



# St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

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

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

**Second Week of Advent 5th December 2021 Year C**  
**Readings:** *Baruch 5:1-9, Philippians 1:3-6,8-11, Luke 3:1-6*

## **Repentance and Joy**

The call in today's Gospel is to repent. It is a call to turn away from sin and face Jesus on the cross and accept His forgiveness. It is a call to have our hearts and minds open to the Holy Spirit dwelling within us and leading and guiding us.

One outcome of sincere repentance is peace and joy.

The prophet Baruch writes of the Israelites rejoicing at the way God has remembered them and brought them back to Himself and his Holy City. The psalmist tells of the songs of joy sung by those the Lord brought back to Zion.

Paul writing to the Philippians tells of his joy at the way the Philippians are now following the way of Jesus, adding that he is confident Jesus will continue to empower their work until the very end.

Joy, often a deep down quiet joy, always follows when we are in the right relationship with God and with others. This is a beautiful and precious outcome of repentance, it is to be cherished.

Ewen Laurenson



**Second Sunday  
of Advent**

**Covid Vaccine Passes required at all Masses and Liturgies  
from Friday 3 December**

On Friday 3 December Wellington moved to Orange under the Covid Protection framework. **Everyone aged over 12 and 3 months must show a Covid MyVaccine pass when you come to a Mass or Liturgy.**

**Orange:** You will need to show your Covid Vaccine pass when you arrive at the church. You won't need to book but you will need to wear a mask and scan in or register in writing.

Should we move to **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 and must wear a mask.

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're not vaccinated there are special masses in Wellington. These can be found by clicking on this [link](#).

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.**

**Communal Reconciliation  
Tuesday 7<sup>th</sup> Dec 7.00p.m St. Andrew's Church Newlands**

Communal reconciliation is a way of acknowledging how our actions and lack of actions impact on others such as our church communities, family and those we meet in our daily lives.

It is a way of showing our need to turn back to God with renewed faith, hope and enthusiasm. This is why it is often referred to as a sacrament of mercy and forgiveness. It is a chance to look more closely at our weaknesses and to focus on ways we can grow and improve for the benefit of all those around us.

The whole purpose is to link us more closely and yet once again more fully with the love and life of God. **A Vaccination Pass must be shown on arrival.**

**Come and be at peace with God and one another.**

## **An initiative of the Parish Liturgy Advisory Group—PLAG**

### Liturgy of the Word with Communion

This is one of the ceremonies available to us as members of the Catholic Church.

It has been celebrated in our churches of St. Francis of Assisi Ohariu during the week for many years.

The liturgy gathers the people in prayer, reflects on the readings of the day, gives thanksgiving, prepares for receiving communion, communion is received and prayers offered before the sending rite.

During this time of pandemic restrictions we are going to celebrate this liturgy in our parish on a Sunday evening at 6.00p.m

Many of you have been unable to attend mass as we had been limited in numbers so this liturgy is an opportunity to gather as a community, reflect on the day's readings and be nourished by communion.

This Sunday night liturgy will take place at **St Benedict's Church 6.00pm, Sunday 5th December.**

**A Vaccination Pass must be shown on arrival.**

## **Property Review Update**



### **St Francis of Assisi Property Review**

The LFT has decided to continue the discernment by hosting several casual conversations with Parishioners to discuss further the future of our parish.

**Saturday 4 December 6-7pm St Andrews**

**Sunday 5 December 10-11am St Benedict's**

Additional meetings will be advertised next week.

Please come along to any of the conversations to pray, reflect and share.

**A Vaccination Pass must be shown on arrival.**

More details about the property review can be found on the parish website here: <http://stfrancisohariu.nz/updates/building-and-property-review/>

## Celebrating Volunteer Sunday 2021

Jesus was the ultimate volunteer. A volunteer, surrounded by other volunteers. He said to his disciples (and us) after he gave his Body and Blood and washed his friends feet: "Do as I do"- wash others feet, serve your brothers and sisters. He connected forever Eucharist- Communion with Service—volunteering. Faith and action go together.

Today we celebrate all the volunteers that keep our parish alive and working. Volunteers who wash the altar linen, organise liturgies, clean churches, do flowers, drop off food, make food parcels, visit homes, answer phones on the weekend, fold newsletters, sort technology, sit on committees, volunteer at mass, clean windows and pull weeds, sing, mentor youth, fix broken things, facilitate programmes, count money, bake cakes or meals, meet with other churches, check the toilet paper, lead and serve in ministries, spring clean, support refugees and those in need, work on Covid templates, ensure we are all safe in these times, lead and serve the parish and so MUCH MORE!!!

