



# St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

Website: [www.stfrancisohariu.nz](http://www.stfrancisohariu.nz)

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

**27th Sunday in Ordinary Time 3 October 2021 Year B**  
**Readings: Genesis 2:18-24; Hebrews 2:9-11; Mark 10:2-16**

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

## St Francis of Assisi Feast Day

St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

*'I believe now is the time in the life of our Parish to reflect and live the 'Spiritual Leadership' of St Francis of Assisi (whom our Parish is named after) as with our brother Pope Francis.'* **Pete Roe sm**

### Smelling like the Sheep

*The great compassion of St. Francis of Assisi (1182–1226) for others, is inspired by the great compassion of Jesus.*

Compassion and patience are the absolutely unique characteristics of true spiritual authority, and without any doubt is the way St. Francis (1194–1253) led his communities.

He led, not from above, and not even from below, but most from *within*, by walking *with* his brothers and sisters, or "smelling like the sheep," as Pope Francis puts it. . . .

A spiritual leader who lacks basic human compassion and deep self- awareness has almost no power to change other people, because people intuitively know he or she does not represent the Whole and Holy One.

Such leaders need to rely upon ego, control, power, roles, laws, costume, and enforcement powers to effect any change in others. Such change does not go deep, nor does it last. In fact, it is not really change at all. It is mere conformity so as to hold onto the control.

We see this movement toward a shared compassion in all true saints. For example, St. Francis was able to rightly distinguish between institutional evil and the individual who is victimized by it. He still felt compassion for the individual soldiers fighting in the crusades, although he objected to the war itself. He realized the folly and yet the sincerity of their patriotism, which led

them, however, to be *un-patriotic* to the much larger kingdom of God, where he placed his first and final loyalty. What Jesus calls "the Reign of God" we could call the Great Compassion.

The realm of God that Jesus preached and died for was one that was known for its openness and generosity, its compassion and healing. There was no one deemed outside the love of the Holy One whom Jesus called "Father." No one was excluded from fellowship, not the rich or poor, male or female, slave or free. Jesus went beyond superficial divisions and called for a culture of compassion.



Compassion changes everything. Compassion heals. Compassion mends the broken and restores what has been lost. Compassion draws together those who have been estranged or never even dreamed they were connected. Compassion pulls us out of ourselves and into the heart of another, placing us on holy ground where we instinctively take off our shoes and walk in reverence. Compassion springs out of vulnerability and triumphs in unity.

Only people at home in such a spacious place can take on the social illnesses of their time, and even the betrayal of friends, and not be destroyed by cynicism or bitterness.

Richard Rohr (Franciscan Priest)

### Prayer For Our Community

***Loving God, you fill all things with a fullness and hope that we can never comprehend. Thank you for leading us into a time where more of reality is being unveiled for us all to see. We pray that you will take away our natural temptation for cynicism, denial, fear and despair. Help us have the courage to awaken to greater truth, greater humility, and greater care for one another. May we place our hope in what matters and what lasts, trusting in your eternal presence and love. Listen to our hearts' longings for the healing of our suffering world. Please add your own intentions . . .***

***Knowing, good God, you are hearing us better than we are speaking, we offer these prayers in all the holy names of God. Amen.***

## NZ Catholic Schools Day 2021

NZ Catholic Schools Day was celebrated on Wednesday September 29.

The students at St Brigid's School had a day filled with art, games, prayers, songs and of course ice blocks! It was a wonderful way to celebrate who we are and the joys of being part of a Catholic Community. Our day finished with the whole school coming together to sing our school song, share some of the things we had done during the day and have a cold treat in the warm sunshine. We felt blessed!

Linda Birch, Principal St Brigid's School



## Parish Annual Finance Report 2020/21

### 2020/2021 Financial Year

In the last financial year we received income of \$365,973 which was down \$38,916 or 9.6% on the previous year's \$404,889.

Our expenses were \$334,370 compared with \$356,336 in the prior year. As a result we had a cash surplus of \$23,743.

COVID 19 lockdown of our Churches during April and May resulted in planned giving being \$28,865 lower than the same period in the prior year. COVID19 wage subsidies of \$7,030 were received for this period.

Our rental income of \$83,881 continued to be a major source (22%) of income and increased on the previous year by 13% or \$9,796. This was offset by increased costs to comply with Healthy Homes legislation and general maintenance of \$13,757.

We finished the year with a bank balance of \$82,226, an increase of \$25,448.

Full details are available on the website [click here](#).

