



St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

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

Mission Sunday - Twenty Ninth Week Ordinary Time 22nd October 2023, Year A
Readings:: Isaiah 45:1,4-6, Thessalonians 1:1-5, Matthew 22:15-21

Reflection

The events of October provide an ideal context to hear today's Gospel.

October 1st our Church gathered in Rome for a Synod to discern how to be Church today.

On October 4, Pope Francis gave an apostolic exhortation *Laudate Deum* exhorting us to live our Catholic values, change our lifestyles and political paradigms and care for the earth before it is too late and we have nowhere to live.

On October 7, armed conflict between Israel and Palestine erupted again and horror reigns on the ground where Jesus and his friends walked.

On October 14, we voted and a new government is being formed to serve our nation.

So what does "give unto Caesar what is Caesar's and to God what is Gods" mean for us?

As Baptised Catholics our mission is to follow Christ – to render unto God what is God's. The challenging aspect of this is to agree: what is Gods will? What does the gospel – the good news of Jesus proclaim?

I believe that to render to God what is God's is to say YES to acting justly, loving tenderly, feeding the hungry, caring for creation, setting captives free, welcoming the stranger, sharing wealth, challenging unjust systems and constantly seeking the will of God in prayer. This is what the gospel, the church's teachings, papal exhortations and God calls us by name to do – from the rising of the sun to its setting.

The problem is of course that "Caesar's" power in both the gospel times and in our times is incredibly resistant to change.



Contd...

The "powerful" may not hear and have much to lose. And of course, deep inside us lives a little "Caesar".

Can I say yes to rendering myself to God and to my call? And to paying the price to do so?

Today, let's commit to discerning what the will of God is for us and what we can do to bring about an inner life, home, parish, country and planet that reflects this.

Maybe read *Laudate Deum* too?

Kitty McKinley



Combined Parish & St Brigid's School Mass

Last Sunday's Parish & St Brigid's School Mass was a delightful occasion. It was so lovely to see all the children with their families celebrate together with our parishioners as a community.

Many thanks to all those who took part and to those who helped organise the Mass. We look forward to many more in the future.



Remembrance Mass - Thursday, 2nd November at 7.00pm

All are welcome to this annual Mass where we remember our deceased family members and friends.

At the end of this Mass, please all stay for supper and a chat with others.

Reverence for Life and The House of Grace

Reverence for Life and The House of Grace would sincerely like to thank all the parishioners who gave so generously to the retiring collection, after our guest speaker Rahel Williams on Life Sunday.

\$1084.05 in total was collected this means so much to The House of Grace.

For those who may have missed you are still able to donate by bank transfer to Westpac Bank - 03-0525-0406636-000.

Donation cards are also available on the table in the walk way.

Once again, thank you to you all.

Ewen Laurenson and Carol Ryan - Reverence For Life.

Alpha Holy Spirit Weekend

On 14th and 15th October, twenty three Alpha participants and team members spent a weekend at Silverstream Retreat, Upper Hutt.

Through the video sessions, times of worship and prayer ministry, small group discussions and just spending time together, we could see the Holy Spirit at work in our lives, growing our personal faith as well as our sense of community.



It's great to see how strangers whom we may have just nodded to at Church on a Sunday morning have now become good friends.

With only three weeks to go till the course finishes, participants are already looking ahead at how we can keep the connections going, and how we can invite others to this beautiful experience of faith and community.

If you think you might be interested in joining an Alpha course in the future, talk to us! Email: Alpha@stfrancisohariu.nz or talk to one of us after Mass.

Parish Information

School Photos 1942-1950

If anyone has any past St Brigid's class photos between the years 1942 - 1950 that they are able to share, please contact Monty Manu 021 143 2146.

NZ Diocesan Priest Conference - Rotorua October 16th - 21st October 2023

At the week-long National Assembly of Diocesan Catholic Priests in Rotorua, Brisbane's Archbishop Mark Coleridge dropped a rock in the pond. Coleridge told the Catholic priests that changes were happening, that there would be more of them and that it was important to be prepared.

Archbishop Mark Coleridge suggests to this gathering of 200 Diocesan Priests.....

