

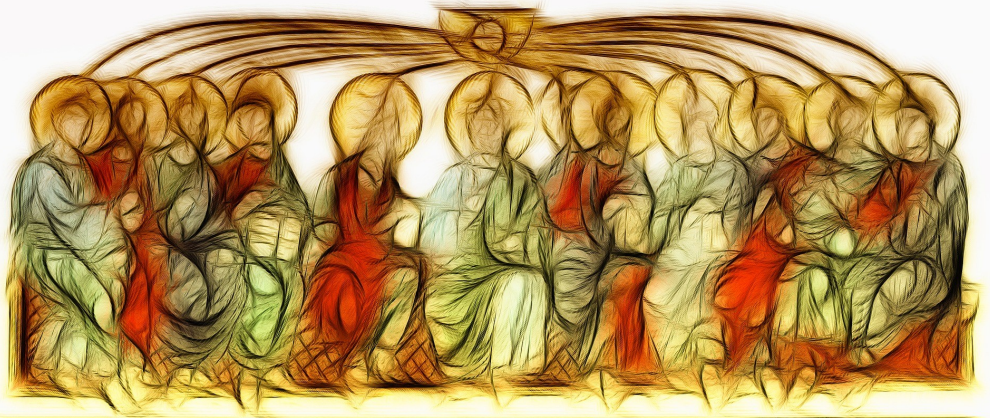


St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

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

Pentecost 23 May 2021 Year B
Readings: Acts 2:1-11; Galatians 5:16-25; John 15:26-27, 16:12-15

What if Facebook had been around at the first Pentecost?



I have been wondering, "Would the disciples have used Facebook to spread the news of "God's deeds of power", in multiple languages?" I imagine, if the Pentecost event had happened in our time, the main place for expressing bewilderment and sharing the Pentecost joy would have been social media platforms such as Facebook, Twitter and Instagram? While the news was able to spread like wildfire throughout the city of Jerusalem in just minutes, it can now go around the globe in just minutes using social media.

The question popped into my head after reading an article on a Jesuit website titled "We're all at risk of being radicalized by Facebook".

I found the article thought provoking. "Facebook is designed to hold your attention by polarising its community." And: "The social media platform is designed to push you to the extremes of your inclinations by feeding you with a barrage of content you find outrageous and ... by the echo chamber that removes any doubt you could be wrong" or that there might be other, more reasonable, ways of seeing things. Facebook achieves this by using content algorithms to filter and tailor cont...

information that appears on our feeds based on our existing personal preferences. The result? We are confirmed in our prejudices, pushed to extreme simplistic views on issues, and deliberately encouraged to disparage and despise (not just disagree with) others with different views.

What is the outcome of this? While Pentecost is all about the gathering of voices, the article suggests Facebook's strategy is leading to "the quietening of the middle"- to the loss of the many reasonable voices able to discuss and disagree respectfully; to the absence of large numbers of "people in the middle" who have much to contribute to the marketplace of ideas; to the domination of polarised positions.

I like to think the crowds gathering after the first Pentecost represent the middle people – people like us; people drawn together in a spirit of unity, not polarisation; people drawn to listen, speak and connect across language and culture.

Let's all commit to reassessing our reliance on social media. Let's be more suspicious of the information we're fed. Let's identify the echo chambers we inhabit. Let's re-evaluate our silence or "quietening" on political issues that matter. Let's find our voices and, emboldened by the Spirit, speak up and speak out for justice. Let's be more aware of, identify and root out, the polarisation and extremist views that social media platforms are creating.

Finally, as very different flames, flames of terror, continue to rain down in the country of Jesus' birth, let's pray for peace in Palestine and Israel – the sort of peace that only the Holy Spirit brings; the sort of peace that connects people of different languages and cultures together.



John Kleinsman

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.

A Pentecost Story

More than a century ago, a great sailing ship was stranded off the coast of South America.

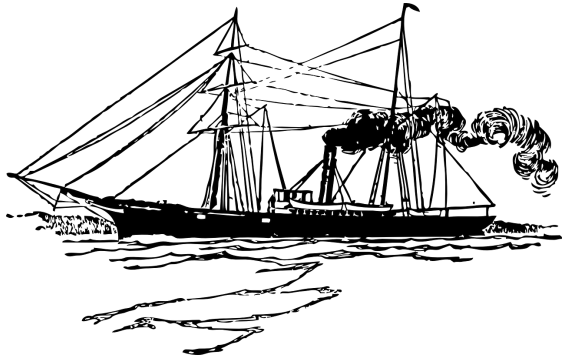
Week after week the ship lay there in the still waters with not a hint of a breeze. The captain was desperate; the crew was dying of thirst.

