



# St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

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

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

**Twenty First Week Ordinary Time 27th August 2023, Year A**  
**Readings:: Isaiah 22:19-23, Romans 11:33-36, Matthew 16:13-20**

## The Rule of Rome

Throughout the gospels Peter is a person who might be described as "under development".

Yet it is Peter who declares Jesus to be "the Christ, the Son of Living God", and is then assigned a role by Jesus that has become the scriptural underpinning of the primacy of the Bishop of Rome in the Catholic Church.

That primacy has change with the socio and geo-political landscape.

When he was elected Pope, staff tried to dress Francis in the regal robes previously worn by Popes, he refused, saying, "the carnival is over".

Francis describes synodality as "journeying together – laity, pastors, the Bishop of Rome". The Synod is "the point of convergence of a listening process conducted at every level of the Church's life", "culminating in listening to the Bishop of Rome, who is called to speak as 'pastor and teacher to all Christians'".

He goes on to explain his role as Pope: "the synod always acts *cum Petro et sub Petro*" (with Peter and subject to Peter), this "is not a limitation of freedom, but a guarantee of unity", as "the Bishops are linked to the Bishop of Rome by the bond of episcopal communion (*cum Petro*) while, at the same time, hierarchically subject to him as head of the college (of Bishops) (*sub petro*)".

Francis does not see "himself (as Pope) above the Church; but within it as one of the baptized, and within the College of Bishops as a Bishop among Bishops, called at the same time – as Successor of Peter – to lead the Church of Rome which presides in charity over all the Churches".

We trust in faith that the promise Jesus gave to Peter will endure.

**Joe Green**

## Parish Information

### Finance Report

The Finance Committee are pleased to present the Financial Report for the year ended 31 March 2023.

In the last financial year, we received income of \$401,694 which was up \$857 on the previous year's \$400,838.

Planned giving contributions reduced by \$15,255 from \$235,971 to \$220,717.

Our expenses were \$438,078 compared with \$334,589 in the prior year. As a result we had a loss of \$47,136.

We finished the year with cash and term deposits of \$108,090 compared with \$158,932 last year, a decrease of \$50,842.

Details of our revenue and expenses are available - please [click here](#).

### ALPHA COURSE Starting Soon!

Alpha is a 10-week series which provides a place to connect with others as you explore the big questions in life. Join us and bring a friend along!

Each evening consists of a shared meal, an episode on a topic of faith, and a chance to ask questions and share ideas in small groups.

**Starting on Tuesday 29th August, 6:30pm** in our church hall. All are welcome to attend. To register, please email [alpha@stfrancisohariu.nz](mailto:alpha@stfrancisohariu.nz)

We look forward to welcoming you to Alpha!

### HELPERS NEEDED

Are you looking for an opportunity to serve in the parish community?

Talk to us about becoming a part of the Alpha Team. Helpers are needed for set-up, cooking and/or serving of meals, and clean-up afterwards.

Please see Joe Green if you are interested.



## Parish Information

### First Friday Morning Tea

**Friday, 1st September.** Everyone is welcome to share Morning Tea following 8.30am Exposition and 9.00am Service on 1st September.

Hospitality: Judith Shroff and a volunteer - please contact Judith, ph: 021 293 1144 if you can help. Thank you.

### Volunteer Training

Training for those involved in supporting different communities or who would like to be involved in a volunteer ministry is now being offered through our Parish Outreach Committee.

Our Parish and Challenge 2000 is known and respected for the grassroots work we do in our different communities.

As part of this work our second volunteer information and training programme is being held on **Wednesday, August 30th from 7.00-9.00pm** in the Parish Hall.

If you wish to become a volunteer or upskill please contact:

**Kitty McKinley** - [kittymckinley@challenge2000.org.nz](mailto:kittymckinley@challenge2000.org.nz) , ph: 04 4776827 or

**Jo-Anne Carley** - [jo-anne@stfrancisohariu.nz](mailto:jo-anne@stfrancisohariu.nz) or

**Parish Office** - ph: 04 4787137 with your basic details to register.

### Family Mass - 10.00 am on Sunday 17th September

Anyone who would like to participate in this Mass please contact Pat Collier, email: [tchpat.collier@gmail.com](mailto:tchpat.collier@gmail.com)

On the day please bring food for a shared lunch. The children will receive an ice block after lunch.

Also we encourage you to bring an item of non perishable food for families in need. These can be placed in the basket before Mass and will be presented at the offertory. Many thanks.

**Pat Collier**

**The Whole World Paused This Morning.**

Do you know why? Because an 8 year old's tank was empty.

The boys had already started their school day at their desks, and I was preparing to leave for work when I noticed my littlest standing in the bathroom wiping his face.

I paused at the door and asked if he was okay. He looked up with tears silently dripping and shook his head. When I questioned if something happened, again he shook his head.

So I sat on the side of the tub and pulled him in my lap. I told him sometimes our heart tanks feel empty and need to be refilled.

He cried into my chest and I held tight. I asked if he could feel my love filling him up? A nod, and tears stopped....

I waited a minute....

'Has it reached your toes yet?' He shook his head no....

