



St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

Website: www.stfrancisohariu.nz

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

22nd Sunday in Ordinary Time 29 August 2021 Year B
Readings: Deuteronomy 4:1-2,6-8; James 1:17-18,21-22,27;
Mark 7:1-8,14-15,21-23

Twenty Second Sunday

After the sudden shock of the announcement of last week's lockdown we all received a reminder of the threat the Covid-19 virus poses to us all. As news unfolded, there are locations of interest right here in our community.

Perhaps it was the supermarket you normally use, the sushi shop in our local mall or the petrol station where you fill your car.



How did this make you feel? In times of uncertainty there can be a tendency to draw back to the certainty of laws. Did those now testing positive follow the laws? Did they scan in or wash their hands? Have their actions contributed to the spread of the virus?

But even better than taking heart from following the law of the day, is to take heart from following the Law of God.

There is hope in today's readings. In this time of uncertainty our readings speak of Moses who gave the People of Israel the certainty of God's love: For what great nation is there that has gods so close to it, as the Lord, our God, is to us whenever we call upon him.

Our God is close to us – where does the heart of God lie? God's heart is close to the People of God.

Jesus too reminds us that it is what is in our heart that is the important thing: Nothing that enters one from outside can defile us but the things from within are what defile. From within people, from their hearts, come evil thoughts.... This week as we have been showing our love to one another by staying at home, let's remember what it is in our hearts that helps us be disciples of Christ.

Oh, and do remember to wash your hands....

Jo-Anne and Michael Carley

Covid-19 Parish Update

Greetings to you all,

This past week the Leadership Team have been in Zoom and phone meetings and speaking to several parishioners about how they are managing and what they need at this stage.

Discussions have also been held with Catholic Social Services, St Vincent de Paul, Challenge 2000, and other local and city agencies to ensure that there are plans in place to care for those who are really struggling. We have also been in communication with the Archdiocese to offer and receive assistance.



As of today, we are still in **Level 4** lockdown. There are no real -physical church gatherings. And we can pray at home or arrange Zoom meetings with others or join our Little Churches or can watch live-streamed Masses and events. This continues until we move out of Level 4.

So just some information so everyone knows what will be happening.

If we go to Level 2 or 3 here in the Wellington Region, then there will still be no Masses or parish gatherings.

If we go to **Level 1** then the current guidelines apply: they are:

- Holy Communion is to be received under one kind (no communion from the chalice)
- Holy Communion to be received in the hand only
- No sign of peace
- You must track and trace on entry into the churches and church properties
- Sanitise on the way into churches and on the way out

These are challenging times for us all. They also provide an opportunity to reflect on life, have time in our homes do little things and to pray or read Scripture or other inspirational writings. Remember if/when you get some fresh or rain air outside your home WEAR a MASK.

Two other important matters:

1) Please get vaccinated. As Pope Francis said: "it is an act of love". If you need assistance with transport, please call Ted White or Kitty McKinley or the parish office. Assistance will be given according to Covid Ministry of Health guidelines.

2) This will be a challenging time for many. There will be financial, personal, and family implications. If you require any assistance, please ask. We are a faith community of brothers and sisters who are committed to one another and to action to help one another.

No matter how small or big your question or request please contact a member of the Leadership Team, or the parish office and we will connect you with the right person.

If you also think of something that our parish needs to do during Covid time, then please let us know.

Love and blessings and let us also pray for our sisters and brothers in Afghanistan and Haiti during this time.

Paul, Shane, Thomas, John Kleinsman, Peter, John Lawson, Kitty and Clayton.

We're Hiring! Permanent Part-time Office Manager Wanted

St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish is seeking a Part-Time Parish Manager to work collaboratively with the Parish's office team, parish leadership and volunteers.

This is a challenging and exciting opportunity for an individual who can provide organisational leadership and oversight for the faith community of St Francis of Assisi Ohariu.

Ideally you will have a background of active involvement in a Catholic Parish, be an excellent communicator with well-developed interpersonal and problem-solving skills and can work collaboratively and effectively within our community of communities. Management experience required and an interest in accounting & business practices is highly valued.

The role is approximately 20 hours per week - open to negotiation.

For more information or to apply online visit:
<http://stfrancisohariu.nz/updates/vacancies/>

Alternatively you can email office@stfrancisohariu.nz or thomas0davis@gmail.com

WE'RE HIRING

**PARISH MANAGER ROLE
AVAILABLE NOW**



APPLY NOW

This week let us stay with the Words of Scripture:

"Hear what I am saying so that you may live." Moses

"Humbly welcome the word – the love that is planted in you." James

"Hear me all of you and understand." Jesus

Dear God, this week open the eyes and ears of our hearts and minds so we will be open to the message of Jesus.

What message does Jesus want you to hear and understand?

How does he want you to welcome a word of love?

How can you open up? To him?

To others? To yourself?

"Keep your gaze fixed on Jesus Christ and learn from him how to love with a truly human heart, to care for the lost and hurting members of his flock, to work for justice and show solidarity with the weak and the poor." Pope Francis



NEEDED FOR OUR FOOD BANK:

We are receiving an increasing number of requests as the

Lockdown continues. A member of our parish or Challenge 2000 team can collect from your address under safe Level 4 Covid conditions:

Let us know if you have or can provide any of the following:

Milo, peanut butter, jam, marmite, long-life or fresh milk, potatoes, carrots, instant coffee, margarine, toothpaste/toiletries, tissues, soap powder, breakfast cereal, fresh fruit, chippies, colouring in pencils or craft material, chicken or other meat.

If you need any assistance or would like to donate please call either Ted White St Vincent de Paul on 0221343816 or Emma or Steph at Challenge 2000 on 4776827.

