



St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

Website: www.stfrancisohariu.nz

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

24th Sunday in Ordinary Time 12 September 2021 Year B
Readings: Isaiah 50:5-9; James 2:14-18; Mark 8:27-35

Covid-19 Update The Wellington Region is now in Covid-19 Alert Level Delta 2. All Masses, liturgies and parish gatherings are CANCELLED. Take care.

**"Lift high the Cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his glorious name!"**

In today's Gospel, St Peter correctly describes Jesus as the Christ but rejects the idea that Jesus would suffer. Jesus corrects Peter and tells him that those who follow Jesus will suffer.

Suffering is part of life. As we look around our Covid-stricken, climatically-challenged world, we see many carrying heavy crosses: the loss of loved ones, pain, isolation in MIQ or at home or in rest homes and hospitals, loss of livelihoods, uncertainties, the danger of floods, fires, terrorism, earthquakes and war (especially in Haiti and Afghanistan); even the challenge of living up to the Christian faith in the ordinary events of life.



At some time in our lives, we all face suffering. When we look at the Cross, we are reminded that Our Lord's passion and death have given us the way through to the fullness of the life we wish for. He did not avoid suffering but accepted it out of love for us. He has given meaning to human suffering and death.

The Cross is the symbol of the followers of Christ, a sign of life and hope for each of us, helping us with strength and courage to show – proclaim – the love of Christ in all we say and do; and, when it is permitted, to sing:

*Come, Christian people, sing your praises, shout
If we are silent, even stones cry out*

*Jesus, you wept to see our human strife
Teach us compassion for each human life*

*Peace was your plea, and peace your loving theme
Let peace be our passport, peace a living dream*

*Great is the cost of walking on this road
To follow and to suffer with the Son of God*

*Worlds to be born and children yet to be
Come, take up this song into eternity*

*Lift high the Cross, the love of Christ proclaim
Till all the world adore his glorious name!*

Judith Shroff

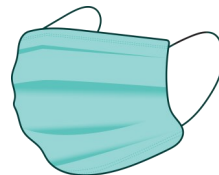
Covid-19 Parish Update

The Leadership formation team met again last Monday and continues to meet with each other during the week depending on their area of responsibility. The Youth Ministry team has been sending out YouTube videos for our children to watch, our schools are back now, homes have been visited under Covid guidelines and Little Churches are meeting. Many parishioners continue to pray, support each other in many ways, finish off papers and keep their homes, families and communities going! Its a quiet, busy, wondering time. Thank you for your commitment to each other and for all that you are doing and being.

As you know there will be no masses or parish meetings until at least September 21st when the Delta Covid guidelines will be looked at again by both the Parish Leadership Team and the Archdiocese of Wellington. For this reason also please read the message from Sio and the Sacramental team in this newsletter.

Please continue to do the right thing to beat this Covid bug and to keep our communities and country safe.

- When you go out, wear a mask and remember the 2 metre distance rule. If you do not have a mask or enough of them, please contact one of the Leadership Team or the parish office.
- If you are unwell, seek advice from your medical centre or the Ministry of Health Covid19 Healthline 0800 358 5453 .
- Wash your hands with soap and hot water and sanitize your hands and work spaces constantly.
- ALWAYS use the Tracer App when you visit any sort of place for work, shopping or socialising.
- Pray for all who are affected by this pandemic and other local and world needs.
 - Definitely arrange to get vaccinated. It is as the Pope says and "act of love."
 - When you are vaccinated keep all the rules so everyone is kept safe. It doesn't make you bullet proof.
 - Light a candle - real or virtual and pray for those who have died, for those in homes that may still be closed to visitors and for our Auckland brothers and sisters who are still in Level 4 lockdown. They are making this sacrifice for us all.



Blessings and take care everyone - we can do this together. If you have any questions or ideas about what our parish could do then please let us know.

The Leadership Team

P.S. PLEASE ALSO NOTICE A SPECIAL FEATURE IN THIS WEEK'S NEWSLETTER: First three emails identifying it, win a prize!

Confirmation Programme Update

Just an update from the Confirmation Programme team. As you know, we are in Delta Level 2 and so there can't be any church gatherings until at least September 21. As a result, it is impossible to adequately prepare and practise with our Confirmation candidates, sponsors and parent/s, caregivers before September 25. There is a high probability that we may continue at level two for a few weeks longer. We simply don't know. It is important that we do keep everyone safe and all play our part to beat this Delta variant.

Therefore, for these reasons, the Confirmation Mass is cancelled on Saturday September 25. We have asked the Cardinal's secretary to try to find a possible date in his diary after the school holidays in November/early December. By then we are hoping and praying that we are in Level 1.

As soon as we hear what is possible we will get back to you. We are sorry if family members from out of town had made travel arrangements. Let's hope that they will be able to change them. It is certainly a difficult time to plan anything.

