



St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

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

Refugee & Migrant Sunday 18th June 2023, Year A
Readings:: Exodus 19:2-6, Matthew 2:13-16

"They are us ... they are Christ."

Today we celebrate a "**Day of Prayer for Refugees and Migrants.**" Like me, many from our Parish are migrants or the descendants of migrants, and others have come as refugees.

My own story is that I am a first-generation descendant of two Dutch immigrants who arrived in 1955.

My personal experience of growing up in 1960's New Zealand was that cultural differences were not well-tolerated; the message I heard, consistently, was that we had to 'fit in'. I recall being teased for the different food I brought to school, for the clothes my siblings and I sometimes wore and for the fact that my parents 'spoke funny'. Consequently, many children of immigrants grew up ashamed of, and wanting to hide, the richness of their cultural heritage – a form of colonisation.

Our country has a proud history of harbouring refugees, one that includes the 733 Polish refugee children who arrived in October 1944. Their legacy is immense for our Catholic Church and our country.

Thankfully, our openness to refugees continues, albeit at a level which is less generous than many other countries.

As a parish, we can be proud of what we have done to physically assist the re-settlement of approximately 30 families from all over the world in the past 5 years.

I would like to think we have moved on from the prejudice of the 1960's. But the old attitudes still linger.



Reflection contd.....

Not too long ago, a member of our Parish Refugee Re-settlement Group reported a conversation with someone they knew who be-moaned our efforts to settle refugees. 'We should first be looking after our own,' was their comment. The inference was clear: 'Refugees are not part of us.'

This sort of attitude flies in the face of the Gospel. As Pope Francis writes in his 2023 Message for the World Day of Migrants and Refugees: "... we are called to show maximum respect for the dignity of each migrant/refugee ... constructing bridges and not walls ... the important thing is that there always be a community ready to welcome, protect, promote and integrate everyone, *without distinctions and without excluding anyone.*"

Actually, Pope Francis goes further, stating that every migrant and refugee that comes to our beautiful land is not simply a sister or brother (truly 'one of us') but they represent Christ himself knocking at our door.

John Kleinsman

Refugee & Migrant Definitions:

- Migrant:

Someone who moves to other places (in their own country or across borders) in search of better work and/or living conditions (migrants from 'Western' countries are often referred to as expats - expatriates).



- Asylum Seeker

Someone who has left their country and is seeking protection due to a well-founded fear or experience of persecution, and who is yet to be granted refugee status.

- Refugee

Someone who is unable or unwilling to return to their country of origin due to a well-founded fear of being persecuted. They must be granted refugee status by a government or the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees.

- Internally Displaced Person (IDP)

Someone who has been forced to leave their home but remains within their country of origin.

Parish Information

Call to Serve Sunday

Many thanks to the 299 parishioners who completed our parish survey and 'offer for ministry' card over the weekend 10 and 11 June 2023. That's a great response.

For those yet to complete this, there is still the opportunity to do so. Cards are on the table in the foyer, and there is a box to "post" your completed card.

We are working on processing all the information we have received, so we ask for your patience whilst we complete this.

Your help in getting our parish up to date is very much appreciated.

Fr Pete, Joe, Angela & Helen

Weekly School Liturgy with The Youth Ministry Team at Challenge 2000

Next Tuesday, 20th June, 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 June, we will also be having our liturgy with St Benedict's School, in the school library at **9.00am**.

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

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



Sacramental Programme

If you have not already registered for the Eucharist and Confirmation Programme, and would like to participate, please [click here](#).

The Eucharist Programme will begin in July.

Bookings can be made through the Parish Office.

If you have any queries, you can contact Kitty on 021 491 459 or the Parish Office, (04) 478 7137.

Message from Fr Pete and Joe Green

As the year swiftly moves from month to month, and knowing that towards the end of this year there will be an appointment made with regards to a Parish Priest joining us in our Parish of St Francis of Assisi Ohariu for 2024, my thoughts are that it is timely to start some preparations for this to occur as well as possible.

In order for this transition to happen well, we have called together a representation of the four major activities within our Parish:
Pastoral, Finance, Management and Liturgy.

I have asked Henry Betham to Chair this team over these months ahead.

Henry Betham:	Chair
Pete Roe sm:	Administrator
Angela Mollo :	Parish Operational Office Manager
Joe Green :	Lay Pastoral Leader
Natasha Telles:	Parish Advisory Team
Mary Byrne :	Finance Property
Margie Crook:	Parish Liturgy Team

This Team will use as their base document - The Parish Pastoral Plan 2023-2027.

This team will meet every 6 weeks or so.

We ask that our Parish Community keep this team in your prayers as they meet for the first time next Wednesday.

It has only been 4.5 months since we all combined into one Parish.

