



St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

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

Fifth Sunday of Lent 21 March 2021 Year B
Readings: Jeremiah 31:31-34 ; Hebrews 5:7-9; John 12:20-33

Caritas Reflection Week Five

The Gospel passage invites us to trust that the events in our lives happen in God's time. The Greeks who come looking for Jesus would have been considered outsiders, not only because they are from a different region but because they would have been Gentiles, not Jews. Their arrival shows Jesus how far word of him has spread, across distance and through social barriers, and it signals the start of a new phase of his ministry leading to his Passion, death and resurrection. The Greek word "kairos" or in Māori "te wā," meaning the right or proper time, embody the significance of this moment for Jesus.

Jesus models how we should live: with confidence, acceptance and trust in God. Even though he knew that he was going to experience suffering and pain, Jesus had faith that it would serve a greater purpose according to God's plan. He is not afraid to acknowledge that he feels troubled, but through his disquiet he commits himself again to the path that God has set out for him: "Father, glorify your name."

Jesus describes death not as an ending, but as a catalyst for change. The grain of wheat that falls to the ground doesn't wither away, but instead leads to an abundance of fruit. This kind of death – a death to our self-interest, or to our own plans of what our lives should be – opens the door to growth and transformation into something better. If we hold on too tightly to what we have now, our hands cannot be open to receive the gifts that God is waiting to provide. If we are prepared to follow Jesus, even through his death, we can receive eternal life with him.

St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish Prayer

Our Parish is at a crucial time in the implementation of a New Model of church in our community. We are 9 months away from the conclusion of our trial period in partnership with the Archdiocese, the Society of Mary and our St Francis of Assisi Ohariu community. We have all prayed regularly throughout the last 30 months for our Parish both privately and in our Prayers of the Faithful at Mass. A prayer for our Parish has been prepared to be formally prayed as the concluding prayer at the end of our Masses over the months ahead .

The prayer has been prepared against the background of our Parish Vision "We are baptised as missionary disciples in a community of communities to follow Christ's gospel teaching."

We are all encouraged to go to the Parish website and print out this prayer and use it in our prayer groups, meetings or at home with your family.

With thanks to those parishioners who contributed to the creation of this prayer for us all to pray. St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish Prayer.

St. Francis of Assisi pray for us.



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 Visitation Ministry

Last week members of the Parish Visitation Ministry held a meeting to report on their pastoral activities since the last meeting in November. After an opening prayer we shared our experiences in a relaxed, supportive atmosphere.

We discussed ways of improving the ministry, and agreed that our new name tags are a helpful form of identification. Work on a visiting card is in progress. Feedback from our recent formation training on the anointing procedure has been positive.

Communication from the Parish Office regarding requests for visitation is working well, and at times we liaise with the Grief and Loss Ministry.

A wonderful highlight of the meeting was the blessing and presentation of Crosses. The Tau symbol resembled the cross, and was the sign dearest to St Francis of Assisi. It was his seal, the sign of a deep spiritual connection that the salvation of every person is only in the Cross of Christ.

We are grateful and blessed to have the ongoing support and guidance of Fr Pete Roe sm.

For more information about the Parish Visitation Ministry please contact:
Pauline White 021 151 2543



Our children, parents and families Sacramental Programme Journey:

This Sunday, March 21st, the last sessions will be held preparing us all for the First Reconciliation Liturgies. There will be two sessions.

The first session is at St Benedict's School in Khandallah beginning at 10am when the children meet. At 11.20 the parents and children will then gather at St Benedict's Church for a brief practice for The Reconciliation Liturgy to be held on Tuesday 23rd March at 7pm. All are welcome to come and celebrate at this Liturgy.

The second session, this Sunday, is at Ss Peter and Paul's Hall in Johnsonville starting at 2 pm for the children. At 3.20pm parents and children will gather in the Ss Peter and Paul's church for a brief practice. The Johnsonville-based First Reconciliation Liturgy will be on Saturday March 27th at 2pm. All are welcome to come to this First Reconciliation Liturgy to support our children.

This past week Sio and some members of the team have also been busy providing catch up sessions at schools for children who missed out on any sessions. With the Weetbix marathon on this Sunday, it's possible that other sessions will be held next week too.....so contact Sio or Piki if you need anything to support your preparation.



