



St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

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

First Week of Lent, 26th February 2023, Year A

Readings: Genesis 2:7-9,3:1-7, Romans 5:12-19, Matthew 4:1-11

Excerpt from Fr Pete's Homily - Opening Mass

2033 - St Francis of Assisi Parish Ohariu will celebrate 10 years of its opening as One Church.

We are at a moment in our History where we are given the opportunity to create a church community for the now and for our future.

Some of us may not be here in 2033 as we will be busy attending a wedding feast in heaven. But the crowd of young people who are present here today, at this opening, probably will be.

We have the chance together to create a church community where our young people in 5 years, 10 years, 25 years will be the young and mature adult leaders and parishioners of this Parish. What more of an incentive do we require than this to unite as One Church and be the face of the living Gospel for the now and our future.

So what is happening here? The answer lies in this morning's gospel: New wine is being poured into new skins. (Matthew 9:14-17)

You cannot put new ideas into old mind-sets. You cannot get new results with old behaviours.

As we settle into becoming one community, we must discern what must happen for the new wine to flow into new wineskins. And we are asked to do this as the liturgical year leads us into Easter and the mystery of our dying and rising.

Lets shape our minds and hearts to be a Church for all people, one that constantly asks whether it is fit for purpose. Flexible, adaptive, attractive to the young and inquisitive, a light in the darkness for those who seek and search for something more."

[Click here](#) for full Homily.

Pete Roe

THANK YOU

On Sunday 19th February, the three previous worshipping communities and two primary schools came together in one church, the Saint Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish Church for a wonderful uplifting Opening Mass and subsequent communal lunch.

The Church Opening Organising Committee and the Parish Leadership Team wish to extend our sincere thanks and the thanks of the community to all the parishioners who volunteered their time and talents to contribute to the Opening Mass.

Thanks to: Fr Pete Roe; the Parish Office; the trades persons; Challenge 2000 for many generous and major services; the cleaners; the ground persons; the flower arrangers; the greeters who welcomed us as we arrived at the church; the school children who welcomed us as we processed into the church; the organist; Joey's music group; the plaque carriers; the Proclaimers; the collectors; the Offertory dancers (and those who joined them) and those who brought up the gifts; the altar dressers; the Eucharistic Ministers; the Hospitality persons who served our lunch and refreshments, those who cleared and cleaned and closed, and last but not least the chefs who cooked the Pig on the Spit!

Thanks again for your time and talents. We are off to a great start!

Paul Whitehouse
Chairperson, Church Opening Organising Committee

Shane Dinnan,
Chairperson, Parish Leadership Team.



Parish Information



Parish Information

Lenten Stations of The Cross

Each Wednesday 1st, 8th, 15th, 22nd March at 7.00p.m." At St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish Church, 37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville.

Lenten Reflection Group

Each Wednesday night in March,

1 March - 40 days, 40 hours, 40 seconds; what's Lent all about? 33 days left to reflect and work it out. Led by Kitty McKinley

8 March - Lent and Pacifica people. Led by Lafaele Baice

15 March - Reaching across Barriers. Led by Jo-Anne Carley

22 March - Called to New Life. Led by Jo-Anne Carley

29 March - Carrying Crosses Together. Led by Jo-Anne Carley

Time: 7.00pm to 8.00pm

Venue: the Chapel space at Challenge 2000, 1 Wanaka Street, Johnsonville.

It would be nice to know if you are planning to come; all welcome.

Jo-Anne Carley phone 022 300 7413 . Email jo-anne@stfrancisohariu.nz or Ana Baice 021 227 3754

Hospitality in the Church

Every Sunday following Mass there will be hospitality in the hall. All welcome.

Every Wednesday following 11.00am Mass - cup of tea. All welcome.

First Friday of the month. Please note the first Friday of every month, there will be a cup of tea after the morning Liturgy. All welcome.

Family Friendly Children's Space

This weekend we will begin our child friendly space in the hall during our weekend Masses. There will be a carpet laid out with books and colouring for the children to use during our Mass.

Parish Information

Greetings all from the Youth Ministry Team at Challenge 2000

This Tuesday February 28th we will have our school Liturgy in the church with our amazing St Brigid's pupils.

They start at 9:15 and finish at 9:45 am . Our theme is GET READY. Ready for the 40 days of Lent and ready for 2023.

If you would like any further info please contact Ana: 021 562 690. We'd love to see you there praying with our children.

Collection - On the weekend of 4th / 5th March - at both Masses we will be having a second collection in support of Cyclone Gabrielle.

The proceeds will be paid to a Catholic agency supporting cyclone victims.

