



# St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

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

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

**First Sunday of Advent, 27th November 2022 Year A**  
**Readings:** *Isaiah 2:1-5, Romans 13:11-14, Matthew 24:37-44*

## ADVENT

Notes to self:

- the liturgical Season of Advent is upon us
- the Advent mantra is: "Come, Lord Jesus!"
- the world is a precious and precarious place. There is only one planet, one human race - and they are both in strife on many sides
- the psalmist says: "Put not your trust in princes!". Leaders and heroes are ultimately only human - with feet of clay. Human structures collapse and die.
- as a Christian I live in a state of waiting, of incompleteness, of unfulfillment...
- during this Season I will cultivate my interior resources. I will look in the direction of God, I will spend more time in quiet personal prayer. I will look around for companions – my friends, my family, my community - who also wait and pray...
- I will be aware, alive, alert, attentive, AWAKE! and ready to place my hope and trust in God alone
- after death comes resurrection. The resurrection of Jesus Christ is the bedrock of my faith.
- "Come, Lord Jesus!"
- All will be well.



John Lawson

## Parish Information

### ADVENT

Advent is that unchangeable season when the same concepts, the same words rise over and over again, year after year, to challenge our hearts and minds.

Advent is a season of waiting but it comes relentlessly through life with its words of hope, faith, joy and peace.

During advent we prepare to birth the Christ in our lives.

Candles are prominent in our advent liturgy.

Purple and pink candles will be lit.

Candles focus our minds on the light of Christ and remind us always that time is going by, that light is ebbing. What is time for? Is time only for work? In this troubled world with war in Ukraine and Covid still in our midst amongst other things can we put work aside for a few minutes each day and really prepare to birth the Christ in our lives.

Can we let God be manifested through us to the path of true hope, faith, joy and peace?

### HOPE

Hope is the reason, we survive tough times

Hope is God's voice, still and small but divine

Never give up hope.

### FAITH

Rejoice in the Lord always

Shout out His name

For God is with us

The God of our salvation

In whom we trust.

### JOY

Shout for Joy

The whole earth

And everyone within

Rejoice!

For light has come into the world.

### PEACE

Peace be with us all

God's quiet within the noise

God's hope within uncertainty

God's rest within our toil

God's presence within our soul

Peace be with us all.



**Columban Calendar 2023** - We have received the 2023 Columban Calendars for next year. They are available to purchase at a cost of **\$12 per calendar**.

In the event you cannot attend Mass and wish to purchase one, please contact the Parish Office; **ph: (04) 478 7137**,

**email: [office@stfrancisohariu.nz](mailto:office@stfrancisohariu.nz)**.



## Parish Information

### Parish Pastoral Plan

Many thanks to the Leadership Formation Team, the Pastoral Advisory Group and the many Ministry Groups who have contributed to the development of the Parish Pastoral Plan.

The Pastoral Plan remains a "work in progress". Any suggestions are always welcome, or if you have some project that you think might benefit the parish, don't hesitate to contact me.

For a copy of the Parish Pastoral Plan, please [click here](#).

**Joe Green**

### Lay Led Funerals

Congratulations to Marie Paurini and Robyn Radomski in our Parish - both Marie & Robyn have recently been mandated by Cardinal John Dew to preside at funeral liturgies outside Mass.

For more information on Funeral Liturgy outside Mass, please [click here](#).

**Joe Green**

**St Benedict's Church** - First Friday Morning Tea, 2nd December, following 8.30am Exposition and 9.00am Service.

Hospitality: Ita and Josephine. All very welcome.

**Holy Mass** will be offered at the request of a parishioner for all Parishioners' intentions, especially those of the St Bens "9 o'clockers", at St Mary's Church Rotorua on Friday 2 December at 9am (coinciding with the last First Friday gathering at St Bens).



### **Sleepers Awake! - Organ Recital**

St Benedict's Church, **27th November, 2.00pm** - a short recital by Douglas Mews.

One of the last opportunities to hear the organ in St Benedict's and a wonderful way to begin Advent with a variety of religious and secular music, followed by afternoon tea in the foyer.