These are challenging and changing times. Please contact us if you need anything or need clarification. Also just a heads up we will be offering Spirit Holiday programmes for children aged 5-11, during these coming holidays on October 7 and October 14, 10-4pm. We will need senior College students to help us run these. If you are interested please text me: 02108160396 and I will get back to you. Some of these programme assistants positions will be paid.



NEWS FLASH!

St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish Online Mass next Sunday 19th September.

On Sunday 19th September (next Sunday) there will be a streamed Mass for St Francis of Assisi Parish at 9.30am. This week will also be Social Justice Sunday. The focus will be on social care, kindness and supporting one another in our vulnerabilities in these strange times.



We have been fortunate in being able to use the Lychgate Chapel Johnsonville for this streaming service over this time of level 2.

The technology is there, plus a welcoming prayerful space for this to continue. For this I am truly grateful.

Keep an eye on next weeks newsletter for the streaming link for Sunday 19th September and following links.

Communities sharing their resources... a real blessing.

Lets continue to bless one another with our prayers, patience and Graciousness.

Fr Pete

From the September Marist Messenger Monthly Reflections. This month written by Kitty.

On Sunday September 12 we celebrate the Holy Name of Mary: What a woman!

Mary, the first disciple knew deep within that Jesus was the Christ. Mary knew that faith and good works go together because that was how she lived her life. Her yes to God, lead her to one yes after another as she journeyed with Jesus through the gospel of his life.

This week perhaps find a favourite picture or art piece of Mary. Choose your special name for her. Gentle woman, Mama Mary, beacon of hope, Queen of heaven, Te Whaea Tapu, champion of the poor, Star of the sea, Gate of heaven.

Ask her for a special "Fiat" grace to actively carry Christ today, as she did. Pray the Hail Mary or Rosary for special intentions locally and internationally.



We're Hiring!

Permanent Part-time Office Manager – Applications Closed

Thank you to all of those who applied for the Part-Time Office Manager Position. Applications closed on Wednesday 8th September. We have started reviewing the candidates and will be in touch with all those who have applied within the next week or two.

Permanent Fulltime — Parish Director of Mission



The Parish Director of Mission's Purpose is to:

- Provide pastoral, spiritual, and organizational leadership for the faith community of *St Francis of Assisi Ohariu*.
- Be a unifying and animating presence for *St Francis of Assisi Ohariu*.
- Invite all people of faith to carry out the mission of the Church.
- Lead new projects in response to the Vision and Mission Statements.
- Continue to develop a new model of being Church in the 21st Century.
- Represent *St Francis of Assisi Ohariu* to the Archdiocese of Wellington and other churches, communities, and government sectors.
- Follow the outcomes of the Archdiocesan Synod 2017.
- Implement the framework of operation and development of the *St Francis of Assisi Ohariu* Parish Model.
- Implement and adapt the Model of *St Francis of Assisi Ohariu* to further the mission of the Church.
- Support, promote and enhance the rituals and liturgies of *St Francis of Assisi Ohariu*.

This is a full time role.

More Information or to apply visit:

<http://stfrancisohariu.nz/updates/vacancies/>

For more information email:

office@stfrancisohariu.nz or

thomas0davis@gmail.com



ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

He Inoi mō te Hātotinga o te Kahurangi nei a Meri Hōhepa

E te Ariki e Hēhu Karaiti, nāu mātou i whakaako mēnā ka puaki atu mātou i te pūaroha mō te iti, arā, ngā tēina, ngā tuākana, ngā tuāhine me ngā tungāne, kātahi ka whakaatu mātou i te pūaroha ki ā koe.

Whakarongo mai ki ā mātou inoinga ki a Meri Hōhepa te Wahine Kahurangi nāna i te aroha te iwi Māori. Nāna i awhi ngā tāngata pōhara, ngā tūrora, me ngā tāngata rawakore. Meatia tēna, kua karanga rawa atu te Hāhi i tētahi tāngata o āu pononga tapu, o āu tāngata māhaki hoki. Ā te wā tonu, mā te katoa e mōhio mai tōna Hātotinga.

Āmene.



Prayer for the beatification of Suzanne Aubert

Lord Jesus Christ, you taught us that as often as we show compassion to the least of your brothers and sisters, we show it to you.

Hear our prayers that Venerable Suzanne Aubert, who loved the Māori people and devoted her life to the poor, the sick and the underprivileged, and whom the Church has declared to be one of your true and humble followers, may soon be recognised as a saint.

Amen

Pink Shoes into the Vatican

Join the campaign for gender equity in the Catholic Church – send us your worn out shoes!

'Be the Change Aotearoa' is working for gender equality in the leadership of the Catholic Church. On Sunday 19th September (Women's Suffrage Day) we will create an eye-catching installation using women's worn out shoes, some painted pink,

leading from the steps of Parliament to Sacred Heart Cathedral in Thorndon, Wellington. Each pair will have a tag attached giving a short vignette of one woman's walk with the Church.

This is aimed at emphasising the fact that the Catholic Church is 128 years behind the country in recognising women's leadership skills.