25 August 2021

Kia ora Parish Communities

Afghan families arriving in Wellington! Amongst the grim news reports on the Afghanistan crisis, a ray of light shines for some families who arrive in New Zealand this week - some to resettle in Wellington.

Please can anyone help?

We are desperate to find rental housing for the Wellington-bound families, so our call is to all parish communities.

We have just a few weeks to find them accommodation. Stable housing is a key way families can settle well in the Wellington region.

Anywhere in Wellington will help - City, Hutt Valley or Porirua.

Any 1-4 bedroom houses, flats, units that can be rented for at least 6 months and ideally longer.

We are also seeking basic furniture and household packs for the families including bed linen, towels, kitchen utensils etc and pantry items like rice, cooking oils, canned black/kidney beans, tea and coffee etc.

Every action, small or large, helps individuals and families fleeing a desperate situation and seeking safety in New Zealand. Together we can assist families to settle well in the Wellington region.

We will be unable to collect any furniture or household items until we are in Level 2. We will be working with the Red Cross to match up donations to families in need.

We know many parishes and people have been wonderfully supportive of the Refugee Resettlement Programme over the last 5 years but wanted to acknowledge the urgency of the situation in Afghanistan, hence our call for help.

If you can assist with:

1. Rental housing
2. Household and/or pantry items
3. Basic furniture like beds, drawers, dining table, then:

Please contact:

Paul Alford at Catholic Social Services on:

M: 021 754 145 or **E:** p.alford@wn-catholicssocialservices.org.nz

Or, John Kleinsman, M: 027 846 7489 **E:** kleinsklan88@gmail.com

Reflective Workshops for Healthy Ministry

Reflective Workshops, Interested!?
Email office@stfrancisohariu.nz
(Attention Fr Pete)

The workshops are designed to be an opportunity for those wishing to explore their personal pastoral development. They aim to give individuals a chance to learn about themselves. Going forward there may be opportunities to take up ministries in the Parish.



The seminars/workshops that are planned, will more than likely be postponed. I'm in touch with Chris Duthie-Jung and Richard Kerr-Bell over these days and they are aware of this possibility.

We will share more information in the coming days/weeks when we know more about the Covid alert levels.

Fr Pete Roe

St Francis of Assisi Property Review

The LFT has decided to continue the discernment by hosting several casual conversations with Parishioners to discuss further the future of our parish. Unfortunately due to Covid-19 these have had to be postponed until further notice.

Please continue to pray for the Parish's Property Review discernment and keep an eye on the property review page on the website for upcoming events following our return to Alert Level 1.

More details about the property review can be found on the parish website here: <http://stfrancisohariu.nz/updates/building-and-property-review/>



Upcoming Events/Notices

Please note that events and the rosters are dependent on Covid-19 Alert Levels.

Thank You Essential Workers

A BIG “Thank You” to all the essential workers in our community. We thank you for all your hard work keeping us safe, healthy and fed etc. during these uncertain times. Your service is greatly valued and appreciated.



Dear Volunteers—Rosters

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

Organ Recital

CONCERT CANCELLED. The September 12th fundraiser concert for Fiji, in which David Dobson was to present organ music has been cancelled due to the uncertainty around Covid. David hopes to reunite with “Save the Children” at a later date to present his programme.

World Day of Prayer for Care of Creation

Next Wednesday September 1 is the World Day of Prayer for Care of Creation and marks the beginning of a month-long Season of Creation for Christians throughout the world. The National Liturgy Office has prepared a page of resources to help prepare for it. Keep checking the page for updates as September 1 nears: www.nlo.org.nz/news-and-events/media-releases/season-of-creation-2021/

Faith-filled worship in time of lockdown

The National Liturgy Office has published a page of information to help everyone manage this lockdown period without the usual access to liturgies at church. For we people of faith, many who depend on the Mass celebrated on Sundays and throughout the week find ourselves struggling without the strength received from the Eucharist. The creative suggestions on this page will help:

www.nlo.org.nz/news-and-events/media-releases/faith-filled-worship-in-time-of-lockdown/

A couple of Lockdown tips from Archdiocese of Wellington—Church Mission

• Couples

Lockdowns can be really hard on relationships. The Marriage Ministry Team regularly posts useful tips and resources for couples at this time. Visit us [here](#).

• Young People

It's not easy being away from friends, feeling isolated at home, even if surrounded by family. It's easy to question where God is in this situation? Truth is, we aren't alone, God is always there. Check out @ADWyoungchurch on [IG](#) and [FB](#) to see how you're not alone, and find some inspiration during lockdown. Or if you're local, you can contact our Youth Minister Sio - pelasio@challenge2000.org.nz, 02108160396 for support



• Families

'Doing faith' in families can be a challenge anytime but even more so when stuck at home! But it can be a rewarding and valuable project (not to mention a reminder to treat one another well!) [Here are some ideas for parents wanting pointers.](#)

MASS INTENTIONS

We ask for your prayers - Masses have been offered for



Recently deceased— Aunty Mema Aspinall, Popese Samuelu, Mr Poulouse Pondhekkann Ouseph's.

Anniversaries— Maria Realubit, Sonia Castro, Bernie McSweeney

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.

Look out for
each other!
With distance!

MASS & LITURGY TIMES 29 Aug—5 Sep (COVID Permitting)

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

Mon: 9am Liturgy
Tues: 9.15 Liturgy School/
Parish
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
Sunday: 9am Mass

Please note. **Reconciliation** is held at St Peter and Paul's on the first Wednesday of the month, at 10.30am before the 11am Mass

Parish Office: 37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville
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Facebook—<https://www.facebook.com/st.francis.ohariu/>
Parish Bank Account for Donations: **02-0524-0203642-00**

