



St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish Te paepae o te paerangi ki te paewhenua

Where heaven and earth come together

All Souls Day Sunday - 2 November 2025, Year C
Readings: Wisdom 3:1-9 ; Romans 6:3-9; John 6:37-40

Parish Priest
Msgr Gerard Burns
g.burns@wn.catholic.org.nz

Assistant Priest
Fr Alfred Tong
alfred@stfrancisochariu.nz

Parish Office Hours
04 478 7137
Mon to Thurs : 9am to 2pm
office@stfrancisochariu.nz

Mass/Liturgy Times

For the coming week

Sat: 5.00pm Vigil Mass

Sun: 10am Mass

Tue: 9.15 am St Brigid Mass
5.00pm Reconciliation
5.30pm Mass

Wed: 10.30 Reconciliation
11.00am Mass with
Morning Tea

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

Important Dates

All Saints Day

Saturday 1 November
Mass at 9.30 AM

Holy Communion Session

Sunday, 2 & 9 November
at 11.15 am

Remembrance Mass

Wednesday 5 November at
7pm.

Reflections

It's All Souls' Day – but hang on -, it's Sunday! Well, this is one of those rare occasions where a High Holy Day supplants a Sunday Mass: and that underscores just how important is All Souls Day.

Who remembers as a child on All Souls Day being told that if you went to church and said an Our Father and a Hail Mary you could release a soul from Purgatory – and so you went in and out of church like a little Jack in the Box busy getting souls out of purgatory. Maybe we look back on it now as a childish belief but the reality is that it's NOT a childish belief.

That's why we write the names of our loved deceased ones on the list in November so that we can remember to pray for them And pray that they may be released from Purgatory. This is not a new idea – as far back as the 2nd Book of Maccabees 12:46 "It is a holy and wholesome thought to pray for the dead that they may be loosed from their sins" and that book was written about 75BC. And we pray for so many – all the members of our families, maybe our dead teachers (even the ones we didn't like!!) that their souls may fully see the face of God in its fullness. After all, one of these days we too will be in purgatory and how much we might then hope someone will pray for us.

And we might remember that there are those souls there who may have been there for a very long time – perhaps they committed deeds that we can't even begin to imagine but they may have repented at the last moment. Who remembers that old saying "Twixt the saddle and the ground – Mercy sought and mercy found" Perhaps there is no one to pray for them. Perhaps we could pray for the most neglected soul in Purgatory.

We are all sinners to one degree or another and we will all undergo Purgatory before we see the final face of God – so let's pray for ALL the dead (Not just the Christians but those of ALL faiths and beliefs that they may all see the face of God)– as we also hope to achieve.

Eternal rest grant to them O lord and may Perpetual Light shine upon them,
May they Rest in peace

Tony de Joux

Remembering the Holy Souls

Recently deceased: Mercia Clarke - (mother of Geraldine Dai), Tita Buenviaje

Anniversary:

Prayers for the sick: Melani Liliawati, Isabel Zamorano F, Patricia Keane, Kolotita Gae'e, Fr Frank Whitaker ,Tovio Fa'l, Carmen Godinez, Anna Mika-Hunt Walsh, Lote So'oa, Fr Joe Savesi, Betty Stewart, Fr David Orange, David Clarke, Saili Tafaese ,Moe Pio Tafaese, Gerard McDonagh, Jessie Hensen, Tau So'oa, John Fanning,, Domingo Basilio Navera Jr, Joe Godinet, Augafa & Sefine Pelelo, Fr Maurice Carmody, Fr Peter O'Connell.Andrew Kensington



For the latest information visit the Parish Website - <https://www.stfrancisochariu.nz>

Our annual Remembrance Mass is being held on **Wednesday 5 November at 7pm**. This is an opportunity to remember all of our family members and parishioners who have passed away in the last 12 months. If you would like someone remembered, at this Mass, please email Katharina Dobson : katharinadobson@gmail.com
A cup of tea served afterwards. Everyone welcome.

Children's Liturgy

Please note there will be **no Children's Liturgy** on **2nd and 9th Nov** to allow for the Sacramental Programme. The next session will be on **Sunday, 16th November**.

Sacramental Programme (First Communion Preparation)

Parents and candidates : **2nd & 9th Nov, 11:15am**

Practice: **15th Nov, 2pm**

First Communion Mass: **16th Nov, 2pm**

Join us for 10am Mass before sessions.

