



St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

Te paepae o te paerangi ki te paewhenua

Where heaven and earth come together

29th Sunday in Ordinary Time - 19 October 2025, Year C
Readings: Exodus 17: 8-13 ; 2Tim 3:14-4:2 ; Luke 18:1-8

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 Liturgy
5.30pm Liturgy

Wed:
11.00am Liturgy with
Morning Tea

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

*** Fr Gerard and Fr Alfred are
away during the weekdays this
week**

Coming up

All Saints Day

Saturday 1 November
Mass at 9.30 AM

All Souls Day

Sunday 2 November

Remembrance Mass

Wednesday 5 November at
7pm.

"The Church does not have a Mission, the Mission has a Church"

Christmas is coming, but often the first to advertise the coming of Christmas are not 'church' notice boards, but supermarkets, department stores and shops. Why are we fixated about Christmas? Our immediate response may be that our lives will be better when we have more things to hold onto in our lives. When I was younger I had the habit of storing up mint-flavoured Mackintosh's toffees in a little tin, already opened from their original packaging, and coming back to them in June, found that they had gathered moisture, and were so sticky that they were no longer good lollies to eat.

In our lives, often God only becomes real when God acts expectedly like Santa Claus in our minds - to give us whatever thing we want. If that doesn't happen, then maybe God doesn't really exist in our minds. We often want to hold onto things even when they have gone past their expiry date. We often think that certain things will only work a particular way, and any workarounds or inconveniences don't exist. Even when the prophet Moses' arms grew heavy, God and the community around him always strengthened him in his calling. The calling isn't so much about winning wars and fights over others. It's a calling to show others the understanding that God is both the person and Gift that they, and all people, can share in - a relationship of a gift so timeless that never gathers moisture, or is no longer good for consumption.

The Church must therefore be a community of living observable people, not a "static" body that follows the expired practices necessarily of yesterday, or holds onto 'stuff', but is preaching the Good News in the demands of today. And just as the poor widow who hungers for justice from the 'mean' judge, so many are still hungry for the Gospel. To "make disciples, baptising them in the name of the Father, Son and Holy Spirit" means we acknowledge in solidarity the same need as our brothers and sisters for God's salvation, and also, offer the hope of an intimate and enduring relationship with Jesus to those, who especially, hunger for God.

Ngaa manaakitanga,

Fr Alfred.

Remembering the Holy Souls

Recently deceased:

Anniversary : Eldon Porter & Mark Porter (September)

Prayers for the sick: Melani Liliawati, Isabel Zamorano F, Patricia Keane, Kolotita Gae'e, Fr Frank Whitaker, Tovia Fa'i, 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,,



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.

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

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 - deafsocial2025@gmail.com
For more details visit :: <https://www.deafexpo.nz/home>

Nostra Aetate – Celebrating 60 Years of the Church's in the Chapel-Reflection Room call to dialogue with people of all faiths. The New Zealand Catholic Bishops' Committee for Interfaith Relations welcomes all who wish to join us as we acknowledge Nostra Aetate, the Vatican II document promulgated on 28 October 1965, and outline contemporary approaches to religious dialogue in Aotearoa New Zealand Today. To be held on: **Tuesday, 28 October 2025 from 7.00 – 8.00pm**. Zoom Link: <https://tinyurl.com/NA-NZ-2025>

CALLED & EQUIPPED Formation Programme
Applications for 2026 now open! Are you looking for an opportunity to dig deeper into your faith, and to learn how to share it with others? Would You like to know more about **what it means to be catholic?** Do you want to **serve in your parish community, but feel you don't know enough?** **JOIN US** on an exciting journey that offers personal faith formation and equips you for ministry and service. For more information, contact **Lucienne Hensel** at l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz / 04 496 1715.

The Archdiocesan **Marriage Preparation** – Love is a Decision - register online now on the Archdiocesan website for the next Course, consecutive Sundays **2 & 9 November** 10.00am-4.00pm held at St Catherine's College, Kilbirnie. Please note that couples attend both Sundays together in person to complete the course. The November course will be the last course for 2025. The first course in 2026 will be in March.
Email: marriage@wn.catholic.org.nz

Malvina Major Anointing Mass : Wednesday 29 October 2 00pm in the Chapel-Reflection Room.
Afternoon Tea will follow after Mass - all welcome.

Sacramental Programme (First Communion preparation)
Sessions for parents and candidates **Sundays 2nd and 9th November commencing 11.15am**.
Practice for 1st communion **Saturday 15th November 2pm in parish church**.
First communion mass **Sunday 16th November 2pm**.
We encourage you to come to the 10am Sunday mass before the sessions. We look forward to seeing you for this special preparation and mass.

October is the month of the Holy Rosary
During this month, let us consider this beautiful prayer of the Rosary as a means that we too can use in order to draw closer to Jesus and Mary by meditating on the great mysteries of our salvation

Concert at Sacred Heart Cathedral – Sun 2 Nov, 2pm
Join us for a special concert honouring Sr Marie Gore and supporting the Cathedral. Enjoy classical, operatic & contemporary music by the Vigil Music Group and local musicians.
Tickets at the door: \$20 Adult | \$15 Concession | \$40 Family

Mission Sunday
World Mission Sunday is held every year on the second-to-last Sunday of October. This year it takes place on **19 October with the theme of "Missionaries of Hope among the peoples."**
World Mission Sunday is a day Catholics celebrate to support the Church's missionary work through prayer and financial contributions. We have a special offertory collection on this day, with the money going towards missionary work. We hope you can support us!
Check out this video from Pope Leo for more: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eEwDtbZxt4c>



Quote from Pope Leo : 'All the members of the People of God have a duty to make their voices heard, albeit in different ways, in order to point out and denounce such structural issues, even at the cost of appearing foolish or naïve. Unjust structures need to be recognized and eradicated by the force of good, by changing mindsets but also, with the help of science and technology, by developing effective policies for societal change. It must never be forgotten that the Gospel message has to do not only with an individual's personal relationship with the Lord, but also with something greater: "the Kingdom of God (cf. Lk 4:43)'"
Pope Leo XIV, Dilexi Te, 4 October 2025

Parish Office: 37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville

Office Hours: Monday to Thursday 9am to 2pm
Email: office@sfrancishariu.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.sfrancishariu.nz

Account name: ARCHDIO OF WGTN ST FRANCIS OF ASSISI PARISH

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