And then, on the far horizon, a steamship appeared, headed directly towards them. As it drew near, the captain called out, "We need water! Give us water!"

The steamship replied, "Lower your buckets where you are." The captain was furious at this cavalier response but called out again, "Please, give us water." But the steamer gave the same reply, "Lower your buckets where you are!" And with that they sailed away!

The captain was beside himself with anger and despair, and he went below. But a little later, when no one was looking, a yeoman lowered a bucket into the sea and then tasted what he brought up:

It was perfectly sweet, fresh water! For you see, the ship was just out of sight of the mouth of the Amazon. And for all those weeks they had been sitting right on top of the slip stream of fresh water that they needed!



What we are really seeking is already inside us, waiting to be discovered, waiting to be embraced:

The Holy Spirit of God, living within us from the moment of our Baptism.

Yes, the Spirit is already within us. Just lower your buckets where you are.

Yes, the Holy Spirit shows up as the central and healing power of absolute newness and healing in our relationships and with everything else.

St Bernard's College Lower Hutt

St Bernard's College will be holding an Open Day on Saturday 29 May 2021 from 10.00am until 2.00pm. Prospective students and their parents are invited to visit during these hours to find out more about St Bernard's College and what it can provide. St Bernard's College is a Year 7-13 Catholic boys' college. For further information please see our website: www.sbc.school.nz or contact the office at:

183 Waterloo Rd Lower Hutt Ph 560 925
Email: office@sbcschool.nz

St Mary's College Open Day 2021

All those interested in enrolling at St Mary's College in 2022 are invited to our Open Day on Tuesday 1 June 2021 at 9am - 11.00am.

Please look at our website: www.stmw.school.nz for more information.



St Patrick's College Open Day Tours

The Open Day tours for those interested in enrolling their son at St Patrick's College for 2022 will be held on Tuesday 15 June between 9.30 to 11.00am and from 12.00pm to 1.30pm and again on Thursday 17 June between 9.30am to 11.00am and from 12.00pm to 1.30pm.

To make a booking please either email admin@stpats.school.nz with your request or to make a booking yourself visit the St Patrick's College website:

<https://>

www.stpats.school.nz. On the front page of our website you will see 'Open Day'. Open this section and select "Open Day Booking Form" (an online booking form). Enter your details and make your selection regarding day/time.

A reminder email will be sent closer to your booked day.

Litany of the Holy Spirit

(You may wish to add your own name of the Holy Spirit, as others have done from their personal experience of the Spirit within their lives)

Indwelling Presence
Promise of the Father
Life of Jesus
Pledge and Guarantee
Defense Attorney
Inner Anointing
Homing Device
Stable Witness
Peacemaker

Always Already Awareness

Compassionate Observer

God Compass

Inner Breath

Mutual Yearning

Hidden Love of God

Implanted Hope

Seething Desire

Fire of Life and Love

Truth Speaker

Flowing Stream

Wind of Change

Descending Dove

Cloud of Unknowing

Uncreated Grace

Filled Emptiness

Deepest Level of Our Longing

Sacred Wounding

Holy Healing

Will of God

Great Compassion

Inherent Victory



Upcoming Parish Events/Notices

St Benedict's Anointing Mass

There is to be an Anointing Mass at St Benedict's Church, Khandallah on Wednesday 26th May at 2pm. Afternoon tea will follow the Mass.
Any enquiries to Margaret Dunne - for Catholic Women's League phone 478 6348

First Holy Communion—Sacramental Programme

First Holy Communion will be celebrated on Sunday the 30th of May at St Benedict's Church at 9am; and at Ss Peter and Paul's Church at 2pm. Please pray for our Children as they celebrate this sacrament.

Other Events & Notices

Mass for Alternative Thinkers for 2021 will be celebrated at the Chapel, Challenge Marist House, 1 Wanaka Street, Johnsonville on Sunday 30th May at 4pm. All are welcome and there will be a cuppa to follow. Any queries, please phone Helen Sligo 0274243365

Holy Hour

You are invited to come to a Holy Hour on Tuesday 25 May at the Connolly Hall Chapel beginning at 7.30 pm to pray for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Included in the hour will be hymns, prayers, scripture reading and silence, concluding with Benediction. All are welcome.

ADW Workshops

ADW are offering two liturgy workshops: **'Proclaimers of the Word'** May 29th 2pm at Ss Peter & Paul, Lower Hutt. Tea and coffee available from 1.45pm. **'Communion to the Sick'** June 17th 7pm at St Joseph's, Mt Victoria. Tea and coffee available from 6.45pm.