Volunteers Needed – Children's Liturgy 2026

Would you like to support our Children's Liturgy next year? We're looking for:

Leaders – to prepare and lead sessions

Helper – no prep or leading needed; just assist with setup and be a safeguarding presence. If you're interested, please contact **Pat Collier** : tchpat.collier@gmail.com

Late Night Mass for Young People: Come join us for this November's Late Night Mass on **7th November at Sacred Heart Cathedral**. Like always, Mass begins at 8.00pm followed by fellowship in the foyer. Bring a plate and a friend to celebrate together in the Holy Sacrifice of the Eucharist!

Invitation to an evening of prayer and worship

The **ICPE Mission** community invites parishioners to an evening of prayer and worship on **Friday 14th November, from 7:30pm to 9pm** at St Francis of Assisi Ohariu parish church. All are welcome. For more information please contact Lucienne Hensel at lucienne@icpe.org

Deaf Community Events around Wellington

Friday 14 November: Social Pizza Night in Johnsonville

Saturday 15 November: Deaf Expo 3 in Lower Hutt

Saturday 15 November: Clive Morgan Deaf Awards (ticketed event)

Contact : Jess Ferroni - deafsosial2025@gmail.com

For more details visit :: <https://www.deafexpo.nz/home>

Greenstone Doors Final Fundraiser 2025—QUIZ NIGHT

Petone Club 45/47 Udy St, Petone , Friday 7 November, doors open at 6.30pm, Quiz starts 7pm. Cost : \$25 per person (team of 6-8people). For tickets email : office@greenstonedoors.co.nz

Te Kupenga Theology Enrolments Open : Enroll in the Bachelor or Graduate Diploma in Theology for Semester 1, 2026.

Apply by **21 Nov 2025** at www.tekupenga.ac.nz/apply.

Journey through the season of Advent:

A Hikoī for Pilgrims of Hope. Daily reflections by Fr James Lyons, Cardinal John Dew, and other NZ Catholic leaders.

Bringing Word to Life, these reflections will inspire and nourish your faith this Advent and Christmas. Contact the Parish Office to get your copy: office@stfrancisohariu.nz – \$8 each.



November is Catholic Social Services Annual Appeal Month

We live in challenging times – times that are causing many people to lose hope. Your ongoing support helps us bring hope to those who need it. www.catholicssocialservices.org.nz/donate

Prefer to donate via bank transfer?

BANK: BNZ

ACCOUNT NUMBER: 02 0560 0213864 000

PARTICULARS: your surname & initial

REFERENCE: Your phone number

CODE: CSS-HOPE

CALLED & EQUIPPED Formation Programme

2026 Applications Open! Deepen your faith, learn to share it, and discover what it means to be Catholic. Join us for personal faith formation and practical preparation for ministry and service. **Applications close on 30th November 2025**. For more info, contact Lucienne Hensel: l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz | 04 496 1715

World Youth Day 2027: Interested in going to South Korea? Come join us for World Youth Day 2027 in Seoul! Please fill out the expression of interest form below and email Regina Fernandes at : r.fernandes@wn.catholic.org.nz for any questions.

Great Saints of Italy Tour 2026: Fr Chris Friel from Timaru will lead a tour to Italy in May 2026. Contact Pilgrimage Tours at www.theTOURcompany.net or phone 0800 99 77 88 for the full itinerary and price.

Quote from Pope Leo :

'The New Testament does not only tell us of the earthly Jesus and his tangible and loving relationship with the world. It also shows him risen and glorious, present throughout creation by his universal Lordship. "For in him all the fullness of God was pleased to dwell, and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether on earth or in heaven, making peace by the blood of his cross" (Col 1:19-20). This leads us to direct our gaze to the end of time when the Son will deliver all things to the Father so that " God may be everything to everyone" The very flowers of the field and the birds which his human eyes contemplated and admired are now imbued with his radiant presence.' Laudato Si' 100
Action: Spend time admiring and appreciating nature, God's precious gift to us, and know you are admiring God the Father and his only Son's presence here on earth.

Parish Office: 37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville

Office Hours: Monday to Thursday 9am to 2pm

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

Account name: ARCHDIO OF WGTN ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

Parish Bank Account for Planned Giving/Koha: **02-0524-0203642-00**