'Okay man. We will take as long as you need. Work doesn't matter right now. School isn't important either. This right here, is the most important thing today, okay? Filling you back to the top. Is that good?' He \*nods\*

One more minute.... 'Is your heart full of mamas love now?'

'Yeah...' \*looks in his eyes\* I see it shining in there, you're full to the top, and you're smiling!

Y'all. You may not be 8 - you may be 28, 38, 48 or whatever- but ALL of us run on empty just like he did. His weekend was so busy and so full and his little soul was just dry!!!

We all have to pause, and take a moment to refill with the good things. Scripture, prayer, sunshine, worship, song, laughter, friends, hugs. Refill your empty, or you'll find those emotions (tears, anger, snappy words) overflowing with no reason why.

Take a moment. Refill. It's the most important part of a day!

**Pete Roe**

## Parish Information

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

Next Tuesday, **29th August**, 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, **31st August**, 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.

### 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 will next be presented on the weekend of the 9/10th of September.**

We welcome contributions to the Book for this presentation. Your contribution of a celebration event not only enriches our Book of Life but it helps to build awareness of the preciousness and dignity of life in all its stages from conception to death.

Please email your article with any photos to Fiona Kearns at email: [fionakearnz@gmail.com](mailto:fionakearnz@gmail.com), or leave a hard copy in the specially marked "Book of Life" container in the church foyer. Thank you for your support.

### Sacramental Programme

Confirmation Programme continues this **Sunday, 27th August from 2.00pm - 4.30pm**. [Click here](#) for full dates.

For details, contact Ana Baice on 021 227 3754 or the Parish Office.

Confirmation Mass will be held on: **Sunday, 10th September at 2.00pm**.



### Launch Out Workshop

On 19th August some of those in formation to be Lay Pastoral Leaders in the Archdiocese participated in a workshop held at St Francis of Assisi Ohariu.



They explored baptism, marriage, funerals and the RCIA as they are implemented in practice in a Parish.

The workshop was facilitated by Joe Green, with support from Lucienne Hensel and Robyn Radomski.

### Synod

Those participating in the Synod have before them a series of questions on which to reflect both before and at the Synod. Parishioners should read these for themselves in the Working Document.

These questions are arranged thematically. They include but are not limited to: the diversity of the Church; the ecumenical effort (the document points out it's not just Catholics who have the sense of the faith, it is all Christians); the proclamation of the gospel; dialogue with all religions, building local cultural practices into our "Roman" liturgy; avoiding "new and destructive colonialisms"; the "preferential option for young people and families"; "greater recognition and promotion of the baptismal dignity of women" "including in governance, decision making processes and in the taking of decisions"; "properly valuing the ordained ministry in its relationship with baptismal ministries in a missionary perspective"; "promoting in the Church both a culture and concrete forms of co-responsibility such that the relationship between baptismal ministries and ordained ministries is fruitful"; "understanding the specific gifts of ordained ministers within the one People of God"; "the formation of priests engaged more closely with the life and pastoral realities of the People of God they are called to serve";

What implications does lay people performing the role of community leaders have for the understanding of ordained ministry?; how the understanding of ordained ministry and the formation of priests might "contribute to efforts to prevent the recurrence of sexual abuse and other forms of abuse"; understanding the vocation and mission of the bishop; the exercise of service, authority, decision making and governance are wide ranging and include lay and ordained, priests and bishops; synodality as the norm within the Church.

**Joe Green**

## Other Events/Notices

### Johnsonville Op Shop

A big thank you to all the parishioners who volunteer at the Johnsonville Op Shop. We really appreciate your time.

We are in need of some volunteers on the Thursday after Sale Day (last Sat of the month) to assist with the clean up and sorting of stock.

Just a couple of hours once a month starting at 9.15.

The dates are: Thursday 31st Aug, 5th Oct, 30th Nov and Mon 18th Dec

Please contact your coordinator from your church group.

Catholic: Carol - 021 174 3585

Uniting: Janet - 938 2657

Anglican: Barbara - 0210 452 206

Brethren: Tony 027 694 6980

### Notices - Titipounamu Study & Joy

**Women in the Bible** with Kieran Fenn fms.

Mondays, 04/11/18 Sep, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM.

Fee: \$20/session or \$45 for 3 sessions. All sessions are connect but also stand alone.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/07/10/women-in-the-bible/>

**Liturgical Spaces** with Prof Thomas O'Loughlin.

Series on Muffin Talk radio programme freely available online at:

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2023/07/17/liturgical-space-thomas-oloughlin/>

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

### REUNION - St Dominic's College Dunedin

Please register your interest in a proposed reunion of those who attended St Dominic's College Dunedin.

Phone: 03 4543191 or email: [stunpaul@xtra.co.nz](mailto:stunpaul@xtra.co.nz)

### St Anthony's School, Seatoun Centenary

Come and join in the centenary weekend events on 13th-14th October 2023. Click the link to book your tickets and tables!

<https://www.trybooking.co.nz/OUW>

## MASS INTENTIONS

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



**Recently Deceased:** John Santiago,

**Anniversaries:** Bernie McSweeney, Doris Bose, Freddie Dias,

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

## MASS & LITURGY TIMES Saturday 26th August - Friday 1st September

### 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](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**

