



# St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

## Te paepae o te paerangi ki te paewhenua

Where heaven and earth come together

**Nineteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time – 9 August 2026, Year A**  
**Readings: 1 Kings 19:9,11-13 ; Romans 9:1-5 ; Matthew 14:22-33**

### 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: 10am Sunday Mass**

#### Weekdays Mass Time

Tue : 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

#### **8 August 2026**

Practice session First Sacrament  
of Reconciliation at 2.00 pm

#### **9 August 2026**

First Sacrament of Reconciliation  
at 2.00 pm

#### **18 August 2026**

St. Brigid's School Liturgy on Mary  
at 9.15 am

#### **23 August 2026**

Confirmation Session at 11.15 am

### Reflection

5 lessons we can learn from Peter's attempt at "water walking" and discover how our faith can grow, especially in the storm.

**Risk** – Any opportunity to grow in faith will involve some degree of risk. Without risk it is not possible to step out in faith.

**Fear** – While the intensity of the fear may vary, it is present whenever God asks us to do something. We can't stop ourselves from being afraid, but we can control how we respond to fear.

**Storms** – Following Jesus does not guarantee a storm-free life.

**Setbacks** – Once we step out of the boat and make the decision to trust Jesus, don't be surprised if focus is lost. Jesus is right there with us and will come to our assistance.

**Jesus** - Each storm we encounter provides an opportunity to grow in faith. Stepping out of the boat and trusting Jesus becomes less frightening with prayer and contemplation.

Our faith is strengthened when we say "yes". We may not get to choose the storms that we will experience in life, but we do get to choose how we respond to them. We can take a chance and trust Jesus like Peter did or we can hide in the boat like the other disciples.



**Peter Mulqueen**

### Wills and Bequests Campaign – A Legacy of Faith

A gift in your will is a powerful way to leave a lasting legacy of faith and support the future mission of the Church. By remembering the Church in your will or with a bequest, you help ensure that future generations can continue to encounter God through His Church. Your generosity strengthens our parish and continues the mission of the Church. Every gift, regardless of size, helps strengthen this mission, and supports your local parish and the Archdiocese. 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 :**

**Anniversary:** Shaun McElwee , Marie de Joux

**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>**

### Sacramental Programme 2026

Please keep in your prayers the children who will celebrate their **First Sacrament of Reconciliation on Sunday 9 August at 2.00pm**. May they grow in God's love and mercy as they continue their faith journey. We give thanks to our priests and sacramental team for their care and support in preparing these children.

**Pilgrimage to Peace Flame, Botanical Gardens, Sunday Aug 16th.** On 6 & 9 Aug, 1945 atomic bombs were dropped on Hiroshima and Nagasaki, Japan. A peace flame lit from the ruins of those cities stands in Wellington's Botanical Gardens, near the Begonia House/Rose Garden. Fr Gerard Burns will lead a short prayer for peace there **at 2.30pm on Sunday, 16 August**. Come to this event (wet or fine) for the jubilee year of St Francis of Assisi.

### 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.

### Living Wage Election Forum

Join the Living Wage Movement election forum on **Wednesday 2 September, 6.00pm for a 6.30pm start at Naenae College, Lower Hutt**, to hear politicians' commitments to ensuring workers receive a Living Wage. All are welcome. For more information, contact Deirdre Meskill: [d.meskill@cadw.nz](mailto:d.meskill@cadw.nz)

**Upcoming ONLINE Safeguarding Workshops:** Join one of our online safeguarding workshops to learn how we, as a Church, are working together to keep everyone safe. Upcoming Workshops: **Monday, 17 August (12 noon to 1.15pm), Monday 24 August (7.00pm to 8.15 pm) & Tuesday 25 August (6.30 pm to 8.00pm)**. To register, email Kevin Plant at [k.plant@cadw.nz](mailto:k.plant@cadw.nz)

**HOLY HOUR:** Join us for Adoration, reflection, and prayer for more vocations to the priesthood and religious life. **Tuesday 25 August 7.30–8.30pm, at Sacred Heart Cathedral, Thorndon**. Every 4th Tuesday of the month.

### Dove Catholic Fellowship for Women

Dovecotes are parish-based groups where women gather in friendship, prayer, and faith, offering support and encouragement as they grow closer to God. For more information, contact **Gloria Stafford:** [dovenational.leader@gmail.com](mailto:dovenational.leader@gmail.com)

**Children's Liturgy for Term 3:** No Children's Liturgy during school holidays, public holidays, or while the parish is running the Sacramental Programme. Therefore, there will be **NO Children's Liturgy from 5 July to 30 August & 13 September 2026**. Children's Liturgy will be held on **6 and 20 September 2026**. Thank you.

### St Brigid's School Liturgy based on "Mary"

We'd love you to join us to St Brigid's School Liturgy based on Mary on **Tuesday, 18 August 2026 at St. Francis of Assisi Ohariu Church, Johnsonville at 9.15 am**.

### St Patrick's College Con Anima Choir Concert

The St Patrick's College Wellington Choir, Con Anima, is one of the top 24 choirs in the country. They are excited to be competing at The Big Sing Finale in Christchurch in late August and will be holding a fundraising concert **at St Pat's College (Kilbirnie) at 6:30pm on Tuesday 18 August**. We warmly invite our community to attend the concert. Tickets (\$15 adult; \$10 school students) can be purchased here: <https://www.trybooking.com/nz/20591>

### Archdiocesan Marriage Preparation – Love is a Decision & Commit

- register online: [Marriage - Catholic Archdiocese of Wellington](https://www.marriage-catholic-archdiocese-of-wellington.org.nz). Next course, **Sundays, 6 & 13 September from 10.00am - 4.00pm held at St Catherine's College, Kilbirnie**. More details contact: [marriage@cadw.nz](mailto:marriage@cadw.nz)



### IS THERE MORE TO LIFE THAN THIS?

**Are you a young adult searching for the meaning of life?** We have an invitation for you! Alpha is coming to our parish - a place

to connect with others as you explore the big questions in life. 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 September, 7:00pm** in our church hall.

### Expressions of Interest – Lead Evaluator (Primary Schools)

The Catholic Archdiocese of Wellington seeks Expressions of Interest for a Lead Evaluator – Catholic Character Evaluations of Primary Schools contract role. For an application pack, email Kelly Ross at [k.ross@cadw.nz](mailto:k.ross@cadw.nz)

Applications close: **Monday, 24 August 2026**.

### Solemnity of the Assumption

Please note that the Solemnity of the Assumption of the Blessed Virgin Mary has been transferred to Sunday, 16 August 2026 by the New Zealand Bishops. **The Vigil Mass on Saturday, 15 August and Sunday Mass on 16 August will be celebrated as the Mass of Assumption.**

### Quote :

*'Today, too, the Church is a communion of people who differ in origin, culture, abilities and responsibilities. Yet all are called to recognize themselves as "one" in Jesus Christ... From the beginning, Jesus called and gathered around himself people who would otherwise never have come to know one another. In this way, he demonstrated that God has no favourites, but instead offers his love freely, especially to the little ones or those cast aside.'*

Pope Leo XIV, Angelus, 26 July 2026

**Parish Office: 37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville**

**Office Hours:** Monday to Thursday 9am to 2pm

**Email:** [office@stfrancisohariu.nz](mailto: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](http://www.stfrancisohariu.nz)

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

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

