



St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

Website: www.stfrancisohariu.nz

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

Palm Sunday 28 March 2021 Year B

Readings: Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Mark 14:1-15:47



Palm Sunday –at a time when the Roman Empire was the oppressor and the Jewish people looked to a future king.

The expectation of Jesus coming into Jerusalem like a king of old – a savior to overthrow the invaders and lead the people in victory.

How fitting it would be if he came at this time of the Passover - Jerusalem, crammed with pilgrims gathered for the remembrance of the night God saved their ancestors from slavery.

Jesus coming into Jerusalem; riding through the city gates, not on a battle horse but on a Donkey – no earthly king or soldier but a King of Peace, love and forgiveness.

And a crowd of his persistent followers lay their garments and branches in his honour.

Waving the palms, shouting “Hosana”, a Hebrew word that means “save us, we pray”.

That anthem, the waving of the palms and even the riding on a donkey all links back to the prophets of the Old Testament – they were signs that pointed to their Saviour.

In today’s Gospel text the early church community is confirming their belief that Jesus is not only the prophet from Nazareth of Galilee but that he is Lord and Messiah.

Two thousand years later we wave our macrocarpa palms and shout Hosanna, part of a global procession - body and spirit - united as one people, beginning Holy Week with its Holy Days – Thursday’s Feast of the Eucharist, Good Friday’s Passion and Death, Holy Saturday’s waiting for the explosion of the Alleluia.

So on Palm Sunday, with one heart, with one voice, we proclaim in hope and faith
Hosanna to the Son of David!

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord!
Hosanna in the highest!’

Save us, we pray.

Tim Gordon

Parish Grief and Loss Ministry

Recently the Parish Grief and Loss ministry met for our first meeting of 2021. We discussed ways of improving our ministry, supporting each of the church communities and sharing of resources as we work more collaboratively as one Parish. This Ministry supports people in all areas of life where grief and loss are experienced. The recent meeting focussed on the bereavements.

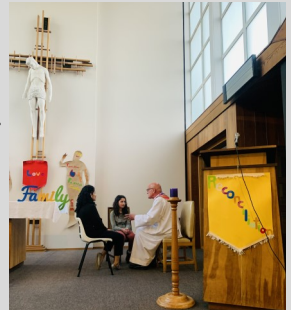


Each church has a Bereavement Ministry Coordinator – **Marie Paurini**, St Andrew's, **Robyn Radomski**, St Benedict's and **Wendy Cleaver**, St Peter & Pauls, and the overall Parish Key Bereavement Coordinator is Robyn Radomski. Since October 2020, there have been 11 funerals across the 3 churches. The communication from the Parish office is working well, and we liaise well with the Parish Visitation ministry.

We are very well supported by **Fr Pete Roe**, and the **Marist Priests** and **Fr Eddie Condra** who make themselves available to minister to our bereaved families. For more information about the Grief and Loss Ministry, please contact: **Robyn Radomski** phone 027 2018766 e-mail: robyn@conferenceworks.co.nz

First Reconciliation Liturgy

On Tuesday night, we had our First Reconciliation Liturgy at St Benedict's church. We had over **30 children** on the Sacramental programme journey to receive the Sacrament of Reconciliation for the first time. This is such an important stepping stone as we encourage our children to be people of love and kindness. We look forward to our Saturday First Reconciliation Liturgy at St Andrews at 2pm for our other children in taking this important step.



We as a parish are so blessed to have such a loving and supporting community. A special thanks to **Fr Peter Roe**, **Fr Des Darby** and **Fr Kevin Conroy** for being part of our Liturgy. Thanks to those who have helped facilitate and support the Reconciliation programme this far. Let us all be ripples of love!



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.

Holy Week at St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

Holy Week Mass	Date	Church & Mass Times
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 - Ecumenical Walk	Friday 2nd April 2021	Meet at Uniting Church Dr Taylor Tce—11am
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



It's called **Holy Week** for a reason. The three Holy Days are biggies - Thursday's Mass of the Lord's Supper, Good Friday's Passion and Death, Holy Saturday's Vigil and the explosion of the Alleluia.

These last forty days were a time of preparation for these three days (the Triduum), leading to the Resurrection.

They also introduce an entire liturgical season, the Easter Season, which lasts for Fifty days until Pentecost.

Holy Thursday | The Lord's Supper Thursday 7pm Ss Peter & Paul's

Let's begin with the evening Mass of the Lord's Supper on Holy Thursday, which commemorates when the Eucharist was instituted at the Last Supper by Jesus. The Gospel reading for the liturgy depicts Jesus washing the feet of the disciples, an act of great humility.

The reading from Paul's epistle to the Christians in Corinth (1 Cor 11) repeats the words given by the Son of God to His apostles at the Last



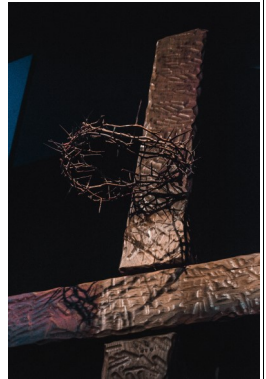
Supper: "This is my body that is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me" and "This cup is the new covenant of my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Adoration of the Blessed Sacrament in the Church following the Mass.

