



# St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

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

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

**Sixth Week of Easter 5 May 2024, Year B**

**Readings: Acts 10:25-26, 34-35, 44-48, 1 John 4:7-10, John 15:9-17**

"For the love of God.....!"

The above idiom is often said in a time of frustration and impatience at someone who has been 'beating around the bush'. You implore them to act urgently on your request. For example, "for the love of God, turn that TV off, it's driving me mad!", when you are focusing on working quietly.

Often as humans we wrongly judge how much others love God by how well they respond to our own selfish needs. Additionally, we can idealise God as a master that needs to be pleased. However, neither of these things define our Christian lives.

The only acts in our lives which we must attend to with urgency is allowing those who are nuisance 'pagans' in our mind be embraced by the warmth of their rightful inheritance - that God loves them as much as God loves me. Irrespective of how 'imperfect' that person is to me, or whether or not I think they please God very well, they have God's full care.

That's why the call "for the love of God" is no different to the call "for the love of the other person". In our moments of frustration, God's love "is patient and kind and not boastful". This stands as a litmus test of how little our faith is about pleasing God or others so that we have a good reputation in front of people. Our faith is about how, when people see our own example, they experience God's love for them.



Fr Alfred Tong

## Parish Information

### Weekday Liturgies

Monday morning liturgies will recommence on **6th May at 9.00am**. Please refer to Mass & Liturgy times at the back of the newsletter.

### Children's Liturgy

Our mission is to make Jesus a real person to the children. We aim to make the children feel loved and know that they are special. In turn we hope they will love and respect all of God's creation.

The children have a special place in our church family.

Children's liturgy for Term 2 commences this **Sunday 5th May**.

Children's liturgy is for all primary aged school children. Preschoolers may attend if accompanied by an adult.

We also ask that a parent accompanies any very active child.

Many thanks, Pat

### Tax Receipts / New Envelopes

We have finalised parishioners tax receipts for year end 31st March 2024.

For those who give by envelope, your new envelopes are available to collect in the church foyer. If you cannot locate your envelopes, please contact the Parish office.

For those who have provided the Parish with an email address, your tax receipt has been emailed out to you. If you do not receive this, please contact us in the Parish Office. If we do not have an email address your receipt will be printed off and ready for collection in the Church foyer.

Envelope givers please note: you may have been issued with a **new planned giving number**.

If you have any queries, please contact the Parish Office, ph: 04 4787137.

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**HAVE YOU TRIED ALPHA?**  
**MEET NEW PEOPLE AND EXPLORE FAITH TOGETHER**  
**JOIN US THIS TUESDAY**  
**AT 7PM IN THE PARISH HALL.**  
**EMAIL [alpha@stfrancisohariu.nz](mailto:alpha@stfrancisohariu.nz) or**  
**talk to one of our team after Mass to register.**

**Sacramental Programme 2024**

Thank you to all the Parents and Caregivers that attended the Sacramental Information evening on Wednesday night.

The enrolment process for the 2024 Parish Sacramental Programme has been finalized but if you are still interested for your child to participate in the 2024 Sacramental Programme, further please don't hesitate to approach a member of the Parish Leadership Team or alternatively, email: [sacramentalprogramme@stfrancisohariu.nz](mailto:sacramentalprogramme@stfrancisohariu.nz)

**Sacramental Dates:**

Reconciliation dates

- 26th May**, Blessing of candidates at Mass, then 11.15 –12.15pm (Session)
- 5th June** 6.30– 7.30pm (practical)
- 12th and/13th June** First Reconciliation

- Confirmation Date - **18th August - 2.00pm**
- First Communion - **22nd September - 2.00pm**



## Parish Information

### Christian Meditation

A Christian Meditation groups meets:

**Mondays**, at 7.00 - 7.45pm in the Committee Room, Uniting Church, Johnsonville.

Meditation is not something new to Christianity. It is rooted in the gospel and in Paul's letters. Also known as contemplative prayer, meditation is the ecumenical prayer of silence and listening.

*"Be still and know that I am God" - Psalm 46.:10*

To learn more about Christian Meditation ring Linda or Nick Polaschek, ph: (04) 479 7955 or simply come along any Monday evening.

The World Community for Christian Meditation has a comprehensive website: [www.wccm.org](http://www.wccm.org)

We, Jesus' disciples — do so by bearing witness to his love: the fruit to be borne is love. - 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.

## Parish Information

**Public Seminar:** Wellington Abrahamic Council

Why do bad things happen to good people?

All welcome...

When Tuesday 7 May 2024, 7:00 pm

Where **NOTE NEW LOCATION**

St Joseph's Church 152 Brougham Street Wellington



### **Festival of Life Sunday**

May 5th 2024

In baptism, through water and the word, a person is immersed in Jesus Christ, and journeys with Christ, through his death and resurrection to a new life. This week we celebrate an initiative of the Lutheran-Roman Catholic Dialogue. We highlight Baptism, and its significance for Christian unity. This initiative affirms the shared belief "in one baptism for the forgiveness of sins" as confessed in the Nicene Creed. Today we spend some time focussing on Baptism which is the seedbed from which Christians can develop a deeper appreciation of one another on our journey to wholeness.