You will also notice Art on the walls of St Benedict's and St Peter and Paul's Church from Tuesday. The children have made this Art during the programme and it speaks of what they have learned, understood and now hope for. Please enjoy it!

Royal Commission and our Catholic Church:

The Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care has now begun Phase 2 of its Hearings which will run until 29 March 2021. The Commission will hear evidence from the Salvation Army, the Anglican Church and the Catholic Church. It will focus on our processes for resolving historic and current abuse claims.

Evidence from the Catholic Church representatives will begin on 22 March, with an opening address from Cardinal Dew, followed by other Catholic Leaders, including Fr Tim Duckworth (Society of Mary) and Virginia Noonan (National Office of Professional Standards). Then on Friday 25 March, Cardinal Dew will speak in his role as Metropolitan of New Zealand about how the Church has worked with those abused and how to improve this now.

Cardinal John has asked for prayers at this difficult time; for those giving evidence, but more importantly for the survivors of abuse and for our Catholic Church community as a whole.

John has asked us to "Be mindful of each other and those who may be suffering. As Pope Francis said, *"How beautiful it is when people select their words and actions with care, in the effort to avoid misunderstandings, to heal wounded memories and to build peace and harmony."* Let our words and deeds communicate our care for one another".

The Leadership Formation team here in Ohariu recognises that this week may bring up memories for those who have been affected by abuse in our parish community. Should this happen and you wish to seek advice and support this coming week, please call Nina Ness between 10 am and 7pm on 021511079, as our usual Parish safeguarding Co-ordinator, Kitty McKinley is unavailable next week. Nina is a very experienced social worker who has offered this sort of support over many years.

Information and support can also be accessed by contacting the **National Office for Professional Standards (NOPS)**: Tel 0800 114 622, or emailing prof.standards@nzcbc.org.nz or you can also engage directly with the Royal Commission. There is information on the Commission's website; <https://www.abuseincare.org.nz/>. Please take care of yourselves and each other. These are very painful times for those affected by abuse, now or in the past. Let's be aware and reach out to each other.



Abuse in Care

Royal Commission of Inquiry

Holy Week at St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

Holy Week Mass	Date	Church & Mass Times
Reconciliation-Individual	Wednesday 24th March 2021	St Benedict at 7.30-8pm
Palm Saturday	Saturday 27th of March 2021	St Andrew - 5pm
Palm Sunday	Sunday 28th of March 2021	St Benedict - 9am
		St Peter & Paul - 10.30am
Reconciliation-Communal	Sunday 28th of March 2021	St Peter & Paul at 7pm
Holy Thursday - Parish Mass	Thursday 1st of April 2021	St Peter & Paul - 7pm
Good Friday - Stations of the Cross	Friday 2nd of April 2021	St Peter & Paul - 10am
Good Friday - Liturgy	Friday 2nd of April 2021	St Peter & Paul - 3pm
		St Benedict - 3pm
		St Andrew - 3pm
Easter Vigil - Parish Mass	Saturday 3rd of April 2021	St Andrew - 8pm
Easter Sunday	Sunday 4th of April 2021	St Benedict - 9am
		St Peter & Paul - 10.30am

St Brigid's School warmly welcomes you to join us at our **school liturgies** to be held in Sts Peter and Paul's Church.

- Holy Week Liturgy on Holy Thursday 1st April at 11.15
- Easter/Resurrection Liturgy at 9.15 on Thursday 8th April.

Children's Liturgy St Peter & Paul's during Easter.

There will be no Children's Liturgy at Sts Peter and Paul's Church during Easter. They will start again on 11th April 2021. There will also be no Children's Liturgy during the school holidays from 16th April until the 9th May.

We invite all members of our Parish community to pray the following prayer this week as the Royal Commission continues:

Almighty God you love all people and have sent your Son to heal those who are wounded. In the midst of our world, your Church is called to proclaim your love and kindness. But countless children, youth and adults have become victims of crimes in your Church. Many have fallen silent and could not call for help. Others have spoken, but no one has believed them, or they have been called liars and silenced. This is what we ask of you, the Father of the poor and the friend of life.