To register contact Chris Walkerdine 04 496-1706 or email c.walkerdine@wn.catholic.org.nz

Pastoral Care and Support Conference

The NZ Catholic Medical Association is holding a Pastoral Care and Support conference and retreat for Catholic health practitioners at Our Lady's Home of Compassion in Island Bay, Wellington from 3pm Friday 28 May to 3pm Saturday 29 May. Hear interesting local speakers. Mass and Reconciliation will be available. The NZ Catholic Bishops Conference supports this event. Registration and details: www.newzealandcatholicmedical.co.nz

Marriage Preparation:

Getting married soon or this coming summer? Or maybe you know someone who is? Now is the perfect time to start your marriage preparation journey. There are spaces available in the June and September Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation course called "Love is a Decision".

For more information please contact: Felicity Giltrap at f.giltrap@wn.catholic.org.nz or head to <https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/about/church-mission/marriage-ministries/>

for more information and to book.

Healing Service

Fr John Rea SM will conduct a Healing Service at St Teresa`s Church, 301 Karori Road, Karori on Wednesday 26 May beginning at 7.30 pm. Please invite all who need Jesus` healing. All are welcome. Enquiries Ph 022 389 7460

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Johnsonville Uniting Church Fashion Parade at Ballentyne`s

You are invited to Johnsonville Uniting Church Fashion Parade at Ballentyne`s store in Johnsonville – 6:45 for 7pm on Friday 11th June 2021.

The cost for the evening is \$20:00 which covers the cost of entry and three lucky prize entries. Tickets available from Judith Dunlop – 4785 252 or Jean Mundt 4783 165. You can either pay cash or by Internet Banking to JUC-BNZ Johnsonville 02-0500-0021852-00 including your name and the reference “Fashion”

For the week following the parade Ballentynes offer 20% discount on clothes purchased. Come and enjoy an evening of fun and fellowship.

Seeking Accommodation/Housing

Sweet and sensible woman in her thirties is looking for quiet housing/accommodation in the suburbs surrounding Wellington. She was a refugee and arrived in NZ alone over fifteen years ago but presently lives in social housing in the city and is seeking a safer, suburban home for the medium or long-term. A one or two bedroom flat would be ideal. She works and has her license and a vehicle. Please contact Siobhan Dilly, NZCBC Executive Officer, sdilly@nzcbc.org.nz

Trinity Sunday 29/30 May	5pm Vigil St Andrew`s	9am St Benedict`s	10.30am St Peter & Paul`s
MUSIC	tba	Judith Shroff	Felicity`s Group
GREETERS	Joanne Gordon	John Lawson	Ted White & Helen Cross
WELCOME/PRAYERS OF FAITHFUL	Jade Arboleda	John Lawson/ Andrea Lai	Kerry Kleinsman
1st PROCLAIMER	Scott Davidson	John Lawson	Bill Cooney
2nd PROCLAIMER	Scott Davidson	Andrea Lai	Gillian Laurenson
OFFERTORY	Dela Cruz Family		Ibarra Family
COLLECTION			Kooistra Family
EUCHARIST	Ruth Salasiban	Steve Lucas	Justin Shaw, Paul Betham, Pauline White
ALTAR SERVERS	Ria Kulathinal & Enrico Vaz		Anika Borthwick, Noah Borthwick
CHAIRS & DOORS			John & Kerry Kleinsman
HOSPITALITY		Kalolo Family	
CLEANERS		Steve & Elizabeth Lucas	Rosie Cox

MASS INTENTIONS



We ask for your prayers - Masses have been offered for

*RIP— Lorraine O'Hagan, Adolfo Ereve, Nemesio Fuerte, Mario Ubaldo Senior
RIP Anniversary— Jesus Fernandez, Marcelo Buenviase and Apolonia D'Souza
Those who are sick—Diane Greene (mother of parishioner Steve Greene)*

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

We welcome into the parish community the newly Baptised:

Charlotte Anderson, Madeleine Anderson

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 24–30 May

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

Mon: 9am Liturgy
Tues: 9.15 Liturgy Parish/
School
Wed: 11am Mass
Thurs: 9am Liturgy
Fri: 9am Mass
Sunday: 10.30am Mass

St Andrew's Church 29 Trebann St Newlands

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

St Benedict's Church 3 Everest St Khandallah

Mon: 9am Liturgy,
7pm Meditation
Tues: 9.15am Liturgy
Wed: 9.00am Liturgy
Thurs: 9am Liturgy
Friday: 9am Liturgy
Sat: 9am Liturgy
Sun: 9am Mass

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**



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