



# St Francis of Assisi Ohariu Parish

Website: [www.stfrancisohariu.nz](http://www.stfrancisohariu.nz)

Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/st.francis.ohariu/>

**Seventeenth Week of Ordinary Time, 24th July 2022 Year C**

**Readings:** *Genesis 18:20-32, Colossians 2:12-14, Luke 11:1-13*

## **Celebration of Grandparents and Elders**

*'Live in such a way that those who know you but don't know God will come to know God because they know you'*

(Entry in Hiruharama visitors' book, 4/8/01 by Adele).

In announcing Grandparents and Elders Day 2022 (I refuse the term "elderly" – it's just a number!)

Pope Francis selected the theme "In old age they will still bear fruit" (Psalms 92:15).

He chose this theme in order "to promote dialogue among the generations, especially between grandparents and grandchildren".

But what does that really mean?

What might this dialogue look like?

How might we behave?

Something that James K Baxter said to young people might equally apply to those who are grandparents and consider themselves "elders":

"you must first hold your head up – whatever your circumstances – move against the fear, don't give way to it – hold the head up! Without courage, nothing works – courage is the flashpoint of every virtue – to be a friend, to console the Many, one must have courage, one must hold the head up.

Then you must love one another. Show it. Meet each other with an embrace ..... The embrace cracks the paranoia. Avoid all (*complaining*) and forgive faults as soon as they are committed.

Share your food and your money. The crime is not to have – the crime is to have and not share. A cup of (*dirty*) water shared among friends becomes wine. But the reverse is true.

Speak the truth to one another. Don't conceal things. If words are true, they become the slashers to cut through the brambles with. If you're at

fault, admit it. Then the fault is robbed of its bad effect.

If you do these things – hold the head up, love, share, speak the truth – then the soul will rise to the surface of the friend's face, as a fish rises to the surface of the water. Then you are in paradise – the paradise of the poor – then great beauty breaks like a sunrise”.

(Extracted from *Unpublished – draft article 'Between the Hammer and the Anvil, James K Baxter on the theology of community'*. Selected by J E Weir, SM. Undated.)



**Joe Green - Parent, Grandparent, Great Grandparent, aspiring to being an elder”.**

### **Beatitudes for friends of Grandparents and Elderly**

Blessed are they who understand  
My faltering steps and shaking hand.

Blessed are they who know that my ears today  
Must strain to catch the words they say.

Blessed are they who seem to know  
That my eyes are dim and my reactions slow.

Blessed are they who look away  
When my coffee gets spilled during the day.

Blessed are they with a cherry smile  
Who stop to chat with me a while.

Blessed are they who never say  
“You've told that story twice today.”

Blessed are they who know the ways  
To bring back lovely yesterdays.

Blessed are they who make it known  
That I am loved, respected and not alone.

Blessed are they who know the loss  
Of strength I need to bear the cross.

Blessed are they who ease the days  
Of my journey home in loving ways.

## Parish Information

### First Holy Communion

Please pray for our Parish children who will be making the Sacrament of Holy Communion at Ss Peter & Paul Church, this Sunday, 24th July at 2.00pm.



May the Lord bless them all throughout this journey.

**RCIA** - If you have an adult friend or family member who is interested in becoming a Catholic and participating fully in the sacraments, please have them contact : Michael and Jo-Anne Carley.

Email: [jamcarley@xtra.co.nz](mailto:jamcarley@xtra.co.nz) and/or phone 022 300 7413.

The teaching occurs over a period of accompaniment.

**St Benedict's Church** - Will celebrate Grandparent's Day Mass **on Friday, 29th July at 10am** with St Benedict's School. All welcome.

**Grandparents and Elderly Sunday - 24th July** - This day has been declared by the Pope because it is the Sunday closest to the Feast Day of Ss Joachim and Anne.

There will be a cup of tea after the 10.30am Mass at Ss Peter and Paul Church on this day.

**Confirmation Programme - Call up for anyone over 16 who has missed out up till now** - If you haven't been confirmed and are a young person/adult who are interested, then please contact Kitty or the parish office and you can be confirmed on August 7th at 10:30am Mass at SS Peter and Paul's Johnsonville.