Open our ears to the message of those who have been violated and hurt in the midst of your Church. Touch our hearts with the pain of those who have been mistreated and abused. Let us recognise the wounds of the people and show us how we must act so that the truth is not suppressed and justice is given to the injured.

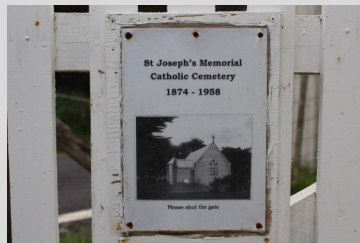
Do not let our failures cause people to lose faith in you and your gospel.

AMEN

Protection of Minors in the Church Prayer 2019

St Joseph's Memorial Catholic Cemetery Ohariu Valley.

Hidden away in the Ohariu Valley is a historic site of importance to our parish community. It is the site of St Joseph's Chapel (also called the Bassett Catholic Church), which was built as a memorial to Bishop Viard in 1874. While the Chapel is 'long gone', the cemetery contains many of the early settlers of the Ohariu Valley. On the Feast of St Joseph Friday 19/03 we remember the families, especially the Bassett family who donated the land to build the 1st Catholic Church in the area - St Joseph's Chapel 1874/75.



Upcoming Parish Events/Notices

Saint Andrew's Parking Co-ordinators

Are you someone who likes the outdoors, fresh air and giving back to your Parish Community? If the answer is Yes! That's Me!! Then it's a win/win for our Parish. We are looking for volunteers to help guide Parishioners/visitors, into our carparks and the back lawn area. This will help to ensure that we can safely accommodate everyone wanting to attend Mass. Safety is our priority, so we need at least two people, at a time, performing this important ministry. High Vis vests will be supplied. Please leave your contact information with our Parish Office team and we will be in touch with you shortly. Kia ora.

Stations of the Cross at St Benedict's

There will be stations of the cross on 24th of March. The stations on 24 March will be led by the St Benedict's School Catholic Character Team.

Youth Caritas Lenten Programme: Meets on Wednesdays at 5.30pm till 7pm at the Marist Challenge Centre, 1 Wanaka Street Johnsonville. All College students are invited to attend. Call Sio 021 08160396 for more information.

St Benedict's Volunteer Wanted—Rosters

Are you a good at coordinating people and have basic computer skills? We are looking for someone to take on managing the St Benedict's Mass rosters. If you are willing and able to help or would like to know more information please contact the parish office on 04 478 7137 or office@stfrancisohariu.nz

Caritas Challenge – POSTPONED

After receiving feedback from parents and Colleges about student's Sports commitment on Saturdays and viewing the long range weather forecast of bad weather, we have decided to postpone the Caritas Challenge to the weekend of 16th April 6pm - 17th April 3pm, which falls on the last Sunday of Term 1. We will still be meeting with some young people from 1pm noon on Saturday March 20 to prepare for the special Justice Mass that evening at St Andrew's in Newlands. Please come along and pray for our Lenten CARITAS appeal. For more info, please contact Sio 02108160396

St Peter & Paul's Ministry Rosters

The next 3 months of rosters are getting prepared now. If you know you are going to be away anytime between 11/4—27/6, please let me know by the end of this month. We need more people to be greeters, take up the collection, and offertory gifts. Please email if you would like to be on the roster for these 3 tasks. Many thanks, Wendy Cleaver. Email: cleaver@actrix.co.nz

Other Events & Notices

Caritas Lenten Giving Envelope Packs are available in church foyers. You can either use the weekly donation envelopes or use a single donation envelope. You may either return your donation envelopes during the parish offertory collection or send them to Caritas directly. A freepost envelope is available for this option. NZ Post specifies that cash must not be sent through the post. Donations received by Caritas in these envelopes by 31 March 2021 will be sent receipts for the 2020/2021 tax year. Donations received by Caritas after April 1st will be sent receipts for the 2021/2022 tax year. Thank you for your generous support.

