



# St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

## Te paepae o te paerangi ki te paewhenua

Where heaven and earth come together

4th Sunday of Easter 11th May 2025, Year C

Readings: Acts 13:1, 43-52; Apocalypse 7:9, 14-17; Gospel John 10:27-30

**Parish Priest**  
Msgr Gerard Burns

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**Assistant Priest**  
Fr Alfred Tong

[Alfred@stfrancisohariu.nz](mailto:Alfred@stfrancisohariu.nz)

**Parish Office Hours**  
04 478 7137  
Mon to Thursday  
8.30am—2.30pm  
[Office@stfrancisohariu.nz](mailto:Office@stfrancisohariu.nz)

4TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

11 MAY 2025

A bullet point reflection. That is 'bullet point' and not with any connotation towards violence.

- I think it is meaningful that Pope Francis entered into everlasting life during the Easter octave of this Jubilee year.
- At the time of writing the conclave has not started. I pray for our new pope to be very much Francis II – humble of heart with continued outreach to the poor, marginalised, and other faiths, and a force for peace and care of the earth around the world.
- From the gospel '*I gave my sheep eternal life*' extends beyond the specific event of Jesus' resurrection, suggesting that the principle applies to all individuals and the world as a whole.
- The chaos of our times could be seen as a potential for new growth and a break-through towards wholeness.
- Death is a transformation – not an end. A necessary step in the process of resurrection and becoming more deeply united with God.
- Easter as a feast of universal hope. A hope that includes individual lives and the broader human experience.
- Our connection to others and to the natural world is an essential part of the resurrection experience.
- As a Southland farm boy my experiences with sheep are not exactly biblical. Sheep are instinctively fearful and flock together when a sheepdog appears. Although a pet lamb called Topsy that became a pet sheep certainly was loyal and not fearful and quite liked getting into the sack of dog biscuits and the hens' laying mash when in the 'house paddock'. Still not a 'biblical' sheep but certainly knew a good thing when she saw it.

Peter Mulqueen

### Mass/Liturgy Times

For the coming week

**Sat: 5.00pm Vigil Mass**

**Sun: 10.00am Mass**

Tue: 9.15 Liturgy with St Brigid's  
5.00pm Reconciliation  
5.30pm Mass

Wed: 10.30 Reconciliation  
11.00am Mass & Morning Tea

Thurs **5.30pm Liturgy with Communion**

**\*suspended for winter**

Fri: 8.30am Exposition & 9.00am Liturgy with Communion

Reconciliation can also be requested by arrangement with office 04 478 7137

### Remembering the Holy Souls

Recently Deceased:

**Anniversaries:** Robert and Mary Taylor, Brian Radomski,

**Prayers for the sick,** Fr Brian Wysocki, Kolotita Gae'e, Fr Frank Whitaker, Tovia Fa'i, Carmen Godinez, Anna Mika-Hunt Walsh, Lote So'oa, Madonna Aspinall, Fr Joe Savesi, Betty Stewart, Fr David Orange, , David Clarke, Saili Tafaese, Moe Pio Tafaese, Gerard McDonagh, Jessie Hensen, Tau So'oa, John Fanning, Tony Bordignon, Domingo Basilio Navera Jr, Joe Godinet, Augafa & Sefine Pelelo, Fr Maurice Carmody, Fr Peter O'Connell,, .



For the more information please visit the Parish Website - <https://www.stfrancisohariu.nz>

### **Sacramental Programme 2025**

The full Programme will run over term 3 and into term 4.

