



St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

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

Eighth Week Ordinary Time 27th February 2022 Year C

Readings: *1Ecclesiasticus 27:4-7, 1 Corinthians 15: 54-58, Luke 6:39-45*

With Ash Wednesday just around the corner, I am keen to plan how I will live out the 40 days of Lent in preparation for the celebration of the Lord's resurrection at Easter.

The three pillars of Lent - prayer, fasting and almsgiving - are not meant to be undertaken simply to fulfil the 'rules' of Lent. Prayer, from the heart; fasting from those things that interfere in strengthening a relationship with God; and almsgiving with compassion for those in need will make the Lenten journey a fruitful period of renewal. A few years ago, I received a list of recommendations attributed to Pope Francis for better fasting during Lent. I couldn't source them on the official Vatican website, but these words sound like Pope Francis' and, in any case, I found them to be good recommendations that I would like to share with you:



Fast from hurtful words... and say kind words.

Fast from sadness... and be filled with gratitude.

Fast from anger... and be filled with patience.

Fast from pessimism... and be filled with hope.

Fast from worries... and have trust in God.

Fast from complaints... and contemplate simplicity.

Fast from pressure... and be prayerful.

Fast from bitterness... and fill your hearts with joy.

Fast from selfishness... and be compassionate to others.

Fast from grudges... and be filled with acts of reconciliation and forgiveness.

Fast from words... and be silent so you can listen.

"Lent is a journey that involves our whole life, our entire being.

It is a time to reconsider the path we are taking, to find the route that leads us home and to rediscover our profound relationship with God, on whom everything depends. Lent is not just about the little sacrifices we make, but about discerning where our hearts are directed. This is the core of Lent." (Pope Francis, 17 Feb 2021)

I wish all of us a Lent full of blessings!

Anna Franceschini

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.

Thank You

The Parish of St Francis of Assisi Ohariu, has received a card from the **Gilpin Family**, expressing their gratitude, for all the thoughts, prayers and condolences received after the passing of Greg Gilpin.

Office Hours During Red Light Restrictions

The Parish Office will be closed to visitors at this time. Office staff will be either working in the office or remotely.

For any enquires, help or advise, please contact us on ph: 04 478 7137 or email: office@stfrancisohariu.nz

Ash Wednesday Times

Mass and Liturgy times for Ash Wednesday, 2nd March as follows:

St Benedict's Church	9.00am Liturgy with Distribution of Ashes
Ss Peter & Paul Church	11.00am Mass with Distribution of Ashes 7.00pm Liturgy with Distribution of Ashes
St Andrew's Church	7.00pm Liturgy with Distribution of Ashes

Under the current Red Light Covid framework, Mass and Liturgy numbers will be restricted. Therefore bookings for all Masses and Liturgies are **essential**.

To book for any of the Mass or Liturgies above please contact the office between **9.00am - 3.00pm (weekdays)** either by ph: **(04) 478 7137** or email: **office@stfrancisohariu.nz**

Please note a Vaccination Pass must be shown and masks are Mandatory.

Reflection on Ash Wednesday

Please click the link below for a reflection from Joe Green on Ash Wednesday.

https://youtu.be/bBA_8cOAiT0

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
9th, 16th, 23rd and 30th March and 6th April

St Andrew's Church:

Every Friday at 6.00pm on
4th, 11th, 18th, 25th March and 1st, 8th April.



Caritas Lenten Reflection Booklets

The parish has a limited number of Lenten reflection books. Those wanting to use the Caritas Lenten reflection books can download them from the Caritas website:

[LRP \(English\)](#)

[LRP \(Te Reo Maori\)](#)

[LRP \(Samoan\)](#)

Parishioners of St Francis of Assisi

During 2021 we progressed a review of the parish properties in response to a request from Archbishop John in 2019. He requested the review:

"... identify how many churches the parish needs to cater for its Mass count (taking into account the availability of priests and lay pastoral leaders), and the ideal location of the church or churches. For most, if not all parishes with more than one church, this will mean reducing the number of churches in the parish. Provision for accommodation of priests is part of the review."

He also noted:

"You need to be prepared to be radical in your thinking and discernment. The theme of parish amalgamation was "A Future Full of Hope". This hope-filled future will only start to take shape when we honestly and courageously engage with and answer the many questions about our buildings."

The LFT have drafted a response for Archbishop John with consideration of the consultation we had during 2021. This draft is available [here](#) on the parish website and printed copies will be available in each church this weekend. Appendix 2 is also available on the website [here](#).

The LFT encourage parishioners to consider the draft and think about this not from their own perspective but from a whole parish perspective. Rather than think about what we have had in the past think about what we need as a parish in the future.

We welcome feedback from parishioners on this draft either by email to propreview@stfrancisohariu.nz or in writing which can be mailed to the parish office or left in boxes in our church foyers.

Your feedback is requested by Sunday 6 March.