### **St Vincent de Paul**

St Vincent de Paul Society meet every 2nd Tuesday of the month at 7.00pm, in the Parish meeting room. All new members are welcome.

For further information , please contact - Paul Cameron,  
email: paulcameron55@me.com

### **Newlands Passionist Group - Housie Night**

**Saturday, 18th May at 6.30pm.** At the Johnsonville Community Centre.  
Entry \$15.00 per person / 3 games / Children FREE.

Proceeds to Wellington Free Ambulance and Ohariu Parish Refugee Fund.  
For more information please contact:

Kerry - 027 311 6618,

Kai Mei - 022 093 2652

Nirmala - 021 108 2074

Stephanie - 021 189 3441

### Parish Council

Parishes in the Archdiocese of Wellington are required to have a Parish Pastoral Council.

A Parish Pastoral Council is essential if the parish is to develop, if it is to meet the spiritual, liturgical, pastoral and social needs of its people, if it is to be evangelising and if it is to play a part in the mission of the local and universal Church.

The role of the Parish Pastoral Council is to work with the pastoral leadership team (priest/s and lay pastoral leader/s) to plan and foster pastoral activities.


The main functions are to: 1. agree on a pastoral plan 2. collaborate with others to bring the plan to fruition 3. evaluate the results.

Members of the Parish Pastoral Council will:

- be people of prayer;
- listen to other's views;
- be concerned with the full mission of the parish;
- be willing to participate in formation for the position;
- take full part in discussions;
- be involved in the parish and keep in touch with parishioners and liaise with parish groups when required.

As we prepare to form a Parish Pastoral Council we ask that you pray for the spirit of discernment. During Eastertide, between now and Pentecost, we will ask you to nominate someone else as a potential candidate for this important role.

Our aim is a Council of about 10 people, with an even split between those nominated, and those with particular gifts and talents invited by the Parish Leadership Team.



Te paepae o te paerangi ki te paewhenua

Where heaven and earth come together

## Parish Information

### Prayer Chain

Is someone you know in need of prayer because of health, poverty, hunger or any special need?



Email Katharina Dobson - [dobsonkatharina@gmail.com](mailto:dobsonkatharina@gmail.com) or ph: 027 327 3609 or (04) 976 9191.

Your request will be passed on to the Prayer Chain. Would you like to join the Prayer Chain and add your voice to ours?  
Call or email Katharina!

## Other Events/Notices

Archbishop Paul's latest Newsletter can be found here

[https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/adw\\_community/archbishop-pauls-newsletter-may-2024/](https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/adw_community/archbishop-pauls-newsletter-may-2024/)

### Healing Service

Fr John Rea sm will conduct a Healing Service at Sacred Heart Church Petone, 41 Britannia St. on **Tuesday 7th May**, beginning at **7.30 pm**.

Please invite all who need Jesus` healing. All are welcome.

### Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy

#### **Bible Stories - What do they mean?**

Join us in unravelling Bible stories and looking for answers within a group, and with Bible Scholar Kieran Fenn fms.

Sunday, 05 May 2024, 5-6pm (Zoom). Koha

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/2024/01/19/bible-stories-what-do-they-mean/>

### Erskine Chapel

All Erskine Old Girls and Staff are invited to a service at Erskine Chapel, Avon Street, Island Bay, on **Saturday 8th June at 9.30am**. Service starts at 10.00am.

The chapel will be open for old girls and staff to visit from 12.30 to 2.30pm. Please register <https://bit.ly/3T8oEz7> , or contact [monicatresch@gmail.com](mailto:monicatresch@gmail.com)

## MASS INTENTIONS

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



**Recently Deceased:** Tessa Henry, Jenny Daniels

**Anniversaries:** Michael (Miko) Ancheta III

**Prayers for the Sick:** Brian Radomski, Anna Mika-Hunt Walsh, Terry Marks, Paulina Aspinall, Mike Inkson, Paulina Aspinall, Rev Fiatepa Faatee, Betty Stewart, David Ogilvie, Fr David Orange, Jocelyn Whitehouse, David Clarke, Moe Pio Tafaese, Gerard McDonagh, Jessie Hensen, Tau So'oa, John Fanning, Tony Bordignon, Domingo Basilio Navera Jr, Joe Godinet, Augafa & Sefine Pelelo, Fr Maurice Carmody, Fr Frank Maguire, Fr Kevin Purcell, Fr Peter O'Connell, Fr Frank Whitaker.

## MASS & LITURGY TIMES Saturday 27th April - Friday 3rd May

### St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish Timetable 37 Dr Taylor Tce

Sat:	5.00pm Vigil Mass
Sun:	10.00am Mass
Mon:	<b>9.00am Liturgy</b>
Tues:	9.15am Liturgy
Wed:	11.00am <b>Liturgy</b> - followed by Morning Tea
Thurs:	9.00am Liturgy
Fri:	8.30am Exposition and 9.00am Liturgy

Please note, there will be **no Reconciliation** this Wednesday at 10.30am. Reconciliation can be made by appointment through the Parish Office.

### 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**