming up at Malvina Major.

On **Tuesday, 20th February**, Malvina Major residents are invited to an Anointing Mass at 10.30am.

On, **Wednesday, 21st February**, there will be an Ecumenical Service at Malvina Major. This will begin at 2.00pm Everyone is very welcome.

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

### Conversation Evenings

Is English your second language?

Would you like to meet other women and practice speaking everyday English?

Our English conversation gatherings have re-started for the year. We are a small group of around 8-10 women. We meet together for a shared meal, for conversation and friendship.

The non-native English speakers have as their first language Mandarin, Sinhala, Spanish, Tamil, and Turkish.

If English is your first language, are you interested in this gathering, to help these ladies grow in their confidence speaking English and hear their stories? Newcomers are warmly welcome.

We meet the third Tuesday of each month, 6-8pm.

So, our next gathering will be this coming **Tuesday 20 February**.

If there is interest in something different, I'd be able to arrange other gatherings.

For more details please contact Jo-Anne Carley, Refugee and Migrant family support coordinator:

Phone 022 300 7413. or

Email: [jo-anne@stfrancisohariu.nz](mailto:jo-anne@stfrancisohariu.nz)

**School Ash Wednesday Liturgies**

**St Benedict's School**

On Wednesday morning, St Benedict's School gathered together to celebrate Ash Wednesday.

Our Catholic Character Team led our liturgy and all the children enjoyed singing and taking part.

It was great to have Father Alfred and Joe Green join us for this occasion. **Nicole Simson - DRS**



**St Brigid's School**

We were blessed to have both Joe and Pā Alfred support us at our student-led liturgy.

What a wonderful way to begin our Lenten journey.



Apart from whānau joining us we also were blessed by the presence of Gerard Tully (Archdiocese of Wellington Leadership consultant).

**Fiona D'Souza - DRS**



## Other Events/Notices

### Weekly School Liturgy with The Youth Ministry Team at Challenge 2000

Next Tuesday, **20th February**, 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, **22nd February**, we will be having our liturgy with St Benedict's School, in the school classrooms 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.



### Accommodation Required

A parishioner requires a one or two bedroom flat or unit. Preferably in Johnsonville, near the shopping centre and transport hub.

Please contact the Parish Office with any offers. Many thanks.

## **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

### **Catholic Women's League NZ**

80th Birthday and Conference

When: Saturday, 16th March & Sunday, 17th March 2024

Times: 1.00pm Start

5.00pm Mass

6.00pm Dinner and Entertainment

Sunday workshop with Joy Cowley

Costs: Registration - \$40

Dinner - \$30

Contact: Helen Greig - archdio.sec@gmail.com or  
Ph: 027 528 9635

Location: St Bernadette's Church Hall,  
190 Naenae Road, Naenae, Lower Hutt



You are all invited to celebrate with us.

### **Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy**

#### **Bible Stories - What do they mean?**

Join us in unravelling Bible stories and looking for answers within a group, and with Bible Scholar Kieran Fenn fms.

Sundays, 03 Mar, 07 Apr, 05 May 2024, 5-6pm (Zoom). Koha

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2024/01/19/bible-stories-what-do-they-mean/>

#### **The Mystery of Miracles**

Mondays, 08/15/22/29 April 2024, 7-8.30pm

\$25/session or \$80/series, incl. study material.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2024/01/11/the-mystery-of-miracles/>

#### **The Stations of the Cross - Reflections on Wood Carvings.**

Available in English and Samoan. \$7 incl. postage

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/08/11/reflection-on-wood-carvings/>

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

## MASS INTENTIONS



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

**Anniversaries:** Pauline Aspinall, Petelo T Godinet

**Prayers for the Sick:** Fr David Orange, Jocelyn Whitehouse, Archbishop Novartus Rugambwa, Moe Pio Tafaese, Jacqui Gilligan, David Clarke, Gerard McDonagh, Jessie Hensen, Tau So'oa, John Fanning, Domingo Basilio Navera Jr, Joe Godinet, Augafa & Sefine Pelelo, Fr Maurice Carmody, Tony Bordignon, Fr Frank Maguire, Fr Kevin Purcell, Fr Peter O'Connell, Fr Frank Whitaker.

## MASS & LITURGY TIMES Saturday 17th February - Friday 23rd February

### 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 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** will be held **every** Wednesday 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)

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

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