Leadership Formation Team

We are in particularly difficult times of high rent and increasing food / petrol costs, and just now, there are the costs of the new school year. The parish, St Vincent de Paul and Challenge working together are able to quickly provide food, clothing, equipment, and assistance to people in need. This is an expression of love and solidarity within, and beyond our parish. I would like to make this support known particularly to our refugee and migrant families. If you know of anyone in need (or you yourself need some assistance) please email me - in confidence - at jo-anne@stfrancisohariu.nz Ngā mihi nui, Jo-Anne Carley

For those who want to support the SYNOD - Meeting 1st March 2022

Pope Francis and Cardinal John have invited us to participate in the 2021 Synod.

We will be holding a Parish Meeting on **Tuesday, 1st March, 7.00pm—9.00pm** at Ss Peter & Paul's Church Hall to inform, invite & encourage Synod facilitators to enable them to become full participants.

For more information on the SYNOD please [click here](#)

Questionnaire: You can also complete a Synod questionnaire online [here](#)

Preparation: Please download and print a copy of the Synod Participation Booklet and bring it with you to the session. [Click here](#).

"This Synod is the largest consultation process in the world, ever".

Bishop Vincent Long - 16 February 2022



Sacramental Programme

Thank you to those parishioners who have been inquiring about the Reconciliation, Eucharist and Confirmation Programmes for 2022.

Sacramental and Youth Ministry Team members have been meeting and talking to some of our schools and parents/ caregivers to work out how best to facilitate these programmes.

Covid willing we will look to start sessions on **14th March**, however, further information will follow. We will consult with you all and then work out a safe, faith filled programme for this year.

A big welcome if you are new to the parish and please let the parish office know who you are, your contact details and the ages and sacramental opportunities that you would like your children to have.

Everyone is welcome and we can accommodate children/young people of any age. So please let us know what you would like.

If any of you would also like to assist with any parts of this programme then please either email the parish office with your details or call **Kitty McKinley on 021491459**. Training is provided.

The Call to Communicate Well!

Lord, make us instruments of your peace.

Help us to recognize the evil latent in a communication that does not build communion.

Help us to remove the venom from our judgements.

Help us to speak about others as our brothers and sisters.

You are faithful and trustworthy; may our words be seeds of goodness for the world:

where there is shouting, let us practise listening;

where there is confusion, let us inspire harmony;

where there is ambiguity, let us bring clarity;

where there is exclusion, let us offer solidarity;

where there is sensationalism, let us use sobriety;

where there is superficiality, let us raise real questions;

where there is prejudice, let us awaken trust;

where there is hostility, let us bring respect;

where there is falsehood, let us bring truth.

Amen.

- Pope Francis

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

Wanted: Accommodation around Ngaio to Johnsonville. A parishioner and his adult dog are looking for accommodation in the area of the Parish. If you think you may be able to help, please contact Joan, ph: (04) 566 1314.

NZ Catholic free digital issue

<https://indd.adobe.com/view/e25bfeca-e399-42ba-9da3-2a0caa12f2ee>

Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand is looking for a communications Assistant

Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand is the Catholic Bishops' agency for justice, peace and development.

We are looking for a Communications Assistant to join our team here in the Caritas Office in Wellington. This role supports our communications with donors, parishes, schools and tangata whenua communities. For a copy of the role description please contact Roger Ellis, Engagement Manager – rogere@caritas.org.nz or call 021 526 264.



Experienced Social Worker Catholic Social Services is seeking an experienced social worker to join our dynamic team in Wellington. This full time role is 37.5 hours per week. For a

copy of the job description or additional information please contact us on 043858642. Please email your CV and covering letter to: reception@wn.catholic.org.nz. Applications close 3pm Wednesday 16 March 2022.



World Day of Prayer (WDP) for 2022, online service

This year's WDP service, usually held on the first Friday of March at 10am, will be an online service due to COVID.

The service has been prepared by the World Day of Prayer Committee of England, Wales and Northern Ireland, the online service is presented by Canada. The theme of the service is around God's words "***I know the plans I have for you***". The service is prayed around the world, starting in New Zealand and finishing in Alaska. In 40 hours it is prayed in over 170 countries.

Please feel welcome to be part of such a special event. The online link is as follows: [World Day of Prayer 2022 Virtual Service - YouTube](#).

If you want to make a donation you can go to the New Zealand World Day of Prayer website: <https://www.worlddayofprayer.org.nz/donate/>

Let us hope we will be able to gather for next year's service.

MASS INTENTIONS



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

Recently Deceased: Cath Keen

Anniversaries: Noeline Gregory, Rafael Camerino

Prayers for the Sick: 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.

We pray for parishioners and their friends & contacts who have been affected by Covid-19. We also pray for New Zealand and all those working to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

MASS & LITURGY TIMES 27th February - 5th March

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

Sun: 10.30am - Mass
Mon: 9.00am Liturgy
Tues: 9.15am Liturgy
Wed: 11am - Mass for
Ash Wednesday. (followed
by Morning Tea)
Wed: 7.00pm - Liturgy for
Ash Wednesday
Thurs: 9am Liturgy
Fri: 9am Mass

St Andrew's Church 29 Trebann St Newlands

Saturday **26th Feb:** 5pm
Word & Communion
Liturgy
Wednesday: 7.00pm
Liturgy for Ash Wednesday
Friday: 6.00pm Stations of
the Cross

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 - Liturgy
for Ash Wednesday
Thursday 9.00am - Liturgy
Friday Exposition 8.30am,
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