I deeply thank you all as a Parish for your continued support of one-another in the good times and the difficult. Thank you so much

Pete sm

***'Change is uncomfortable and hard as hell. When leaders expect others to change without participating + holding themselves accountable – it's almost impossible. When leaders show up and model the vulnerability required for transformation change – its often unstoppable'.
Brene Brown***

Parish Information



Henry Betham will be chairing and facilitating the representatives from the four major activities within our Parish – Pastoral, Finance, Management & Liturgy.

He will be guiding us over the next 5 months to look at priorities and readiness for the next stage of the Parish.

Henry is the son of Paul and Tia Betham, (Parishioners).

Paul was a very valued member of our Parish Leadership Team until his sudden passing on November 6th 2022.

Henry and his wife Tracy with Tia are often at our 10am Mass.

Experienced Regional Loss Prevention Manager at Farmers Trading Company, with a demonstrated history of working in the retail industry. Skilled in IT, Sales, Retail, Physical Security, and Team Building. With strong operations & professional skills.

He graduated from St Patrick's College, Kilbirnie.

Pete SM

An Invitation to Parishioners: Ecumenical Service

The Malvina Major community invites you to our Ecumenical Service which will be led by Joe Green, Parish Lay Pastoral Leader, next Wednesday, 21st June, 2pm, in the Chapel - Reflection Room at Malvina.

Joe will lead us in a beautiful service of readings, prayers, reflection and hymns in our Chapel overlooking the harbour.

Please join us and support our community. Thank you.

Welcome

On Sunday we will welcome into the Parish, Zhe (Tracey) Lu and her son Oscar Hodge. Fr Pete will Baptise this family into our Parish.

We would also like to thank Jo-Anne & Michael Carley and Tania Savage who are sponsors for them both and have supported them in their journey.

Thank you and Welcome to St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish.

Parish Information

Unnecessary Doubts



A boy and a girl were playing together. The boy had a collection of beautiful marbles.

The girl had some lollies with her. The boy offered to give the girl all his marbles in exchange for all her lollies. The girl agreed. The boy gave all the marbles to the girl but secretly kept the biggest and the most beautiful marble for himself. The girl gave him all her lollies as she had promised.

That night, the girl slept peacefully. But the boy couldn't sleep as he kept wondering if the girl had hidden some more tasty lollies from him the way he had hidden his best marble.

Moral:

If you don't give your hundred percent in a relationship, you'll always keep doubting if the other person has given their hundred percent.

Pete Roe sm

Other Events/Notices

Installation Mass - Archbishop Paul Martin

All parishioners are welcome to Archbishop Paul Martin's Installation Mass this coming Saturday, 17th June, 11am at the St Teresa's Pro-Cathedral Karori.

People are asked to be seated by 10.45am.

There will be no parking at the venue so suggest to them car pooling or public transport.

Following this you are all invited to a light luncheon.

The installation will be livestreamed, The livestream can be viewed here: [Installation of Archbishop Paul Martin SM on Vimeo](#)

It will also be on the Archdiocese of Wellington [Facebook](#) and [YouTube](#) channel.

Other Events/Notices

Focolare Fundraiser

The Focolare is raising funds for Youth projects.

On **Sunday 2nd July at 5pm** at Petone Light House Cinema the new movie on Indiana Jones will be shown.

The tickets are \$20 each. Text Ian on 022 544 3872 with name and number of tickets and I will get the tickets to you.

Ian Hamilton

St Patrick's College Open Day

The Open Day tours for those interested in enrolling their son at St Patrick's College for 2024 will be held on:

Tuesday 20 June 2023 between 10.00 to 11.30am and from **12.30 to 2.00pm**

And again on

Thursday 22 June 2023 between 10.00 to 11.30am and from **12.30 to 2.00pm.**

Online bookings for Open Day tours are now available [click here](#).

For enrolments, please complete the online registration under 'Enrolment Information' or download and complete the appropriate forms and return via hand or post to the College or send through email through to admin@stpats.school.nz

Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy

Mary in the Scriptures with Kieran Fenn fms.

Mondays, 19/26 June & 03/10 July, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM.

Fee: free. Donation/Koha appreciated.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/04/25/mary-in-the-scriptures/>

Focus on Target - Draw Fresh Momentum with Laetitia Puthenpadath

Tuesdays, 27 June & 04/11/18 July, 12.30-1.30pm. ZOOM.

Fee: \$20/session or \$70/4 sessions.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/01/11/focus-on-target-draw-fresh-momentum/>

For more information: www.studyjoy.nz

MASS INTENTIONS

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



Recently Deceased: Trinidad Bautista

Anniversaries: Wendy Collier, Rodge Irvin Medina

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

MASS & LITURGY TIMES Saturday 17th June - Friday 23rd June

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 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