Cardinal John Dew will meet us at the Cathedral and accept a petition we will ask him to convey to the Vatican.

If you'd like to participate, send a non-returnable pair of worn-out women's footwear. Please attach a tag to the shoes with your first name and a line or two about YOU and your journey with the Church. Anyone can join in.

We need your shoes and notes by 12th September. Post your shoes to 33 The Esplanade, Raumati South, Paraparaumu 5032 or deliver to 104 Majoribanks St, Mt Victoria.

If you can't send shoes, send your message to the above address or email:

cecilymcneill@icloud.com The event will start at 2pm and we will meet Cardinal John at 3pm. Your support would be most welcome.



Month of Care for Creation 1 Sept - 4 Oct

This is a traditional ecumenical movement of healing and hope. We join with churches worldwide to mobilize to renew relationship with all creation
The theme for 2021 is "A Home of All".

Let us unite in Christ in caring for our planet.

THIS WEEK would you like to assess how you as an individual, family and parish can contribute to reverse climate change by considering energy use, water use, consumption, waste etc.

Excerpt from Psalm 104

Lord, you have made so many things

How wisely you made them all!

The earth is filled with your creatures

There is the ocean, large and wide

Where countless creatures live large and small alike

All of them depend on you to give them food

When they need it.

CONSIDER PRAYING each day this week that we may receive the grace to respect and care for God's Creation.

Pat Collier [for parish ecumenical group]



Upcoming Events/Notices

Johnsonville Op Shop

The Op Shop is closed until Oct 5th as many of our volunteers are elderly and we are trying to keep them and us safe. It is a little difficult to have the social distancing that is required. If you have donations to be made please leave them at the back door inside the Community Centre.

Thank you for your support.

Johnsonville Op Shop Committee

Zoom Divine Mercy Prayer Meeting on Sunday

Topic: Divine Mercy Prayer Meeting

Time: Sep 12, 2021 03:00 PM Auckland, Wellington

Please download and import the following iCalendar (.ics) files to your calendar system. Weekly: https://us04web.zoom.us/meeting/up0kceCpplIoHNTjvtk65NoLMFqBL8I99Y1T/ics?icsToken=98tyKu6hpz0jG9ycsh-HR7Z5HY_oXevxiFhBgo1plgnxCHYGTaZaG8RFEJ4nOYGJ

Join Zoom Meeting
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79969189260?pwd=QzI3UIMva3lUTWwyeFhHZGFoaVk5UT09>

Meeting ID: 799 6918 9260

Passcode: hra2h3

Passcode: hra2h3

The Compassion Soup Kitchen is open

Serving takeaway meals between 12pm and 1pm every day.

If you are doing it rough and need a hot meal please come between 12 and 1 pm for a delicious and nutritious takeaway meal. For more information visit our website:

<https://soupkitchen.org.nz/> or phone: (04) 385 9299

Suzanne Aubert Tertiary Scholarships

2022 Applications for Suzanne Aubert Tertiary Scholarships are open

Tertiary students in the Archdiocese of Wellington and Palmerston North entering their third year of study are invited to apply for a scholarship. Each student selected receives \$3,000 towards their studies. Applications close on 1 October 2021.

For more information and to download an application form, Visit <https://compassion.org.nz/latest-news/suzanne-aubert-tertiary-scholarship-2022>

Digital NZ Catholic Edition

NZ Catholic has published a special online Lockdown Edition. The continuing Level 4 restrictions in Auckland mean the paper edition can't be printed at present, and the Level 3 everywhere south of Auckland means it can't be distributed through parishes.

Click here to read a PDF copy: www.catholic.org.nz/assets/Uploads/NZ-Catholic-Special-Digital-Issue-Sept.1.pdf

Dear Volunteers—Rosters

Rosters will be posted when we know we are returning to Mass. We will keep you updated via the weekly Newsletter.

MASS INTENTIONS

We ask for your prayers - Masses have been offered for



Recently deceased— Nancy Garrett, Roni Gray (Malvina Major) Chau (Stephen) Jong

Anniversaries— Peter Bleakley

Prayers for the Sick— Tony Bordignon, Dianne Greene (Mother of Steven Greene), Fr Brian Wysocki, Monsignor John Carde, Fr Maurice Carmody, Fr Colin Durning, Fr Frank Whitaker, Fr Peter O'Connell, Fr David Gledhill

Please also remember in your prayers those that are supporting them.

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

MASS & LITURGY TIMES 13– 21st September

During Covid-19 Alert Level TWO all Masses, liturgies and in-person parish gatherings (with the exception of funerals) are still CANCELLED.

Reminder if anyone needs support of any kind: food, travel assistance, newsletters, information or advice during this Covid-19 time, then please let us know. Call the Parish office on 04 478 7137 or email office@stfrancisohariu.nz and we can try to sort what you need.

Take care and let us know if you need help. These are strange times.

Our Details:

Parish Office: 37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville

Email: office@stfrancisohariu.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

