



St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

Te paepae o te paerangi ki te paewhenua

Where heaven and earth come together

5th Sunday in Lent 6th April 2025, Year C

Readings: Year C Isaiah 43:16-21; Philippians 3:8-14; Gospel Year A John 8:1-11

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: 5.00pm Vigil Mass

Sun: 10.00am Mass

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

Wed: 10.30 Reconciliation
11.00am Mass &
Morning Tea

Thurs 1.45pm St Brigid's
Stations of the Cross,
5.30pm Liturgy with
Communion

Fri: 8.30am Exposition &
9.00am Liturgy with
Communion

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

Dear fellow parishioners

The gospel reading we are using this Sunday is of the raising of Lazarus. Lazarus is called out of his tomb and set free ('Lazarus, come out!' commands Jesus). There are various ways we can be trapped and entombed, individually and collectively.

Here in Aotearoa we can be trapped in addictions of various kinds, the false belief that individual effort is the primary way to economic salvation (basis of neoliberal economic theory and practice), debt, unemployment, low-paid jobs, poor health, emotional difficulties. All these things can hold us back from living a flourishing life.

While we need to do our part, for all these things, a collective response is needed to bring us to a better state because we are all in the midst of a network of relationships. It is the same at world level. There are immense numbers of people trapped in systems and structures (Pope John Paul II called them 'sinful structures').

On the migrant trails of central America, the battlefields of Ukraine, Sudan, Congo, the Rohingya refugee camps of Bangladesh, the collapsed buildings of Myanmar and the genocide in Gaza there are people trapped in many ways. Sometimes we can feel overwhelmed at our capacity to damage each other.

But the Lazarus story offers another picture. Jesus eventually arrives to face the anger of Martha. He weeps. He calls his friend out of death. But he does not act alone as he calls others present who have to help: 'Unbind him! Let him go free.' Freedom, salvation is a communal work.

Gerard Burns

Remembering the Holy Souls

Recently Deceased:

Anniversary: Jaime Estipona

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, Jocelyn Whitehouse, 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
(Blessing of the Oils) At the Cathedral
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 April 15: 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/>

Children's Liturgy

This Sunday **6th April** is the last Children's Liturgy session for this term. There is a special morning tea for the children this Sunday at the back of the hall after mass

The 1st session for the 2nd term will be on Sunday 4th May.



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.

Lenten Retreat - Open to everyone

The KPF Mission Ministries invite you to a Lenten Retreat on **Saturday, 12 April, at St. Martin de Porres Church, Av- alon, Lower Hutt from 8:30am – 5pm** with reflective talks, Sacraments of Reconciliation and Holy Eucharist. Let's gather and journey with the Lord as we prepare our hearts for God's greatest love. Text Rey 0275712825 to reserve a seat and more details or register online <https://forms.gle/AwwBCqVF61oLn2gz8>

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/>

Quote from Pope Francis *Angelus*, 20 March 2022

"From the beginning of the world, but particularly through the incarnation, the mystery of Christ is at work in a hidden manner in the natural world." (Laudato Si' #99)

Action: Just as Christ was able to see beyond sin and condemnation, so we are called to look for the hidden depths at work in us and around us. Take some time this week to look for and find a hidden mystery at work in the natural world around you.

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**