Carpark

You will notice in the carpark there are yellow arrows painted on a number of the parking spaces. These arrows indicate the spaces are for those parishioners that attend weekday liturgies and not for general public use.

During the weekend, you can park here also or in any free space.

Communal Reconciliation

On Palm Sunday, 2nd April at 7.00pm there will be a communal reconciliation at St Francis of Assis Ohariu Church.

Easter Mass timetable to follow.

St Benedict's Pipe Organ

It has not been possible to accommodate the St Ben's pipe organ in the transitional church.

Please be assured that careful consideration is being given to its care and future, and to the needs of the parish. No decision will be made in a hurry. The organ is valued as a Parish taonga.

Thomas Davis and Judith Shroff

Reverence for Life

The Reverence for Life group exists in our parish to promote a “ Culture of Life in which every person, born and unborn, is protected and loved.”

One of our activities is every three months to present at Mass the Book of Life. The Book of Life is a record of personal, family, church and community events that celebrate special occasions reflecting a celebration of life.

The Book of Life not only becomes a beautiful record of celebrations but through the presentation of the Book we seek to grow awareness of the need to pray for, and to promote, a Culture of Life in which every life is held to be precious and made in the image of God.

The next Book of Life will be presented over the weekend of 25th/26th of March. We welcome contributions to the Book. If you are having a celebration of any kind please consider sending an account of the celebration along with a photo(s) to Carol Ryan at:

carol.may.ryan@gmail.com

Your contribution will be most welcomed.

Another of our activities is to hold times of prayer, praying for family life to flourish. Accordingly we will gather in the Brigidine Convent Chapel on Sunday, 25th March, from 1.00pm to 3.00 pm.

We would love you to come and join us in this time of prayer.
Watch the Newsletters for more information.

Cyclone Appeal - Society of Saint Vincent De Paul

The SVDP has started a national appeal to help the victims of the recent cyclones that have caused devastating loss in the largest and most widespread weather event ever to impact New Zealand.

The Society, through its conferences in the affected areas, will provide financial help, and food, clothing, furniture and advocacy assistance to those affected for as long as the recovery takes.

Donations will be accepted at church or you can make a donation online to **St Francis of Assisi Conf.** account number (02-0576-0017817-08).
Thank you for your help.

Parish Information



Challenge 2000 would like to give a HUGE thanks to the Johnsonville, Newlands and Khandallah Parish's for all of their help over the years.

Speaking on behalf of the Food Bank at Challenge 2000, 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!

With all that is going on in NZ, the amount that is being donated to our Food Bank is dwindling, leaving our cupboards bare.

We are urgently needing YOUR help in donations of food, toiletries, bedding or finances..... we need items to keep our busy Food Bank open.



Please get in touch at 04 4776827 or pop into 1 Wanaka Street, Johnsonville if you need more information.

Pray - Let us continue to pray for our brothers and sisters throughout the North Island as they continue to cope with the challenges, trauma and loss following the of Cyclone Gabrielle.

Keep them in our prayers and in our hearts.

World Day of Prayer – Ecumenical Prayer Service

After two years of COVID cancellations, you are cordially invited to World Day of Prayer, to be held on **Friday 3 March, 10 am, at the Johnsonville Uniting Church**, 12 Doctor Taylor Tce.

This year women from Taiwan have written the service based on St Paul's letter to the Ephesians, *I have heard about your faith*.

World Day of Prayer is a worldwide ecumenical movement of informed prayer involving people of many denominations in more than 170 countries. Morning tea will follow the service.

Any inquiries please call Jo 4785639 or Maria 4776374. Look forward to seeing you there.

MASS INTENTIONS



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

Anniversaries: Cath Keen

Prayers for the Sick: Jessie Hensen, Jocelyn Whitehouse, Diana Helm, Robyn Clarke, Augafa & Sefine Pelelo, Margaret Blight, Fr Maurice Carmody, Penelope Corich, John Fanning, Tony Bordignon, Tau So'oa, Fr Frank Maguire, Fr Peter O'Connell, Fr Kevin Purcell, Joe Godinet.

Let us pray for all the people of New Zealand affected by Cyclone Gabrielle. At this time, may they find the strength to rebuild their lives and support one another. Let us remember them in all in our prayers.

MASS & LITURGY TIMES Saturday 25th February - 3rd March

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 - with morning tea
Thurs:	9.00am Liturgy
Fri:	8.30am Exposition and 9.00am Liturgy - followed by a cup of tea

Please note, **Reconciliation** is held on the first Wednesday of the month, at 10.30am before the 11am Mass.

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

