



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

Where heaven and earth come together

Second Sunday of Lent - 1 March 2026, Year A
Readings: Genesis 12:1-4; 2 Timothy 1:8-10; Matthew 17:1-9

Parish Priest

Msgr Gerard Burns
g.burns@cadw.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

Weekdays Mass Time

Tue : 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

1 March 2026

Children's Day Mass 10 am
Follow with celebration

10 , 17 and 24 March 2026

St Brigid's School Liturgy
9.15 am

2 April 2026

St Brigid's School Station of the
Cross
1.45 pm

Reflection

Jesus brought life and immortality to light through living his gospel. On the mountain Matthew says that Jesus' face shone like the sun and he dazzled. We are called to be lights who live the gospel and shine like the sun. We can climb the mountains of our lives with open eyes, minds and hearts and be filled with God's grace to become blessings. And we know that wherever we are, whatever the situation is, whoever the person is, God is there first. We do not need to be afraid. Jesus will reach out and touch us with his shining grace. This Lent maybe we can pray and be more present to God's welcoming grace/light? Or is that too much? This poem from the book A Splash of Sunshine spoke to me:

"Each day I seek a sunbeam, a luminous
moment of grace,
be it a poetic passage, a compassionate
glance,
an affirmative word.
Just a single sunbeam, nothing more.
During my morning walk today, a splash of
sunshine
fell upon a small tree.
It was too much, like the Mount Tabor
epiphany,
and I turned away overwhelmed,
I walked on - asking God to turn down his
glory".

God of light may I learn to bask in your glory, grow closer to you and live your shining love.

Kitty McKinley



Remembering the Holy Souls

Recently Deceased : Jeanette Elizabeth Loughlin

Anniversary:

Prayers for the sick: Mrs. Theresa Peteli, Patricia Keane, Isabel Zamorano F, Kolotita Gae'e, Fr Frank Whitaker ,Tovio Fa'l, Carmen Godinez, 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, Delia Flores Fabreag



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

Children's Day Celebration : Sunday 10:00am



Join us at St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish for Sunday Mass at 10 am as we celebrate the gift of our children.

After Mass, stay for a joyful celebration organised by **Challenge 2000** with face painting, games, music, pizza, and plenty of fun for the whole family. All are welcome!

Stations of the Cross – Every Friday in Lent

This Lenten season, all parishioners are warmly invited to join us for the Stations of the Cross **every Friday at 6:30 pm** in our church. One of our priests will also be available in the sacristy for Reconciliation during and after the Stations. We look forward to walking this prayerful journey with you.

Invitation from St Brigid's School

Kia ora koutou, parishioners of St Francis of Assisi Ohariu. We'd love you to join us in the church for our syndicate Masses and/or the School Stations of the Cross.

St Brigid's Team Masses @ 9.15 on Tuesdays

10th March Titipounamu (Years 1-3)

17th March Tūi (Years 4-6)

24th March Kākā (Years 7-8)

St Brigid's School **Stations of the Cross 1.45 pm on 2nd April** in our Parish Church. We hope to see you.



Feast of the Divine Mercy 2026

The Divine Mercy Community of the Wellington Archdiocese warmly invites you to come together to celebrate the Feast of the Divine Mercy 2026. All are welcome to share in this special day of grace and blessing.

Date: Sunday, 12 April 2026

Time: 2:00 PM – 5:00 PM

Venue: St Francis de Sales Catholic Church, Island Bay

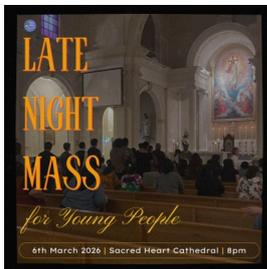
Contact : Masani Aukusitino (029 2009 504)

Email : masani11@yahoo.com.au

World Day of Prayer (WDP) You are invited to WDP, an ecumenical prayer service, held every Friday on the first week of March. This year WDP is being hosted by the Johnsonville Salvation Army Church, Main Road, Johnsonville on **Friday 6 March at 11am**. A late morning tea follows. Contact : Maria 0212862742 or Jo 4785639

Sacramental Programme 2026 – Enrol Now!

Enrolments are now open for St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish's 2026 Sacramental Programme. This programme is open to all children who have been baptised in the Catholic faith and are in Year 4 or above. Full schedule and details are on the website. Enrolments close strictly 1 July 2026. Download your application form our website [\[here\]](#). Or contact our sacramental programme team at : sacramentalprogramme@stfrancisohariu.nz



Late Night Mass

Come join us for March's Late Night Mass for Young People. **Friday, 6th March at Sacred Heart Cathedral in Hill Street at 8.00pm**. Once again, we can't wait to see you! Bring a friend and a plate!

HOLY DAYS – A movie based on Joy Cowley's acclaimed novel. Inspired by Pope Leo's advocacy on inspiring films and bringing hope, Rialto Distribution share an opportunity to celebrate faith, *community*, and the enduring legacy of Catholic life in Aotearoa through the upcoming film Holy Days, releasing nationwide on 26 February 2026.

For group bookings, please contact: devon@rialtodistribution.com

Trailer: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=d3yR8Uolvts>



Chrim Mass

You are warmly invited to attend the Chrim Mass on **Wednesday, 1 April, 7.30pm** at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Thorndon. All parishioners are encouraged to come and take part in this significant and prayerful liturgy.

Quote from Pope Leo :

'The Eucharist is itself an act of cosmic love: "Yes, cosmic! Because even when it is celebrated on the humble altar of a country church, the Eucharist is always in some way celebrated on the altar of the world". The Eucharist joins heaven and earth; it embraces and penetrates all Creation.... Thus, the Eucharist is also a source of light and motivation for our concerns for the Environment, directing us to be stewards of all Creation.'

- Pope Francis, *Laudato Si'* 236.-

Action: Where does God direct my heart after being transformed on the mountain? How am I directed to transform the hearts of others?

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**

