



ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

Te paepae o te paerangi ki te paewhenua

Where heaven and earth come together

Palm Sunday - Passion of the Lord 13th April 2025, Year C
Readings: Isaiah 50:4-7; Philippians 2:6-11; Gospel Luke 22:14-23

Parish Priest
Msgr Gerard Burns

g.burns@wn.catholic.org.nz

Assistant Priest
Fr Alfred Tong

Alfred@stfrancisohariu.nz

Parish Office Hours
04 478 7137
Mon to Thursday
8.30am—2.30pm

Office@stfrancisohariu.nz

Mass/Liturgy Times

For the coming week

**Please also refer to
Holy Week Timetable
on reverse page of this
newsletter**

**Sat: 5.00pm Vigil
Mass**

Sun: 10.00am Mass

**Tue: 5.00pm Reconciliation
5.30pm Mass**

**Wed: 11.00am Mass
No morning Tea**

Thurs No 5.30pm Liturgy

**Fri: No 8.30am
Exposition & No
9.00am Liturgy**

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

Luke 22: 14 - 23

Palm Sunday ushers in the final confrontation between the way of power and blood, and the way of non-violence. On Palm Sunday we have Jesus riding into the city surrounded by his friends and others. He is seated on a young donkey, a colt. The people sing songs of exultation and lay down their robes and palm branches, the symbols of peace, on the road before him.

Our current world is deeply immersed in violence; wars, conflict and division abound. So, what does this non-violence look like?

Thomas Merton, Trappist monk, mystic and last century peace advocate, writes 'Christian non-violence is not built on a presupposed division, but on the basic unity of man. It is not out for the conversion of the wicked to the ideas of the good, but for the healing and reconciliation of man with himself, man the person and man the human family.' (Faith and Violence, 15) This is the story of the cross. Jesus was not attempting to convert humanity but to heal its wounds by exemplifying the non-violent option. His death said loudly and clearly, enough is enough. Violence has no part in the resurrection; we are to live.

Merton goes on to suggest 'A test of our sincerity in the practice of non-violence is this: are we willing to learn something from the adversary?' (Faith and Violence, 24). Dialogue and engagement, not acts of defensive or aggressive violence, are to be our performative response.

Merton finally suggests, in line with what we see occurring in the face of Jesus' committed resistance to the brutality of the political and religious world "Nonviolence is not for power, but for truth. It is not pragmatic, but prophetic. It is not aimed at immediate political results, but at the manifestation of fundamental and crucially important truth. Nonviolence is not the language of efficacy, but of kairos—the right or critical moment'. It does not say 'We shall overcome', so much as to say

*'This is the day of the Lord, and whatever may happen to us,
He shall overcome.'*

(Nonviolent Alternative, 75).

Peter

Remembering the Holy Souls

Recently Deceased: Jocelyn Whitehouse, June Marie (Marie) Verschoor,

Anniversary: Sr. Lourdes Espejo FMM, Raana Mareikura, Rex Oliver, Muriel Oliver

Prayers for the sick, Fr Brian Wysocki, Kolofita 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>

Holy Week Timetable

St Francis of Assisi Ohariu



Palm Sunday 13 April (Regular Mass Schedule)
Saturday 5pm
Sunday 10am

Chrism Mass 16 April At the Cathedral
(Blessing of the Oils) 7.30pm

Holy Thursday 17 April Thursday 7pm

Good Friday 18 April
Stations of the Cross 10am
Ecumenical Walk (leaves from the Uniting Church) 11am
Liturgy & Veneration Friday 3pm
Friday 5pm

Holy Saturday 19 April 7pm Easter Vigil

Easter Sunday 20 April
8am Early Mass
10am Mass

Holiday events

Easter Programme

Tuesday 15th April 10am-3pm For children aged 5-12. \$5.00 per child. This is a day for fun, learning, community building, art, games and music. See parish noticeboard for registration forms or contact gabriellelawson@challenge2000.org.nz or semanaiaagafili@challenge2000.org.nz

ANZAC Programme

Tuesday April 22nd: For school and College aged children and young people. This day focuses on Service, Sacrifice and Peace, and how we can carry the ANZAC Spirit today. See parish noticeboard for registration forms or contact gabriellelawson@challenge2000.org.nz or kittymckinley@challenge2000.org.nz

What's happening around the Diocese?
<https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/events/>

Malvina Major:

Anointing Mass **Wednesday 23 April 2 00pm** in the Chapel - Reflection Room. All welcome.

Stations of the Cross during Lent

We invite all our parishioners to take part in the Stations of the Cross, **every Friday** in our Church at **6.30pm**. This will be followed by the **Divine Mercy** prayers. One of our Priests will be available for Reconciliation during the Stations of the Cross.

Joshua Men's Group

Come and join other men at Joshua Wellington's next meeting on **Thursday 24th April 2025** from 7:00pm for a cuppa and a 7:30pm start in Connolly Hall (next to the Sacred Heart Cathedral).

Speaker: Michael Powell on "Power to do good in Jesus' name"

Want to know more? Ring David Monastra 027-4477-280 or email: joshua.wgtn@gmail.com

Caritas Lent Appeal 2025—Restoring Hope

The Bishops' Lent Appeal for Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand has begun.

The Bishops' Lent Appeal is essential to our mission, providing much of the resources necessary to continue our life-changing work in Aotearoa, the Pacific, and beyond.

For more information, please look for the Caritas Poster and Giver Envelopes in our Church foyer or click here <https://www.caritas.org.nz/>

The Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation Course –

Love is a Decision – register for the June Course on the Archdiocesan website, consecutive **Sundays 8 & 15 June** 10am-4pm, St Catherine's College, Kilbirnie. Register early as there are limited spaces. Any queries, please email marriage@wn.catholic.org.nz

Quote from Pope Francis

[CELEBRATION OF PALM SUNDAY OF THE PASSION OF THE LORD](#) Sunday 10 April 2022.

'How often we think back and lick the wounds that other people, life itself and history have inflicted on us. Today, Jesus teaches us not to remain there, but to react, to break the vicious circle of evil and sorrow. To react to the nails in our lives with love, to the buffets of hatred with the embrace of forgiveness.'

Parish Office: 37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville

Office Hours Monday to Thursday 8.30am to 2.30pm

Email: 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

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**

