

St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish



6th Sunday of Easter - 26 May 2019

Readings: Acts 15: 1-2,22-29; Revelation 21:10-14; John 14:23-29

Building a Eucharistic community centred on the life of Jesus Christ

Did you know that until 1983 the prevailing law of the Church forbade a priest saying more than one Mass a day; except at Christmas, Easter, All Souls and Holy Thursday threatening dismissal from the ministry? Even the current code of Canon Law Canon 905 still recommends that a priest says one mass a day unless there are serious pastoral reasons.

And the global reality is that today, more than half of Catholic Eucharistic services are looked after by "non-priests" – lay men and women who are responding to their baptismal call to make Christ present in their lives and in others' lives.

International statistics suggest the Church has one priest for every 2500 faithful. These faithful are often not in communities based around suburban centres as in New Zealand, but widely dispersed.

For many years Fr Pat Brophy SM, who is a member of the Marist team in the Ohairu Parish, was parish priest in Lancones, an area in South America where communities often had Mass once a year; on the community's patronal feast day. However, even with Mass once a year the faith was alive, the people vibrant and they certainly understood themselves as Catholic.

Locally, change is in the wind. We might not like it, it might be painful, we can resist it, but is God calling us to something new? In my experience, catching the wave, then riding the wave; or theologically as we say-listening to the Holy Spirit, is my preferred way. Perhaps here in Ohariu parish we can think seriously how we can be a vibrant, energetic and Eucharistic Church now and in the future. A future that will be based on lay people and very few ordained priests, making Christ present in our churches, homes, communities, workplaces and schools.

Let us remind each other what it really means to take, eat, remember, and say Amen- YES to Christ's life, death, and resurrection. By becoming what we receive in the eucharist, we can show the love, compassion, grace, and hope of Christ in all areas of our daily lives.

May we become more like Christ as we treat each other kindly, reach out to those in need, seek reconciliation and justice for the poor and oppressed, care for the land and include all those different from us. Then we will be true to Christ's example and follow the eucharistic traditions of our church.

"I am the food of grown men and women. Grow, and you shall feed upon me. You will not change me into yourself, as you change food into your flesh, but you will be changed into me". *St Augustine*

"..every participation in the Eucharist is an encounter with Jesus demanding a radical decision to commit oneself or to withhold oneself from the covenant community which must be a transformed community engaged in the redemptive task of Jesus in the world". *Monika Hellwig.*

"A Eucharist which does not pass over into the concrete practice of love is intrinsically fragmented." *Pope Benedict: Deus Caritas Est.*

Re-discovering Our Sacramental Spirituality - A series of Workshops by Fr Eddie Condra

Many still participate in the sacramental life of the church and the fact that so many do not, is of concern.

Could this lack of participation be due as some suggest because people have 'lost the faith' or can we believe them when they tell us our sacred rites have become irrelevant and hold little or no meaning for them?

Whatever our conclusion or explanation might be this series offers an opportunity to 'revisit' our understanding of our sacraments and spirituality. The format of each session would involve input, group discussion and a period of meditation.

Attendance at all the sessions will be of more value.

Dates: June 4, 11, 18 and 25 (Tuesdays) Time: **10am.** Venue: St Peter and Paul's hall, Dr Taylor Terrace. Jville For further information: call Helen Sligo 0274243365 or sligohelen@gmail.com

PARISH ACTIVITIES

SUNDAY 26 May

Confirmation Children's first session 10.10am in room 12 at St Brigid's School

Malvina Major Eucharistic Liturgy 10.30am in Chapel

Newlands St Vincent de Paul Conference 10.45am at St Andrew's Newlands in the Chapel.

MONDAY 27 May

Christian Meditation 7pm St Benedict's Church

LFT Meeting 7-9.30pm Johnsonville Presbytery.

TUESDAY 28 May

Re-discovering Our Sacramental Spirituality 7.30-9pm with Fr Eddie at St Peter & Paul's

CWL Prayer Service 7.30pm at St Benedict's

WEDNESDAY 29 May: Teacher Strike—schools closed
Baptism Ministry Meeting 6pm St Peter & Paul's

THURSDAY 30 May:

Eucharistic Minister formation 6pm St Peter & Paul's

FRIDAY 31 May

Divine Mercy 6.30pm at St Andrew's Church.

SATURDAY 1 June: First Saturday Devotions 9am St Benedict's

SUNDAY 2 June

Malvina Major Eucharistic Liturgy 10.30am in Chapel.

Donations are invited for rebuilding Churches in Sri Lanka. <https://missio.nz/rebuilding-churches-in-sri-lanka-after-easter-bombings/>

PARISH NOTICES

Next Week's Readings:

Acts 11: 1-11; Hebrews 9:24-28;10:19-23; Luke 24:46-53

Onslow Catholic Women's League

The next meeting of the Onslow CWL will be the WUCWO (World Union of Catholic Women's Organisations) Day of Prayer, and will be held on Tuesday 28 May at 7.30pm in St Benedict's Church. The prayer service will be followed by supper in the Church foyer. All welcome

First Saturday Devotions at St Benedict's Church.

