

St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish



4th Sunday of Advent - 23 December 2018
Readings: Micah 5:2-5; Hebrews 10:5-10; Luke 1:39-45

Letter from Cardinal John to the parishioners of St Francis of Assisi, Ohariu



Archbishop of Wellington

PO Box 1937, Wellington 6140, New Zealand

19th December 2018

Dear Parishioners of St Francis of Assisi Parish, Ohariu,
Christmas Greetings to you all.

As you know a few months ago Fr Peter Fitzgibbon informed me that he wished to retire after 54 years of priestly service. I am deeply grateful to Fr Peter for the service he has given to the Archdiocese of Wellington and to the Clergy Trust Fund. I wish Fr Peter every blessing in his retirement and a well-earned rest.

Fr Peter's retirement left me with the question of how to provide ongoing sacramental, pastoral and spiritual care for the Ohariu parish and how to provide leadership.

The Archdiocese is not able to appoint a full time Diocesan Priest to the parish any longer. With Father Peter's retirement and Father Doug assigned to the Cathedral Parish I saw a wonderful opportunity for a new and different ways of collaborative leadership. From 2019 this collaborative leadership will involve the Society of Mary, the Archdiocese of Wellington and people of this parish.

Fr Peter Roe SM will be appointed as the Administrator and some priests of the Society of Mary will be available for Masses and sacramental care. I am grateful to the Society of Mary Provincial, Fr David Kennerley and to the priests who will make themselves available. However, none of these priests will be full-time working in the parish. This will be a different and new model.

It will take some time to sort out all the details of working with this new model and it will require patience as various people take up different roles and responsibilities in Ohariu parish. Some may feel that this is something that they do not want. However, there are simply no realistic alternatives. As you stated during your parish merger you desired greater lay leadership and involvement in planning parish life and in providing a wide range of ministries, outreach and services.

I have invited a group of people, John Kleinsman, Paul Alford, John Lawson, Paul Betham, Sister Judith McGinley OP, Kitty McKinley, Shane Dinnan, Thomas Davis and Paul Whitehouse to work with Fr Peter Roe to develop this new model. Members of this group prepared the implementation plan for the amalgamation of the three parishes into St Francis of Assisi, Ohariu. This is by no means an exclusive group. They will be looking for and inviting others in the parish to join them, and indeed they have already done that. It is essential that the model is inclusive and representatives from other ethnic communities play a vital part of this parish.

This is a new venture; Pope Francis is always challenging us to do new things and to bring new life to our parishes. I see this group, priest(s) and people working together as a group of Stewards who are willing to work together with **ALL** parishioners to continue to build a vital, outward focussed faith community.

With all good wishes in these last days of Advent and every good wish and blessing for Christmas.

Yours sincerely in the Lord

John A Cardinal Dew

Archbishop of Wellington

PARISH NOTICES



As we say goodbye to Fr Peter Fitzgibbon and Fr Doug Shepherd, we also welcome

Fr Peter Roe sm who has been appointed as Administrator of our Parish of St Francis of Assisi, Ohariu starting in February.

During the month of January we rely on volunteers to help with ministries at Masses. If you are able to do a reading or be a Minister of the Eucharist etc in January, please report to the sacristy before Mass starts and put your name down.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please remember those who are ill: Nita Simmons, Malia Lemalu, Mary Cummins, Tabea Squire, Frances Willetts, Beven Francisco, Stan George, Seniorita Laukau, Ryan McLellan, Petelo Godinet, Abbey Washington, Marie Millward, Leonardus Adi Chandra, Jack Odell.



Op Shop: Thank you from the Op Shop Committee to all our volunteers from the parish who have helped in the shop this year. We really appreciate your valuable time.

If anyone would like to join this team next year, please contact the Parish Office. We work in pairs over 2 hour shifts during the week once a month. Great job experience if you have a teenager at home during the holidays.

Challenge 2000 Marist Gap and Internship Year 2019:

Aged 18- 24? Finished School or University and not sure what path to take? We have the perfect opportunity for you! The Marist Challenge Gap year programme, starting mid February enables you to make a difference, serve others and learn about youth work and different career paths while getting paid! The programme offers many opportunities, life skills and experience. The applications are still open for 2019. If you are interested or want more information go to <https://www.challenge2000.org.nz/> or contact Anna on 0278421280 or Kitty on 021491459.

Flash Mob Christmas Carols 2018

Unfortunately, Flash Mob Christmas Carols is **postponed** until December 2019. The weather forecast is for showers with a southerly change. Merry Christmas from the "St Benedict's Herald Angels"

REMEMBERING THE HOLY SOULS - REST IN PEACE

Anniversaries: Doris Bose, Therese Shields, Tom Riddell
John Archer, Lynn Szpetnar

Next Week's Readings:
1 Samuel 1:11, 20-22, 24-28; 1 John 3:1-2, 21-24; Luke 2:41-52

PARISH RECONCILIATION Rite I
Sunday 23 December 7pm at St Peter & Paul's

Christmas Mass Times

St Peter & Paul's Catholic Church
37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville
24 December - 7pm and Midnight Mass
25 December - 9am and 10.30am Mass

St Benedict's Catholic Church
3 Everest St, Khandallah
24 December - 6pm Family Mass
25 December - 9am Mass

St Andrew's Catholic Church
27 Trebann St, Newlands
24 December - 8pm Family Mass

Kenepuru Hospital
Volunteers for Christmas Carols - If you are free to meet in the foyer of Kenepuru Hospital just before 6pm to spend an hour singing Christmas carols, please join the hospital chaplains at this annual event. Bring along a musical instrument if you have one. Join us for refreshments afterwards. All welcome.
Volunteer Chaplain Assistant Training 2019
If you are interested in applying for a role as a V C A at Kenepuru Hospital, please email Marie Paurini at marie.paurini@ccdhb.org.nz for more information.



St Peter & Paul's Church
37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville
Saturday Vigil 5pm
Sunday Mass 9am, 10.30am
WEEKDAY TIMETABLE
Monday: Mass 7pm & Midnight
Tuesday: Mass 9am & 10.30am

St Andrew's Church
27 Trebann St, Newlands
Sunday Mass 12pm
WEEKDAY TIMETABLE
Monday: Mass 8pm
Friday: Rosary & Divine Mercy 6.30pm

Parish Office location
37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville
Email: ohariuparish@xtra.co.nz
www.stfrancisohariu.nz Phone 478 7137

St Benedict's Church,
3 Everest St, Khandallah
Saturday Vigil Mass 6pm
Sunday Mass 9am
WEEKDAY TIMETABLE
Monday: Liturgy 9am, Mass 6pm
Tuesday: Mass 9am
Wednesday: Mass 9am
Thursday: Mass 9am
Friday: Mass 9am
Saturday: Mass 9am

St Benedict's School, Khandallah - Ph 04 479 6878 E-mail: office@st-benedicts.school.nz
St Brigid's School, Johnsonville - Ph 04 478 6516 E-mail: office@stbrigids.school.nz