BOOK LAUNCH "FROM THE COLONIES TO KATHERINE MANSFIELD" **By Kevin Boon**

US President Hoover wrote that "the supreme purpose of history is a better world". And nobody could dispute that this will be the purpose of our own local historian and Parish elder – Kevin Boon. Kevin has written an account of the life of Sir Harold Beauchamp, the father of Katherine Mansfield. The Book will be launched:

At the Thorndon Bridge Club, 9 Tinakori Road, Thorndon **On** Sunday 28 March from 10.30am (See flyer on the church notice board). **Congratulations Kevin! We'll see you there!**

Fundraising Screening

You are invited to a fundraising screening of COUSINS - a story that entwines the very different lives of three Maori girls, cousins through stormy decades, after one of them is taken from her family and raised in an orphanage. PG Offensive Language . Sunday 28 March 5pm Lighthouse Petone Cinema - Tickets \$20. Organized by Focolare Movement - fundraising for Fiji cyclone recovery. Tickets David 022 600 8459 or padraigsmyth53@gmail.com

Palm Sunday 27/28 March	5pm Vigil St Andrew's	9am St Benedict's	10.30am St Peter & Paul's
MUSIC	Rose and Friends	Judith Shroff	KPF
GREETERS	Severina and Maxi Vaz	Dermot Byrne	Pauline & Ted White
WELCOME/PRAYERS OF FAITHFUL		Robyn Radomski/ Mary Byrne	Nick Borthwick
1st PROCLAIMER	Carlos Garcia	Robyn Radomski	John Kleinsman
2nd PROCLAIMER	Carlos Garcia	Mary Byrne	John Kleinsman
GOSPEL			Fr Jim, Nandita Srinivasia, J.L. Ibarra, and Philippa Wilson.
OFFERTORY	Feleta D'souza family		
COLLECTION			Martinez Family
EUCCHARIST	Adriana Rodriguez	Robyn McKenzie	Ewen Laurenson, Denis Smith, Mel Aspinall
ALTAR SERVERS	Aiden Pandit, Mae-gan D'Souza		Noah & Anika Borthwick
CHAIRS & DOORS			Pauline & Ted White
HOSPITALITY		Brown Family	
CLEANERS		Bernie and Janice Brown	

MASS INTENTIONS

We ask for your prayers - Masses have been offered for

RIP— Jeannette Higgins, Gwen McMahon

RIP Anniversary— Mr. M P Paul Parampil, Rosemary Dias



We ask for prayers for parishioners and their friends & contacts who have been affected by Covid-19. Especially Se Espanda Ting (UK) & Antonio Nunes (Brazil)

We ask that you keep Jess, Tank and Shaun Pan in your prayers at this time.

We welcome into the parish community those newly Baptised:

Jonah Bahho

Parish Newsletter

Currently we send the newsletter to about 700 of the 1100 parishioners on our parish register. If you're not receiving the newsletter it's because we don't have your email address. Please send an email to the parish office office@stfrancisohariu.nz or add your email to the list in the church foyer to receive the newsletter by email. You can also sign up to receive the newsletter by visiting the link on the parish website. If you would like to put something into the newsletter we ask that you please have it clearly written and emailed to the parish office by End of Day Wednesday. Thank you.



Parish App -Please download our Parish Church App!

We encourage you to download the app so we can easily communicate Covid-19 and other parish updates with you. To download the app search for **ChurchAppsNZ**. Then select St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish. After downloading the app please make sure you select which **ALERTS** you wish to subscribe to by going to MENU (the 3 Lines on the left hand corner) and selecting your subscriptions. We are finding it a useful tool providing updates (including Covid updates), liturgical guides and prayer resources. It's free for Parishioners to download. The app is available on iPhone and android. Contact the parish office if you would like help to download it.

MASS & LITURGY TIMES 22—28 March

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

Monday: 9am Liturgy
Tues: 9.15am Liturgy
Wed: 10.30am Reconciliation, 11am Mass
Thurs: 9am Liturgy
Fri: 9am Mass
Sunday: 10.30am Mass

St Andrew's Church 29 Trebann St Newlands

Friday: 6.30pm Divine Mercy
Saturday: 5pm Vigil Mass

St Benedict's Church 3 Everest St Khandallah

Mon: 9am Liturgy,
7pm Meditation
Tues: 9.15am Liturgy
Wed: 9am Liturgy
Thurs: 9am Liturgy
Friday: 9am Liturgy
Sat: 9am Liturgy
Sun: 9am Mass

Parish Office: 37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville

Email: ohariuparish@xtra.co.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**



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