



St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

Te paepae o te paerangi ki te paewhenua

Where heaven and earth come together

Easter Sunday - The Resurrection of the Lord, 20th April 2025, Year C
Acts 10:34,37-43, Colossians 3:1-4, John 20:1-18

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

**Sat: 7.00pm Easter Vigil
Mass**

**Sun: 8am Mass
10.00am Mass**

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

Wed: 11.00am Mass
Followed by shared
morning Tea

Thurs 5.30pm Liturgy

**Fri: No Exposition or
Liturgy**
5.00pm ANZAC Service

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

Good Friday Collection.

A few weeks ago I saw a photo of a Ramadan iftar meal being held on a Gaza street. Among bombed-out ruins, people had hung flags and were sharing a meal outdoors. It was an act of hope and faith.

In 1997 I was a pilgrim to the Holy Land: Nazareth, Bethlehem, Jerusalem, Galilee, river Jordan. Places where Jesus walked, taught, healed, died, rose. The gospels came to have new meaning. I also passed through the checkpoint between Jerusalem and Bethlehem, and the massive towns ('settlements') on Palestinian land. Later I visited the prison that was Gaza.

The 1947 UN plan to divide British-mandate Palestine more-or-less equally between Israelis and Palestinians was being progressively overtaken by the expansion of Israeli territory. This process was happening long before the Hamas attacks on Israel of Oct 7, 2023.

The destruction of Gaza, the stopping of food and humanitarian supplies, rocketing of hospitals, shelters, Red Cross/Crescent workers, women and children is a genocide. Alongside the continued ethnic cleansing of West Bank towns it is all on our screens. The UN chief has called Gaza a killing field (like Cambodia in the 1970s). We cannot say we did not know. The NZ government has not done enough to oppose this genocide.

On Palm Sunday Cardinal Pizzabella of Jerusalem spoke of hope, love, death not having the last word. That is indeed our Christian belief. We make it real by our actions based on that faith. What will the Resurrection of Jesus look like for the people of Sudan, Ukraine, Myanmar and Gaza?

NB: The collection at the Good Friday services is for the support of Christian holy sites (Holy Places) in the Holy Land. This helps ensure the continuity of these places as witnesses to the Resurrection. Thank you for your generosity.

Fr Gerard Burns

Remembering the Holy Souls

Recently Deceased: Ingeburg Rosa Bisson

Anniversary: Marie Odell

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>

Easter Timetable

St Francis of Assisi Ohariu



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
ANZAC Day 25 April	5pm Service 5.45pm Soup Supper

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. Giver Envelopes are available in our Church foyer or click here <https://www.caritas.org.nz/>

Holy Place/Easter Collections

During this time, if you have planned giving envelopes these special brown envelopes can be placed in the baskets at any Mass. If you don't, and would like to make a contribution, you can place an envelope in the baskets, but please mark 'Holy Places' or 'Easter Dues' along with your name on the front. If you are paying by automatic payment, please reference 'Holy' or 'Easter' in the reference field and surname in the Particulars.

On behalf of the Parish team, we would like to wish you a blessed and safe Easter.

What's happening around the Diocese?

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

Easter Retreat in Daily Life

This Easter Octave week Fr John O'Connor will offer daily reflections on the Easter Gospel readings. Click here for more info www.foodforfaith.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

ANZAC Day Service St Francis of Assisi Ohariu

Our Parish is holding an ANZAC Day Service at **5pm on 25th April**, followed at **5.45pm** with soup, rolls and ANZAC Biscuits

Father Chris Skinner sm, and our Parish New-lands Turkish Family will be joining the Challenge Youth Ministry team in singing at the ANZAC Day service.

For more information, please contact semanaiai@challenge2000.org.nz. All welcome



ANZAC Day Services Pukeahu National War Park

Parishioner **Rose Aldridge** will be the 'Soloist' singing at Te Pukeahu at the Wellington **6am Dawn and 11am Services on Friday 25th April**. All welcome

Holy Hour for Vocations

Join us for an hour of adoration, reflection and prayer for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life. Tuesday 29th April, 7:30 - 8:30pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Hill Street, Wellington. All are welcome!

Quote from Pope Francis Easter Sunday Mass, 16 April 2017

'Let us think for a while, each of us, think about the daily problems, the illnesses we have been through or of one that a relative has; let us think about wars, human tragedies and with simplicity, with a humble voice, without flow-ers, alone, before God, before us, let us say, "I do not know how this is, but I am certain that Christ is Risen and I have put a wager on it". Brothers and sisters, this is what I wanted to say to you. Go home today repeating in your hearts: **"Christ is Risen"**.'

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**