**THANK YOU. THANK YOU. THANK YOU.**

Your care, love and service through volunteering is valued!

**HAPPY VOLUNTEERS DAY TO OUR VOLUNTEERS**



## Synod Facilitators

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

**"There is no need to create another church, but to create a different church ..."** Pope Francis 9 October 2021

**"I want you to be involved in this Synod process. Your baptism calls you and entitles you to be involved.... I am looking forward very much to your involvement in imagining a different future for the Church. Please use this opportunity, it is essential that we do so. This Synod sets out to change the fact that most people of God have been passive spectators for years. You can help to change that. Please take up the invitation to be involved in this Synod process"** Cardinal John Dew

We will hold some parish meetings in 2022 to assist us reflecting, sharing and responding to the questions of the Synod.

To do this we are inviting parishioners who are prepared to assist facilitating these meetings to attend a briefing session with staff from the Archdiocese **(Date to be confirmed)**. Please contact the parish office if you can help.

Further information is available here:

<https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/about/archdiocesan-synod/>

**Advent** is a special time in our Catholic faith as we prepare for the birth of Jesus. It is a time of Reflection, Waiting, Praying and wondering.

On **Sunday December 5th and Sunday December 19th** there will be two additional Liturgies at **5pm** at SS Peter and Paul Johnsonville, organised by the Youth Ministry Team and Challenge 2000. These are not the usual Sunday Masses. Instead there will be input and times of personal and community prayer. The Liturgies will also include a space for children to create Advent art.

On December 5th we will focus on John the Baptist. What he said to the people of his time and what he says to us today.

On December 19th we will focus on Mary, her faithfulness and her passion for bringing Jesus into the world. And what she has to say to each one of us.

If you would like to have any further information about these Liturgies or be involved in some way please call **Kitty 021491459 or Sio 02108160396.**

**A vaccination pass is required to attend.**

Please remain vigilant during these uncertain times.



### **St Benedict's Christmas Hamper Mass**

We will be holding the Hamper Mass on **Sunday 12th December at 9am.**

Thank you to everyone who has selected a Hamper for this year's Hamper Mass at St. Ben's, we have **one more hamper** to be selected!

For those who are new to the St Ben's Hamper Mass, we recommend non-perishable food items, some festive foods, toiletries, basic home supplies and if you wish, please feel free to include a gift for the children of the family. Thank you again for picking a hamper.

Any queries, please contact Jo Mackenzie, ph: 021 990 918.

### **Christmas Hampers 2021**

St Vincent de Paul plans to distribute hampers of sweet treats to families in need at Christmas.

With generous help from parishioners we are usually able to provide hampers to over 40 families. Demand is similar in 2021.

We plan to pack hampers on 12th December and will be grateful for any packaged treats received by **Sunday 5th December.**

Please add to the basket at St Peter and Paul's.

## Newlands Saint Vincent de Paul – Christmas Food Parcels

We will be distributing our Christmas Food parcels over the last weekend before Christmas. If you can help with donations of food, we would be grateful. All donations can be left in our SVDP donation basket inside St Andrew's Church. For those of you who cannot manage it at the moment, your prayerful support is, as always, appreciated. Our parishioners continue to amaze us with their generosity. We thank you in advance for your continued support. ***If you are considering providing gifts, please donate them directly to the Vinnie's office in Newtown as they will be managing distribution of these items.***

We currently **do not need** any Peanut Butter, Cereals, Rice, Pasta or Pasta Sauces.

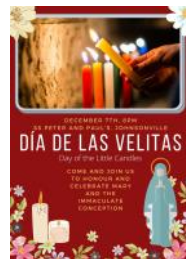
### **Here is our suggested list:**

Flour/Sugar, Honey/Vegemite, Biscuits/Muesli Bars, Jam/Weet-bix, Drink Sachets e.g: Raro, Refresh, Tea Bags/Coffee/Milo, Any tinned food at all, Cooking Oil, Washing Powder/Dishwashing Liquid, Toothbrushes, Toothpaste/Soap, Shampoo/Conditioner, Feminine Hygiene Products, Toilet Paper.

We hope this list gives you some "food for thought". Once again thank you for your support of this important ministry.