"...moving from a hierarchical to a charismatic leadership model, although not all priests have that charism. Leaders may need to come from elsewhere....."

For the full article please [click here](#).

Pete Roe

Weekly School Liturgy with The Youth Ministry Team at Challenge 2000

Next Tuesday, **24th October**, 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, **26th October**, we will be having our liturgy with St Benedict's School, in the library 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.



Let us Pray

For the Church, on the eve of a new phase in the synodal journey, that the presence of the Gospel, alive and at work in her, may make her like the vineyard in the parable, a vital place where all men and women who seek meaning in their life find a place, a word, and a breath of hope, we pray.



Parish Information

A festive poster for a Christmas Parish Dance. The background is dark red. At the top, there are strings of warm white lights and several gold and silver striped Christmas ornaments. Three gold stars are centered above the title. The title 'St Francis of Assisi Oharua Christmas Parish Dance' is written in a gold, cursive font. Below the title, the date and time '7pm, Saturday 25 November 2023' and the location 'Johnsonville Community Centre' are listed in a white, sans-serif font. Three gold dots are centered below the location. A line of text 'Live music ☆ Spot prizes ☆ Christmas cake raffle ☆ Best dressed awards' is written in a white, italicized font. Three gold dots are centered below this line. The entry fee '\$10 entry (under-13s free)' and 'BYO drinks and nibbles' are written in a white, sans-serif font. Two white snowflake icons are on either side of this text. Three gold dots are centered below the entry fee. The reservation information 'to reserve your tickets, contact before 13 November: Mike Havell: 022 623 0130 / Jenny Stove: 021 115 8441 Stephanie D'Mello: 021 118 93441 / Nirmala D'Mello: 021 108 2074' is written in a white, italicized font. At the bottom, there is a row of seven green Christmas trees with gold stars on top and gold and silver striped ornaments.

Other Events/Notices

Holy Hour

You are invited to come to a Holy Hour on **Tuesday, 24th October** at the Connolly Hall Chapel beginning at 7.30 pm to pray for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life.

Included in the hour will be prayers, praise and worship, scripture reading and silence, concluding with Benediction.

All are welcome.

Other Events/Notices

St Vincent de Paul - Johnsonville Shop

Furniture Needed - In good condition. Can drop off or ring our Vinnies in Newtown for a pick up, ph: 04 389 7122.

Any enquires, please call Diane on 04 4771220 at the Johnsonville Vinnies Shop.

We are also looking for volunteers to work in the our Johnsonville Shop.

If you have any free time, even just 2 hours per week, and able to help, please contact Diane on the number above.

Challenge & St Vincent de Paul Food Bank

Challenge 2000 & St Vincent de Paul's would like to give a HUGE thanks to the Parish for all of their help over the years.

We are very much aware that there are lots of organisations that are asking for monetary and food donations. However we are desperately needing your help!

We are urgently needing YOUR help in donations of food and / or toiletry items.

If you are able to help, please bring your donation to the church where we will collect on behalf of St Vincent de Paul & Challenge Food Bank.

Many thanks for all your support.

Notices - Titipounamu Study & Joy

The Gospel of Mark with Kieran Fenn fms.

Mondays, 13 and 20 November, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM. Free. Donations/Koha are appreciated.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/10/10/the-gospel-of-mark/>

YouTube Recordings

Muffin Talk radio programmes are available online at:

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/category/resources/muffin-talk/>

For more information: www.studyjoy.nz

St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Mass

BETTER OFF TOGETHER
HE WAKA EKE NOA



WORLD DAY OF THE POOR

*"Do not turn your face away from
anyone who is poor" - Pope Francis*

ALL WELCOME

Saturday 18th November at 5pm

Sunday 19th November at 10am

Ana - 0212273754 or anabaice@challenge2000.org.nz

Mitch - 0220218976 or mitchelcheu@challenge2000.org.nz

Kasileta - 02108083379 or kasiletaseko@challenge2000.org.nz



MASS INTENTIONS



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

Anniversaries: Clinton Betham

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

MASS & LITURGY TIMES Saturday 21st October - Friday 27th October

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