Everyone is welcome - please bring your family and friends.

## Parish Information

### Ecumenical Advent Event

We will be joining with our fellow Anglican and Presbyterian congregations in Khandallah for an Advent Ecumenical Liturgy at St Benedict's Church on **Sunday 27<sup>th</sup> November at 7pm.**

This is an opportunity to join together in prayer to celebrate the opening of advent, the beginning of a new liturgical year. All are well to come and join. Refreshments to follow.

### St Vincent de Paul Christmas Hampers for Families

We are preparing hampers of edible treats to celebrate Christmas for people who might miss out.

In past years with help from our parishioners we have filled hampers for families with food items including cans of fruit, pasta, and sweet biscuits. With your help we can fill hampers for over 40 families.

If you are able, please add your donation to the food basket at Ss Peter & Paul Church, Johnsonville.

We plan to pack hampers on Sunday 11 December for delivery soon after, and will be very happy to **receive your donation by 4 December.**

### St Benedict's Hamper Mass 9am Sunday - 11th December

St Benedict's will again be holding the Hamper Mass next month. We have 18 families we are supporting in our community this year, the list of families will be in the foyer of the church. As per usual we ask for parishioners who are able to select a family and the associated tag off the Christmas Tree.

For the hampers we suggest non-perishable items such as tinned / dry foods, toiletries and other items you might feel are appropriate for the family you have chosen. Some parishioners like to include a small gift as well, but each hamper is very individual!

We ask parishioners to bring their hampers to the church on the **11th December** for the Mass, where they will be placed in front of the altar before the Mass starts.

Thank you for your support, please contact Jo Mackenzie on 021 990 918, if you have any queries.

## Parish Information



The Challenge 2000 Youth Ministry team facilitate the Tuesday morning Liturgies at 9:15 am for the St Brigid's children and the Parish.

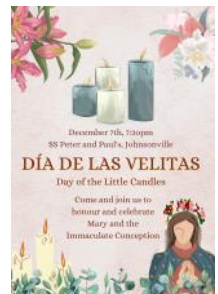
During the month of November the Liturgy has focused on remembering our faith and sisters and family members who have gone before us.

Many children have brought along photos of their loved family members and last week team 2 drew flowers or brought photos of those who they wished to remember and pray for. It was a lovely liturgy that all the children participated in.

On the **7<sup>th</sup> of December**, Sindy Rodriguez and the Youth Ministry Team of Challenge 2000 will be celebrating Día de las Velitas (Day of the Little Candles).

This is a wonderful tradition held in Colombia.

We will be lighting small candles in celebration and honour of Mother Mary and the Immaculate Conception and holding a reflective Service. 7.30pm **at SS Peter and Paul's Church in Johnsonville**. Everyone is very welcome to celebrate this day with the Colombian Community.



For more details, please contact Sindy on 022 513 7914. See you there!  
Todos son bienvenidos!

**Johnsonville Christmas Parade - Saturday 3rd December** - The Combined Churches of Johnsonville will have a float in the parade.

We invite any children who would like to take part to gather at the Uniting Church, Dr Taylor Terrace [next to St. Brigid's] 9.45am on 3rd December.

Come dressed as a member of the nativity scene or borrow a costume supplied at the Uniting Church on the day.

There will be a nativity scene on the float and all other participants will walk beside the float which goes along Dr Taylor Terrace, down Broderick Road, up the Main road and back to Dr Taylor Terrace. Adults are welcome to be part of the parade.

## Parish Information

### Let's help St. Vincent de Paul & be the proud owner of hand crafted furniture by Fr. van der Kaa

Fr. van der Kaa's hobby is making hand crafted furniture. He has donated some of his work to raise money for the St. Vincent de Paul. The furniture will be on display in the walkway at Ss. Peter and Pauls Church.

To be the proud owner of his work all you have to do is make a donation of your own choice to the St. Vincent de Paul. See Pat after Mass.

You may pay in cash. [Payment may be made the following week if you don't have cash on you on the day], or pay using online banking. St. Vincent de Paul, 02 0576 0017817 008, Ref': van der Kaa. Many thanks.