Kitty will arrange a couple of individual or small group meetings beforehand that suit your particular needs/responsibilities.

So please call or text Kitty 021491459 if you're keen for this opportunity.

Te paepae o te paerangi ki te paewhenua

Where heaven and earth come together

### Property Review Decision from Cardinal John

Dear fellow parishioners,

We know that a clear path forward has been years in the making – and for many it has been years in the waiting! Acknowledging this, the LFT wish to report that Cardinal John has now responded to our SFOA parish property review and proposal.

Copies of + John's letter are available in the foyers of our churches and on request from the Parish Office.

#### **Decision:**

After consulting with his Council of Priests, +John has given his decision that our Parish's main centre of worship – our church for the future – should be situated in Johnsonville.

#### **In communicating his decision +John has made the following main points:**

- Our future church should be able to accommodate the weekend Mass count in no more than two Masses.
- Consideration should be given to closing St Benedict's and St Andrew's in the near future. (No timeframes are specified.)
- Maintenance expenditure on these two churches should be avoided.
- What happens with the Newlands and Khandallah properties (churches and presbyteries) will be determined by the parish.
- Time frames proposed by the parish for actions should be shortened. Major change benefits from momentum.
- The parish should provide resources to ensure accommodation for a Diocesan Priest.
- Future needs of the two schools and Catholic education must be considered.
- Priority should be given to funding a new church without debt.

## Parish Information

- Many difficulties and issues arise around parish involvement in social housing. Any involvement needs to be deeply considered.
- In due course, consideration should be given to possible Parish boundary changes to bring Crofton Downs (and possibly Ngaio) within either the Otari or Cathedral parish (because of those suburbs' closer proximity to their churches).

### Next steps:

These decisions - whether or not anticipated - will bring great sadness and sense of loss to many. There will be lots of questions about the implementation of the decision and +John's related recommendations. At this stage we may not have all the answers.

Over the next few weeks – and to the extent that COVID restrictions allow – we will hold public meeting(s) for the Parish to consider these decisions/recommendations, their implementation and their consequences (especially pastoral).

We will also prepare and post on the Property Review page of the parish website a list of FAQs and their answers.

The LFT will work towards establishing a governance group to manage the various work streams that will need to be progressed as a result of this decision. Details of each work stream will be available in the next few weeks. It will be essential that parishioners are involved. Please consider if you have skills and experience to contribute to the success of this in the next few years (and contact the Parish Office or a Parish leader).

### Finally:

...and above all, we would ask you to:

- mull prayerfully over +John's decision and recommendations,
- embrace this new direction for our local church here in St Francis of Assisi Parish,
- see it as a time of grace, gratitude, growth – and HOPE!
- support and love one another – and particularly those of us who will experience this as a time of grief and loss.

### Leadership Formation Team (LFT)



## Archbishop of Wellington

PO Box 1937, Wellington 6140, New Zealand

19<sup>th</sup> July 2022

Dear People of God of the Archdiocese,

Greetings and all good wishes and blessings to you all.

I am sure you do not need me to tell you that Covid 19 has been and continues to be a difficult and challenging time.

I am most grateful to parishes and communities for all that they have done and continue to do to keep the community together and to be in touch with parishioners during the various lockdowns. I have very much admired the creative ways that people helped one another to pray and particularly to reflect on the Scriptures in different ways.

Recently at a meeting of the Archdiocesan Board of Administration the members of the Board suggested, and I willingly agreed, to write and thank you all for your continued financial support of your parish. It has become very clear that parishioners generously continue to support parishes financially and then of course also helps the Archdiocese. I therefore wish to thank you all for the ways that you continued financial support in difficult and challenging times for everyone. It is much appreciated by me and by the Board of Administration.

With sincere thanks for all you have done to keep in touch with other parishioners and to support your parish and the Archdiocese in these challenging times.

With all good wishes and every blessing

Your sincerely in the Lord

## Other Events/Notices

### **Liturgical Reception for Archbishop Paul Martin SM**

Parishioners are invited to a Liturgical Reception for Archbishop Paul Martin SM at St Teresa's Church, Karori on Friday, 12th August at 6pm.