Good Friday | Veneration of the Cross 3pm at St Benedict's, Ss Peter & Paul's and St Andrew's

A day commemorating the Passion, Cross, and death of Jesus Christ. The liturgy is profoundly austere, perhaps the most simple and stark liturgy of the entire year.

The Passion from the Gospel of John (18:1-19:42) is Proclaimed by several different lectors reading respective parts. The cross is solemnly venerated after intercessory prayers are offered for the world and for all people. But still there will be the opportunity for each person to acknowledge the instrument of Christ's death and publicly demonstrate their willingness to take up their cross and follow Christ. Although Communion is given and received, this liturgy is not a Mass. The faithful receive then depart silently.



In Covid-19 Alert Level 1 **The Cross is not to be kissed.**

Holy Saturday and Easter Vigil | The Mother of All Vigils - St Andrew's 8pm

The Service of Light begins outdoors and in darkness. A fire is lit and blessed, and then the Paschal candle, which symbolizes the light of Christ, is lit from the fire by the priest, who proclaims: "May the light of Christ, rising in glory, dispel the darkness of our hearts and minds."

In the Liturgy of the Word the readings cover an overview of salvation history beginning with Creation and concluding with the angel telling Mary Magdalene and others that Jesus is no longer dead; "You seek Jesus of Nazareth, the crucified. He has been raised; he is not here."

We are sprinkled with holy water and renew our baptismal vows.

The Easter Vigil concludes with the Liturgy of the Eucharist and the reception of the Body, Blood, Soul, and Divinity of the Crucified and Risen Lord.

Easter Sunday Mass *Alleluia* at St Benedict's 9am and Ss Peter & Paul's 10.30am

And now, Easter Sunday we celebrate the Resurrection. As believers in the Resurrection of Jesus, our hearts should be joyful. Pope Francis writes: *There are Christians whose lives seem like Lent without Easter* (EV 6).

Pope Francis has called us to be joyful missionary disciples of the Lord Jesus. It is not just a matter of singing *Alleluia* at Mass. We need to live the joy of Easter in our lives.



Upcoming Parish Events/Notices

Royal Commission

Please keep in your prayers at this time the work of the *Royal Commission of Inquiry into Abuse in Care* which continues to investigate what happened to children, young people and vulnerable adults in care. We pray for survivors for continued courage throughout their involvement in this process. You can also read Cardinal John's Letter of apology in the parish foyers.

Paid Cleaner Wanted St Peter & Paul's

We are looking for a cleaner at St's Peter and Paul, Approx 2 hours a week, to sweep and wash hard floors, ensure the kitchen surfaces are clean and clean the toilets. We would require you to invoice the Parish for your work. Please call Helen De Gregorio in the Parish office for more information 04 478 7137

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.

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

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

Ecumenical Walk of the Cross.

Good Friday starting 11.00a.m. at Uniting Church Dr. Taylor Tce. We walk past Sts. Peter and Pauls, the Broderick Road Chapel, Mall entrance, Mobile/MacDonalds, Police station and end up at St. John's for hot cross buns and chat. There will be something special for the children on the way. Make it a family affair. Children bring your scooter or other mode of transport. See you there. The Anglican minister [Ben] will make a call to cancel on Thursday night if the weather is inclement.

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.

Easter Vigil 8.00p.m. St Andrew's church Saturday 3rd. April

Come to pray with us as we celebrate the "Service of Light", 3 beautiful readings and psalms followed by the "Resurrection Mass". Each family will hold a candle during the "Service of Light". You may bring your own candle or hold one provided at the church. The blessed Easter holy water will be available at the end of the celebrations. Because of covid ONE person will be on hand to fill the container you bring with you.

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.

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 Wellington Bridge Club, 17 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 padraigsmlyth53@gmail.com

A Quiet Day with Suzanne Aubert

Thursday 1 April 10am to 2pm

Venue: Crombie Chapel at Our Lady's Home of Compassion, 2 Rhine Street, Island Bay

A time for gentle reflection on insights from the life and works of Venerable Suzanne Aubert.

A simple lunch is provided – or bring your own. There is no fee, but a koha is greatly appreciated.

REGISTRATION REQUIRED – email sr.sue@compassion.org.nz

MASS INTENTIONS

We ask for your prayers - Masses have been offered for

RIP— Mary Duignan

RIP Anniversary— Joseph D'souza, Constantino Arcellana, Senior



We ask for prayers for parishioners and their friends & contacts who have been affected by Covid-19.

We welcome into the parish community those newly Baptised:

Riley Smit, Charley Wayodi, Sophie Dravitzki, Inés Loyer de Witts

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 29 March —4 April

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

Mon: 9am Liturgy
Tues: 9.15 Liturgy
Wed: 11am Mass
Thurs: School Liturgy
11.15am, Holy Thursday
Mass 7pm
Fri: Stations of the cross
10am, Good Friday Liturgy—3pm
Sunday: Easter Sunday
10.30am Mass

St Andrew's Church 29 Trebann St Newlands

Friday: Good Friday Liturgy—3pm
Saturday: 8pm Easter Vigil
Mass

St Benedict's Church 3 Everest St Khandallah

Mon: 9am Liturgy,
7pm Meditation
Tues: 9.15am Liturgy
Wed: 9am Liturgy
Thurs: 11.15am Holy Week
School Plays
Friday: Good Friday Liturgy—
3pm
Sun: Easter Sunday 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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