



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

Where heaven and earth come together

33rd Sunday in the Ordinary Time - 16 November 2025, Year C
Readings: Malachi 3:19-20 ; 2 Thessalonians 3:7-12 ; Luke 21:5-19

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:NO Reconciliation
5.30pm Liturgy of the Word
Wed: NO Reconciliation
11.00am Liturgy of the Word with morning tea

Important Dates

World Day of the Poor
16 November

1st Holy Communion Mass
Sunday, 16 November at 2pm.

ADW Clergy Silent Retreat
Monday 17 Nov—Friday 21 Nov

Feast of Christ the King Sunday
23 November

Malvina Major Anointing Mass
Wed, 26 November at 2.00pm
(preparing for Advent)

1st Sunday of Advent
30 November

Reflections

33 RD SUNDAY OF ORDINARY TIME – YEAR C

John O'Donohue wrote extensively about embracing hardship and finding inner strength during difficult times. Jesus does not promise a pain-free life. Suffering seems to be our only assurance that one's inner spirit can endure any trial with grace and courage.

O'Donohue explored the concept of the soul as a person's true and eternal home, would likely see this not as a promise of a future reward, but as an opportunity for profound inner transformation. Patience and endurance during trials are the means by which we come into the 'possessions' of our true selves.

Jesus dismisses the disciples' fascination with the temple's physical beauty, prophesying its destruction. We might interpret this as a call to look beyond the ephemeral beauty of the material world and focus on the eternal beauty of the inner self and the sacredness of everyday moments.

In his book *Anam Cara*, O'Donohue writes about our need for awareness of the sacredness of life. Our current troubled world could be a call for a heightened sense of spiritual awareness.

Rather than being consumed by fear of the outer world, we are encouraged to focus on our inner selves and trust in the divine presence. Chaos is a call to awaken our spirit to adventure and trust in a new rhythm.

Peter Mulqueen



Remembering the Holy Souls

Recently deceased: Melani Liliawati , Jocelyn Kirkland, Hugh Railtont

Anniversary: Caterina Smith

Prayers for the sick: Isabel Zamorano F, Kolotita Gae'e, Fr Frank Whitaker ,Tovio 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,, Domingo Basilio Navera Jr, Joe Godinet, Augafa & Sefine Pelelo, Fr Maurice Carmody, Fr Peter O'Connell.



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



First Holy Communion : Please pray for the children receiving their First Holy Communion this **Sunday, 16 November at 2:00 p.m.** at St. Francis of Assisi, Ohariu Parish. As they complete the Sacraments of Initiation, may the Lord bless them and guide them on their faith journey.



LAST VOCATIONS HOLY HOUR for 2025! JOIN US for an hour of adoration, reflection and prayer for vocations to the priesthood and religious life. 7.30-8.30pm at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Thorndon on Tuesday, 25 November.

World Day of the Poor – Dilexi Te Webinar : Join the Ecology, Justice and Peace Commission on **Tuesday, 18 November 2025, 6:30–8:00pm** to reflect on Pope Leo's new text on poverty, Dilexi Te. Includes an overview by Jim McAloon and small group discussions. All welcome. Register at <https://surl.ms/LGb>

Christmas Hampers – St Vincent de Paul

At this time of year our St Vincent de Paul conference prepares hampers of Christmas treats for families who might otherwise miss out. If you are able to donate to the food basket please bring sweet treats which can include, for example: tinned fruit; chocolates, sweet biscuits. We are packing hampers in early December so we hope you can donate by the end of vigil mass on **Saturday 6th December.**

Marian Mothers : This month's meeting will be held on Friday, 28 November at the St. Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish meeting room at 10:00 AM. The reflection will be "Fr Colin: A Friend and Guide." All women are welcome. For further information or transport assistance, please contact Joanne at 021 043 6856.

CALLED & EQUIPPED Formation Programme

Applications CLOSING SOON! - 30 November 2025

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? **DON'T MISS THIS OPPORTUNITY!** For more information, contact Lucienne Hensel at l.hensel@wn.catholic.org.nz / 04 496 1715 or speak to your Parish Priest.

The November issue of the Launch Out Letters (LOL) is now out!. <https://www.wn.catholic.org.nz/wp-content/uploads/2025/11/November-2025.pdf>

Feast Day of St Cecilia – Patroness of Music (22 November)

On the Feast Day of St Cecilia, the patroness of music, we give thanks for the gift of music in our lives and in our worship. We pray in gratitude for our parish musicians and singers who lead us in music and song at our celebrations.

Pastoral Letter from the NZ Bishops

This weekend, the bishops share a letter for the World Day of the Poor, inviting us to respond to those in need. Read it here: <https://catholic.org.nz/assets/FINAL-A-Church-Responsive-to-the-Cry-of-the-Poor.pdf>

Joshua Catholic Men's Fellowship : Come and join other men at Joshua Wellington's next meeting on **Thursday 20th November** from **7:00pm for 7:30pm** start followed by supper. **Note: Change of Venue - St Joseph's Church, 42 Ellice Street, Mt Victoria.**

Speaker: Peter Ewart SM on "Is there an opportunity for peace?" Want to know more? Ring Steve Ready 027-356-9555 or email: joshua.wgtn@gmail.com

Christmas 5.30pm Family Mass – Nativity Presentation

At the Christmas Eve Family Mass, there will be a special nativity slide presentation featuring photos of children from our parish. Photos for the presentation will be taken in the church after the **10am Mass on Sunday, 30th November.** All children who would like to take part are invited to stay after Mass on that day. Costumes will be provided, and the children are welcome to choose their own costume. Every child who participates will receive a small gift. Parents are warmly welcome to stay during the photo session and take their own photos if they wish.

Journey through Advent & Columban Calendars - on SALE now!

Daily reflections by Fr James Lyons, Cardinal John Dew, and other NZ Catholic leaders are available to inspire your faith this Advent and Christmas.

Advent reflections – \$8
Columban Calendar – \$15
For both, please see the sacristan after Mass.



Quote from Pope Leo :

'God's actions are moved by compassion toward the poverty and weakness of all humanity. Wanting to inaugurate a kingdom of justice, fraternity and solidarity, God has a special place in his heart for those who are discriminated against and oppressed, and he asks us, his Church, to make a decisive and radical choice in favor of the weakest'.

- Pope Leo XIV, Dilexi Te, 16.

Parish Office: 37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville

Office Hours: Monday to Thursday 9am to 2pm **Email:** office@stfrancisohariu.nz, **Phone:** 04 478 7137

Our priests will be away and NOT AVAILABLE from Mon 17–Fri 21 Nov attending a Silent Retreat with the Archdiocese of Wellington; for hospital emergencies please contact : 0276412361 (Kenepuru Hospital) or 0211998437 (Wellington Hospital)

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**