**St Francis of Assisi Parish Ohariu**

**Finance Report**

**Year Ending 31 March 2021**



# We're Hiring!

## Permanent Fulltime — Parish Director of Mission

**St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish** is seeking a **Full-Time Parish Director of Mission** 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 pastoral leadership 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. Formal studies in scripture, liturgy, ecclesiology, morality, and parish ministry is desirable.

The role is Full-Time, based in Johnsonville.

To view the full job description or Apply Visit  
<http://stfrancisohariu.nz/updates/vacancies/>

**Applications close 19th October 2021 at 11.59pm.**

For more information on the position please email  
[office@stfrancisohariu.nz](mailto:office@stfrancisohariu.nz) or [thomas0davis@gmail.com](mailto:thomas0davis@gmail.com)



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## Youth Holiday Programme

We will be offering Spirit Holiday programmes for children aged 5-11, during these coming holidays on October 7 and October 14, 10-4pm (this is all dependent on the Alert levels).

If you are interested please text Sio: 02108160396 and we will get back to you.



## Property Review

Unfortunately we have not been able to hold the meetings we had planned for the property review. Once we are able to meet we will reschedule those meetings. In the meantime we would appreciate getting some input from you for the property review. We have prepared a survey which we would like you to complete. Before doing the survey it would be useful to read the Background Information available on the website. [Click Here](#)

To access the survey please [Click Here](#). We will share the results with you.

## Month of Care of Creation

1 Sept – 4 Oct

The 4th of October is the feast of St. Francis of Assisi [patron of natural environment and care of creation and our own parish saint]

People worldwide are taking a St. Francis pledge for the environment.

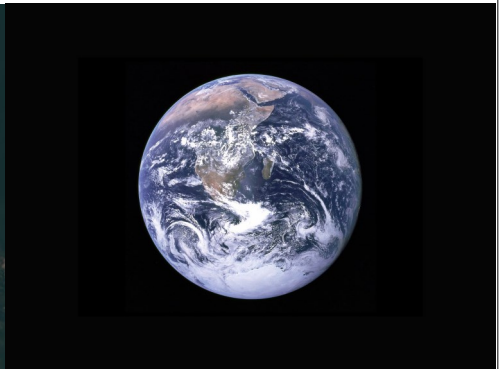
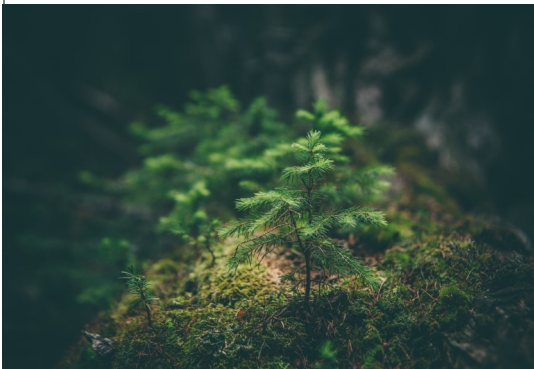
Would you like to COMPOSE your own pledge for the environment?

Would you like to PRAY that we may use technological inventiveness to undo the damage we have done to God's creation and to sustain God's gifts of nature.

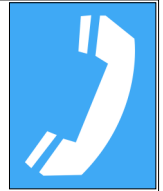
CONSIDER praying for the success of the coming United Nations climate change conference and the UN Biodiversity Convention.

God's grace is active in both the goodness of creation and addressing human abuse of creation.

Pat Collier [parish ecumenical group]



## Need to talk?



If you are facing or dealing with mental health challenges at one stage and/or need someone to talk and listened to then you may contact me (Robert Caballes Intern Chaplain).

As an Intern-chaplain studying, working and training alongside Fr Pete, I will listen to your story, support, encourage, assist, love, care, and pray with you and where necessary refer, if appropriate, for professional assistance. As mentioned below.

I am available during weekdays from 12 noon to 1 pm or from 7 pm to 9 pm or on Saturdays from 9 am to 11 am. **Robert Caballes 021 280 0124.**

*If you or someone you know is in immediate danger, call 111.*

*Need to talk? Free call or text 1737 any time for support from a trained counsellor*

*Lifeline – 0800 543 354 (0800 LIFELINE) or free text 4357 (HELP)*

*Suicide Crisis Helpline – 0508 828 865 (0508 TAUTOKO)*

*Youthline – 0800 376 633, free text 234 or email [talk@youthline.co.nz](mailto:talk@youthline.co.nz) or online chat*

*Yellow Brick Road for help supporting someone you care about: <https://yellowbrickroad.org.nz/>.*

### **Suzanne Aubert Meri Hōhepa Celebration Sunday Mass with Cardinal John Dew**

October 3, 2pm on Shine TV

This year, our special Mass planned in honor of Suzanne Aubert Meri Hōhepa will be recorded and aired on TV since parish Masses are not currently possible. Tune in to Shine TV at 2pm on October 3 to watch. All parishioners are invited to send their personal prayer requests and intentions which will be offered by the Cardinal at this Mass.