On the **7<sup>th</sup> of December**, Sindy Rodrigues and the Youth Ministry Team of Challenge 2000 will be holding Día de las Velitas (Day of the Little Candles). This is a tradition held in Colombia, in which we will be lighting small candles in celebration and honour of Mother Mary and the Immaculate Conception. Fr. Brophy SM will be helping to lead the liturgy. This will be at **8PM at SS Peter and Paul's Church in Johnsonville**. Todos son bienvenidos! See you there! If interested please call/text Sio at 02108160396. For more information about the tradition itself, please contact Sindy on 0225137914.

**A Vaccination Pass must be shown on arrival.**



### **Catholic Women's League**

CWL has committed to providing a Christmas Hamper for a family in need and have always collected items for this hamper at our Christmas Social, Under the circumstances we would be most grateful if you could leave your gift in the basket we will have at the church over the next few weeks. Alternatively you can contact any committee member and we will arrange collection. The **Hamper Mass is on the 12th December - 9am Mass**. With many thanks. Any enquiries to **Margaret Dunne. phone 478 6348**

## Upcoming Events/Notices

### **The grounds at St Benedict's need a tidy up.**

A working bee for a few hours will be held on a weekday or weekend based on availability of volunteers.

Please contact **John Lawson** or **Thomas Davis** if you are available to help.

### **Are you recently retired and looking for a bit of work?**

If so, would you be interested in working 7 hours a week at St Brigid's School doing some caretaking & grounds jobs? We'd love to hear from you – please contact **Lynne or Linda at the school on Ph 478 6516.**



### **Christmas Holiday Programme for children aged 5-12;**

**Monday December 20th December** from 10am-3pm in the Church Hall at SS Peter and Pauls, Johnsonville.

Organised by the Youth Ministry Team and parish volunteers: come along and make Christmas Cards, act out the Christmas story, paint, sing, make, cook. It will be a wonderful time together.

Please register by calling or email: Sio on [pelasio@challenge2000.org.nz](mailto:pelasio@challenge2000.org.nz) / 02108160396, or email the Parish Office. Numbers limited to 30.

Please bring your own lunch. Cost \$5.00 per child or by donation  
Come along and have fun!

**FOOD FOR FAITH** offers brief daily reflections for Advent. Sign up at [www.foodforfaith.org.nz](http://www.foodforfaith.org.nz).

### **Columban Calendar 2022**

We have received the 2022 Columban Calendars for next year. They are available for purchase in the foyer 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) 4787137, email: [office@stfrancisohariu.nz](mailto:office@stfrancisohariu.nz).**

**YC Tuakana 2022:** We're looking for our next College Youth Ministers for 2022. If you love Youth Ministry, want to work with college students and contribute to the mission of the Young Church, then this is for you! 20 hours a week paid youth ministry.

Contact: [ADWYoungChurchyouth@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:ADWYoungChurchyouth@wn.catholic.org.nz)

### **Divine Mercy Prayer Meeting**

Friday, 3rd December 6.00pm –6.30pm, St Andrew's Chapel

**Zoom Meeting:** Sunday 5th December 3.00pm

**Meeting ID:** 799 6918 9260 **Passcode:** hra2h3



# MASS INTENTIONS



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

**Recently Deceased:** Greg Gilpin. John Wilson

**Anniversaries:** Winnie Dooley, Therese Mary Walsh

**Prayers for the Sick**— Ted Ramsbottom, Graeme Gorton, John Fanning, Tony Bordignon, Dianne Greene (Mother of Steven Greene), Tau So'oa (father of Mel Aspinall), Monsignor John Carde, Fr Colin Durning, 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 5th December—11th December

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

Sun: Mass 10.30am  
Sun: Advent Liturgy  
5.00pm  
Mon: 9am Liturgy  
Tues: 9.15am Liturgy  
Wed: 11am Mass—(Cup of  
tea after)  
Thurs: 9am Liturgy  
Fri: 9am Mass

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

Saturday: 5pm Vigil Mass

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

Sunday: Mass 9.00am  
Sunday: Liturgy of the Word  
with Communion 6pm  
Monday: 9.00 Liturgy  
Monday: 7.00 Meditation  
Tuesday: 9.15 Liturgy  
Wednesday: 9.00 Liturgy  
Thursday: 9.00 Liturgy  
Friday: Exposition 8.30 Liturgy  
at 9.00  
Saturday: 9.00 Liturgy

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**