Everyone is warmly invited to attend First Saturday Devotions to the Immaculate Heart of Mary on the first Saturday of every month immediately following the 9am Mass. This month it will be Saturday the **1st of June**. The devotions will include the Holy Rosary and a short time of silent prayer before the Blessed Sacrament exposed. The devotions will conclude with Benediction. Please come to these beautiful devotions and honour Our Blessed Mother. For further information contact Tim Hanlon on 0275907312.



Baptisms:

We welcome into our Parish

Harrison Newton

who is being Baptised in our Parish this weekend.



Baptism Ministry meeting

6 - 7.30pm Wednesday 29 May

The Baptism Ministry visit new parents to help them prepare for the Baptism of their child and they assist on the day of Baptism. This a truly beautiful ministry of welcome and friendship.

We need a few additional couples to be part of the Baptism Ministry. If you are interested in learning more, please come to the Johnsonville Presbytery, **6.00pm Wednesday 29 May**. For more information contact Sr Judith on 0276933552

REMEMBERING THE HOLY SOULS - REST IN PEACE

RIP: Leonie Aiono, Anna Tewhiu, Evelyn Smothers

Anniversaries: Marcelo Buenviaje Alwyn D'Souza, Rowan Kemp, Jessie Fernandez



We remember with deep gratitude, Leonie Aiono, (Fr Peter Fitzgibbon's housekeeper) who died in Tokoroa last week. May she be at peace.

PRAYERS FOR THE SICK: Please remember those who are ill: Nita Simmons, Mary Cummins, Tabea Squire, Frances Willetts, Beven Francisco, Sharron McSweeney, Stan George, Malia Lemalu, Senorita Laukau, Petelo Godinet, Abbey Washington, Jessy Hensen, Peter McKenzie, Ian Coleman, Jan Chandler.



Eucharistic Ministry formation

6pm - 7.30pm Thursday 30 May and Wednesday 5 June

Our parish is seeking new Ministers of the Eucharist across our 3 church communities. This is a foundational formation introduction that will also lead to the training of Celebrants of Liturgy of the Word with Eucharist in the future. Please join us if you would like to understand more about this ministry. Everyone is warmly invited to attend and learn from each other. There are two opportunities for this same formation 6.00pm Thursday 30 May or 6pm Wednesday 5 June in Johnsonville Presbytery. Peter Roe and Kitty McKinley will lead the evening. For more information: Kitty on 021 491 459 or Paul 04 4787137.

BINGO / HOUSIE NIGHT on Saturday 8 June @ Newlands Community Centre, 9 Batchelor Street Newlands at 7pm. Soup and bread rolls will be provided. BYO Beverages and snacks. Ticket prices \$20.00 for 5 games. Lots of prizes to be won.....Please contact Denzil and Stephanie at denzildmello@hotmail.co.nz if you're planning to come along.

Congratulations

- To Wayne and Carey Chen who received the sacraments of Confirmation and Eucharist during 10.30 Mass on 12 May.
- To Brian and Wendy Cleaver who celebrated their Golden Wedding on 17 May.
- To Hannah Villanueva whose Wedding will be at St Peter & Paul's Church this weekend

News from the Archdiocese

10, 17 & 24 June: Monday Pa Maria Winter Film series:

The life which beats in things. Contact 021 703580 or bgcummings@xtra.co.nz to register.

13 June: Open Day 9am at St Mary's College, Guildford Tce.

14 June: Compassion Soup Kitchen Street Appeal - Street Collectors Needed. Sign up at soupkitchen.org.nz/street appeal or call (04) 385 9299

19 June: Suzanne Aubert's Birthday Mass. 6pm at St Anne's Church, Newtown. For more details ph (04) 282-1953 or email heritagecentre@compassion.org.nz

29 June: Stewardship breakfast with the Cardinal. At Connolly Hall in Hill St, Thorndon, Wellington. Time: 7.00am-9.00am

St Francis of Assisi



St Peter & Paul's Church
37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville
Saturday Vigil 5pm
Sunday Mass 9am, 10.30am

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

St Benedict's Church,
3 Everest St, Khandallah
Saturday Vigil Mass 6pm
Sunday Mass 9am

WEEKDAY TIMETABLE

Tue: 9.15am Mass with Fr Eddie
Wed: 11am Mass
Thurs: 9am Liturgy of the word with Communion
Friday: 9am Mass

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

WEEKDAY TIMETABLE

Mon: 9am Liturgy of the word with Communion
Tues: 9am Liturgy of the Word with Communion
Wed: 9.15 Mass (School strike)
Thurs: 9am Liturgy of the Word with Communion
Friday: 9am Liturgy of the Word with Communion
Sat: 9am Mass & Reconciliation

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