**At home resource kit:** To help those who are wanting something special to use at home on Celebration Sunday, we have prepared some devotional material, download from <https://www.suzanneaubert.co.nz/wp-content/uploads/2021/09/At-Home-with-Suzanne-Aubert-brochure.pdf>

If you have a special prayer request, or if there is someone in your parish who you would like to be remembered at either of these events, please send confidential details to Sister Josephine Gorman –

[sr.josephine.gorman@compassion.org.nz](mailto:sr.josephine.gorman@compassion.org.nz).

At the conclusion of the Mass, all prayer requests and names of those who have asked to be remembered, will be placed on the tombstone of Suzanne Aubert/Meri Hōhepa and the Sisters will continue to pray for everyone during the month of October.

## Upcoming Events/Notices

### St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish Online Mass

There will be no online Mass available this week for the St Francis of Assisi Parish. Thank you to all those you watched and participated in the last two week's masses. Thank you to Lychgate Funeral Homes for their support.

### Compassion Soup Kitchen is open

Serving takeaway meals between 12pm and 1pm, Monday - Saturday. If you need a hot meal, come and collect a nutritious takeaway meal. For more information visit our website: <https://soupkitchen.org.nz> or ph: (04) 385-9299

### Zoom Divine Mercy Prayer Meeting on Sunday

Topic: Divine Mercy Prayer Meeting  
Time: Oct 3, 2021 03:00 PM Auckland, Wellington  
Join Zoom Meeting  
<https://us04web.zoom.us/j/79969189260?pwd=QzI3UIMva3lUTWwyeFhHZGFoaVh5UT09>  
Meeting ID: 799 6918 9260  
Passcode: hra2h3

### Compassion Soup Kitchen Annual Appeal

September is our annual appeal month. For the last 120 years, with the generosity of our community, we have provided meals for those that need it most. During lockdown, we have been serving 200-230 meals a day, seven days a week a day so your support is more important than ever. You can help us feed Wellingtonians doing it tough by donating to our appeal online today: <https://soupkitchen.org.nz/donate/donate-money/>



### Adult Programme:

#### Seasons for Growth weekend course for adults:

For people who have been touched by change, loss, bereavement, separation, divorce, redundancy, this provides an opportunity to process what has happened and gain skills to respond well to such experiences. We may not choose the changes in our lives – but we can choose how we meet them.

Catholic Social Services is offering a weekend programme to adults:

- Dates: Friday 22<sup>nd</sup> October (6.00-8.00pm), Saturday, 23<sup>rd</sup> October (9.00am-6.00pm), to Sunday 24<sup>th</sup> October 2021 (12.30-3.00pm)
- Venue: on application - Johnsonville
- Cost: \$40 covering materials and research.
- Registration: closes Monday, 4<sup>th</sup> October.

***"It didn't just help me with the past. It is helping me with the future as well ... I developed tools that have helped my recovery" - participant***

For more information, please contact

**Katrin Eickhorst**

**Trainer/Coordinator Seasons for Growth**

**Catholic Social Services**

**T: (04) 385 8642 M: 021 374 405**

**[seasons@wn.catholic.org.nz](mailto:seasons@wn.catholic.org.nz)**

# MASS INTENTIONS

**We ask for your prayers - Masses have been offered for:**



**Recently Deceased**— Nancy Garrett

**Anniversaries**— Peter Cross, Joan Prior

**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. We also pray for Auckland and all those working to prevent the spread of Covid-19.

## MASS & LITURGY TIMES 4-10 October

During Covid-19 Alert Level Delta TWO all Masses, liturgies and in-person parish gatherings (with the exception of funerals) are still CANCELLED. Cardinal John Dew and the Archdiocese of Wellington will be reviewing these settings on Tuesday 5th October 2021.

Reminder if anyone needs support of any kind: food, travel assistance, 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](mailto:office@stfrancisohariu.nz) and we can try to sort what you need.

Take care and let us know if you need help.

Parish Office: 37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville

Email: [office@stfrancisohariu.nz](mailto:office@stfrancisohariu.nz)

Phone: 04 478 7137

Website: [www.stfrancisohariu.nz](http://www.stfrancisohariu.nz)

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

Parish Bank Account for Donations:

**02-0524-0203642-00**