**TIME CAPSULE.** – Fragments from the History of Our Parish.

#### No.6. **The First St. Andrew's Church in Newlands, 1963.**

The following is an extract from the 4 September 1963 issue of *New Zealand Tablet*, the national Catholic weekly:

NEW CHURCH FOR NEWLANDS, WELLINGTON. – A new church was blessed and opened at Newlands, Wellington, on Sunday, August 25, by Most Rev. P. T. B. McKeefry D.D., Archbishop of Wellington. The new Saint Andrew's Church stands on a three-quarter acre section. Through the voluntary labour and other efforts of the men of the parish, including several non-Catholic residents, a saving of between four and five thousand pounds has been made on the building, which has taken about eighteen months to complete.

The section in Black Rock Road on which this new church was built was purchased in 1957. The housing construction boom in Newlands had led to congestion at Sunday Masses in the Parish Church at Johnsonville. The new church brought temporary relief from this situation. Newlands continued to grow and was established as a separate parish in 1967. Further growth led to the building of the present St. Andrew's Church in Trebann Street. With the new, larger church coming into use, the first St. Andrew's Church, in Black Rock Road, was decommissioned on 22 May, 1976. The building was sold and later moved to Bellevue School to serve as the school hall.

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## Parish Information



### Onslow Catholic Women's League

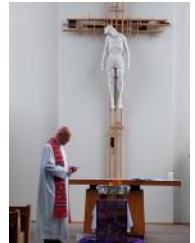
We invite all our members and friends to our Christmas party on **Tuesday 29 November** at **2pm** in St Benedict's.

We'll begin in the church with a reflection and carols, followed by afternoon tea in the foyer; there'll also be raffles and small home-made items for purchase (so please bring some cash!).

We would be very pleased to receive an item (non-perishable and non-alcoholic) for the CWL hamper for those in need (the Hamper Mass will be on December 11th), and a gold coin donation for the Wellington Women's Homeless Trust would be much appreciated. Many thanks.



On Tuesday, Pete joined the children at St Benedict's school, for their School Advent Reconciliation. The children were fascinated as they came forward to be forgiven by Jesus. They watched the Advent Fire being lit as a sign of their forgiveness and as a sign that Jesus' love is now alive in their hearts.



### Christmas Mass Times

#### Wednesday 14th December - Communal Reconciliation

St Benedict's Church: 7.00pm

#### Saturday 24 December - Christmas Eve

St Benedict's Church: 5.45pm Carols for 6.00pm Family Mass

Ss Peter & Paul Church: 6.30pm Carols for 7.00pm Family Mass

St Andrew's Church: 7.30pm Carols for 8.00pm Family Mass

#### Sunday 25 December - Christmas Day

St Benedict's Church: 9.00am Mass

Ss Peter & Paul Church: 10.30am Mass

# MASS INTENTIONS



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

**Anniversaries:** Wayne Telles, Malia Katerina Lemalu, James Dooley, Winnie Dooley

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

*For the month of November, please pray for all the Holy Souls of our dearly departed family and friends.*

*May they rest in peace.*

## MASS & LITURGY TIMES Saturday 26th November - Sunday 4th December

### St Andrew's Church 29 Trebann St Newlands

Sat: 26th Nov - 5pm Vigil  
Mass

Sat: 3rd December - Vigil  
Mass

### St Benedict's Church 3 Everest St Khandallah

Sun: 9.00am - Word &  
Communion  
Mon: 9.00am - Liturgy  
Mon: 7.00pm - Meditation  
Tues: 9.15am - Liturgy  
Wed: 9.00am - Liturgy  
Thurs: 9.00am - Liturgy  
Fri: Exposition 8.30am and  
Liturgy at 9.00am  
Sun: 9.00am - Mass

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

Sun: 10.30am - Mass  
Mon: 9.00 - Liturgy  
Tues: 9.15am - Liturgy  
Wed: 11.00am - Mass with  
morning tea  
Thurs: 9.00am - Liturgy  
Fri: 9.00am - Mass  
Sun: 10.30am - Word &  
Communion

Please note, **Reconciliation** is held at St Peter and Paul's 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](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**