To be followed by light refreshments

**Join Us** - You are invited to come to a Holy Hour on Tuesday 26th July at the Connolly Hall Chapel beginning at 7.30 pm to pray for vocations to the priesthood and consecrated life.

We will also be praying for peace in the world and especially for peace in Ukraine. Included in the hour will be prayers, praise and worship, scripture reading and silence, concluding with Benediction.

All are welcome.

### **Couples for Christ - Christian Life Programme**

Join us in a journey of faith. This is a free event.

Saturday, 6 August 2022; 1.30pm - 4.30pm

Sts Peter & Paul Church Hall

37 Dr Taylor Terrace, Johnsonville

Contact: Joel (021 0245 2281), Glenn (022 432 6254), Lerma (022 393 4552)

For further info, visit us at [couplesforchristwellington.nz](http://couplesforchristwellington.nz)

### **Notices from Titipounamu Study & Joy**

Online Sessions (Evening):

Mary of Nazareth with Prof Thomas O'Loughlin and Kieran Fenn fms.

Monday, 22 August, 7-8.30pm. ZOOM. Koha/Donations welcome.

<https://www.studyjoy.nz/events/mary-of-nazareth/>

Muffin Talk Radio Programme recordings and video clips on religion,

interfaith and community available at <https://www.studyjoy.nz/category/resources/muffin-talk/>

For more information and registration: [www.studyjoy.nz](http://www.studyjoy.nz)

**Hearts Aflame Catholic Summer School** - Hearts Aflame Catholic Summer School is back this summer with ten days of world-class lectures, uplifting prayer and authentic community!

Hearts Aflame is a life-changing experience for young adults aged 18 to 35 who want to know more about their faith and meet other Catholic young adults from all over New Zealand. Join us this year at Nga Tawa Diocesan School, Marton, from 30/12/22 until 8/01/23!

You can register at [www.heartsaflame.org.nz/registration](http://www.heartsaflame.org.nz/registration) or find out more at our website or on our social media.

# MASS INTENTIONS



We ask for your prayers—Masses have been offered for:

**Anniversaries:** Leo & Eulalia Gomes

**Prayers for the Sick:** Joanne Gordon, Augafa & Sefine Pelelo, Margaret Blight, Joe Godinet, Penelope Corich, John Fanning, Tony Bordignon, Tau So'oa, Fr Frank McGuire, Fr Peter O'Connell, Monsignor John Carde, Fr Kevin Purcell, Fr Maurice Carmody

*Please also remember in your prayers those that are supporting them.*

Let us pray for all those in the Ukraine and their New Zealand families at this time. We pray for peace in our World. We also pray for parishioners and their friends & contacts who have been affected by Covid-19.

## MASS & LITURGY TIMES

**Saturday 23rd July - Saturday 30th July**

### St Andrew's Church 29 Trebann St Newlands

Sat: 23rd July - Vigil Mass

Sat: 30th July - Vigil Mass

### St Benedict's Church 3 Everest St Khandallah

Sun: 9.00am - Word & Communion

Mon: 9.00am - Liturgy

Mon: 7.00pm - Meditation

Tues: 9.15am - Liturgy

Wed: 9.00am - Liturgy

Thurs: 9.30am - Liturgy

Fri: **Grandparent's Day Mass**  
at 10.00am

### St Peter & Paul's Church 37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville

Sun: 10.30am - Mass

**Sun: 2.00pm - First Holy Communion**

Mon: 9.00am - Liturgy

Tues: 9.15am - Liturgy

Wed: 11.00am - Liturgy  
with morning tea

Thurs: 9.00am - Liturgy

Fri: 9.00am - Mass

Please note, **Reconciliation** is held at St Peter and Paul's on the first Wednesday of the month, at 10.30am before the 11am Mass.

Parish Office: 37 Dr Taylor Tce, Johnsonville

Email: [office@stfrancisohariu.nz](mailto:office@stfrancisohariu.nz)

Phone: 04 478 7137

Website: [www.stfrancisohariu.nz](http://www.stfrancisohariu.nz)

Facebook—<https://www.facebook.com/st.francis.ohariu/>

Parish Bank Account for Donations:  
**02-0524-0203642-00**

