



ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI

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

Where heaven and earth come together

23rd Sunday of Ordinary Time, 7 September 2025, Year C
Readings: Wisdom 9:13-18; Philemon 9b-10,12-17; Luke 14:25-33.

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 10am Mass

Tue: 9.15am St Brigid's Kaka Mass

5.00pm Reconciliation

5.30pm Mass

Wed: 10.30 Reconciliation
11.00am Mass with 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

The call of Wisdom: to be a disciple of Jesus today in our home, parish and city.

Wisdom seen often as a feminine aspect of God, views life's challenges, joys, griefs and anxieties through the lens of love, faithfulness, hope and discipleship. Mary is a woman who inspires me. She viewed her life and mission to **carry** Jesus, at the beginning and the end, through 'wisdom' eyes. Her YES to her mission, left her judged, accused of immorality, an outcast and being sought for punishment because she accepted her mission.



Mary was very young, a pregnant single mum, a stranger, homeless, poor and a refugee, because she said YES to God's call. Mary as the first disciple exemplifies the cost of being a disciple of Jesus. Her desire, her **yes** to carry Jesus and change the world came from her wisdom space. It cost her greatly. And filled with that Wisdom spirit, she gave Jesus life and he gave her life. Their relationship changed humanity and the world. This week we are asked to follow Jesus – to carry Jesus. Challenged to be disciples, to view our Baptismal call through a Wisdom lens – no matter the cost.

Today, **our homes, workplaces, cities and country experiences division, conflict, war, abuse, despair, injustice and apathy.** Our acceptance of discipleship can counter culturally offer **hope, love, justice and peace.** Perhaps this week we can hear the Wisdom Spirit of God whisper to us: "Please carry Jesus – my life to the world and do as he did I, speak as he spoke". And like Mary we will whisper back: "Yes, here I am - I'll try – for God's sake, my sake and for the future of our world".

Kitty McKinley.

Remembering the Holy Souls

Recently Deceased: Derek Gale, Brian Smith, Grahame Stanley Howley.

Anniversaries: John Wholey (8/9), Rizalito Mejia, Amelia Nazareno, Winston Perera.

Prayers for the sick, Isabel Zamorano F, Patricia Keane, Kolotita Gae'e, Fr Frank Whitaker, Tovio Fa'I, Carmen Godinez, Anna Mika-Hunt Walsh, Lote So'oa, Madonna Aspinall, Fr Joe Savesi, Betty Stewart, Fr David Orange, David Clarke, Salli 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.



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

Social Justice Week: Puritia Te Rangimarie - Build peace together

Over 3 years Caritas has encouraged us to imagine and build peace. How might we do this here in Aotearoa? The **ADW Bicultural Relations Committee** is offering a **2-hour session to help us understand the Treaty of Waitangi** and related questions such as the referendum on Māori wards during the coming local body elections.

When: Thursday 11 September, 7pm
Where: Sacred Heart Petone Hall
Speaker: Mons. Gerard Burns

Faith-filled conversations to navigate Māori Ward Referendums

This September, people across Aotearoa are voting on Māori wards in their local councils. Unsure what it means for your community? As part of **Social Justice week** there are two opportunities to discuss this issue. **This Sunday night, 7th Sept, at Te Ngākau Tapu parish hall in Porirua at 6.15pm** (after 5.15pm Mass) there will be a 2-hour workshop with soup and rolls. **At St Francis of Assisi on Saturday 13 Sept, 11.30-1.30pm** (light lunch provided) the same workshop will be offered. Material provided by ecumenical group **Common Grace Aotearoa** commongrace.nz/maoriwards to help us engage the issue with faith and aroha via video reflections from Māori Christian leaders, theologians, guided conversation and prayer. All welcome. Fr Gerard.

Caritas: The **New Zealand bishops** have published their annual **Social Justice Statement**. It supports the celebration of Social Justice Week this week. The theme this year is **"Let's Build Peace Together"**. **Caritas Aotearoa New Zealand** has produced resources to support Social Justice Week, including in schools and parishes. Find the bishops' message and the resources at: <https://bit.ly/2025SJW>



Come and join other men at Joshua Wellington's next meeting on Thursday 18th September 7:30pm start in Connolly Hall followed

by supper. **Speaker: Rainer Hensel** on **"Discovering your spiritual gifts"** Want to know more? David Monastra 027-4477-280 email: joshua.wgtn@gmail.com

The Spirituality of Generosity -

For planned giving (and other parish giving with donor details), a **33% tax credit** can be claimed from the annual receipts issued by the parish for any donation over \$5 for **up to 4 years**

If upon further reflection on your giving, you would like to make an adjustment, feel free to contribute to:

02-0524-0203642-00

Account name: **ARCHDIO OF WGTN ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH**

Please feel free to take one of the parish planned giving forms with you from the church foyer.

Calling potential Altar Servers

Kia Ora! My name is Sherize, and together with Fr Gerard, we will be offering **altar server training**. If you have recently received your First Holy Communion and are interested in becoming an altar server or are currently serving, we'd love to hear from you. I can be contacted at sherizeconcessio@gmail.com, and we'll be in touch. about upcoming training soon

Care for Creation and Catholic Social Teaching - Save the date!

During **September Christians reflect on the need to care for the earth, our common home**. This is an integral part of our Catholic tradition of social teaching - solidarity, human dignity, the promotion of peace, and the right of all to what is needed for a decent human life. In our Archdiocese the **Commission for Ecology, Justice, and Peace** is asked to reflect on church and society in light of this tradition. **The Commission extends an invitation to everyone interested in reflecting on ecology, justice and peace to gather on Saturday 4 October, the feast of St Francis of Assisi, from 9:30am to 12:30pm at St Joseph's Church, Mt Victoria**. We will celebrate Mass, take time to share and reflect on issues of concern. We hope this will be a time of sharing and connecting. A plate of food to share would be appreciated. Enquiries to **Jim McAloon, jmcaloon@extra.co.nz**

Quote from Pope Leo "Environmental justice – implicitly proclaimed by the prophets – can no longer be regarded as an abstract concept or a distant goal. It is an urgent need that involves much more than simply protecting the environment. For believers it is also a duty born of faith, since the universe reflects the face of Jesus Christ, in whom all things were created and redeemed. In a world where the most vulnerable of our brothers and sisters are the first to suffer the devastating effects of climate change, deforestation and pollution, care for creation becomes an expression of our faith and humanity." - **Message for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, 2025.** -

Parish Office: 37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville

Office Hours Monday to Thursday 8.30am to 2.30pm **Email:** office@stfrancishariu.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.stfrancishariu.nz Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/st.francis.ohariu/>

Parish Bank Account for Planned Giving/Koha

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