#### **Tuesday July 22, 7pm Parents Information Evening**

**Sunday July 27th 11.15am** Reconciliation Session 1  
**Sunday August 3rd 11.15am** Reconciliation Session 2  
**Saturday August 9th 2.00pm** Reconciliation Practice  
**Sunday August 10th 2.00pm** Reconciliation

**Sunday 31st August 11.15am** Confirmation Session 1  
**Sunday 7th September 11.15am** Confirmation Session 2  
**Saturday 13th September 2.00pm** Confirmation Practice  
**Sunday 14th September 2.00pm** Confirmation Mass with Archbishop Paul Martin

**Sunday 2nd November 11.15am** Communion Session 1  
**Sunday 9th November 11.15am** Communion Session 2  
**Saturday 15th November 2.00pm** Communion Practice  
**Sunday 16th November 2.00pm** First Communion Mass

**Please note** all sessions will be held in our Parish Church and that the Sunday Sessions start immediately following the Sunday Mass.

If you have any queries, please contact Helen  
[sacramentalprogramme@stfrancisohariu.nz](mailto:sacramentalprogramme@stfrancisohariu.nz)

### **World Day of Prayer for Vocations 11 May 2025:**

In his message for the 62nd World Day of Prayer for Vocations, Pope Francis wrote: "A vocation is a precious gift that God sows in our heart, a call to leave ourselves behind and embark on a journey of love and service." Please pray for our seminarians **Kinh, Emilio, Gerson, Dyester and Kham**, and for all those discerning the call to priesthood and religious life. Pray too that more young people will generously say yes to God's call.

**Vocations are fostered within faith communities.—So who can you encourage?**

**Pray** for them. **Invite** them to consider priesthood or religious life. **Affirm** their gifts and qualities. **Encourage** them to be open to God's call

### **College Open Days**

St Mary's College open day —Tuesday 20 May  
St Patrick's College Kilbirnie, open day tours ,  
- Tuesday 27 May or Thursday 29 May  
Please refer to the posters in the Church foyer or refer to college websites for more information.  
If you require a **Preference Certificate** please click [here](#) for the request form. Please email your completed request and any supporting documentation (such as Baptismal Certificates) to [office@stfrancisohariu.nz](mailto:office@stfrancisohariu.nz)  
Please include a contact phone number in your email.

### **Year 7-9 Youth Group**

Challenge 2000 is running a Youth group for students in Year 7-9 in Term 2. It will be held every **Tuesday from 4.15 pm- 5.45pm**, and will be based in Johnsonville. The Youth group aims to provide an environment where young people can form connections with others in their community, develop teamwork and leadership skills, and develop their confidence.

The first session ran on **Tuesday 6th May**. Please contact [gabriellelawson@challenge2000.org.nz](mailto:gabriellelawson@challenge2000.org.nz).

### **St Brigid's School Fundraiser**

For a school fundraiser we are selling BinSprings for Wheelie Bins for just **\$2.00**. These are great for keeping the lid closed and stopping rubbish and recycling blowing around on windy days.

For more information about the springs and to make an order please click this link: [BinSpring order form](#)

### **Parish Office will be closed Tuesday 13 May**

The office will be closed for an Archdiocese training day. Emails and phone messages will be checked periodically. Thank you.

### **What's happening around the Diocese?**

<https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/events/>

### **Quote from Pope Francis** Pope Francis, Angelus, 8 May 2022

'The sheep who hear, and who discover they are known, follow : they listen, they feel they are known to the Lord and they follow the Lord who is their shepherd... They go where he goes, along the same path, in the same direction. They go to seek those who are lost, they take an interest in those who are far away, take to heart the situation of those who suffer, know how to weep with those who weep, they reach out their hands to their neighbours, carrying them on their shoulders.'

### **Parish Office: 37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville**

Office Hours Monday to Thursday 8.30am to 2.30pm

Email: [office@stfrancisohariu.nz](mailto:office@stfrancisohariu.nz), Phone: 04 478 7137 **If you need to contact a priest urgently, such as for the Anointing of someone who is gravely unwell,**

**please call:** the Parish Office 04 478 7137 and select option 1

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

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

Parish Bank Account for Koha/Donations

**02-0524-0203642-00**

Account name: **Arch Dio of Wgtn St Francis of Assisi Parish**

