



St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

Te paepae o te paerangi ki te paewhenua

Where heaven and earth come together

Twenty Second Sunday in the Ordinary Time– 30 August 2026, Year A
Readings: Jeremiah 20:7-9, Romans 12:1-2, Matthew 16:21-27

Parish Priest

Msgr Gerard Burns
g.burns@cadw.nz

Assistant Priest

Fr Alfred Tong
alfred@stfrancisohariu.nz

Parish Office Hours

04 478 7137
Mon to Thurs : 9am to 2pm
office@stfrancisohariu.nz

Mass/Liturgy Times

For the coming week

Sat: 5.00pm Vigil Mass

Sun: 10.00am Sunday Mass

Weekdays Mass Time

Tue : 9.15 am St Brigid's School
Mass (Kākā)

5.00 pm Reconciliation

5.30 pm Mass

Wed: 10.30 am Reconciliation
11.00 am Mass followed
by morning tea

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

**Holy Hour/Adoration every
Wednesday at 7.00 pm**

Important Dates

30 August 2026

Confirmation Session at 11.15 am

1 Sept - 4 Oct 2026

Season of Creation

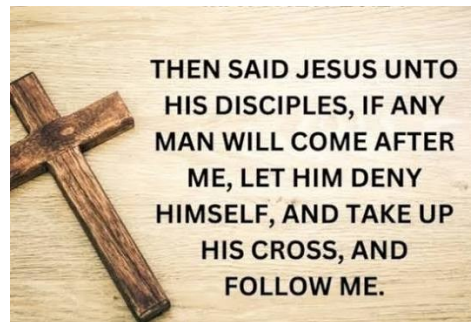
8 September 2026

Sr Cyprian's Oak Jubilee

13 September 2026

Sacrament of Confirmation at
2.00pm

Reflection



Today's Gospel reminds us of Jesus' big ask from all of us: "Whoever wishes to come after me must deny himself, take up his cross, and follow me." He said this to his disciples soon after declaring that he will build his church through Peter's leadership (last Sunday's Gospel). We, as people of God, are his disciples and his church. We each have our personal

crosses, but Jesus asks us to go further; to take up a cross that is not ours, just as the cross he carried wasn't his.

Crosses come in various shapes and forms. It can be a listening ear to comfort a friend, volunteering for charity works, donating to the church to support ministry, forgiving someone who has hurt us, spending time to learn more about God, praying for others, extending our patience to the unlovable, etc. Jeremiah (1 st reading) warns us that the world will look at us differently for embracing these crosses, but St Paul (2 nd reading) urges us to be steadfast in our faith, "Do not conform yourselves to this age but be transformed by the renewal of your mind, that you may discern what is the will of God, what is good and pleasing and perfect." Let us pray for love and unity so we can bear our crosses and be builders of God's church.

Ning Ibarra

Wills and Bequests Campaign – A Legacy of Faith

Remembering the Church and leaving a gift in your will is to make a commitment to future generations that they too may know God through His Church. With a will or bequest, we can make sure our treasures are put to good use to look after Christ's flock and to grow the kingdom here on earth. Every gift, regardless of size, helps strengthen this mission, and supports your local parish and the Archdiocese. Leaving a will or bequest can support your local church in many ways. To find out more about leaving a gift in your will, please visit: <https://cadw.nz/wills-and-bequests>

Remembering the Holy Souls

Recently Deceased : Leonora Satoh , Cristina Fruscalzo/Fleming

Anniversary: John Santiago, Bernie McSweeney

Prayers for the sick: Irene Stonyer , Vaeluaga Aspinall , Sam Godinet, Theresa Peteli, Isabel

Zamorano F, Kolotita Gae'e, Fr Frank Whitaker ,Tovio Fa'I, 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



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

Season of Creation 2026 : 1 September - 4 October

The Season of Creation begins on **Tuesday, 1 September** (World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation). The 5.30pm Mass on that day will mark the beginning of this season with prayer and reflection for the care of our common home. The weekend Masses on **19 and 20 September** will also be dedicated to the Season of Creation.

Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation – Love is a Decision & Commit - register online: [Marriage - Catholic Archdiocese of Wellington](https://www.catholicarchdioceseofwellington.org.nz/marriage-preparation). Next course, **Sundays, 6 & 13 September from 10.00am - 4.00pm** held at **St Catherine's College, Kilbirnie**. More details contact: marriage@cadw.nz

Suzanne Aubert Feast

We warmly invite our parish community to celebrate the Feast of Suzanne Aubert at our **Masses on 26 and 27 September**. This weekend will also mark **Migrant and Refugee Sunday**, as we pray for and stand in solidarity with migrants and refugees. More details will follow.



COME & SEE Vocations Morning - for young men interested in exploring a vocation to the priesthood. **Saturday 29th August 2026 at 9am to 12:30pm** at **Our Lady of the Valleys, 5 Palmer Crescent, Heretaunga**. The morning begins with Mass at 9.00am. Text

021 164 5800 or email: l.hensel@cadw.nz to register. Join us and bring a friend!

Ordination to the Priesthood - Rev Deacon Emilio Capin: The Catholic Archdiocese of Wellington warmly invites you to Deacon Emilio's ordination to the Priesthood on **Saturday, 5 September 2026 at 11am** at the **Metropolitan Cathedral of the Sacred Heart, 40 Hill Street, Thorndon**. All welcome.

St Francis of Assisi Statue

You will see the statue of St Francis of Assisi in our church. It was kindly donated by **Cristina Fruscalzo/Fleming**, who recently died, and her husband **Alan**. Their generosity is greatly appreciated and remembered.

A Warm Welcome to Hellen Tusiime

WONDERFUL NEWS from the parish Outreach committee.

Our parish community warmly welcomes Hellen Tusiime as our new SFOA Outreach Worker. Hellen and her family are active parishioners and now she has accepted the significant role. **Hellen works Tuesday, Wednesdays and Thursdays**. Email : outreach@stfrancisohariu.nz , mobile : **0223007413**. Some of you may remember this role was previously filled by Joanne Carley and Gabe Lawson and then volunteers. There will be more information about Hellen and her role and what the Parish Outreach team does over the next week.

Sr Cyprian's Oak Jubilee — 80 Years of religious profession: You are warmly invited to join Sr Cyprian's Jubilee Mass on **Tuesday, 8 September at 10.30 am, celebrated by Cardinal John Dew**. We give thanks for the extraordinary milestone. Come and share in this joyful special celebration and honour Sr Cyprian's lifetime of faithful service. Morning tea and refreshments will follow.

Retreat Days and Themes at Pā Maria 2026

Take time and space for a guided day of prayer and reflection. Please bring your own lunch. Entry by koha.

Prayer days at Pā Maria during the year (9am—3.15pm):

19 September : Season of Creation, 17 October : Mary , 5 December : Advent Presenters: **Neil Vaney SM, Chris Skinner SM and Judith Moroney rsm**. RSVP by the Tuesday before the prayer day and indicate which prayer day you wish to attend to pamariabookings@gmail.com



IS THERE MORE TO LIFE THAN THIS?

Are you a young adult searching for the meaning of life? We have an invitation for you! Join us and bring your mates along for a shared meal, an episode on a topic of faith, a chance to ask questions and share ideas.

All are welcome to attend. Join us for a **PROMO NIGHT** on **Tuesday 22 Sept, 7:00pm** in our church hall.

St Brigid's School Mass

We'd love you to join us in the church for our syndicate Masses at 9.15 am on Tuesdays at **St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Church: 1 September - Kākā (Year 7-8) Mass, 22 September - Titipounamu (Year 0-3) Mass,**

Multicultural Mass : Sunday, 27 September 2026

One Faith, Many Cultures: On Mission Together. Join us for a vibrant Multicultural Mass, presided by **Archbishop Paul Martin SM on Sunday, 27 September 2026 at 2.00pm, Sacred Heart Cathedral, 40 Hill Street, Thorndon**. Mass will be followed by a joyful fellowship of songs and shared meals. All are welcome, come and celebrate.

Quote :

'Although the challenges before us are enormous, God does not leave us without the means of healing and transformation. In place of the weapons of war, the God of peace grants us the strength to heal, to reconcile and to build a civilization of love... Let us imagine a world in which the energies currently invested in war are directed toward integral human development, to overcoming poverty, protecting human dignity and reconciling divided peoples. Such a vision reflects faith in the coming of God's Kingdom.'

Pope Leo XIV, Message for the World Day of Prayer for the Care of Creation, 2026

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**

